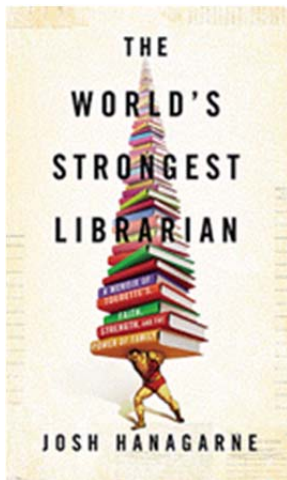




FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Brenda Miller, 860-695-6347, bmiller@hplct.org

The World's Strongest Librarian Coming to Hartford Public Library!



Hartford, Connecticut (July 3, 2013) — Hartford Public Library is proud to announce an event featuring Josh Hanagarne, author *THE WORLD'S STRONGEST LIBRARIAN: A Memoir of Tourette's, Faith, Strength, and the Power of Family*, on Wednesday, July 17 at 5:30 p.m. in the *Center for Contemporary Culture* at the Downtown Library, 500 Main Street. This program is part of Hartford Public Library's Adult Summer Reading Program and is presented in collaboration with The Mark Twain House & Museum.

Josh Hanagarne is a 6'7" giant known as the World's Strongest Librarian. A librarian at the Salt Lake City Public Library, he battles his own case of Tourette Syndrome and became a strongman weight-trainer to better manage his symptoms. He believes in curiosity, questions, strength, and that things are never so bad they can't improve. Josh's popular blog, World's Strongest Librarian, currently gets more than 80,000 visitors each month. At Hartford Public Library, he will share his inspiring and utterly unique story about his life-long struggle with Tourette's, his family, faith, and journey into weight-lifting.

The Mark Twain House & Museum's Jacques Lamarre states, "When I heard about Josh Hanagarne's amazing memoir, I knew we had to bring him to Hartford. The fact that he loves books, cites Mark Twain as one of his favorite authors, and is a librarian makes Josh's appearance the perfect event for Hartford Public Library and The Mark Twain House & Museum to co-present. I hope people from throughout the region will come see a man who can make sense of the Dewey Decimal System AND lift a boulder over his head."

Matt Poland, the Library's chief executive officer, noted that Mr. Hanagarne's experience is "a life lesson in perseverance no matter the odds."

Event is free and open to the public. Copies of *THE WORLD'S STRONGEST LIBRARIAN* will be available for purchase. Parking is available on the parking deck adjacent to the library on Arch Street. For more information visit us online at www.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 865,000 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. According to a recent editorial in *The Hartford Courant*, "Indeed, the Library has established itself as the center of the community in Hartford." To learn more about the library, please see www.hplct.org.

About The Mark Twain House

The Mark Twain House & Museum (www.marktwainhouse.org) has restored the author's Hartford, Connecticut, home, where Samuel L. Clemens and his family lived from 1874 to 1891. In addition to providing tours of Twain's restored home, a National Historic Landmark, the institution offers activities and educational programs that illuminate Twain's literary legacy and provide information about his life and times.