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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

A library card is the coolest card – September is Library Card Sign-up Month

(HARTFORD, CT) – Studies show that children who are read to in the home and who use the library perform better in school. So as school begins September is Library Card Sign-up Month, a time when Hartford Public Library joins with the American Library Association and public libraries nationwide to make sure that every student has the most important school supply of all – a free library card.

Resources at Hartford Public Library are available to anyone who has a library card. Students can turn to the library for materials, programs and knowledgeable library staff that support academic achievement. In fact, this summer 563 students signed up for a card during the summer learning programs.



Today’s libraries aren’t only a place of quiet study, but also creative and engaging community centers where students can collaborate using new technologies, learn how to use a 3D printer or just relax with peers. Our library offers access to a variety of print and digital resources that can be accessed in person or online.

“Our library provides access and programs for students of all ages,” says HPL CEO Matthew K. Poland. “For preschool age children we offer early literacy and story times to encourage school readiness, for older children and teens we supplement education with hands-on science, technology, engineering, arts and math programs and innovative maker spaces like YOUmedia Hartford, and for older teens we have information and tools to

help prepare for college and mentoring programs. There's really something for everyone and it's all free with a library card."

For more information on how to sign up for a library card, visit the [Downtown Library or one of our nine branches in person or visit the library online at <http://www.hplct.org/using-your-library/get-library-card>.

ABOUT HARTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

As a finalist for the 2013 and 2014 National Medal from the Institute for Museum and Library Services, Hartford Public Library has been recognized as a national leader in redefining the urban public library in the 21st century as an innovative and stimulating place where people can learn and discover, explore their passions, and find a rich array of resources that contribute to a full life. Hartford Public Library provides free resources that inspire reading, guide learning, and encourage individual exploration. Serving the residents of Hartford and beyond at its nine branches and Downtown location, Hartford Public Library receives more than 833,000 visits per year from adults, children and families seeking early literacy opportunities, work skills training, civic engagement, arts enrichment, and so much more. Visit hplct.org.