



## PRESS RELEASE

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### Hartford Public Library to Make Service Changes and Cancel Some Programs as a Result of COVID19

**HARTFORD** – Hartford Public Library (HPL) has made service changes and canceled some programs in response to the outbreak of COVID19 in Connecticut.

Library hours may continue to change and additional programs may be canceled or postponed in an effort to protect the health of customers, staff and community.

“We are working closely with City and State officials. We recognize the need to be mindful of our public spaces, the number of people physically present in them and proximity of people in those spaces,” said Bridget Quinn-Carey, president and CEO of Hartford Public Library

#### **Service and Program Changes:**

For the foreseeable future, the renewal period for borrowed materials will be extended to compensate for late returns. Materials will be automatically renewed up to three times if no one else is waiting; any customer who has difficulty returning items should contact the library.

Upon consultation with the Hartford Public Schools, Hartford Public Library will be temporarily suspending public service at the *Boundless Library@ Rawson* from 3:00 – 6:00 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday.

Hartford Public Library is **canceled** the following programs and events. We will reschedule as many as possible and publicize new dates as they become available.

#### **ArtWalk – Downtown Library, 500 Main Street**

Opening Reception, Erik Williams’ *Lost in Color* - March 13<sup>th</sup>: 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

**Baby Grand Jazz Series (all 3:00-4:00pm) – Downtown Library, 500 Main Street**

Iris Ornig Quintet- March 15<sup>th</sup>  
Haneef N. Nelson Quintet- March 22<sup>nd</sup>  
Ricky Alfonso Group- March 29<sup>th</sup>  
Envisage Collective- April 5<sup>th</sup>  
The Joe Carter Samba Rio- April 19<sup>th</sup>  
TAEKO- April 26<sup>th</sup>

**Mental Health Pre-Screening Day – Downtown Library, 500 Main Street**

Saturday March 21<sup>st</sup>: 1:00-4:00pm

**La Colectiva Feminista – Park Library, 744 Park Street**

Tuesday March 24<sup>th</sup>: 5:00-7:45pm

**Jazz 201 – Downtown Library, 500 Main Street**

Mondays March 23<sup>rd</sup>-April 11<sup>th</sup>: 5:30-7:30pm

**Andrea Cruz Concert – Downtown Library, 500 Main Street**

Sunday April 5<sup>th</sup>: 1:30-2:30pm

A series of children's events at the Downtown Library will be cancelled as well.

**Read With Gizmo**

Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, April 4<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 am

**Yoga for Success**

Monday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> 5:30pm

**Family Pajama Storytime**

Thursday, March 26<sup>th</sup> 5:30pm

**Celebrate Holi Festival of Colors**

Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup> 4:30 pm

**Youth on Youth Bullying Workshop**

Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup> 1:00pm

**Family Literacy Day (Lego Day)**

Wednesday, April 15<sup>th</sup> 10am-2pm

**1,000 Books Before Kindergarten Celebration**

Thursday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> 5:30 pm

HPL is taking practical steps to help reduce the potential spread of the virus:

- Enhancing cleaning measures in all buildings, with particular focus on high-traffic and high-touch areas

- Reminding all staff and Library users of proper hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette, such as: covering coughs and sneezes with something other than your hand; washing hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds; and, avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth. We have added more hand-sanitizer stations in our larger facilities.
- Encouraging all to stay home if they are sick

“Libraries are shared public spaces. For the health and safety of others, please be thoughtful about coming into a library if you are not feeling well,” Quinn-Carey said.

For more information, call 860-695-6300 or email [contactus@hplct.org](mailto:contactus@hplct.org).