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Contact: Mary F. Crean, 860.695.6360, mcrean@hplct.org

LIBRARY HOSTS FORUM ON THE POLITICS OF WOMEN'S ACCESS TO REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SERVICES

Hartford, Connecticut (April 16, 2012) — Hartford Public Library will host a forum on the politics of women's access to reproductive health services at its Downtown Library, Thursday, April 19 at 5:30 p.m.

Led by moderator Jeanette DeJesús, Special Advisor on Health Reform to Governor Dannel P. Malloy, distinguished panelists Susan Campbell from *The Hartford Courant*, Theresa Morris from Trinity College, Gretchen Raffa from Planned Parenthood, and Natasha Pierre from the Connecticut Permanent Commission on the Status of Women will discuss the implications of recent and historical events in the battle over reproductive health issues.

The forum is part of the **One Book One Hartford** series of events taking place across the city based on Eve Ensler's most recent book, *I Am an Emotional Creature*.

"I am thrilled that **One Book One Hartford** has chosen *I Am an Emotional Creature* and will focus attention on the situation of girls both at home and around the world. It is my hope that this book will lead to the liberation of the greatest resource on the planet -- girls and girl energy," said Eve Ensler.

Activist, artist, author, Eve Ensler has become a feminist icon and a fearless advocate on behalf of women throughout the world. Since her boundary-shattering play *The Vagina Monologues* lifted the silence on women discussing their bodies and sexuality, Eve has taken her message far beyond the confines of the theater. Her V-Day organization is now a global entity stopping violence and oppression against women while empowering "vagina warriors" to take control of their lives and communities.

A calendar and resource guide for *I Am an Emotional Creature* are available at <http://onebookonehartford.org> and at all Hartford Public Library locations, and partner institutions.

The 2012 **One Book One Hartford** is presented by Hartford Public Library and is sponsored in part by the Connecticut Humanities Council. Partners include The Mark Twain House and

Museum, Harriet Beecher Stowe Center, World Affairs Council, Greater Hartford NAACP, Asylum Hill Boys & Girls Club, National Alliance on Mental Illness CT, Hartford Public High School, Alzheimer's Resource Center of CT, and Girl Scouts of CT.

For more information, contact Ann Binder at (860) 695-7401 or by e-mail at abinder@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 860,000 visits per year. Services include access to a large collection of materials for reading and research, as well as music and video. Programs provide education, information and enrichment to the people of Hartford in such areas as citizenship training, literacy, business skills and