



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Hartford Public Library honors World Refugee Day 2013
with an exhibit featuring the work of Andy Hart**

*"It's a Small World, After All: We Belong Here Hartford" a photographic celebration
of Hartford's immigrant communities: past, present and future*

Hartford, Connecticut (June 18, 2013) — On Friday, June 21st from 3:30 – 5:00 p.m., Hartford Public Library will host the opening of Hartford photographer Andy Hart's exhibition *It's a Small World, After All: We Belong Here Hartford*. This photographic celebration represents over 20 of Hartford's immigrant communities. Through this inspiring exhibit, Andy communicates the new energy immigrants infuse into our City as they proudly share their rich traditions and begin to feel a part of the broader community.

It will be held at the Downtown Library, 500 Main Street, by the 2nd Floor Art Wall. Event is free and open to the public.

Andy Hart grew up in Hartford's Blue Hills neighborhood and attended Saint Justin's School, Northwest Catholic High School and Fairfield University. Hart became a member of the "Fourth Estate" when he was hired as a reporter by the Glastonbury Citizen in 1989. Like most small-town newspapers, the Citizen required its reporters to shoot their own photos and he soon discovered he had a knack for photography. In 1992, Hart began working for the Hartford News in Hartford's South End. He has photographed thousands of Hartford events in the past two decades, with a particular emphasis on showcasing Hartford's rich diversity of ethnic groups and nationalities. Hart has lived in Hartford's South End for the past twenty years. He enjoys nature photography and studying history in his spare time.

Andy Hart's *It's a Small World, After All: We Belong Here Hartford* exhibit will be on display at Hartford Public Library from June 21 – August 16, 2013. For more information, visit 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.

NOTE: The reception is supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services Immigrant civic Integration initiative.