



**CONTACT:**  
Rachel Gary  
Communications Manager  
860-695-6352  
[rgary@hplct.org](mailto:rgary@hplct.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Travelers to Serve as Presenting Sponsor for Hartford Public Library's Gala Fundraiser**



Hartford, Connecticut (March 6, 2014) – Hartford Public Library announced today that **Travelers will serve as the presenting sponsor for the Library's major annual fundraising gala, One Big Sizzling Summer Night**. This year's event will be held at the Library's bright, modern Downtown building on the evening of Thursday, June 12.

"We are thrilled to have Travelers as our presenting sponsor for One Big Summer Night, a powerful endorsement of the work we do here," said Matt Poland, CEO of Hartford Public Library. "This event directly supports all the ways we work to provide our community with improved literacy and job skills, top-quality cultural programming, and an innovative, 21<sup>st</sup> century center for learning and enrichment."

2014 marks the first year Travelers will participate as presenting sponsor for the event.

**This year's gala will feature best-selling author and former *New York Times* food critic Ruth Reichl.** A six-time James Beard Award-Winner, Ms. Reichl served as editor-in-chief of *Gourmet* magazine for ten years, has authored five critically-acclaimed, best-selling memoirs on the topics of food and family, and served as editor of countless collections of cuisine-inspired publications.

New this year, the **highly-anticipated fundraiser returns to the Downtown Library with three floors of gourmet cuisine and entertainment**, showcasing the state-of-the-art facility and the many programs and services the Library provides to the residents of Hartford and beyond. Some of Hartford's finest

restaurants will be serving delicious dishes for tasting throughout the food-themed evening. **One of the most festive events of the Hartford summer, proceeds from One Big Sizzling Summer Night benefit the many thousands of adults, children and families served by the Library each year.**

“Public libraries are crucial resources for students and their success, “said Erin Haberman, Director of Community Relations at Travelers. “We remain committed to supporting and helping build strong communities, and that’s why we’re proud to partner with Hartford Public Library as presenting sponsor of One Big Summer Night.”

Additional event sponsors include: First Niagara at the Platinum Level; Advocate Sponsors ARCADIS/O&G Program Management, Legrand North America, Fiduciary Investment Advisors, HB Nitkin, and Trinity College/SINA; and Friend Sponsors Hartford Steam Boiler and Lincoln Financial.

Tickets for One Big *Sizzling* Summer Night will be available for purchase at [www.hplct.org](http://www.hplct.org) beginning April 1st. For sponsorship and other opportunities, please contact Jane Penfield at (860) 695-6342 or [jpenfield@hplct.org](mailto:jpenfield@hplct.org).

#### **ABOUT [HARTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY](http://www.hplct.org)**

The Hartford Public Library traces its roots to 1774. It operates 10 locations and a Library-on-Wheels 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](http://hplct.org) and the library’s new blog at [blogs.hplct.org](http://blogs.hplct.org).

###