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The McPhee Foundation Awards Hartford Public Library Grant for Homework Clubs

Hartford, Connecticut (October 18, 2012) – The McPhee Foundation awarded Hartford Public Library a \$5,000 grant that will provide continuation funding for the McPhee Homework Clubs. The Clubs are staffed by Hartford teens hired for the Library's positive youth development employment program, the Teen Leader Initiative.

Barbara McPhee, director of The McPhee Foundation said, "The McPhee Foundation is pleased to be able to support the Teen Leader Initiative in conjunction with the McPhee Homework Clubs at Hartford Public Library. Teen Leaders build relationships with Homework Club participants through peer-to-peer tutoring. In this capacity they are becoming mentors and positive role models to children in the community. We are delighted to be able to award a grant again this year."

One aspect of school success that can be particularly challenging for Hartford students is homework completion. Families in poverty very often lack the education needed to assist, and do not have the table space, quiet atmosphere, print and electronic resources, and basic supplies required.

"The Library becomes the logical place for students to turn for this homework assistance. Homework Clubs offer an excellent opportunity for personal and academic achievement while meeting the goals of the National Campaign for Grade Level Reading. We are grateful for The McPhee Foundation's support of the Homework Clubs again this year," said Hartford Public Library's Chief Executive Officer Matthew K. Poland.

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