

# Annual Report 2018-2019



**“We come together in fellowship.  
We commune in this common room, around this common table.”**

*Kate Rushin’s “Library Card,” for full poem please turn to page 4*



## LEADERSHIP

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*Chief Administrative Officer*

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## BOARD MEMBERS 2018-2019

### Officers

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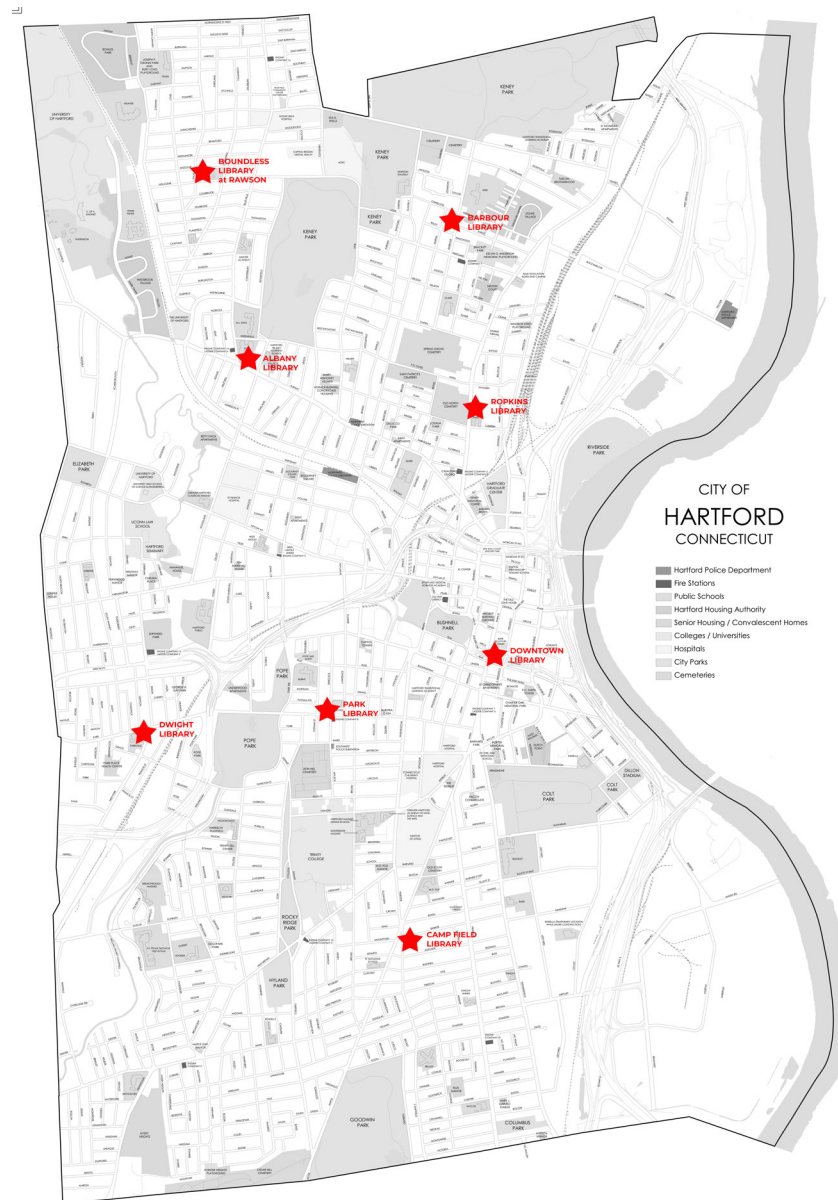
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Bridget Quinn-Carey, *CEO*



The only thing that you absolutely have to know,  
is the location of the library.

—Albert Einstein



## Locations and Hours

### DOWNTOWN LIBRARY

500 Main Street, Hartford, CT 06103  
860-695-6300  
Mon-Thurs: 9:30am to 8pm  
Fri & Sat: 9:30am to 5pm; Sun: 1 to 5pm (Sundays:  
1-5 pm, November through April only)

### ALBANY LIBRARY

1250 Albany Avenue, Hartford, CT 06112  
860-695-7380  
Mon & Wed: 10am to 6pm  
Tues & Thurs: 10am to 8pm  
Fri: 10am to 5pm; Sat: 10am to 5pm

### BARBOUR LIBRARY

261 Barbour Street, Hartford, CT 06120  
860-695-7400  
Mon & Wed: 10am to 8pm  
Tues & Thurs: 10am to 6pm;  
Fri: 10am to 5pm

### CAMP FIELD LIBRARY

30 Campfield Avenue, Hartford, CT 06114  
860-695-7440  
Mon & Wed: 10am to 6pm  
Tues & Thurs: 10am to 8pm  
Fri: 10am to 5pm

### DWIGHT LIBRARY

7 New Park Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106  
860-695-7460  
Mon & Wed: 10am to 6pm  
Tues & Thurs: 10am to 8pm  
Fri: 10am to 5pm

### PARK LIBRARY

744 Park Street, Hartford, CT 06106  
860-695-7500  
Mon & Wed: 10am to 8pm  
Tues & Thurs: 10am to 6pm  
Fri: 10am to 5pm; Sat: 10am to 5pm

### ROPKINS LIBRARY

1750 Main Street, Hartford, CT 06120  
860-695-7520  
Mon, Wed & Thurs: 3 to 6pm  
Tues: 1:30pm - 6 pm; Fri: 3 to 5pm  
Summer Hours:  
Mon-Thurs: 12:30-6:00 pm  
Friday: 12:30-5 pm

### BOUNDLESS LIBRARY AT RAWSON SCHOOL

260 Holcomb Street, Hartford, CT 06112  
860-695-7481  
Tues & Thurs: 3:30-6 pm

Cover: Kiyara Tyagi and Nikhitha Sudheesh perform a traditional Indian dance as part of Hartford Public Library's celebration of Diwali, the Hindu "Festival of Lights" in November 2018.





**Hartford Public Library 125th Anniversary Poem, by Kate Rushin**

## Library Card (A Persona Poem)

On the occasion of the 125th anniversary of the opening of the Hartford Public Library, 1893.  
For Caroline Maria Hewitts, "First Lady of The Library."

For you . . . for everyone . . . for anyone in this community:

Factory worker, immigrant, refugee, student, child;  
laborer, cook, mother; whatever your day off, whatever your sabbath;  
without regard to age, gender, color,

*previous condition of servitude.*

There is no charge for you to join this special club.

Imagine . . . All these words and stories, all these worlds: For you.

Each day of the week . . . this card is your passport.

Your word is all the bond you need

to hold, to hear, to read, to touch a book;

to share (with someone special)

a song, poem, picture, vision: a world.

Worlds wheeling within worlds: a healing, a common wealth.

Coda:

We come together

as those who gathered before us,

for the common good,

for all.

We come together in fellowship.

We commune in this common room, around this common table.

## State of the Library

Hartford Public Library's 2018-2019 fiscal year was one of promise. In January, a unique collaboration between Hartford Public Library (HPL) and the Hartford Public Schools was launched at the Sarah J. Rawson Elementary School in Hartford's Blue Hills neighborhood. The Boundless Library at Rawson fully interconnects HPL and its vast wealth of learning resources with the school and greater community with the goal of improving the learning experience, creating connections with the community, supporting families, increasing literacy rates and better preparing students for high school, college, employment and beyond.

After decades of planning, Hartford Public Library's Board of Directors were able to set a July groundbreaking date for construction of the new Park Library at the corner of Broad and Park streets. This new 13,000 square foot neighborhood library will be a cultural, educational, civic and community destination, complementing an already dynamic retail and residential neighborhood.

HPL strives to look ahead and develop new ideas that will have long term benefits for the library and community. Throughout the past winter and spring, we worked to develop HPL's Digital Library Lab, a one-stop imaging, digital archiving and photography service with a team that specializes in digitizing 2D materials and 3D artifacts. The Digital Library Lab is slated for a January 2020 launch. Thank you to all of our early supporters and donors who have helped to make this important project a reality.

HPL is a place for you, a place for everyone. We welcome people from all walks of life who come through our doors for many different reasons. One of the highlights of our commitment to welcoming all is helping people navigate the naturalization process on their journey to US citizenship. Each year on Con-



Receiving the Partnership Award are (from left) Hartford City Council President Glendowyn Thames; HPL Board member Andrew Diaz-Matos; HPL CEO Bridget Quinn-Carey; Mayor Luke Bronin; and HPL Board President Gregory C. Davis.

stitution Day we hold a Naturalization Ceremony with our partners at United States Citizenship and Immigration Services. Public libraries are a cornerstone of democracy, and there is no better place than a public library to welcome new Americans and walk with them on their path to becoming US citizens.

Here at Hartford Public Library, we recognize that this city will fully emerge as the cultural and educational epicenter of our state and Northeast region. Literature, theater, humanities, history, art, film, dance—the most brilliant and creative minds are here and as more inevitably arrive, the rich cultural landscape will only continue to expand. Along with artists and creators, students and learners of every age will continue to clamor for even more stimulating and thought-provoking experiences, of which there will be an abundance. It is an exciting and promising time for our Library and our community.

Bridget Quinn-Carey

Gregory C. Davis



Dwight Library's opening reception of a selection of items from Hartford History Center's exhibition, "Hartford Hip Hop: 1981-1991," featuring photographs, flyers, newspaper articles and video footage from Hartford's early hip hop scene, with a focus on the early 1980s teen group, Peace Train's Breaking and Popping All Stars, and the 1981 and 1991 hip hop exhibitions curated by Real Art Ways (RAW). One of the highlights of the night was a break-dancing performance by Joe Johnson from Manchester, who was one of the area's top dancers back in the 1980s.





# 2018-2019 Highlights

## Literacy, New Initiatives

Assisting our community with accessing and fully utilizing the vast technological resources HPL makes available 24/7 is a critical endeavor. With that in mind, the Library embarked on a new initiative this fiscal year, **Crossroads to Connectivity (C2C)**. Working to close the digital divide, C2C is a two-part program run by HPL and funded by the Hartford Foundation that provides laptop computers and WiFi hotspots to Hartford residents who qualify. Acceptance into the program requires a one-on-one interview with an HPL technical education case worker. Additionally, C2C explores broadband access through TV White Space technology with the goal of addressing the lack of broadband infrastructure in certain areas of Hartford, particularly Hartford's North End.

In January, the Library partnered with Google to present the **Grow with Google** initiative at HPL's Albany Library. Nearly three-quarters of public libraries in this country assist their customers with job applications and interviewing skills, 90% help their customers learn basic digital skills, and just under half provide access and assistance to entrepreneurs looking to start a business of their own. "Ensuring that our community residents and entrepreneurs have access to the Internet, and to the digital content resources they need to be successful in their education, career and life is a critical role of Hartford Public Library," said HPL CEO Bridget Quinn-Carey. Google staff led hands-on workshops about online marketing for

small businesses, search engine optimization, email basics and coding. Attendees also signed up for one-on-one training with Google staff.

A grant from the Cigna Foundation is helping Hartford Public Library implement an opioid overdose rapid-response initiative introduced in Nov. 2018. The money supports HPL's efforts to improve **health literacy** throughout the Library system by paying for the training and supplies needed to assist victims of opioid drug overdoses. Like many libraries, HPL is on the front lines of the increasingly widespread and deadly abuse of opioid drugs.

Literacy programs with a youth focus include the **Teen Media Literacy Project** which reshapes the Learn 2 Discern curriculum, created for adults, into activities and concepts that resonate with teens and the **STEM Lab on the Go** program, which continued to grow throughout the year. In STEM Lab On-the-Go, children are engaged in science experiments, taking on engineering and math challenges and exploring technology. This fiscal year, HPL was awarded a second year of funding from the VOYA Foundation to support STEM Lab On-the-Go programs that also provides a series of training workshops for librarians working with children and teens. In partnership with the Connecticut Science Center, this program works to develop new teaching modules for librarians and other educators working outside the classroom.



Upper Albany resident Denise Walters gets into the Google spirit.

## Facilities

The long-anticipated date to officially break ground on the new **Park Library** construction site was set in June. The new two-story, 13,000 sq. ft. Park Library at the corner of Park and Broad streets will become the largest branch library in the City of Hartford, providing much needed community resources to an already vibrant neighborhood. The new library will include a 150-seat community room, learning lab, meeting rooms, a café, exhibit space and designated adult, teen and children's areas and a courtyard. The \$12.5 million-dollar project will be funded by an \$11.1 million grant from the State of CT and \$1 million from the CT State Library with additional funds provided by the City of Hartford.

The new library, designed by world-renowned Hartford-based architecture firm TSKP Studio, will take approximately one year to build. TSKP Partner Tai Soo Kim is a graduate of the Yale School of Architecture and has been one of Hartford's leading architects for nearly 50 years. He has won over 40 local and national awards for his work and is a member of the American Institute of Architects' prestigious College of Fellows. The new Park Library is slated to open in Fall 2020.

Last fall, Hartford-based marketing and design firm **CO:LAB** leased space at the Library's former Goodwin Branch on New Britain Avenue and created a new community center, the Free Center. CO:LAB's offices occupy about a third of the space at the former library, the rest of the space is devoted to meetings, programs, performances and other community uses. "We are thrilled CO:LAB is in Goodwin," said HPL CEO Bridget Quinn-Carey. "We were hoping to find a dynamic, civic-minded partner that would utilize the space with the interests of the community in mind. The new center retains the building's status as a vital community asset. Richard [Hollant] and his associates have built their success on innovation and forward thinking. I have no doubt they possess the ability, desire and commitment to turn this beautiful building into a thriving showcase for the neighborhood's talents and aspirations."



On July 23, ground is formally broken on the new Park Library construction site. City Councilmen John Q. Gale, James Sanchez and T.J. Clarke; Ben Barnes, CFO of the Connecticut State College and University System; Hartford Mayor Luke Bronin; State Senator John Fonfara; State Representative Minnie Gonzalez; Connecticut Lt. Governor Susan Bysiewicz; Hartford Public Library (HPL) CEO Bridget Quinn-Carey; HPL Board President Gregory Davis; HPL Facilities Manager Mark Parrino; Connecticut State Librarian Kendall Wiggin; HPL Park Branch Manager Graciela Rivera; HPL Customer Experience Officer Leticia Cotto; community activist Ana Natal; and HPL Board Secretary Ana Alfaro.



In August 2018, HPL installed new flooring in the Camp Field Library. A formal ribbon cutting marked the sleek new look. (From left) HPL Facilities Director Mark Parrino; Tony Matta, HPL Board of Directors; Tom Meucci, of Red Thread Spaces; Hyacinth Yennie, President of Maple Avenue Revitalization Group; Bridget Quinn-Carey, HPL CEO; Leticia Cotto, HPL Customer Experience Officer; Geraldine Sullivan, HPL Board of Directors; Patricia Knapp, Manager, Camp Field Library; David Barrett, Vice President, HPL Board of Directors; and Katherine Trouern-Trend, Youth Services Librarian, Camp Field Branch.



Major 2018-2019 additions to our collections included:

- Pronunciator Database providing foreign language and citizenship instructional content;
- New streaming video services - Learn It Live: Health, Meditation, and Personal Development Classes and Method Test Prep: ACT/SAT Prep;
- Stack Map, an online platform that maps Library spaces and provides way-finding tools and digital browsing to help customers and visitors find what they are looking for;
- Implementation of evidence-based selection planning for collection development of adult materials using circulation data to predict the reading needs of the community;
- An additional copy of the Wall Street Journal, added due to customer demand; and,
- A new Hartford Courant database that provides full-page images of this digitized newspaper, 2008 to present, with cover-to-cover access to recent newspaper content.

## Technology

Providing greater access to Library customers system-wide was a key theme throughout the year, from behind the scene changes in system software to our new public-facing HPL App.

Added to the HPL technology toolbox was an investment in **SirsiDynix Symphony**, a new library system software used for maintaining collections. SirsiDynix Symphony provides a cleaner look and more functionality for library customers and features several service upgrades, including automatic renewal of items and online receipts.

The Library implemented a **self-check system** to enhance customer service and better manage and share our extensive collection of books, videos and numerous other items. With the new system, self-service kiosks allow Library customers to check out items, renew materials, and pay fines on their own. Library staff is available to assist customers with using the express checkout machines as needed but will also be able to devote additional time to more detailed requests, such as how to use a particular computer program or where to obtain job training information. Self-service kiosks are at all HPL locations, with the exception of the Boundless Library at Rawson School.

Three new enhancements to virtual space will invite greater pub-

lic access to our online resources. **Axis 360** was made operational in June 2019. With it, Library customers have quicker access to new releases; Hartford Public School students have easier access to e-content by using their Student ID number; and, the Library has expanded its reach through the new Pop Up Library services.

Installed in May 2019 at three high traffic Hartford locations: Union Station, 1 Union Place; Burgdorf Health Center, 131 Coventry Street; and The Kitchen Café, located inside the Downtown Library at 500 Main Street, the **Pop Up Library** enables anyone endless access to HPL's digital content through a phone or tablet. No library card is needed, no app needs to be installed, and no password is required. Books open instantly and can be read on a phone or tablet browser or downloaded to be read offline for as long as the item is checked out.

The **HPL App**, launched in December, can be downloaded for free from the iPhone App Store or the Google Play Store. With the new HPL App, customers can check their account, renew items, and more. They can also find the nearest library branch and check whether it's open. The HPL App allows you to download a wide variety of e-books, audio books and other materials with just a few taps on the screen.

## REFERENCE TRANSACTIONS

What are reference transactions? According to the Connecticut State Library, a reference transaction is "information consultations in which library staff recommend, interpret, evaluate, and/or use information resources to help others meet particular information needs. A reference transaction includes information and referral service as well as unscheduled individual instruction and assistance in using information sources (including web sites and computer-assisted instruction)." Directional transactions or questions of rules or policies are not counted as reference transactions.

The Hartford Public Library collects reference transactions on a quarterly basis. Results for the fiscal year by location follow:

FISCAL YEAR	DOWNTOWN	ALBANY	BARBOUR	CAMP FIELD	DWIGHT	PARK	ROPKINS	TOTALS
2017-18	47,079	17,146	7,483	12,181	4,875	8,853	6,616	<b>104,233</b>
2018-19	36,271	7,553	5,005	21,840	8,645	12,987	5,473	<b>97,774</b>

## Top Ten Titles for Adults, 2018-2019, Electronic Books:



*The Billionaire's Apprentice: The Rise of the Indian-American Elite and the Fall of the Galleon Hedge Fund* by Anita Raghavan

*Crazy Rich Asians: Crazy Rich Asians Series, Book 1* by Kevin Kwan

*Just Mercy (Movie Tie-In Edition): A Story of Justice and Redemption* by Bryan Stevenson

*The Stand* by Stephen King

*The Drowning House: A Novel* by Elizabeth Black

*Hard Habit to Break* by Linda Cajio

*The Round House* by Louise Erdrich

*You Are a Badass: How to Stop Doubting Your Greatness and Start Living an Awesome Life* by Jen Sincero

*If Beale Street Could Talk* by James Baldwin

*The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up: The Japanese Art of Decluttering and Organizing* by Marie Kondō



**“We are thankful to our partners-in-learning at the Hartford Public Library for working beside us, shoulder-to-shoulder, to increase educational access for our beautiful and capable students...”**

*—Superintendent of Schools Leslie Rodriguez-Torres*

## Innovation and Enterprise

### **Boundless@ Rawson**

In January, a unique collaboration between Hartford Public Library and Hartford Public Schools was launched at the Sarah J. Rawson Elementary School in Hartford’s Blue Hills neighborhood - the Boundless Library @ Rawson. The Boundless Library @ Rawson fully interconnects HPL and its vast wealth of learning resources with the school community with the goal of improving the learning experience, increasing literacy rates and better preparing students for high school, college, employment and beyond.

HPL’s Boundless Librarian/Media Specialist works closely with Rawson’s teachers, staff, students and families to identify ways in which the Library’s resources can best support and assist the school and the community. One of the key reasons for selecting Rawson was that the school’s physical layout is highly conducive to after-school and summer use by students and residents.

Superintendent Torres-Rodriguez said: “We are thankful to our partners-in-learning at the Hartford Public Library for working beside us, shoulder-to-shoulder, to increase educational access for our beautiful and capable students. Boundless provides greater access to paper books and digital resources to help our students develop that crucial, life-long love of reading. When I was a child, the Park Street public library branch was my second home. It was my love of reading that helped to secure my future. Boundless benefits our students, teachers, families, and the entire school community. And it profoundly supports our literacy goals which we know are key to student success. Supported by a Media Specialist, this is a traditional library where the past and future meet; combining all the tools our students need to thrive in the 21st century. We are excited about the tremendous benefits this partnership is bringing to Rawson School and we hope that this pilot program will be implemented at more schools in the future.”

### **Digital Library Lab**

Hartford Public Library was one of a handful of non-profit organizations in the Greater Hartford community chosen to take part in the Social Enterprise Accelerator (SEA), an initiative of the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving’s Nonprofit Support Program (NSP). SEA was designed to help organizations expand beyond traditional grants and donations when looking for new sources of revenue. Through this program, HPL developed a unique social enterprise—the Digital Library Lab, a one-stop imaging, digital archiving and photography service with a team that specializes in digitizing 2D materials and 3D artifacts. The Digital Library Lab’s expected launch is January 2020.



*HPL CEO Bridget Quinn-Carey and Hartford Superintendent Leslie Rodriguez-Torres cut the ribbon for the new Boundless Library at Rawson. Pictured with them are Rawson school children and (from left) HPL Public Services Director Marie Jarry, Hartford City Council President Glendowlyn Thames, and City Council member Thomas J. Clarke, II.*

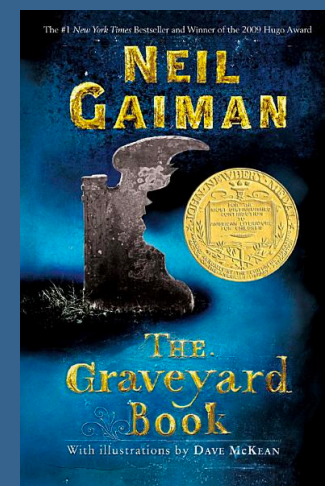
## Civic Engagement—Census 2020

In 2020, the Census will be conducted primarily online for the first time. Like past e-government efforts, this will likely impact libraries and libraries’ technology resources as staff work to assist people in participating in the Census. The 2020 Census also presents an opportunity to increase public awareness and use of Census data. The critical importance of a complete and accurate census in the day-to-day lives of all Americans cannot be overstated. “The numbers compiled,” said HPL CEO Bridget Quinn-Carey, “will affect everything from the levels of political representation to the amount of government funding. It is crucial that everyone is accurately represented in the 2020 Census for their own benefit as well as that of our city and our country.” CEO Quinn-Carey was named a member of both the state and city 2020 Census committees in the 2018-2019 fiscal year.



*HPL CEO Bridget Quinn-Carey with Mayor Luke Bronin, U.S. Congressman John Larson, and Secretary of State Denise Merrill.*

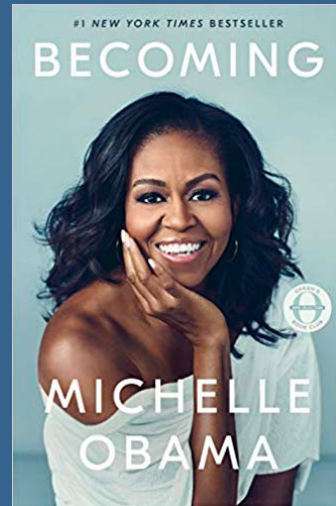
## Top Ten Titles for Youth, 2018-2019, Electronic Books



- Graveyard Book* by Neil Gaiman
- Dog Days* by Karen English
- Isle of the Lost* by Melissa De La Cru
- Fantastic Beasts and Where To Find Them* by J.K. Rowling
- The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak
- 13 Reasons Why* by Jay Asher
- The Assassin and the Underworld* by Sarah Maas
- Children of Eden* by Joey Graceffa
- Confinement* by Carrie Brown
- The Maze Runner* by James Dashner



## Top Ten Book Titles for Adults 2018-2019, Books in Print



- Becoming* by Michelle Obama
- Long Road to Mercy* by David Baldacci
- Target Alex Cross* by James Patterson
- Past Tense: A Jack Reacher Novel* by Lee Child
- Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens
- Elevation* by Stephen King
- A Spark of Light* by Jodi Picoult
- The Reckoning* by John Grisham
- The President Is Missing* by Bill Clinton & James Patterson
- Ambush* by James Patterson

## Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Shout Outs!

**HBJ Partnership Award**—the Hartford Business Journal recognized Hartford Public Library, the City of Hartford and three Hartford-based insurance companies—Aetna, Travelers and The Hartford—with the Partnership Award. The publication recognized both businesses and individuals for supporting non-profit organizations as well as non-profits that have made a significant impact on the communities they serve.

**Top Ten Innovators**—the Urban Libraries Council named Hartford Public Library among its Top Ten Innovators in September 2018. Judges cited The American Place’s Career Pathways Initiative for its innovative programs, services and operating practices. HPL’s The American Place provides services to immigrants and refugees. Services include ELL instruction, citizenship test reparation, and assistance with the citizenship application process and innovative strategies that promote immigrant integration.

**New Certificate Training Programs**—under the Career Pathways Initiative, two new certificate training programs were introduced in this fiscal year – Restaurant Server Certification and ServSafe Alcohol & Mixology.

**Strengthening of Immigration Services**—TAP expanded its hours of weekend and evening counseling by establishing a relationship with the Hartford law firm Shipman and Goodman. Four of the law firm’s attorneys completed training and began processing naturalization applications for the Library.

**The Salma Khatoun Farid Award**—Nancy Caddigan, with HPL’s The American Place, was awarded the 1st annual Salma Khatoun Farid Award at the 22nd Annual Connecticut Immigrant day at the State Capitol in April. The award is given to a “remarkable educator who has dedicated years to teaching immigrant children and youth.”

**Awards of Merit**—The Library’s Hartford History Center (HHC) received two Awards of Merit from the Connecticut League of History Organizations. The first award was for HHC’s book, *In the Grand Tradition: The Enduring Art of Elbert Weinberg*, authored by HHC project curator Nancy Finlay and published by Wesleyan Press. The second Award of Merit was for the HHC’s Hartford HipHop Digital Stories project done in partnership with Trinity College. HHC’s Education and Outreach Manager Jasmin Agosto was the lead on the HipHop project.

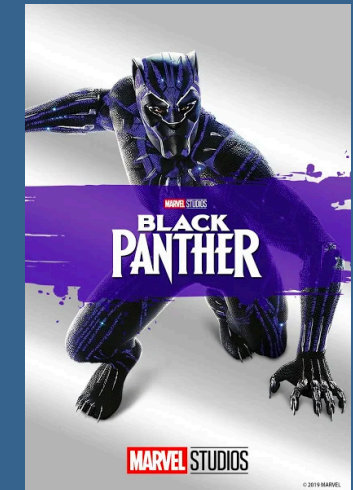
**CLA Support Staff Award**—the Connecticut Library Association named long-time HPL staff member, Elizabeth Davis, Support Staff Person of the Year at its annual conference in April. The honor follows Elizabeth receiving the Library’s Annual Customer Service Award in December. She has been with the library for 35 years, on the frontline of customer service.

**Mayor’s Cabinet for Young Children**—Marie Jarry, the Library’s Director of Public Services, was named to the Mayor’s Cabinet for Young Children. The cabinet advises the mayor in setting policy on all matters affecting children and their families.

*Left: The American Place team (from left) Beverly Redd, Nancy Caddigan, Elizabeth Rivera, and Homa Naficy. Right: Nancy Caddigan, with Asma and Tariq Farid and State Senator Saud Anwar (far right).*



## Top Ten DVDs, 2018-2019



- Black Panther*
- Deadpool 2*
- Ant-Man and the Wasp*
- Game of Thrones*
- Jurassic World*
- A Quiet Place*
- Skyscraper*
- The Meg*
- Hereditary*
- Breaking In*







Over 100 youngsters who completed the Library's 2018 Summer Learning program received free tickets to the Hartford Yard Goats game at Dunkin Donuts Stadium on August 24, 2018. As a special treat, Makayla Urbina and dozens of other children from the library were invited on the field before the game to hold giant flags of the United States and Puerto Rico during the playing of the national anthems.

FY 2018-2019  
Programs

**5,088**  
programs

**93,677**  
attendees

**349**  
adult programs  
at branches

**87**  
Hartford History  
Center programs

**52,186**  
youth attendees



# FY 2018-19 PROGRAMS IN PICTURES

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY, DR. SEUSS!

Story-telling programs hosted by Hartford Public Library's Children's Department are growing in popularity. The last summer installment of "Dinner and a Story" drew 120 children and parents. Another family favorite is Storytime in the Park, which takes advantage of the Library's proximity to one of Hartford's treasures: Bushnell Park. Originally held once a month in the summer, the program has expanded into the fall. Storytime in the Park is held next to the Bushnell Carousel.



## ALBANY GEMS

Participants in a jewelry-making class at Albany Library prepare to display their work in November 2018.



## BALL BONANZA

These youngsters at the Downtown Library didn't need video games to have a ball! The activity was held at the Downtown Library in June 2019.

## HONORING LATINA WOMEN AND THEIR CHILDREN

Honrando Las Mujeres Latinas y sus Ninos (Honoring Latina Women and their Children) was held at the Downtown Library last fall. The event was the culmination of a series of activities, held in partnership with the Hispanic Health Council (HHC), by Park Library in recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Park Street Manager Graciela Rivera and HHC's Maria Ortiz hosted the event. Speakers included Rocio Chang-Angulo, Ruth Gonzalez and Lourdes Burgos-Rosado. Free childcare (in the form of a Halloween Party) was provided by HPL's Children's Department. Several local organizations also participated in the event, including CT Coalition against Domestic Violence, CT Institute for Refugees & Immigrants, CT State Department of Education: Regional School Choice Office, Health Equity Solutions, Interval House, CT State Office of Victim Services, Susan G. Komen New England and YWCA Sexual Assault Crisis Service.



## SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Women who participated in the "Honoring Latina Women and their Children" program in October 2018 signal what they value most, including love, respect and confidence.



FY 2018–2019 SYSTEMWIDE PROGRAMMING AND ATTENDANCE TOTALS	
Programs	5,088
Attendance	93,677

## ISLAND FLAVORS

Caribbean music, art and culture warmed up a cold New England day at Ropkins Library in February 2019.



## WOVEN THREADS, WOVEN LIVES

One of the Hartford Public Library's dear friends, Sandy Fromson (left photo, center) brought her community weaving project to a close in March 2019. Close to 200 people, including Hartford Mayor Luke Bronin and HPL Board President Greg Davis, participated in the project by taking their turn at the loom and writing down a wish for Hartford.



## ON DISPLAY

Students in Albany Library's Collage Class admire their work. The class was taught by artist Andres Chapparo in the summer of 2018.

## REMEMBERING A LEGEND

Ann-Marie Williams and Alvin Carter, Jr. were among those who honored beloved Hartford storyteller Gertrude Blanks in music and words in June 2019. Above, Nzinga's Daughters joyfully sing out in memory of Gertrude Blanks.



## A SUMMER OF LEARNING

A few feathered friends helped to kick off HPL's Summer Learning Program in June 2019. Laurie Ann Bompart, Manager of Barnes & Noble Hartford, joined in the educational fun with HPL staffers Liz Castle, Marie Jarry and Michelle McFarland at HPL's Summer Learn kickoff.



## COLORS OF SPRING

Library staff and patrons all joined in a celebration of Holi, the Hindu "Festival of Colors," in the Children's Department of the Downtown Library in April 2019.



## ARTWALK FASHION WALK

After months of preparation and training, teens from the Downtown YOUmedia center walked the runway as models in a spectacular fashion show on the Art-Walk in May 2019. The teens were directed by YOU-media mentor DaShaun Hightower (above, right).

### YOUTH + TEENS PROGRAM ATTENDANCE

LOCATION	FY 2018-2019
Downtown	13,674
Albany	9,860
Barbour	3,873
Camp Field	7,798
Dwight	3,633
Park	6,174
Ropkins	7,174
<b>TOTAL Y &amp; T PROGRAMS</b>	<b>52,186</b>





## PRISON ART PROGRAM ON THE ARTWALK

Community Partners in Action celebrated the 40th anniversary of its Prison Arts Program with a moving and beautiful exhibit at HPL's ArtWalk in March 2019.

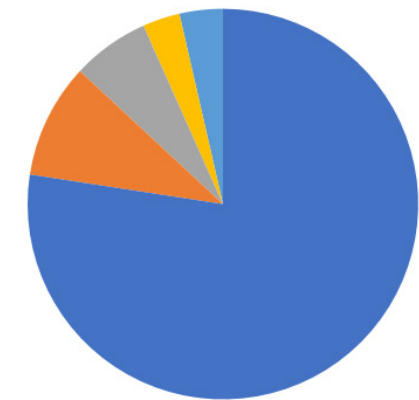


## GOVERNOR TOURS STATES OF INCARCERATION

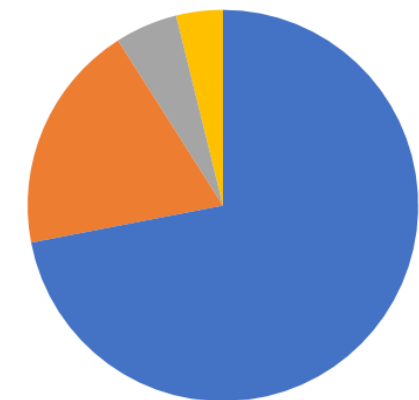
Former Connecticut Governor Dannel Malloy, a vocal advocate for prison reform, and his wife, Cathy, CEO of the Greater Hartford Arts Council, were among the many visitors to States of Incarceration, a traveling exhibit examining various facets of the United States prison system. The exhibit was on display in the atrium of the Downtown Library in spring 2019.

## FY19 Budget

REVENUE	
City Contribution	8,150,000
Grants	1,000,000
Endowment	674,238
Gifts	325,000
Fees Income	377,336
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>10,526,574</b>



EXPENSE	
Personnel Costs	7,575,263
Other Operating Expenditure	2,000,826
Library Materials	544,403
Plant Operations and Maintenance	406,082
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>10,526,574</b>

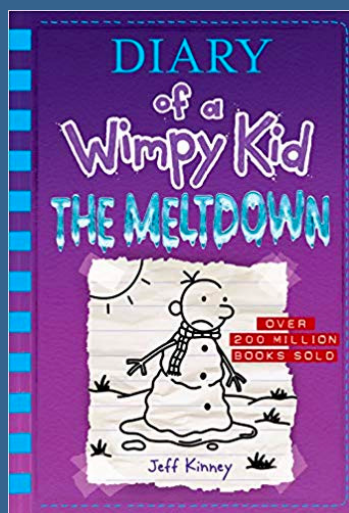


## Statement of Financial Position

	2019*	2018
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash	829,870	7,231,240
Investments	17,494,720	16,706,322
Accounts receivable	652,851	592,410
Contributions receivable	280,942	483,122
Prepaid expenses	129,931	111,355
Property and equipment, net	9,385,655	10,289,728
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>28,773,969</b>	<b>35,414,177</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>		
Liabilities		
Accounts payable & accrued expenses	50,125	37,546
Deferred revenue	5,318	21,954
Total liabilities	55,443	59,500
Net Assets		
Without donor restrictions	23,446,864	23,076,833
With donor restrictions	5,271,662	12,277,844
Total net assets	28,718,526	35,354,677
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>28,773,969</b>	<b>35,414,177</b>

\* 2019 Statements are unaudited

## Top Ten Book Titles for Youth 2018-2019, Books in Print:



- Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Meltdown* by Jeff Kinney
- Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Cabin Fever* by Jeff Kinney
- Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Ugly Truth* by Jeff Kinney
- Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Last Straw* by Jeff Kinney
- Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Greg Heffley's Journal* by Jeff Kinney
- Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Long Haul* by Jeff Kinney
- Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules* by Jeff Kinney
- Dog Man: Brawl of the Wild* by Dav Pilkey
- Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Old School* by Jeff Kinney
- Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Hard Luck* by Jeff Kinney



# Hartford Public Library Thanks You, Our Donors

July 1, 2018–June 30, 2019

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City of Hartford  
Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development  
Connecticut State Department of Education  
Connecticut State Library  
Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)  
National Endowment for the Arts  
State of Connecticut

## ORGANIZATIONAL SUPPORT

### \$100,000+

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*Many thanks to Aetna, The Hartford, and Travelers for their multi-year pledge to support the City of Hartford and HPL. Hartford Business Journal honored the 5 organizations with the Nonprofit & Community Excellence Partnership Award. Receiving the award above are Bridget Quinn-Carey, HPL CEO, Luke Bronin, Mayor of Hartford, Andy Besette, Executive VP and CAO at Travelers, David Robinson, Executive VP and General Counsel at The Hartford, and Floyd Green, VP and Head of CALM at Aetna.*

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*CEO Bridget Quinn-Carey introducing HPL's planned Digital Library Lab to members of the Hartford business community. HPL was one of ten area non-profits selected by the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving to develop and implement an earned income social enterprise initiative.*

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*Rashmi Talpade's ArtWalk Exhibit: Urban Legends of Modern Archaeology, January 11-February 24, 2019. The ArtWalk is made possible in part thanks to the generous support of Bank of America and the Edwards C. & Ann T. Roberts Foundation.*

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*Author Stewart O'Nan with HPL CEO  
 Bridget Quinn-Carey at the Hartford Circus  
 Fire Remembrance reception and Book Talk  
 in June.*

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Phyllis Shikora  
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Rose Tashjian  
Jesus Valladeres  
Robyne Watkin



*HPL CEO Bridget Quinn-Carey and Hartford Stage Artistic Assistant Yan Chen with WNPR reporter Vanessa de la Torre as she interviewed HPL Board Member Steve Harris about the Hartford and Detroit riots of the late 1960s that form the background of Hartford Stage's production of Detroit '67. The exhibit included photos from the riots in both Detroit and Hartford. The Hartford photos were drawn from the archives of HPL's Hartford History Center. This was the 2nd year of the Library's partnership with Hartford Stage.*

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\$1,413

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**I love the Library because it opens the world up to people, just like it did for my family when I was young. Anybody can use it. There are no boundaries. That appeals to me. We work hard to meet the needs of Hartford."**

**—Geraldine Sullivan, HPL Board Member**

*Arline Baum, former Corporator and Library supporter, at her 100th birthday. A heartfelt thank you to Arline, who passed away September 3, 2018, for her years of service to Hartford Public Library and for her thoughtful legacy gift.*





# Corporator List July 1, 2018–June 30, 2019



*Caroline M. Hewins Medalists, Sandy Bender Fromson and Howard Fromson, with HPL CEO Bridget Quinn-Carey and HPL Board President Gregory Davis*

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*Poet Kate Rushin with featured author Jacqueline Woodson*



*Co-chairs and HPL Corporators Beth Papermaster, Cate D'Italia, and Terry D'Italia*



*HPL Corporators Beth and Dan Papermaster with Tim Sullivan and HPL Board Member Gerri Sullivan*

## beyond words

Thank you to all who helped make Beyond Words 2018 such a resounding success, including Joyce & Andy Mandell, Honorary Chairs, Mandell-Braunstein Families and Data-Mail, Inc., Presenting Sponsor, and all of our sponsors. In addition, we'd like to recognize our Board, Honorary Committee, Working Committee, all the table captains, our event co-chairs Cate & Terry D'Italia and Beth & Dan Papermaster, and Tim Sullivan, Jr. whose gracious Fund the Mission fundraising contributed to the \$175,000 (net) the Library raised for enhanced Library programs.



*Meryl Braunstein speaking on behalf of honorary chairs Joyce and Andy Mandell*



*Rich and Karen Hollant with Sara Bronin*



*Joe Gianni, Will Wilkins, Kate Rushin, and HPL Board Member Mark Overmyer-Velázquez*



*Ed Lewis, HPL Corporator Lois Lewis, Helaine Teale, and HPL Corporator Charles Teale*



*YOUmedia teen interns with Bridget Quinn-Carey, Joe Calafiore, and Scott Schooley/Hartford Athletic*



*Bridget Quinn-Carey, HPL Board President Greg Davis, Kate Rushin, Jacqueline Woodson, Isabel Calione, HPL Corporators Leslie Paguada and Louise Blalock, and HPL Board Member Ana Alfaro*





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