



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Library Summer Reading Kickoff and Fun Fair!

Hartford, Connecticut (May 30, 2012) — Calling All Dreamers! Hartford Public Library will celebrate its Summer Reading Kickoff and Library Fun Fair with the theme “Dream Big—Read!” this Saturday, June 2, from 1:00 – 4:30 p.m., to celebrate the kickoff of the annual Summer Reading Program! Buses will be available at no charge from all Hartford Public Library branches from 12:15 – 5:30 p.m.

With bounce houses, a bounce obstacle course, professional airbrush tattoos, Spin Art, music, and tons of fun crafts, the fair offers something for everyone. The Kickoff awards a free Teddy Bear to the first 500 children to sign up for the Summer Reading Game! The outdoor fair will be followed by an indoor performance by the fabulous magician Zach Ivins, in the Downtown Library’s Center for Contemporary Culture from 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. The Fun Fair will be held on the Library and City Hall terraces, and in Burr Mall (next to City Hall).

Families may register for a Parent/Child Reading Program for parents/caregivers and children ages 0-5, or Youth and Teen Reading Programs. Readers may track 5/10/15/20 hours/books read for great incentives like toys, games, jewelry, books and Grand Prizes. Readers may register at the Kickoff or at any library branch.

After the Kickoff, families may continue to explore the night with great activities at all branches June 2 – August 15, 2012. We will feature events all summer long, like Bollywood dancing, Henna art, Wild Nights Nocturnal Animals, Circus Workshops, Family Science, Quilling, Spacelab Planetarium, Battle of the Bands, and a *Stars of Hartford!*

Filled with fantastic activities and terrific prizes, this Summer Reading Program will increase reading ability while providing hours of fun!

Lincoln Financial Foundation is the presenting sponsor for Hartford Public Library’s 2012 Dream Big: Read! Summer Reading Program. New Alliance Foundation, the City of Hartford, William Caspar Graustein Memorial Fund and XL Insurance are also participating sponsors.

To learn more contact Lisa McClure, Youth and Family Services Director, at 860-695-6328 or lmccclure@hplct.org.

About [Hartford Public Library](#)

The Hartford Public Library traces its roots to 1774. It operates 10 locations in the City of Hartford. The Library receives more than 860,000 visits per year. Services include access to a large collection of materials for reading and research, as well as music and video. Programs provide education, information and enrichment to the people of Hartford in such areas as citizenship training, literacy, business skills and cultural awareness. The mission of Hartford Public Library is to provide free resources that inspire reading, guide learning, and encourage individual exploration. Visit hplct.org and the library's new blog at blogs.hplct.org