

**Chief
Executive
Officer's
REPORT**

March 3

2011

A Review of the Library's Finances

For the six-month period ended 12/31/2010, total general fund expenditures and encumbrances total \$3,504,694 or 44.3% of total Adopted General Budget of \$7,915,000. Expenditures continue to be closely monitored and in line with prior year expenditure patterns, specifically for collection acquisitions.

At this point in time, we are forecasting full utilization of total general fund allocation by year end. Regarding Special Funds, unexpended funds as of 6/30/11 related to the receipt of grant funds will be carried forward. In summary:

| | Adopted Budget | Revised Budget | YTD Expend. | % Spent |
|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| General Fund | \$7,915,000 | \$7,915,000 | \$3,504,694 | 44.3% |
| <u>Special Funds</u> | <u>\$1,128,236</u> | <u>\$1,882,126</u> | <u>\$810,268</u> | <u>43.0%</u> |
| Total Budget | \$9,043,236 | \$9,797,126 | \$4,314,962 | 44.0% |

As noted in the table above, special funds are currently \$ 753,890 or 66.8% greater than the adopted budget of \$1,128,236. As grants continue to be received throughout the fiscal year, the special funds revised budget will increase.

Library and Public Services

Adult Services

The Library's fall business programming began with a three-part series, *Grow Your Business with Social Media*. Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, YouGottaCall, and YouTube were among the sites discussed. Caitlin Thayer, Principal and CEO of Thayer Consulting, LLC (www.thayer-consulting.com) was the presenter answering question after question from audience members. The central premise of her series was that social media should be used by small business not to sell products but to build communities of new customers. A recent Citibank study found that while 63% of small business owners knew the value of word-of-mouth marketing, 81% did not use social media, essentially word-of-mouth marketing using technology. In addition to the social media workshops, the Connecticut Small Business Development Center repeated its four-part *Entrepreneurial Education Series*, which continues to attract between 30 and 40 people, who earn certificates for attending the series in its entirety. As part of the One Book

programming initiative, a workshop titled *Employing People with Intellectual Disabilities* was presented by representatives of Walgreens and HARC. The workshop was geared to two audiences: the business owner/potential employer and parents wanting to learn about employment opportunities for their children on the autism spectrum. Finally, a three-part QuickBooks course was held and, as usual, was full. QuickBooks is very much in demand by employers and several students learned about the course from the Connecticut Department of Labor. Staff members continue to hear from former students who have obtained jobs or advanced in their jobs because of the computer skills learned in the Library's free classes.

A number of health and wellness events were held during the quarter, beginning with an author talk by David Lovelace, who wrote the award-winning memoir, *Scattershot: My Bipolar Family*. His discussion marked Mental Illness Awareness Week (October 3-9) and was presented in collaboration with the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), Connecticut Chapter (www.namict.org). The following day, author Susan M. Omilian discussed her new book, *The Thriver Workbook: Journey from Victim to Survivor to Thriver!* October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Other events included breast cancer screening by Hartford Hospital, which is scheduled twice a year at the Library. At the Goodwin Branch, Zumba® Gold attracted participants of all ages, teens to ninety-year olds. Zumba® Gold is a low to moderate impact and intensity exercise program.

The Library hosted the 2010 Community Food Security Awards night, presented by the City of Hartford Advisory Commission on Food Policy. The Commission's mission is to eliminate hunger as an obstacle to a happy, healthy and productive life in the City; to ensure that a wide variety of safe and nutritious food is available for City residents; to ensure that access to food is not limited by economic status, location or other factors beyond a resident's control; and, to ensure that the price of food in the City remains at a level comparable to the level for the State. Before the awards ceremony, there was a community resource fair with representative of various local organizations and businesses staffing tables. Refreshments were provided by student graduates of the Operation Frontline program. Honorees were: Bethel AME Church Community Food Pantry, Church Street Eats, Freshplace, Latino Community Services, and several individuals (Paul Hartung – Manna Assistance & Advocacy, Mike McGarry, and Jim and Sandra Varney – Varney Farm). More than 50 people attended.

The Silk City Flick Fest (www.silkcityflickfest.com), in its second year, moved from Manchester to Hartford and the Library was one of several Main Street venues showing movies by independent filmmakers from around the world. Following screening of several short Indies (independent films), representatives from the film industry discussed opportunities to learn the skills needed to work in this field. The six movies screened were: *Peril of Cemetery Road*, *Cheese!*, *CyberBully*, *Round Peg Square Hole*, *Testimonies of a Quiet New England Town*, and *Same World*. Attendance was good, with several of the film makers in the audience. It was, however, a bright and sunny day and too much light made the movies extremely difficult to view. With proposed renovations to the X-Room, this problem should be solved.

November was Career Development Month with a full roster of classes and workshops including: *Job Search Strategies*, *Career Development for the Fine Artist*, and *Creating Networking Cards*. *Job Preparation for Older Workers*, a six-week intensive course for seniors, was offered for the eighth time. At the Connecticut Jobs Conference held at the Wallingford Public Library, library staff from across Connecticut heard how Hartford Public Library serves as a resource for economic recovery. Hartford Public Library staff were trained to use the *JobNow* resource, live interactive online help combined with online resources that guide the job seeker through the tasks necessary to get a job. Training sessions for the public are scheduled for the new year.

Another program for staff was only a visit from writer Don Borchert. A veteran library assistant at Torrance Public Library in California, he is the author of *Free for All: Oddballs, Geeks, and Gangstas in the Public Library*. He was very entertaining and staff enjoyed chatting and swapping stories with him before the Library opened to the public.

Many participants in *Creative Journals with Mandalas* and the Library's annual evergreen wreath-making workshops, held at the Downtown and Camp Field branches, also were participants in the *Arts and Archives: Master Classes in the Arts and Humanities for Older Adults* fine arts classes. In October, University of Hartford professor Doug Anderson taught pen and ink drawing and in November, visual artist Anne Cubberly taught mixed media. Both instructors received excellent reviews. Anne's class involved deconstructing, then reconstructing an old book and transforming it into a work of art. In the first session, she told participants, "The book is your canvas." Some of the participants' comments are below.

- I would like to thank the *Arts and Archives* conception team who made this opportunity possible. It has brought the middle-aged customer back to the library...
- I am so inspired and renewed from this experience.
- It has been really terrific to get to meet people at the classes who otherwise I never would have had the opportunity to meet...
- I appreciated the library books related to what we were doing each week.
- I would like to have many more arts and crafts classes.

A special treat for those in Charles Robert Hudson's September sculpture course was an additional mid-October class filmed and aired by Channel 3's *Better Connecticut* program.

On October 22, the Library hosted the 3rd Annual Reforma Northeast Spanish Materials Book Fair. Reforma is a national association that promotes library and information services to Latinos and Spanish-speaking communities. Librarians, educators, vendors and authors from Connecticut and surrounding states attended. This was the first fair open to self-published, local authors, who were grateful for the opportunity to promote their work to not only the public but also Spanish language book distributors. The fair was featured in *Vida en CT* magazine and in *Identidad Latina*, Hartford's local Spanish newspaper.

Several engineering students from the University of Connecticut at Storrs conducted a survey to determine what people valued most in transportation, focusing on public transportation. The first part of the survey helped people imagine a trip using public transportation service (either rail or bus) along the New Haven-Hartford-Springfield corridor. This determined popular destinations and the types of trips people might make using such service. Participants then were shown a series of projects and asked which they would vote for if the survey was a bond referendum.

Also, Reference Services had a rather interesting research question when a graduate student delved into the periodicals collection to look through older issues of *Good Housekeeping*, *House Beautiful*, and *Ladies Home Journal*. The topic was the development of kitchen cabinets in the 20th century home, for which the student commented there was no "definitive history." One wonders...

The American Place

Citizenship

The USCIS grant is off to a good start. 63 legal permanent residents enrolled in the newly formed Citizenship Class and 38 enrolled in the guided self-study program. ELLIS, an English language learning web-based software is now installed, providing access to registered participants, from any of the branches or from home, to 2000 hours of comprehensive computer aided instruction. Over 200 items (print and media) which help contextualize the skills and content of the U.S. civics test have been added to our collection, notably a unique series of graphic novels. A project Website site is being developed to help streamline user access to Citizenship eligibility, application, and educational resources, with a special emphasis on pod/web casts for downloading and portability. In addition, immigrants representing various ethnic groups as well as immigrant youth from Hartford Public Schools, *Academy of Engineering and Green Technology* have been recruited and trained as volunteer Citizenship Guides, to then help recruit and orient members of their respective constituencies/families on Library citizenship educational tools. Thirty volunteers have been trained so far and the effect is rippling.

Literacy

The basic EL/Civics program offered at the library remains a tour de force for low literate recent refugee immigrant arrivals. The classes that meet three mornings a week serve both to educate and to integrate program participants into the broader community. In addition to regularly scheduled local field trips, on December 21 (peak holiday season) students enjoyed a trip to mid-town Manhattan. They were introduced to several American cultural and historical sites, including Times Square, Rockefeller Center, Rockefeller Ice Skating Rink, St. Joseph's Cathedral, FAO Schwartz, Hershey's Store, Trump Plaza, Central Park, and the New York City Public Library. This is their second trip to NYC, the last covered Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty.

Youth Services

Program attendance increased five percent in the second quarter, in comparison to the same quarter last year. Out-of-school time (OST) programs continue to attract large numbers of young people to the Library, with gains reported in attendance at these for most sites. Popular October programs included discussions of classic detective stories, maze and code activities, and research into “urban legends,” all following the “October – Month of Mystery!” theme. November

programs focused on American history, and students enjoyed scrapbooking their “personal histories,” Connecticut trivia games, and activities based on the daily life of Native Americans, early Colonists, and more recent arrivals. December’s theme, “Illustrated Children’s Books,” provided students with a variety of art activities. A separate highlight in that month was the third annual Kwanzaa program at Central, which drew 150 attendees for lessons in fabric printing, traditional foods, drumming, music, and an explanation of the holiday’s history and principles.

Juvenile books, fiction and nonfiction, are promoted at each and every program offered, and circulation of these increased at both the Downtown Library (four percent) and the branches (eight percent).

Despite gains in OST program attendance, overall youth visits decreased by nine percent. Seven of the nine branches reported declines, as extended day programs continue to expand at neighborhood elementary schools. The Library will work collaboratively with the University of Connecticut-sponsored extended day programs at Clark and Wish Schools this spring, and use this experience as a model for working with other programs in the near future.

Early literacy program attendance was also down for in the second quarter, although still on track in terms of over-all goals set for this year. The downturn is attributable to an increase in staff visits to licensed and unlicensed home day care providers. The Library’s home visitation program is of proven value in transferring early literacy knowledge and practices to providers, and is very popular. However, the program does result in lower attendance numbers than (for example) a program emphasizing staff visits to preschool classrooms. The “Homelinks” program also is responsible for a slight downturn in the percentage of adults participating in early literacy programs who report an increase in knowledge of reading acquisition. Many of the providers we see are at the very beginning of their understanding of how children learn to read, and the transfer of learning is slightly slower than anticipated. Positive indicators are that 82% of participants are reporting gains, just under the 85% anticipated, and that circulation of early literacy materials is up, as the home day care providers receiving visits begin to check out large numbers of picture books. A positive result of the program is also found in the establishment of an Advisory Council of home day care providers. The Council will help the Library identify barriers to providers’ use of our services, and ways in which we can overcome these.

The Library is building on its success in reaching parents and caregivers with early literacy information in “Picture Book Science, Picture Book Math”, a program bringing information on

early numeracy and scientific inquiry expectations and activities to the same population. The program, funded by the Connecticut State Library and the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, is offered in collaboration with the Connecticut Science Center. Workshops, fieldtrips, and special story times will continue through June, 2011.

Community Development and Civic Services

A number of successful *Democracy in Action* programs were held during the second quarter, all of them offered in collaboration with the Hartford Votes~Hartford Vota Coalition. Voter Registration Day took place on October 7 at all Library locations and resulted in 108 new registrations. Three candidate forums were held including Secretary of State & Attorney General (October 7), U.S. Representative – 1st Congressional District (October 25), and State Senators and Representatives (October 28). The forums were moderated by Tom Monahan of NBC Connecticut, Dennis House of WFSB Channel 3, and John Motley of MotleyBeup. Attendance was very strong, ranging from 60 to 160. In addition, a Campaign Fair was held on October 14 to which all candidates for offices on the November ballot were invited for an open house event which drew nearly 150 people. Together, attendance at the three forums and the fair totaled well over 400. On Election Day in November, a total of 1,309 people voted at the three polling places located at Hartford Public Library: Downtown (453), Camp Field (389), and Ropkins (467). Several other community programs and public meetings were offered during the second quarter.

On October 22, the Library collaborated with the Puerto Rican Studies Association (PRSA) to host the opening session of the PRSA annual conference. The featured speaker was Dr. Elsa Nunez, President of Eastern Connecticut State University, who gave an inspiring talk on Latino graduation rates in Connecticut to an audience of 120 people. We hope to collaborate with PRSA on future activities. On October 27, the Library hosted a public meeting attended by over 100 people on planning for the I-84 Hartford Viaduct, the mile-long stretch of highway that runs from Downtown to Asylum Hill. On November 17, the Mayor and City staff made a presentation on plans for Hartford's possible parking concession. The meeting was attended by over 40 people. An update and discussion on the iQuilt project was the topic of a public meeting on December 2, attended by nearly 80. On December 4, the Library hosted a meeting organized by the West Indian Social Club and others about issues affecting Hartford's West Indian community. The meeting drew an audience of approximately 55 people.

On December 8, the Library presented a *HartfordInfo Today* (HIT) program in collaboration with Councilman Jim Boucher entitled *2011: A Really Big Year for Hartford*. Panelists discussed major issues facing Hartford in the new year. The panel included Hartford Public Library CEO Matt Poland, Mayor Segarra, Mayra Esquilin (Hartford Areas Rally Together), Oz Griebel (MetroHartford Alliance), State Representative Marie Lopez Kirkley-Bey, John Rossi (Chief of Staff for Congressman John Larson), and Donna Thompson-Daniel (Blue Hills Civic Association). The audience of about 145 people engaged in spirited discussion with the panel.

Approximately 45 people were present for a public meeting hosted by the Library on December 15 on Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds available to the City.

During the second quarter, work progressed on a business plan for HartfordInfo.org. The plan includes strategies for marketing and brand direction, staff training, increasing revenue and advertising dollars, and fund raising. A plan for implementation of PolicyMap was also developed. The Library recently subscribed to PolicyMap, a web-based interactive mapping service. We expect the service to be up and running in March. Users of HartfordInfo.org will then be able to create and view maps based on data that they select a feature that will be very popular. Accessing this service through a vendor will cost the Library a small fraction of the expense of creating it ourselves.

Use of HartfordInfo.org was up 9% for the second quarter compared with a year ago. The increase might have been greater but for a technical problem with the City's information technology department in sending out the fall edition of the HartfordInfo.org electronic newsletter, which at present is the primary vehicle for marketing the site. Some of the notable items added to the site recently include: A newly available dataset from the American Community Survey containing 2005-2009 data profiles on demographic, social, and housing topics for Hartford; the text of Mayor Segarra's recent speech at the Rising Star Breakfast; a Power Point presentation from a recent meeting about the iQuilt project; a document detailing the City's Proposed Parking Concession; an updated Strategic Plan for the Asylum Hill Neighborhood Revitalization Zone; a Power Point presentation from a recent public meeting about the work of the Mayor's Green Ribbon Task Force concerning Hartford's parks; plus three documents: *Five Years of Neighborhood Policing - 2010 Safe City Report Hartford Police Department*; *An Assessment of Connecticut's Tax Credit and Abatement Programs*; and *Assessment of Connecticut's Correction, Parole and Probation Systems*. Also added to the site

were a number of videos of *Democracy in Action* and other programs. We continued to generate some revenue by doing mapping and data work for two City departments, Health and Human Services and the Office for Youth Services.

Work on the Youth of Incarcerated Parents Community Dialogue project continued during the second quarter in collaboration with Everyday Democracy, Central Connecticut State University, and others. Based on the community dialogues that took place earlier in the year, an Action Forum was held at the Library on November 4. About 70 community members gathered to discuss actions that would be useful for youth of incarcerated parents such as mentoring programs, better transportation options to facilitate youth visiting their parents in prison, and improved relations with police (seven officers from the Hartford Police Department were in attendance). As a result of the Action Forum, several task forces were formed and officially launched at a December 9 meeting. Now that the dialogues have reached the action phase, the Library is playing a less prominent role but continues to support the project.

Library staff engaged in 200 relationships (e.g., collaborated on programs, attended meetings, or engaged in other activities) in the second quarter with non-profit organizations, community organizations, government, and youth service providers. This represents a 24% decrease when compared with the second quarter a year ago. The change is attributable mainly to reduced community activities on the part of some staff due to other responsibilities, and to some problems in the collection of statistics that have been identified and are now being corrected.

A proposal for the creation of a volunteer program for the Library was completed and submitted during the second quarter and is currently being reviewed. Many public libraries across the country use volunteers for a variety of purposes and by doing so enhance important activities while also building support in the community. The Library currently makes very limited use of volunteers.

Richard Frieder, Associate Librarian for Community Development & Civic Engagement, is serving as co-director of the three year immigrant civic engagement National Leadership Grant (NLG) project funded by the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS). During the second quarter a number of project start-up activities took place including a project partners' meeting, interviews for a staff position, and planning of project activities. In addition,

Community Development & Civic Engagement is playing a major role in the preparation of a new planning grant proposal to be submitted to IMLS in January 2011.

In the third quarter, the Library's strategic plan will be completed and rolled out. The plan will be studied for implications for the Community Development & Civic Engagement program. Also in the third quarter, planning for the Library's annual One Big Summer Night event will begin. Work will continue on implementing the IMLS-funded program on immigrant civic engagement. A major effort early in the third quarter will be completion and submission of the new IMLS planning grant proposal for an exciting new project, *The Discovery Center*. Work on the HartfordInfo.org business plan will continue as will PolicyMap implementation. An LSTA grant proposal will be submitted that will support a series of focus groups for HartfordInfo.org. The Youth of Incarcerated Parents Community Dialogue project will be developed further. The proposal for the Library's volunteer program will be assessed and next steps will be determined. Several community programs and community meetings will be held, most in collaboration with a variety of other organizations based on the many strong relationships we continue to build on an ongoing basis.

Readers Services

Adult circulation system wide increased (+9%) this quarter compared with the same time last year; an increase (+23%) in media activity offset the general decline (-8%) of non-fiction print material. This quarter media circulation (including audio books) comprised 60% of adult activity compared with 55% last year. Daily in-house use counts of books and magazines left on tables indicate a steady continuation of this aspect of collection use at all sites. The percentage of activity at the Downtown library compared with the aggregate of the branches shows an interesting shift in activity now that all locations are open and fully staffed. At the mid-point last year, the circulation ratio was Downtown (63%) to branches (37%); this year the percentage is Downtown (55%) to branches (45%), indicating a trend toward the distribution seen prior to the reduced branch hours a few years ago.

The total number of adult registered borrowers is up (+7%) with the greatest increase in registration among the adult 35-64 year age group. The ratio of Hartford residents who are Library customers remains consistent at approximately 85%. Customers who register Downtown generally are accepting of the photo ID image stored in the database as a

component of the new application guidelines and staff hopes to be able to apply this standard system wide in the near future.

Staff has been focused on collection and circulation reports to help prepare for an inventory and system enhancements that will come with the new automation system. Items marked missing or have unfilled holds are withdrawn from the catalog and replaced as appropriate. The Library recently had two software upgrades installed and technical services staff is becoming familiar with new functionality in preparation for the training on these components that will begin the first week in March.

Staff is shifting and integrating materials on the ground floor, a fundamental process required before the inventory takes place. Parallel efforts are being made to evaluate and de-accession the items that were so badly damaged in storage that they are no longer suitable for library use. The infusion of Spanish language materials is being distributed throughout the system as new titles purchased at the book fair in Spain continue to arrive.

Collections must evolve and remain relevant as media becomes a larger component of the publishing world. A selection of fiction and nonfiction downloadable audio books is now available to our customers 24-7 and staff is preparing an evaluation of vendors and options for purchasing e-books to support the growing demand for this format.

Arts, Cultural and Heritage Programs

Connecticut Book Festival (CBF)

Readers and writers from around the state attended the fundraiser held at the Town & County Club on 20 November. Among authors attending were Honorary Chair and keynote speaker Wally Lamb, Lucy Ferriss, Bessy Reyna, Katharine Weber, and Michael White. The event raised about \$3500. News of the May 2011 event began appearing on online news outlets and in blogs in December: "It's about time!" was the common sentiment.

One Book

Events and programs designed to build interest—for readers and non-readers alike—in the culminating author event included three bilingual book discussions for adults around *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, held at Library facilities. 54 teens discussed the novel at eight Library locations, while enjoying afternoon teas. Many remarked that they knew

individuals in their schools who had habits similar to Christopher's, but had not realized that it was a recognized condition called "autism," and many admitted that the novel made them acknowledge their own prejudices toward people who behave differently than themselves.

Four different films about autism were shown at Capital Community College, where total attendance was only 23 adults. In retrospect, their typical student has little leisure time, between working and caring for family. However, two audience members, after having each viewed a film, said they would seek medical advice regarding their own children's behavior.

There was a reception at the Downtown Library for the exhibition of art by HARC, Inc. clients, attended by HARC staff, Board, and artists, as well as general public—34 people in all. The art of an 18 year old autistic man was also exhibited; his mother wrote, "We have just held a Future meeting and it looks like we will be targeting his art as his future skill. How could we not!" One regular Library customer came in search of "the art by people who are slow."

A panel of young adults on the autism spectrum presented "Spectrum Unplugged," speaking candidly about the impact autism has on their lives at home, in school, and in the community, and sharing the coping strategies they have developed. A program for adults, "Employing People with Intellectual Disabilities," explained how companies can benefit by this practice. The audience was evenly divided between college students, business owners, and individuals with autistic family members, but attendance was low: nine people. Co-presented by a staff member from HARC, Inc. and a representative from Walgreens, the program might have attempted to accomplish too much by having two disparate target audiences. The Capital Community College host of "Autism 101," facilitated by a representative from CT Autism Speaks for CCC and Library staff development, wrote, "The boot camp was terrific. I had about 20 people show up, including members of the Early Childhood Education program who found it extremely helpful."

For our One Book finale, siblings Gina Gallagher and Patricia Konjoian spoke engagingly to an audience of 29 people about co-authoring their book, *Shut Up about Your Perfect Kid; a Survival Guide for Ordinary Parents of Special Children*, and about the frustrations, joys, and challenges they face as parents of children with disabilities. Their tips on how to cope helped at least one audience member who had expressed concern that her child might need professional help.

An attractive calendar of events was widely distributed to our program partners for their constituents, as well as throughout the City. In general, program attendance might have been better if we had asked more large institutions, like The Institute of Living, to partner with us, rather than look toward individual community members, as we have done with success in the past for our ethnically-centered fiction titles. The lack of a well-known author for the finale was inimical to the high attendance enjoyed in the past.

Wallace Stevens Birthday Bash

The 6 November wine-and-hors d'oeuvres reception was held on the ArtWalk, with pianist Steve Johnson and the booksellers at hand. Broadsides from past Bashes were displayed on the Gallery shelves, which guests apparently enjoyed seeing. The program featuring Stevens scholar Joan Richardson followed in the Hartford History Center, and was capped by birthday cake and champagne set up in the Wallace Stevens Room. Guests commented on the good flow this arrangement provided.

Hartford History Center

As a partnering institution on Capital Community College's "Hartford Heritage" 2010 National Endowment for the Humanities grant, the Hartford History Center will present a day-long seminar in June for Capital Community faculty on the special collection resources available in the Center and how they can be accessed. It is expected that college faculty will include Hartford-specific research in their classroom curriculums, encouraging students to utilize the resources of the library's Hartford History Center.

The Center is currently creating a prototype of 12 glass negatives (c. 1910) from its City Parks Collection that reflect Hartford's urban development. Partners in creating this prototype include University of Connecticut, Trinity College professor Dr. Jack Dougherty and Connecticut History Online, the online consortium for digital imaging that includes the Connecticut State Library and the Connecticut Historical Society. The prototype will be used in a grant proposal to digitize this amazing collection of over 1,000 Hartford street images from the early 1900s and creating the corresponding metadata for online search engines.

As part of the library's outreach mission, the Hartford History Center curator serves on the board of the League of Connecticut History Organizations and was recently invited to serve on the statewide Olmsted Heritage Alliance Board as that non-profit organization moves to develop a

statewide heritage trail that celebrates the life and work of Frederick Law Olmsted. The Hartford History Center curator is currently serving on the Connecticut Humanities Council (CHC) strategic planning focus group to discuss CHC's future programming mission and how it would support arts, cultural and heritage organizations within the state.

Winter programming includes the ever-popular Arts and Archives for Older Adults series, held every Saturday in the downtown library. These workshops often filled to capacity. Master artists for February through June are: international jazz musician Alan Jay Palmer who will teach music appreciation workshops with a focus on jazz and blues; Hartford native and award-winning journalist Cindy Brown Austin who will lead the memoir series; award-winning poet Bessy Reyna running the poetry workshops; and, *Hartford News* editor and photographer Andy Hart instructing the photography series.

In addition, the Hartford History Center hosted an opening reception for the "Homeless Souls" exhibition which opened Sunday, January 23 and runs through March 6 on the third floor of the Downtown Library.

Upcoming programs include "Remembering the Old Neighborhood: Stories of Hartford's North End," presented in partnership with the Jewish Historical Society of Greater Hartford on Sunday, March 6.

Development

Grant Status

Pending— Grant applications with a total request amount of \$610,734 are pending approval. Among the proposals are requests: to the **Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)** in partnership with the Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology (CCAT), the Library will plan The Discovery Center, a high-tech gateway for MetroHartford residents, downtown workers and visitors to connect to and experience the exceptional but underappreciated and under-marketed educational, entertainment, historical and corporate resources and attractions that Hartford offers (\$49,998); a request to **E. Pluribus Unum**, a national award grant program that recognizes outstanding immigrant integration initiatives (\$50,000) and **Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)** to renovate Adult Learning Center and Passport Office (\$332,403).

Received—The Library recently received notification of nine awards totaling \$45,000. **Nutmeg Foundation** (\$20,000) for the purchase of the Microsoft surface table and technical training for the collection in electronic formats that can be used easily by both a tech-savvy and novice user; **Lincoln Financial Foundation** (\$10,000) to expand ESL programs to include GED and college math through Computer Aided Instruction (CAI), self study books and media and flexible tutoring; **Hartford Foundation for Public Giving (David and Helen B. Kaplan Fund)** (\$4,500) support of the American Place (TAP); **The Robert & Margaret Patricelli Family Foundation** (\$2,500) to expand awareness of child/adolescent obesity by providing healthy snacks at our 10 sites; **Edward C. and Ann T. Roberts Foundation** (\$2,000) to support the ArtWalk, **BrownRudnick** (\$2,000), **Knox Foundation** (\$2,000), and **The Ahern Family Foundation** (\$2,000) for support of homework supplies. Grants confirmed \$1,469,455.

Individual Giving

For FY 2010-11 (7-1-10 to 1-31-11) individual giving for the fall appeal (\$25,617) with an average gift of \$150; compared to FY 09-10 (7-1-09 to 1-31-10) (\$24,623) with an average gift of \$121; an average gift increase of 24%.

For FY 2010-11 (7-1-10 to 1-31-11) other individual giving revenue: other appeals (\$4,869); **ArtWalk**, Hartford History Center, Connecticut Center for the Book, Capital and Endowment for (\$43,733). Total giving **\$74,219**. Compared to FY 09-10 (7-1-09 to 1-31-10) other appeals (\$4,622); **ArtWalk**, Hartford History Center, Connecticut Center for the Book, Capital and Endowment (\$30,569). Total giving **\$59,814**; an increase of 24%.

Events

One Big Summer Night

One Big Summer Night will be held Wednesday, June 22, 2011 at the CT Convention Center from 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. The event will feature **Mika Brzezinski and Joe Scarborough** from MSNBC's *Morning Joe* and Honorary Chairpersons are **Governor and Mrs. Dannel P. Malloy**.

Media

October 1, 2010 – January 31, 2011

October 2010

Journal Inquirer – “From Piedmont to Olive Street”

Hartford Courant – “Hartford Grant Awarded”

Hartford Courant – “Connecticut Book Award Winners Announced”

Hartford Courant & Hartford Advocate – “Leaving Silk City: Hartford Film Festival”

Reminder News & Fairfield County Weekly – “Silk City Flick Fest Features Films from CT and Around the World”

Hartford Courant – “A Bipolar Family: One Book for Greater Hartford”

Hartford Advocate – “Serpa Author Talk”

Hartford Business Journal – “Hartford Public Library Honored”

The West Indian American – “Images of Giving”

Reminder News – “Vernon Author Wins Book Award”

Hartford Courant.com – “Books and Authors”

WTIC 1080 AM/Church and State – Interview with Matt Poland, “Library Offers Workshop Series ‘Grow Your Business Online with Social Media’”

Hartford Courant & CTN – “Library to Host Candidates Forum”

Hartford Courant & WTIC Fox 61 – “Hartford Foundation Celebrates Giving”

Hartford Courant, Hartford Advocate & New Haven Advocate – “ArtWalk at Hartford Public Library: *The Admiration Series* by Kyle Andrew Phillips”

Hartford Advocate – “Tribute to the Masters”

WTIC 1080 AM/Church and State – Interview with Marian Amodeo, “One Book for Greater Hartford: Spectrum Unplugged”

Hartford Courant – “Help on the Job Hunt”

Bristol Press – “Congressional Race: Radically Different Ideas Create Circus-Like Atmosphere”

New Britain Herald – “Broad Spectrum Politics Marks 1st District Debate”

Hartford Courant.com – “Candidates for State Representative, Senator to Participate in Forum”

Hartford Advocate – “From Barrio to Boardroom: Increasing Latino Graduation Rates”

Wethersfield Post – “Four Candidates Offer Variety of Ideas”

Hartford Courant – “Fox 61 Rich Coppola Reads at Hartford Public Library’s Banned Book Night”

Hartford Courant, Courant.com, WTIC Channel 61 – “Bring I-84 to Ground”

Hartford Courant.com – “Library’s ‘The American Place’ Welcomes Refugees, Immigrants”

Hartford Courant – “Hartford Public Library: Nationally Recognized Program Helps Immigrants Assimilate”

WFSB-TV Channel 3 – “HPL Offers Classes for Older Adults”

Huffington Post – “Hartford Public Library’s Innovation: HartfordInfo.org”

November 2010

Hartford Courant – “Hartford Public Library will Resume Sunday Hours this Weekend”
Hartford Courant & Hartford Advocate – “Wallace Stevens Birthday Bash”
Hartford Courant & Hartford Advocate – “ArtWalk at Hartford Public Library – *The Admiration Series*, work of Kyle Andrew Phillips”
Hartford Courant – “A Poetic Time of Year”
Hartford Courant – “Information on Veterans Project”
Hartford Courant – “Hartford Turns Over Treasure Trove of Public Records to Library”
Hartford Advocate – “HSO Musical Dialogues: Dances of Early America”
Valley Press – “HSO Ensemble to Perform Free Concert”
Newstimes.com – “Page Turners: Connecticut Book Festival Coming to West Hartford”
Hartford Courant – “Education Gap Impact on Latino Students Topic of Forum”
Hartford News – “City Donates Historic Documents to Library”
Hartford News – “Refugees Lead Clean-up Effort”

December 2010

Hartford Courant – “Authors Visit Connecticut”
Hartford Courant, Hartford Advocate & New Haven Register – “ArtWalk at Hartford Public Library – *The Admiration Series*, work of Kyle Andrew Phillips”
Hartford Courant – “Lectures & Literature”
Hartford Courant – “One Book Author Event”
Hartford Courant – “Panel to Discuss Issues Facing City”
Hartford Courant – “First Graduating Class: 21 People Complete Literacy Program”
Hartford Courant & Hartford Business.com – “Hartford Mayor Appoints Two to High-Ranking City Positions”
Hartford Courant – “Development is Focus of Workshop”
Hartford Advocate – “D.I.Y. Street Art Takes a Page from Home-Ec Class”
Hartford Courant – “Library Awarded Grant”
Hartford Courant – “Big Brothers/Big Sisters Honor Mentor Gertrude Blanks”
Hartford Courant – “The Year in Jazz”
Hartford Courant – “Bushnell Park Takes Center Stage for Hartford First Night”
Hartford Advocate – “Dawn of the Decade”
Valley Press – “Warren Byrd Baby Grand Jazz 2011”
Hartford Courant – “48 Hours of Art”

Hartford Courant – “Happy New Year: Get Out & Do Something”
Hartford Courant – “Spirit Still Sizzling: Warren Byrd at Hartford Public Library”
Hartford Courant – “New Year’s Party in Hartford: First Night in the City”
Stamford Plus.com – “First Night – a Hartford 375 Event”
NBC Connecticut.com – “First Night: Party Like it’s 2011”
New Haven Register – “First Night Festivities”

January 2011

Hartford Magazine – “Hands On Help”
Hartford Courant – “ArtWalk at Hartford Public Library – *The Admiration Series*, work of Kyle Andrew Phillips”
Hartford Courant – “Baby Grand Jazz Series Continues with Warren Byrd”
Hartford Courant – “Warren Byrd Charms Audience with Eclectic Set”
Hartford Courant – “Baby Grand Jazz Series: Peter Niedmann”
Hartford Courant – “Revision is Unacceptable”
Hartford Courant – “The Future of School Reform in Hartford”
Hartford Courant – “Hartford: National Researchers Cite Progress of City Schools”
Hartford Courant – “Hartford Report: Schools Show Progress”
Hartford Courant & Courant.com – “Some Parents Stick with Failing Schools”
Hartford Courant & Hartford Advocate – “Baby Grand Jazz Series Presents Rich Goldstein: Jazz Guitar Quartet”
Hartford Advocate – “Operation: Military Kids”
Hartford Courant & Courant.com – “School Board Search Committee: Hartford School Board Agrees to Add New Members to Search Committee”
Hartford Courant & Journal Inquirer – “Success with Email Marketing: Workshops on Email Marketing for Business Owners”
Hartford Courant – “At the Library: Mad Hatter Tea Party”
El Sol – “Basic Level English Classes Offered at Hartford Public Library”
Hartford Courant – “Jake Anderson Homeless Book; Photographer Brings Home Pain of Homelessness”
Hartford Courant, Hartford Advocate & Valley Press – “Music Calendar: Baby Grand Jazz Series Presents Matt DeChamplain”
Hartford Courant & Courant.com – “Rennie McQuilkin Hosts Reception and Reading at Hartford History Center to Mark Opening of ‘Homeless Souls’ Exhibit”

Hartford Courant – “Morning Joe Team to Hartford Public Library”

Hartford Courant – “Hartford Public Library Presents ‘Homeless Souls,’ a Compilation of Images, Poetry and Prose”

Hartford Courant – “Lectures & Literature: Book Discussion at Hartford Public Library”

Hartford Courant – “Bridge, Blunt, Blount”

Hartford Courant – “Five Added to Search Panel”

Hartford Courant – “Pardon Forum Scheduled at Library”

Hartford Courant – “Free Sunday Matinee: Baby Grand Jazz Series Presents Jimmy Macbride”

West Hartford Press & Valley Press – “Baby Grand Jazz at Hartford Library”

Hartford Courant & Courant.com – “Retirement Incentive Program Offered to Library Workers”

Hartford Courant – “Great Things to Do at Hartford Public Library: Photography Exhibit and ‘Getting to Know our Muslim Neighbors’”

Hartford Courant – “Hartford Public Library to Host a Common Cent\$ Fair”

Facilities

Albany

Construction is on plan for this library. Completion date: end of September 2011.

Dwight

Plans are progressing for the expansion of this library. Architects are preparing construction documents. Completion date: end of 2011.

Safety and Security

The Library had (11) reportable incidents in the second calendar quarter. Eleven (11) reports were filed at the Downtown facility, three (3) reports of theft, three (3) medical, two (2) disturbances, two (2) minor damages, and one (1) miscellaneous. The Hartford Police assisted with two incidents.

No branch incidents reported.