

Chief Executive Officer's Report

June 2018

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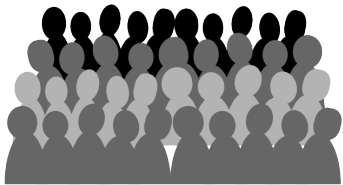
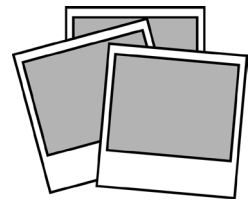
January, February, & March

at a **glance**



2,575 new library card holders

28,834 visits to the HHC digital repository



4,215 adult program attendees



149 teen programs



65 intergenerational programs



193 municipal IDs processed



473 job seekers served



644 passports processed

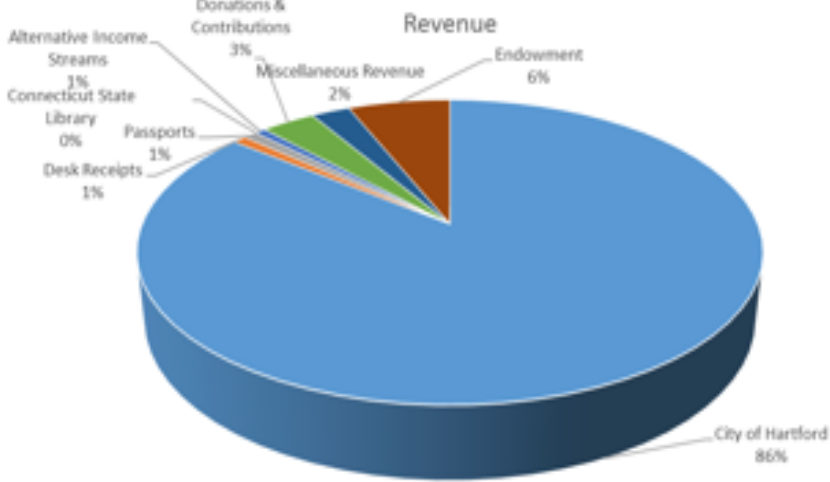
OPERATING BUDGET SUMMARY 3/31/18

75% THROUGH FISCAL YEAR

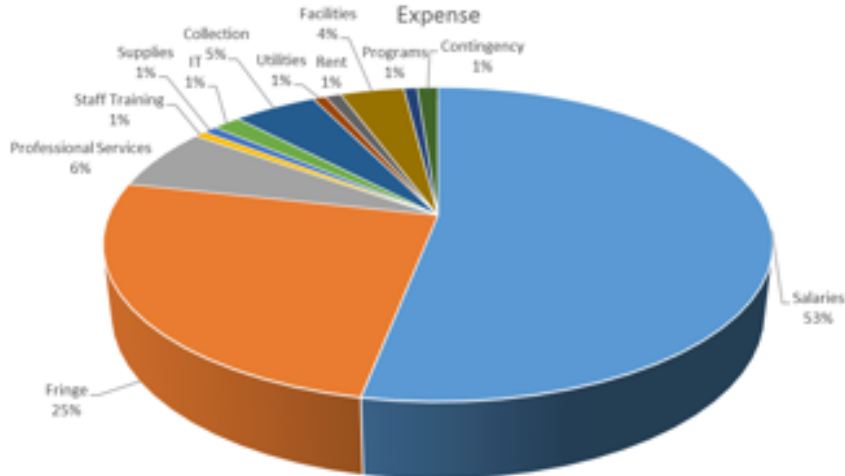
For the period ending 3/31/18, the Hartford Public Library has expended a total of \$6,675,464 which represents 71% of the revised operating budget of \$9,400,427. The Library has also collected \$7,088,525 in operating funds, or 75.4% of the Fiscal Year 2018 budget.

	REVISED BUDGET	ACTUAL/COMMITTED	VARIANCE	% REVENUE & EXPENDITURE
Revenue	\$9,400,427	\$7,088,525	\$2,311,902	75.4%
Expense	\$9,400,427	\$6,675,464	\$2,724,963	71.0%
Projected balance	\$0	\$413,061	-\$1413,061	

REVENUE



EXPENSE



FY18 OPERATING BUDGET DETAIL (AS OF 3/31/2018)

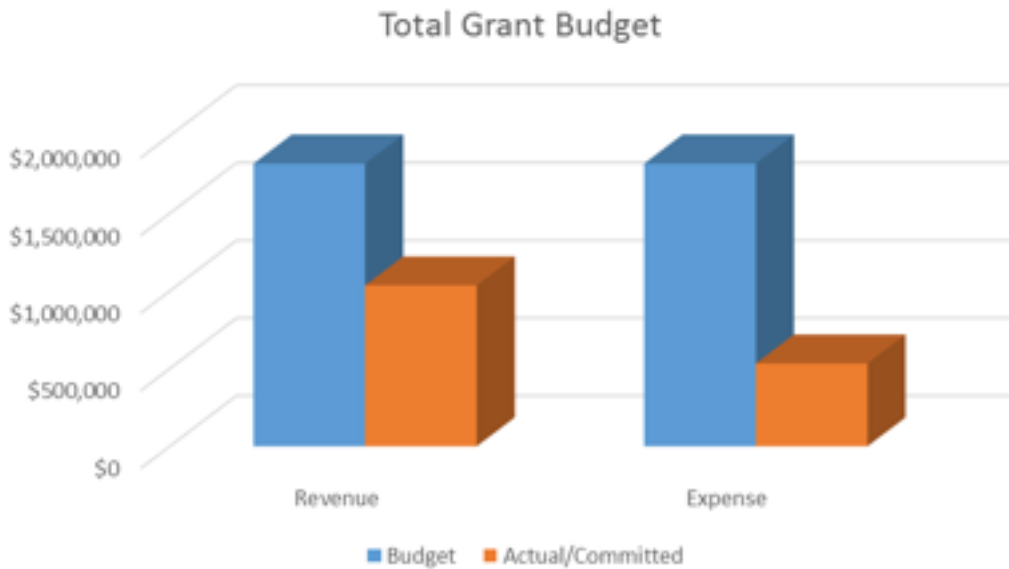
REVENUE				
	BUDGET	ACTUAL REVENUE	VARIANCE	% COLLECTED
City of Hartford	\$8,100,000	\$6,075,000	\$2,025,000	75.0%
Desk receipts	\$75,000	\$58,135	\$16,685	77.5%
Passport receipts	\$45,000	\$59,127	-\$14,127	131.4%
CT State Library	\$6,000	\$0	\$6,000	0.0%
Alternative income streams	\$200,617	\$46,410	\$154,207	23.1%
Donations & contributions	\$300,000	\$235,307	\$64,693	78.4%
Misc revenue	\$14,500	\$168,406	-\$153,906	1161.4%
Endowment	\$659,310	\$446,140	\$213,170	67.7%
Total revenue	\$9,400,427	\$7,088,525	\$2,311,902	67.7%

EXPENSE				
	REVISED BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENSE/COMMITTED	VARIANCE	% EXPENDED
Salaries	\$5,161,879	\$3,542,467	\$1,619,412	68.6%
Fringe	\$2,246,213	\$1,691,969	\$554,244	75.3%
Professional services	\$507,937	\$427,194	\$80,743	84.1%
Staff training	\$64,482	\$45,155	\$19,327	70.0%
Supplies	\$76,850	\$51,223	\$25,627	66.7%
IT	\$224,158	\$106,956	\$117,202	47.7%
Collection	\$571,823	\$323,031	\$248,792	56.5%
Utilities	\$76,092	\$49,162	\$26,930	64.6%
Rent	\$107,625	\$60,280	\$47,345	56.0%
Facilities	\$251,550	\$246,292	\$5,376	97.9%
Programs	\$71,700	\$51,687	\$20,013	72.1%
Contingency	\$40,000	\$80,048	-\$40,048	200.1%
Total expense	\$9,400,427	\$6,675,464	\$2,724,963	71.0%

FY18 GRANT BUDGET SUMMARY (AS OF 3/31/2018—75% THROUGH FISCAL YEAR)

	REVISED BUDGET	ACTUAL/COMMITTED	VARIANCE	% COLLECTED/COMMITTED
Revenue	\$1,820,862	\$1,035,954	\$784,908	56.7%
Expense	\$1,820,862	\$533,422	\$1,287,440	29.3%
Variance	\$0	\$502,532	-\$502,532	

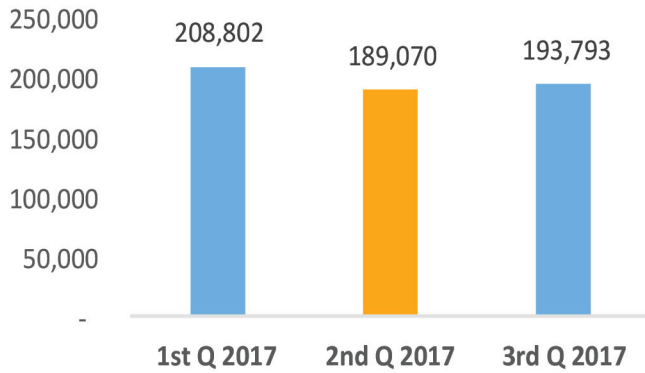
TOTAL GRANT BUDGET



GRANT ACTIVITY FOR JANUARY-MARCH 2018

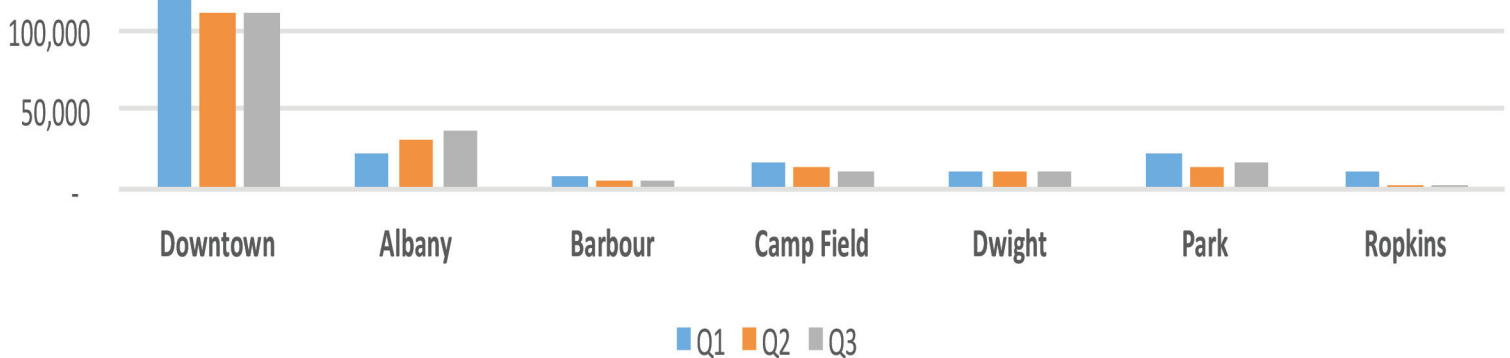
AWARDED			PENDING			DECLINED		
	NO. OF GRANTS	GRANT AMOUNT		NO. OF GRANTS	GRANT AMOUNT		NO. OF GRANTS	GRANT AMOUNT
Government	0	\$0	Government	0	\$0	Government	0	\$0
Foundations	2	\$21,610	Foundations	4	\$93,609	Foundations	0	\$0
Corporation	1	\$85,000	Corporation	5	\$140,000	Corporation	3	\$33,460
Total	3	\$106,610	Total	9	\$233,609	Total	3	\$33,460

TOTAL VISITS: Q1, Q2, & Q3

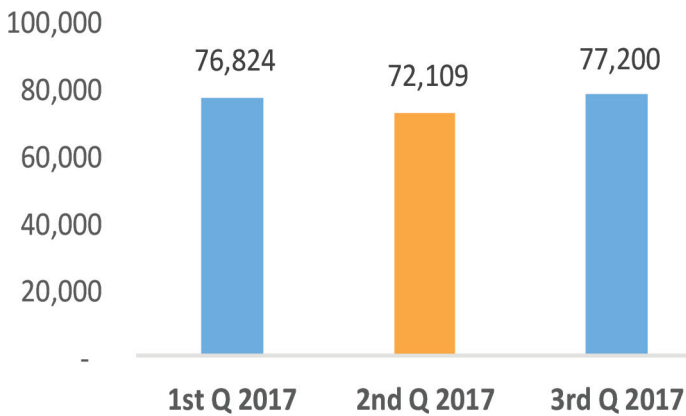


	JAN 2018	FEB 2018	MAR 2018
Downtown	34,491	37,730	38,593
Albany	9,800	12,080	13,870
Barbour	1,861	1,731	1,753
Camp Field	3,920	4,196	4,140
Dwight	3,469	3,798	3,783
Park	5,217	4,612	5,574
Ropkins	390	983	1,802

VISITS BY BRANCH: Q1, Q2, & Q3

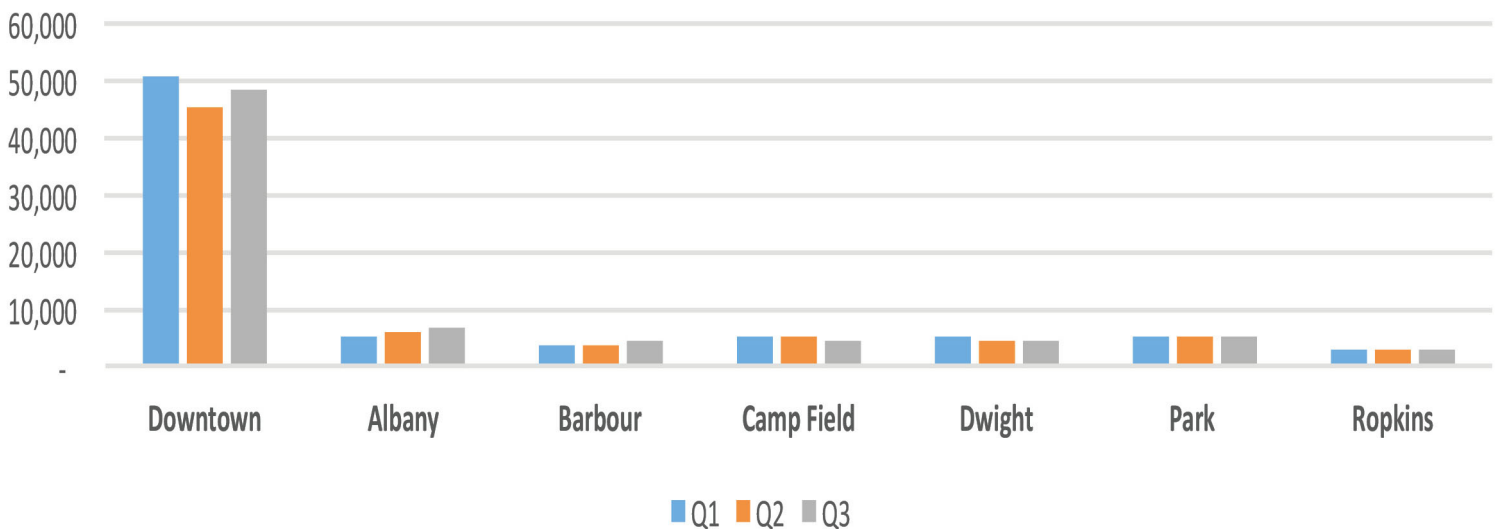


TOTAL CIRCULATION: Q1, Q2, & Q3

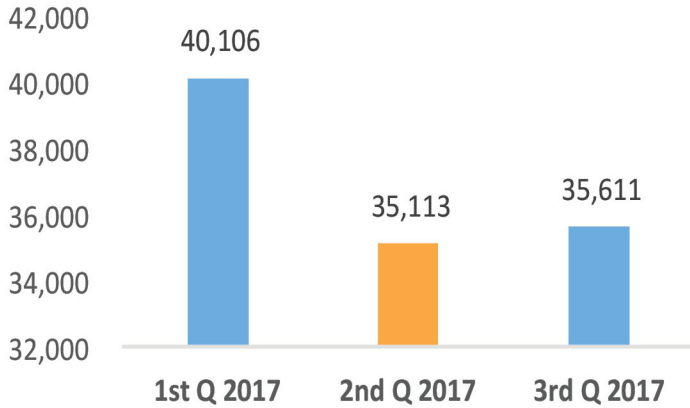


	JAN 2018	FEB 2018	MAR 2018
Downtown	16,784	15,286	16,247
Albany	2,102	2,563	2,228
Barbour	1,694	1,407	1,463
Camp Field	1,684	1,379	1,338
Dwight	1,533	1,539	1,613
Park	1,754	1,673	1,964
Ropkins	679	1,076	1,194

CIRCLUTION BY BRANCH: Q1, Q2, & Q3

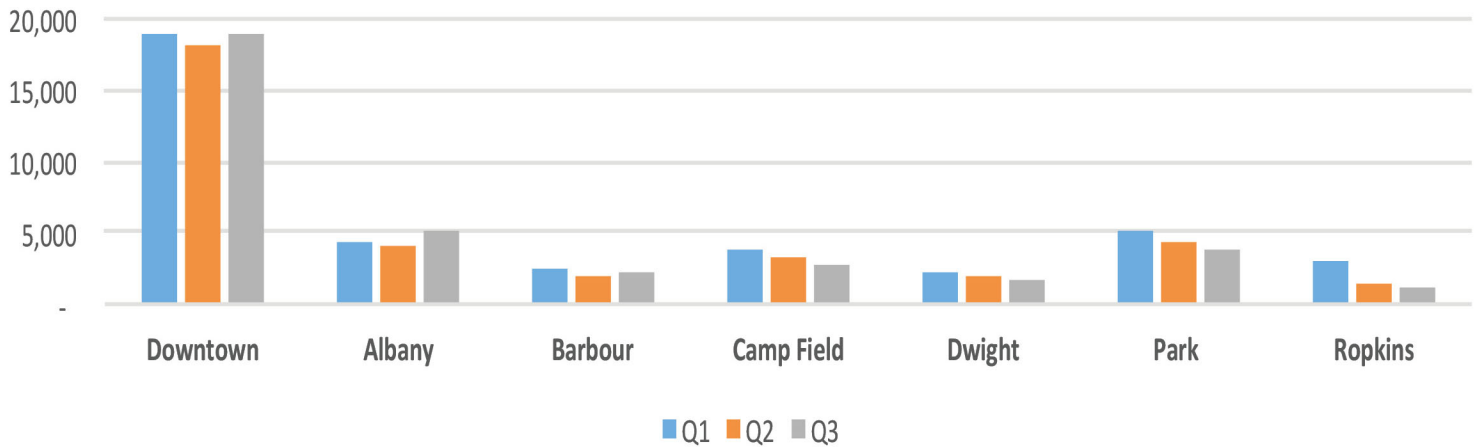


TOTAL PC USE: Q1, Q2, & Q3



	JAN 2018	FEB 2018	MAR 2018
Downtown	6,329	6,503	6,186
Albany	1,473	1,744	1,819
Barbour	750	720	766
Camp Field	895	959	958
Dwight	601	571	546
Park	1,360	1,127	1,210
Ropkins	371	383	340

PC USE BY BRANCH: Q1, Q2, & Q3



SCHOOL READINESS AND SCHOOL SUCCESS

Hartford Public Library continues to expand its early literacy services through many avenues. We recognize the importance of reaching people through many varied ways and of being intentional about promoting literacy throughout the city. One way we have done this is through our expansion of our Sprout Early Learning Backpacks. We can't keep them on the shelves. They are now available for checkout at Downtown, Albany, Camp Field, Ropkins, and Barbour. This quarter alone we have had 114 of the backpacks checked out.

Other non-traditional literacy materials that have been incorporated into our work for school readiness and success include:

- 3 iPads per branch
- Engineering kits for each location
- 3D printers for every location.



These resources promote experiential STEM programming opportunities city wide that are usually only available to students attending special science based magnet schools. This quarter, HPL offered 130 STEM programs for 2,232 participants.

STORY WALK

Hartford Public Library has once again successfully organized another Story Walk with a generous donation from the S. A. Johnson Family Fund at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving.

StoryWalk Hartford's motto is "A reading and talking adventure...bringing families and community together!" In May, families strolled Bushnell Park while reading bilingual storyboards. The event is the work of many entities in the city, including the Parent Library Ambassadors, CREC, Jumpstart, The Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, and Catholic Charities.

BOUNDLESS

In efforts to strengthen library services city wide, Hartford Public Library continues to work closely with the Hartford Public Schools to improve equitable access of library services to Hartford students and their families. In addition to the 68 Boundless programs that were delivered this quarter, we have been working on creating HPL collections in school libraries as well as assist with collection management at some school libraries to directly impact circulation of materials and increase library use and reading gains. HPL and HPS continue to actively define what equitable access looks like by taking inventory of our resources and identifying areas for deeper collaborations.

The benefits of the Boundless partnership and the new Boundless cards are evident in this anecdote from Camp Field Youth Services Librarian.

On March 15, I met Alan Fabian, age 6, and his family at the Kennelly School's parent teacher conferences. The very next day, Alan came to the library for help with reading and math homework. Alan's mother, Berta, explained she did not know English well and she heard from the school and saw on our flyer that we provide homework help at the library. Since that date, Alan comes to the library every day after school for reading help. He selects an early reader from our collection, and we read together. One of his favorite book series is "Duck Duck Porcupine." Berta says that Alan loves the library and only wants to do his homework there. One day, he proudly came in with his new Boundless card and said he wanted to check out a book. He and his mom were delighted to learn that I had brought the cards to the school for the teachers to distribute. Alan, his mom, and baby sister stay for most of the afternoon, often participating in programs, checking out books, and playing with other children in the play space.

TEEN SERVICES

February marked the soft opening of YOUmedia at Albany with an Anti-Valentine’s Day party. That day, 150 youth showed up to celebrate the opening, participate in a photo booth, make stickers and buttons, use a vinyl cutter, and enjoy light refreshments. The equipment and materials in the space were chosen based on surveys that were previously distributed and completed by teens that utilize the Albany Branch on a daily basis. During the day, YOUmedia at Albany is open to adults creating an intergenerational community area.

In April, HPL successfully launched YOUmedia at the Albany Branch grand opening. Since then, we have been able to expand our work sites for interns from “Our Piece of the Pie” to run programming one day per week at the Albany Branch. Interns gain experience through the following roles and responsibilities: serving dinner, offering recording sessions, running life skills or makerspace workshops, gathering data, creating marketing materials, participating in learning opportunities, and advising YOUmedia and Teen Services initiatives.

Teen Services offered 149 programs: 85 arts & entertainment, 29 STEM, 18 literature, 12 life skills, and 5 library promotion & skills. We had 1,020 teens attend programs system wide this quarter.

YOUmedia mentors continue to work in classrooms through a Hartford Performs partnership.

The team engaged 94 8th grade participants in 4 total engagements: 2 field trips and 2 classroom visits, one each in Intro to Game Design and TWINE Narrative Gaming. Homework Help Assistance was also given to 2,232 students.

149

TEEN PROGRAMS

1,020

TEEN PROGRAM ATTENDEES

2,232

TEENS WHO RECEIVED HOMEWORK ASSISTANCE

STORIES FROM OUR BRANCHES ABOUT STEM

“Enthusiasm for the 3D printer has not abated. I get weekly requests to bring out the printer. It is one of the most successful programs we have run, by a wide margin.” Park Branch Youth Services Librarian

“Our multi-age groups enjoyed building battery powered Propeller Boats, Sail Cars, Wiggle Bots and Pom-Pom Launchers this quarter. I have noticed the kids really love using the tools and it appears that they don’t have much familiarity working with tools in any other setting.” - Camp Field Youth Services librarian

STORIES FROM OUR BRANCHES ABOUT THE POWER OF LIBRARIES TO HELP BUILD READING SKILLS

Sisters Dayshia and Deneiah, aged 13 and 8 respectively, “We never knew that we had fun stuff going on at this library so close to our house. I never really knew a librarian before and I will NEVER forget you when I am grown!”

“Although both girls read much higher than grade level, they have never had Hartford Public library cards in their names! They do now, and they are thrilled to be taking books home nightly. The sisters have become wonderful active members of our after-school community and participate fully in all our programs.” - Barbour Branch Youth Services Librarian

adult programs

HPL's Downtown location offered 65 intergenerational programs with a total audience of 4,215. Programming included art programs, literary, performing arts, and civic engagement.

PARTNERSHIPS AND PROGRAMS

HPL and UConn Hartford partnered on the kickoff event "Honoring Our History -- Influencing the Future" featuring a conversation with Dr. Khaliah Brown-Dean. In partnership with the UConn School of Social Work group Students Against Mass Incarceration, HPL hosted a Criminal Justice Forum.

The public programming team worked closely with the Journey Writers, an organization that provides opportunities for queer black writers and actors, on the event "Queer Black History – Journey Writers Tell the Whole Story." Students from YOUmedia showcased items they created in honor of historical people for Black History Month, and engaged with the audience before and after the program to connect generations in a community discussion about LGBTQ+ black history. Hartford Public Library continues to collaborate with multiple partner organizations as part of the group "Hartford Votes~Hartford Vota" Coalition. The Downtown Library served as a polling place for the Hartford Democratic Town Committee Election in March.

In partnership with the Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy, Central CT State University, Malta Initiative, and Hartford Listen, the Library hosted a screening of "Life on Parole" followed by a panel and community conversation. The documentary explores efforts in Connecticut to change the way parole works and reduces the number of people returning to prison, and the post-film panel featured Hartford parole officers and parolees speaking on their experience of the parole system.

In collaboration with the National Organization of Women (NOW) as part of March's "Women's History Month", HPL screened the documentary "Equal Means Equal."

In partnership with United Way of Central and Northeastern Connecticut, HPL hosted two sessions of a Budget Coaching Program.

The Big Read partnerships included: The Amistad Center for Art & Culture, Charter Oak Cultural Center, COMPASS Youth Collaborative, Connecticut Center for Nonviolence, The Connecticut Poetry Society, Cultura Mosaica, Hands on Hartford, Harriet Beecher Stowe Center, Hartford Youth Scholars, Real Art Ways, The Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, UConn Hartford, UConn Library, UConn Humanities Institute – UCHI.

HPL AS A VENUE

HPL continues to host ongoing meetings of Hartford's Commission on Refugee and Immigrant Affairs (CRIIA) in making Hartford a welcoming and safe city for all its diverse residents.

HPL supported the ongoing series of public speaking and leadership development workshops held on Tuesdays in partnership with a local chapter of the national Toastmasters club.

HPL hosts the Connecticut Poetry Society's "Poets on Poetry" monthly series continued on Saturdays at the Downtown Library, highlighting poets Gertrude Stein, Wislawa Szymborska, and "The Big Read" author Claudia Rankine.

65

PROGRAMS

4,215

ATTENDEES

BABY GRAND JAZZ

In January, Hartford Public Library kicked off the 15th season of the Baby Grand Jazz Series, with performances every Sunday afternoon featuring dynamic jazz bands from around the region. The series saw outstanding numbers of audience members, requiring the library to offer overflow rooms where the performance was livestreamed. This year, the jazz series was livestreamed via “Facebook Live,” and reached a far wider audience than in past years of livestreaming combined. The open call for artists for the 2019 Baby Grand Jazz Series is currently underway, and a committee of community volunteers and HPL staff will convene throughout the summer to work on next year’s series.

THE BIG READ

Hartford Public Library launched a very successful programming series for the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) “Big Read” grant featuring the book “Citizen: An American Lyric” by Claudia Rankine. The programming in the spring of 2018 inspired conversation and discovery, and connected the Hartford community across ages and cultures to come together to learn and share.

The Big Read kicked off with painting workshops at the Downtown Library that focused on themes from the book. Every library branch held a kickoff that highlighted the book and its themes, and invited the community to share their experiences. Throughout the programming series, there were book discussions, open mic events, poetry workshops, painting and art classes, and dance classes – all based on the featured book, and offered free and open to the public. HPL also held a city-wide youth poetry contest that engaged youth and teens in writing and performing their poetry in a spoken word event.

The Big Read series culminated with a dynamic, packed-house event at the Downtown Library on April 26th that featured a keynote speech by bestselling author Claudia Rankine and a conversation with over 300 community attendees about her prize-winning book “Citizen: An American Lyric.”

The grand finale event also featured a public dance installation led by Arien Wilkerson and 19 members of the Hartford community who performed a moving piece based on the themes from “Citizen.” The top three youth poetry finalists were announced before the keynote, and the youth performed their pieces to the author and an excited crowd. When Claudia Rankine began her talk, she thanked Hartford for coming together and embracing her book as a community. She gave special thanks to the youth performers and said “This is such a beautiful way to start the rest of my life.”



(Left to right) Greg Davis, HPL Board Chair, Claudia Rankine, Bridget Quinn-Carey, HPL CEO, and Mark Overmyer-Velázquez, HPL Board Member and University Director at UCONN - Hartford



Youth Poetry Contest judges and winners with Claudia Rankine: (left to right) Khaim the RapOet (Self Suffice), Brittana Tatum (Versatile PoetiQ), Zulynette Morales, Toni-Ann Wilson, Claudia Rankine, Desiree Robinson, Evelyn Whitley, and Gabrielle Barnes

131

BRANCH PROGRAMS

1,817

BRANCH PROGRAM ATTENDEES

ADULT BRANCH PROGRAMMING

Branch locations offered 131 programs with a total audience of 1,817. In addition to Big Read programming, the Albany, Barbour, Park and Camp Field branches hosted programs on financial literacy and health. Each location collaborated with UCONN or other community organizations such as Women’s Heart Program at Saint Francis Hospital & Medical Health Center and The West Indian Foundation to offer the following programs:

- Money Management 101
- Physical Fitness and Nutrition for the Busy Individual
- Heart Disease in the Nation
- Building Personal Wealth
- “Are You at Risk for Type 2 Diabetes?”
- Yoga Classes

These themes and information were delivered through crochet workshops (The Park Street Crafters at the Park Branch), through nutrition classes and at the Barbour Branch, and presentations at the Albany Branch and Camp Field branches.

All locations benefitted from the wealth of resources offered by the Hartford History Center bringing forth local history to Hartford neighborhoods in the form of exhibits on the Barnum and Bailey Circus and Hartford’s Black Panther Protest at Dwight or in the form of lectures with presenters such as Dr. Channon S. Miller who spoke about on the police shooting of Aquan Salmon in 1999 at the Albany Branch in January.

Other programs include:

- United Way Young Adult Community Conversation at Park focused on capturing the voices of young adults on jobs they would like to see in the community
- Mandell JCC Hartford Jewish Fest screening of Doing Jewish at the Albany Branch
- Songs from my Sister performance at Dwight performed by Leslie Manselle of Manselle Arts,
- Know Your Rights Workshops
- Creative Writing Series at Camp Field
- Popular Rock Painting workshops at Dwight featured in the Hartford Courant
- Unveiling of the Lena Horne Black Heritage Stamp at the Albany Branch
- College Counseling

LOOKING AHEAD

Our Summer Learning kick off will take place on June 9 when the city will be celebrating literacy throughout the day starting at the Parker Memorial Recreation Center and continuing at the Hartford Public Library. Read Go Do, the summer learning theme, encourages participants to actively incorporate literacy into their summer goals and activities. In addition to books and other library resources, customers will be encouraged to check out non-traditional items from our Library of Things, for example, fishing rod kits, sewing machine kits or cooking kits and incorporate reading and literacy into the things they love to do. Free piano lessons will be offered at Downtown in June, July and August as part of Read Go Do.



As one of 50 libraries selected for the PBS Great American Read grant, we will be incorporating read alouds at River Front Recapture of books that have inspired, moved, and shaped us. We are looking forward to bringing music to the neighborhood branches through our World of Sounds concerts and continuing to celebrate reading and learning through the multi-faceted activities that connect our customers to books and literacy.

community connections & outreach

266

HARTFORD STAGE
PASSES CLAIMED

HPL @ HARTFORD STAGE

266 passes were claimed and 18 books checked out from our HPL @ Hartford Stage display.

MUSEUM PASSES

372 museum passes were reserved. Besides Hartford Stage Shows, the most popular destinations are the Lutz's Children's Museum, the Wadsworth Atheneum, and Mark Twain House and Museum.

MUNICIPAL ID'S - 193

- New library cards holders - 2,575 (11% increase from 3rd quarter last year)
- Boundless cards created - 652
- Online cards created - 158
- VITA Tax Preparation Service - 765 returns filed
- 77 returns filed in four hours on Super Saturday Dollars and Cents

372

MUSEUM PASSES
RESERVED

LIBRARY ON WHEELS (LOW)

This quarter, the LOW made 39 visits for 1,373 attendees and checked out 1,096 materials. Hartford Public Library's Library-on-Wheels (LOW) visited The Right Place, Growing Tree, Asylum Hill Early Learning Center, Metzner Early Learning Center, Hyland Early Learning Center, North End Senior Center and Marshall House.

193

MUNICIPAL ID'S

HPL continues to enhance the community collection sites with new shelving units, signage and replenishing of materials. Outreach was done at the 3 UCONN Open Houses for new students that brought in at least 3,000 people on a Saturday afternoon and at Hartford High for their College Fair which had 50 colleges, universities and community partners present.

1,373

PEOPLE SERVED BY
LIBRARY ON WHEELS

2,575

NEW LIBRARY
CARD HOLDERS



hartford history center

& artwalk

28,834

TOTAL VISITS TO THE
DIGITAL REPOSITORY

	JAN 2018	FEB 2018	MAR 2018
Visits—online	9,120	10,072	9,642
Visits—physical	604	613	912
Reference questions	224	234	241
Programs	8	6	13
Program attendance	335	484	464

HIGHLIGHTS

Maria Sanchez Arts & Culture Award

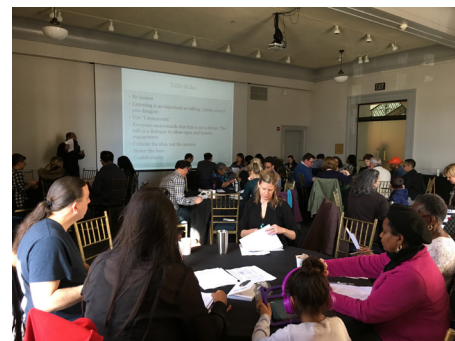
Hartford Public Library and its Hartford History Center was honored with the Arts & Culture Award at the Maria Sanchez Banquet in March by the Connecticut Institute for Community Development (CICD) Puerto Rican Parade, Inc. for its work in preserving the history of Hartford's Puerto Rican community.



BETTER QUALITY OF LIFE THROUGH ENGAGEMENT WITH INTERESTS AND PASSIONS

Encounters: Citizen & American Gothic

Over 75 people participated in our two Encounters programs this quarter focusing on "Citizen: An American Lyric," our Big Read selection; and, the American Gothic, focusing on the writing and art of Edward Gorey. Both small group discussions covered everyday racism in American life and the irony, darkness, and humor in human experiences through prose, poetry, and visual art, attracting a diverse, intergenerational audience with our UConn Humanities, Wadsworth Atheneum, and Amistad Center partners.



Breaking Barriers

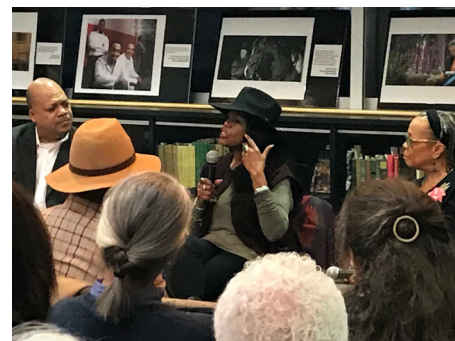
Longtime Hartford community members and change makers, Pat Kelly and Charmaine Craig, shared their passions for youth development and environmental and food justice with a diverse Hartford-based audience in the Hartford History Center as part of an exhibit and celebration of 35 years of Aetna's African American History Calendar.

Oral History Workshop

Dr. Annie Valk came back for a second workshop with an intimate group of attendees interested in doing oral history projects both with organizations as well as with family members in their neighborhoods.

INCREASED ENGAGEMENT WITH THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES THROUGH ACCESS AND EXPOSURE

Over 225 people from the Greater Hartford area attended the opening reception of two unique ArtWalk shows this past quarter. The Door of No Return by Robert Charles Hudson dealt with the experience of West Africans being captured and waiting in the Door of No Return before being forced on ships through the Middle Passage. "The Dress / Memory and Metaphor" by Marilyn Parkinson Thrall told the artist's personal journey from childhood through marriage and motherhood and the roles assumed, taken on, and placed on women. These themes were expressed through sculptural artwork surrounding the dress. Both shows spoke to our community's varied experiences and ancestral connections.



DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SELF AND CONNECTION TO COMMUNITY BY LEARNING HARTFORD HISTORY



Black Mothers Seeking Justice
Hartford native, Dr. Channon Miller, shared the story of Aquan Salmon, a 14-year-old North End resident, who was shot and killed by a Hartford police officer in 1999 and whose grandmother worked tirelessly to make his story human and to seek justice for his death. Held at the Albany Branch Library, more than 50 community members, including neighborhood police officers, attended and shared testimony about this story and stories like it and how the community seeks to make the city and state more aware of stories like this as well as discussed ways in which police and community relations could improve.

Hartford Hip Hop Screening & Panel
Over 50 community members attended a screening of 7 short films about Hartford Hip Hop pioneers from the 1980s and 90s created by teams of Trinity College students enrolled in Prof. Seth Markle's Global Hip Hop Cultures course. This program was a joint effort between the college and the Hartford History Center to grow the History Center's local Hip Hop archive.

Branch outreach visits (general table display photo attached)
Hartford History Center staff have been visiting all of the branches of the Hartford Public Library from February through May to bring a selection of photographs, books, directories,

yearbooks, and maps to share with community members in order to introduce them to our resources and connect them to our collections. Neighborhood specific photographs and footage as well as yearbooks, in particular, have been exciting for neighborhood library users to experience and have sparked stories about their own childhoods growing up in the city.



Hartford-specific exhibits at branches: Draw a Hartford History Maker, Voices of Change

In February and March, Library branches hosted selections of the Draw a Hartford History Maker and Hartford Times – Voices of Change exhibits, where community members could recognize and become aware of African American leaders and civil rights movement participation in the city. Branch managers and neighborhood library users were excited to connect to this recent past, sharing their own connections to individuals and stories that they or their parents and grandparents may have remembered.



PRESERVING THE HISTORY OF HARTFORD

Lanny Nagler, professional photographer and former Hartford resident, donated more than 1,000 35mm slides, transparencies and negatives of Hartford subjects to the Hartford History Center at the Hartford Public Library. These wonderful pictures will help us to continue our coverage of the city of Hartford through the end of the last century and into the current century. So many of our recent photographs in our collection are purely documentary; Lanny's are also works of art.

Abraham Ford, Jr. donated City of Hartford 20th century Voter Registration Maps to the Hartford History Center. The Hartford History Center has a large collection of Voter Registration Records, beginning in the 1840s and continuing through the early 2000s. These records are an important source of information about Hartford residents—their ethnic origins, the date when they first came to Hartford (and in many cases to the United States), and their places of employment. The Hartford History Center recently undertook a pilot project to begin digitizing some of these records and visualizing them in a number of ways, including geographically. It is very helpful to have actual Voter Registration Maps from one specific period in time.

Kathy Sumislaski donated the original pages from the 1938 Hartford Courant relating to the catastrophic hurricane that struck New England in that year. The Hurricane of 1938 is a topic of enduring interest both to people who were alive during the disaster and to those who have come after. Now in another period of catastrophic storms, it is fascinating to look back and see how Hartford area residents coped with devastation during the 1930s. These pages are precious documents from the past and have already been used by one class from the University of Connecticut.

the american place

STATISTICS

	JAN	FEB	MAR
ESL classes CTRL youth	3	5	5
ESL attendees CTRL youth	60	110	90
ESL classes CTRL	36	34	54
ESL attendees CTRL	413	622	494
Food Handler Classes	36	34	38
Food Handler Attendance	360	289	211
GED classes at Barbour	14	13	16
GED attendees at Barbour	55	49	49
GED testing	19	13	8
Job services	687	667	624
Job seekers served	161	160	152
Citizenship classes at CTRL	8	8	8
Citizenship attendance at CTRL	150	207	177
Citizenship screenings	23	53	9
Citizenship apps. prepared & submitted	23	24	30
Green Card renewals prepared & submitted	13	14	23
Individuals passed the citizenship test	17	22	10
Individuals achieved citizenship	22	20	9
Passport apps prepared & submitted	142	264	238
No. of volunteers	4	5	5
No. of tutees	12	12	10
No. of volunteer hours	45	48	17
Photos	94	111	139
Translations	2	5	9
Translation fees	\$40	\$240	\$280
Passport fees	\$3,425	\$5,850	\$5,275
Photos fees	\$940	\$1,110	\$1,390
Immigration fees	\$500	\$700	\$1,150
NCS Pearson GED fees	\$228	\$0	\$425

**indicates quarterly figure*

644

PASSPORTS PROCESSED

473

JOB SEEKERS SERVED

1,789

ESL STUDENTS

51

NEW CITIZENS

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE PROGRAM

February 6th marked the startup of English-as-a-Second Language (ESL) classes for the spring cycle. Both new and returning students registered in the 3-level program offered during the week and on Saturdays through June. Once the cycle got underway, two innovative activities, funded by CT State Department of Education PEP grants, were launched to enrich students' future employability and career awareness. A new intermediate-level ESL class was formed to provide Career Readiness content to equip students with the linguistic and cross-cultural skills necessary to secure first time or improved employment opportunities in the CT job market. Additionally, members of an English Language Civics class are to receive training in one of Connecticut's high-need industries - healthcare. Those students showing interest in the field as well as significant linguistic gains have been invited to participate in a pilot Patient Care Assistant (PCA) training program leading to CT PCA certification. PCAs provide basic at-home care and support for patients under the supervision of an accredited agency. An initial pre-training class designed to familiarize students with the vocabulary, concepts and key duties of the position began in late March prior to their participating in hands-on and classroom training sessions, which will continue both on site and at a local healthcare training setting through the month of June.

GED ONLINE

In late February, a new online GED prep program became available for those TAP learners interested in pursuing their CT General Equivalency Diploma, but whose work schedules and family responsibilities prevent them from attending on-ground GED preparation classes on a regular basis. Enrollments are gradually rising as the public learns of this opportunity allowing them to

prepare for the GED at their own pace and hours of convenience. In the future, the goal is that the online course be part of a comprehensive program providing on-ground and online learning with comprehensive wrap-around support to increase learners' likelihood of success.

IMMIGRANT CAREER PATHWAYS INITIATIVE (CPI)

On March 8, 2018, a total of 61 individuals celebrated their successful completion of the classroom and internship requirements of the Food Handler or SERVSAFE Food Manager programs offered through a collaborative partnership between Hartford Public Library and Hartford Public Schools' Food and Child Nutrition Services. A full house of family, friends and graduates filled The Center for Contemporary Culture as guests enjoyed tasty snacks provided by local restaurants, which look to the project as a solid source of interns and employees such as Paradise Restaurant, Chick-fil-A and the Karobean Kitchen. Six students shared stories of how their participation in the program made a positive impact on their personal growth and self-esteem. Director of Food and Child Nutrition Services, Lonnie Burt, gave the keynote address praising the graduates for their hard work and determination to succeed as well as framing the benefits that the CPI partnership has brought to their workforce that is employed in 51 public schools across the City. Not only did Hartford Access Television film the event, but also the March 16 edition of The Hartford Courant featured the initiative on its front page in an article entitled, Program Offers Tools to Succeed. Columnist Vinny Vella concluded his article with a direct quote from CPI graduate Luis Smith, "This program couldn't care less if you're from the best neighborhood in Hartford or if you're homeless. They'll help you regardless."

LINK: <http://www.courant.com/community/hartford/hc-news-hartford-career-pathways-0316-story.html>

SENIOR CAPSTONE PROJECT AT HARTFORD HIGH SCHOOL

The Hartford Public Library Mentor, Judy Wyman Kelly, continued to meet bi-weekly with Hartford High School Capstone seniors to help guide their work on their Citizenship Capstone projects. These meetings included talking about the pathway to citizenship, as well as each individual's specific research project. There are five immigrants in this group, from Congo, Jamaica, and Thailand (Karen ethnicity originally from Burma). The mentor also helped four of the five students apply for their citizenship. The fifth student is already a citizen.

At one of the meetings, a former Citizenship Capstone student originally from Bhutan (via Nepal) and current college student, shared her college experience as an immigrant. She had first attended community college and then transferred to Wesleyan University and so was able to describe the differences between the two settings. (See attached photos and text)

In May, the students will present the results of their research, a requirement for graduation.



IMMIGRATION SERVICES

TAP Immigration Services continues to meet an ever-growing demand for US Citizenship, which is well reflected in the monthly statistics. A part-time immigration counselor who is a retired Field Officer for USCIS joined the staff in March. His experience and knowledge of USCIS has deepened the level of service that the library is able to provide our clients.

CITIZENSHIP CORNER

In March, the "Citizenship Corner" celebrated its 2nd year anniversary. "Citizenship Corner" is a weekly column produced by Hartford Public Library and published in the community newspaper, *Hartford News*. This quarter new citizens from Jamaica, Congo, Thailand and Nepal have been featured. The column also provides sample questions from the citizenship test as well as relevant news and resources for immigrants.

Enjoy some snapshots of our new citizens, as reflected in these Wordles:

Countries



First Impressions



Benefits of Citizenship



capital projects

PARK BRANCH LIBRARY

A competitive bid process was held which include the selected firm to first prepare a request for qualifications (RFQ), and then of the selected firms who qualified to submit an (RFP) a request for proposals. There were seven companies who submitted RFQ's and of those, three were selected to submit RFP's for the project. Downes Construction Company, LLC was the successful bidder and selected as the Construction Managers for the firm.



A rendering of the new Park Branch

marketing & communications

MAJOR INITIATIVES

- HPL magazine/spring issue completed and distributed
- New logo designed for Summer Learning – Read. Go. Do. Creation of promotional pieces in English and Spanish
- Boundless: promotion of partnership between HPL and Hartford Public Schools
- I LOVE Hartford Public Library – community engagement campaign developed



HARTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY IN THE PRESS INCLUDES:

- Naturalization Ceremony covered by *Hartford Courant*, *WNPR*, *Fox News*, *Hartford News*
- YOUmedia Albany opening covered by *Hartford Courant*, *Hartford News*, and *Fox News*
- Democratic gubernatorial forum covered by Fox 61
- WDRC-FM interview on YOUmedia Albany opening in May
- Ensworth Charitable Foundation Grant covered by *Urban Libraries Council*
- "Citizenship Corner" column in *Hartford News*, and consistent use of our historical images on its front page
- "Eight Months in the Life of Puerto Rico" photography exhibit at Park Branch to be taped by Channel 8 (taping and interviews to take place May 29)
- Hartford Public Library included in "Best of Hartford" *Hartford Magazine* list
- "We the People" Players profiles with HPL CEO Bridget Quinn-Carey to appear in *Hartford Magazine* this July
- Coverage of HPL's Big Read April culminating author event to appear in the July issue of *Hartford Magazine*

6,302

FACEBOOK
FOLLOWERS

6,817

E-NEWSLETTER
CIRCULATION

development

Beyond Words 2018 will be held Friday, December 7 from 6-9pm at the Marriott Downtown Hartford. This year's author is Jacqueline Woodson, award winning author of both adult and children's fiction and poet. Her latest novel *Another Brooklyn* was a National Book award finalist. She has won numerous awards for her youth fiction including, but not limited to, the Newberry Honor Medal and the Caldecott Medal. We are very fortunate to have this dynamic author as our featured speaker for Beyond Words 2018. We are in the process of identifying both our working and honorary committees comprised of HPL board, corporators, staff and friends in the Hartford Community. This year's Beyond Words will be celebrating the Library's 125th year as Hartford's Public Library.

The Board's development committee has worked this year with Bridget Quinn-Carey and Gilda Roncari to develop a board giving pledge form that will guide board members in their board annual giving. The final draft was presented to the full board in April 2018.

The Library's development continues to work closely with Catherine D'Italia, chair of the HPL corporators, and Gerri Sullivan, board liaison - HPL corporators, to engage HPL corporators at the Library. Many corporators worked on the event committee and/or served as table captains. The development department has instituted a weekly corporator update that goes out weekly with news that will interest and engage our corporators in Library events and programs. This communication has resulted in corporators becoming a more active group of Library ambassadors who are helping to promote and attend many Library programs. One example is the ArtWalk Book Club that has been very successful in generating an audience. From that book group, a volunteer driven and corporator supported African American Book Club has formed and meets the 2nd Tuesday of every month at the downtown Library, though they hope to bring it to the branches also.

The development department is working with the board development committee to formalize a Planned Giving campaign at the Library. There is one board member who has stepped up and told the story of her planned legacy donation. This will be a good launching point for the campaign.

The development office is in the process of developing updated fundraising reports to provide to the board better detail on the goals and how we can reach them throughout the fiscal year. Currently, HPL has raised \$279,000 in unrestricted giving (this includes Beyond Words). We have four months left to the fiscal year and plan on launching a spring appeal in March to capture donors who haven't given yet this year. With this year's goal having been \$300,000 we are sure to surpass this year's goal.

staff updates

NEW HIRES



WILLIAM BAILEY
Assistant Technical Services Manager
Downtown Library



JOSE LUIS PERALES
Instructional Specialist
The American Place



JOSEPH CARDINALE
Immigration Counselor
The American Place



JENNIFER SHAKSHOBER
Library Assistant
Park Branch