

NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Mary F. Crean
Phone: 860-695-6360
E-mail: mcrean@hplct.org

Pictures Worth 1,000 Words: Artist Cora Marshall Speaks at Library

Hartford, Connecticut (February 4, 2011) Hartford Public Library will feature an artist talk by Dr. Cora Marshall on Sunday, February 13, from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. at the Hartford History Center, Downtown Library, 500 Main Street, 3rd floor. Dr. Marshall's presentation will be based on her painting, *Mary*, part of the Runaway! Going, Going, Gone mixed media painting series on view now in the Pump House Gallery, Bushnell Park. Two paintings from the series, *Mary* and *Julian Francois* will be on display in the Library's Hartford History Center. Dr. Marshall's presentation is part of the Library's celebration of Black History Month.

Dr. Marshall is an artist, educator, and scholar, and has exhibited both internationally and nationally. Paintings in the Runaway! Going, Going, Gone series were inspired by the discovery of wanted advertisements from the 1700s and early 1800s. They described runaway enslaved people of African descent, sometimes in minute detail. Marshall says, "The ads were descriptive and so detailed that a visual artist could conjure up the images. That's when I thought this would make an interesting project."

Valerie Cooper, a fine arts consultant, says of Dr. Marshall, "She has an uncanny ability to uniquely translate a paragraph from a wanted ad to a phenomenal rendition of who this person was. She brings the person to life with pride and beauty." To a collector of Marshall's work, Aeon Cummings, it is as though "She holds up a mirror to the soul and admonishes us to remember history." Locally, Andres Chaparro, City of Hartford, Office of Cultural Affairs, describes the paintings as "profound and moving."

Autographed copies of Dr. Marshall's book *Runaway! Going, Going, Gone: A Painting Series* will be available for sale following her presentation. Her online gallery is located at <http://stores.coramarshall.net/StoreFront.bok>.

The event is free and open to the public. If special accommodations to participate in this event are required, please contact Access Assistance at 860-695-6284 or TTY 860-722-6890, two weeks prior to the event.

For more information or to arrange an interview, please contact:

Mary F. Crean
Hartford Public Library

500 Main Street
Hartford, CT 06103
mcrean@hplct.org
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 850,000 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 the Hartford Public Library is to provide free resources that inspire reading, guide learning, and encourage individual exploration.