

Monday, 31 December

First Night

1

Tuesday, 1 January
Closed for New Year's Day

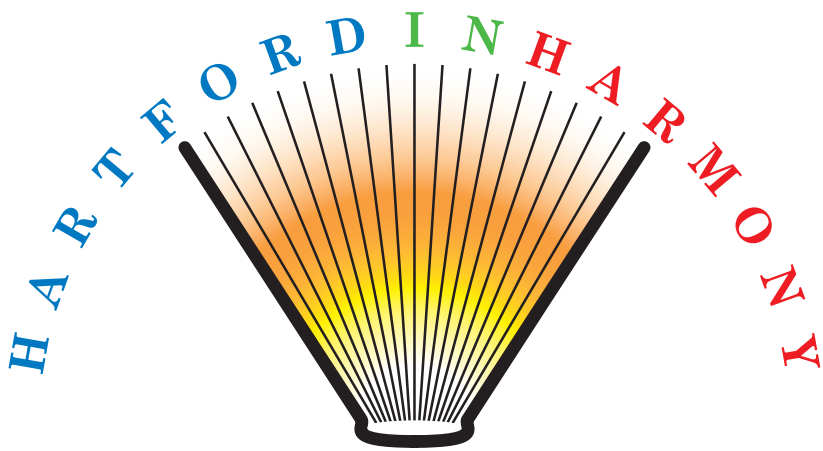


- Participate in the Ribbon Cutting with Mayor Eddie A. Perez.
- Add 2,008 wishes for *Harmony in Hartford* to the Window of Light.
- Join the First Night programs, Interactive Percussion Authentic Reggae.

Wednesday, 2 January

Playing the Music of Our Stories

2

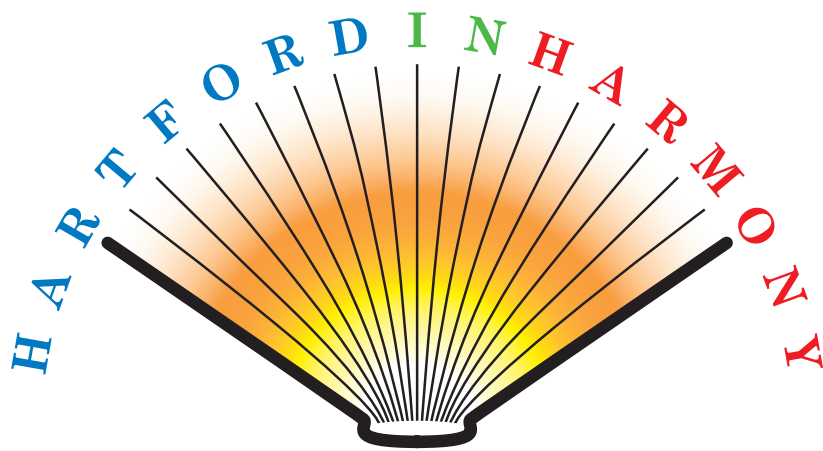


- Experiment with traditional instruments from many cultures.
- Youth record songs or poems about harmony.
- Listen to music from the library's collection.
- Harmony in Music - Bring your voice and rehearse a community song.

Thursday, 3 January

Telling Our Stories

3

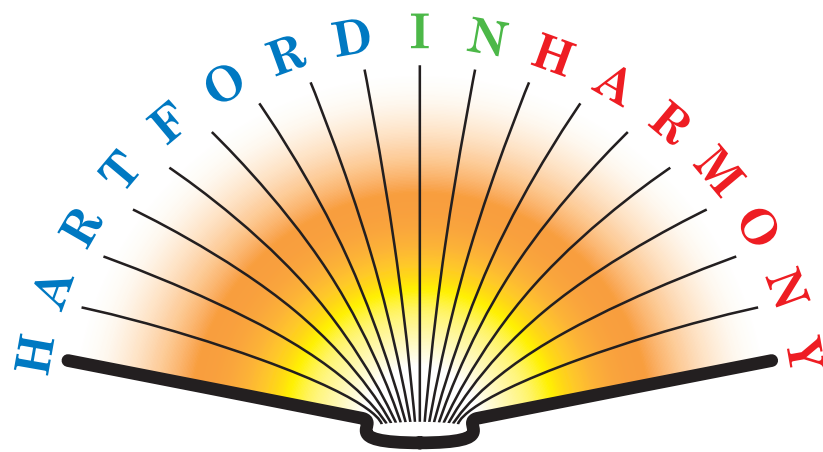


- Bring your favorite memory of Hartford to create a living history.
- Children read aloud from a favorite book while being taped.
- See the stories of harmony in books illustrated for children.
- Harmony in Stories - Hartford stories are told and then join in designing the harmony banner.

Friday, 4 January

Dancing Our Stories

4

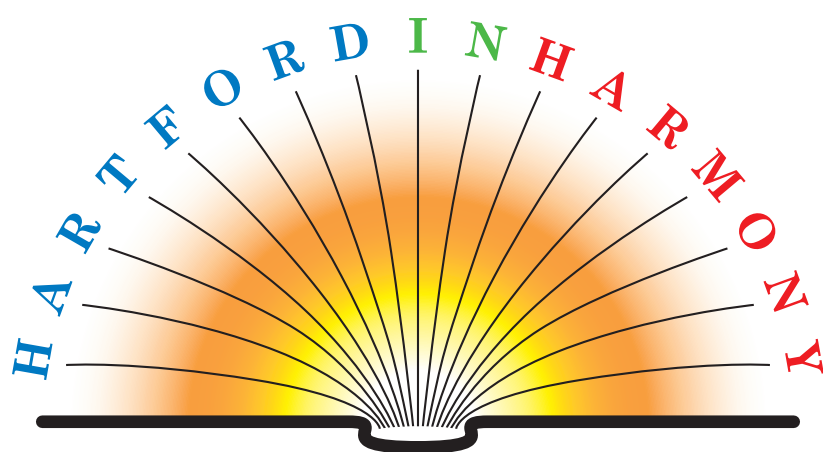


- Join the dances of our community's diverse cultures.
- Children dress up for world dances and have a photograph taken to keep.
- Harmony in Dance - Join in rehearsing a community dance and prepare for the procession.

Saturday, 5 January

Celebrate!

5



- Rehearse and participate as the banners, music and dance are brought together for the celebration of *Hartford in Harmony*.
- Join the procession and celebration!

All programs are free and open to all!

HARTFORD IN HARMONY

December 31 through January 5

You are invited to be part of a series of activities that will culminate in our *Hartford in Harmony* celebration on Saturday, January 5.

WISHES FOR HARTFORD

Write your wishes for *Hartford in Harmony* upon a metallic origami square, fold the square accordion style; all wishes will be hung in the Downtown Library Window of Light. The goal is 2,008 wishes. Submit your wish at all sites during library hours or online at www.hplct.org/wish.

HARMONY BANNERS

Join a banner making session at your neighborhood library. The banners will be part of the procession and celebration on Saturday, January 5. Banner making sessions will be December 10 through December 27.

Youth

4:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Downtown Library, Program Room, 3rd floor

Adults

12:00 to 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Downtown Library, Main Floor

Families

4:00 to 5:00 p.m.

All Neighborhood Libraries

CONNECTICUT CENTER FOR THE BOOK

Create a written page or a drawing of what Hartford means to you. People may contribute a page for a book to be bound and added to the permanent collection of the Hartford History Center. The work may be done on site, or taken away and returned by Friday afternoon, January 4. Sample sheets will be displayed for inspiration. Contributors will be requested to write their name, age and address on the back of the sheet.
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
CT Center for the Book Office, 2nd floor

FIRST NIGHT

Main Floor, Monday, December 31

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Join Mayor Eddie A. Perez, Library President Geraldine Sullivan and Chief Librarian Louise Blalock for a ceremonial opening of the Downtown Library.

Noon to 1:00 p.m., Main Floor



Bob Bloom's Drumming About You

Interactive percussion performance for children. Master Teaching Artist Bob Bloom distributes an array of drums and percussion instruments to his audience and launches into some of the most joyous songs you've ever heard.

2:15 to 3:00 p.m. and 3:45 to 4:30 p.m., Main Floor

Conscious Band

Conscious Band is an authentic reggae band that mixes Motown, pop reggae and vintage reggae. Each band member brings a unique feel to music, all of them from different walks of life, though each sharing a genuine love for what is referred to as "conscious music."

8:00 to 8:45 p.m. and 9:15 to 10:00 p.m., Main Floor

Tuesday: Closed for New Year's Day

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2

Playing the Music of Our Stories

- Experiment with traditional instruments from many cultures. Listen to songs of harmony from the library's collection.
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Youth Library
- Youth record songs or poems about harmony.
3:00 – 5:00 p.m., Program Room, 3rd floor
- Enjoy a performance by members of the Hartford Symphony Orchestra, led by Maestro Edward Cumming followed by a special presentation from an original poem, "For the Rebirth of the Hartford Public," by Rennie McQuilkin, set to music by Maestro Edward Cumming.
6:00 to 7:00 p.m., Atrium
- Bring your voice and rehearse a song of harmony. Join the Greater Hartford Academy of Arts jazz singers with Dianne Mower to sing. The song of harmony will be performed at the celebration on Saturday, January 5.
7:00 to 7:30 p.m., Atrium

THURSDAY, JANUARY 3

Telling Our Stories

- Children read aloud from a favorite book and are taped. See the stories of harmony in books illustrated for children.
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Youth Library
- Share your favorite Hartford memory; tell your favorite Hartford story. With the assistance of an interviewer, your favorite Hartford memory will be recorded and transcribed. Transcribed memories will be bound in a book to be included in Hartford History Center's permanent collection. The interview will take no more than 10 minutes and will be conducted on a drop-in basis.
4:00 to 6:00 p.m., Hartford History Center

Telling Our Stories (continued)

- Enjoy a special performance of "My Hartford - The Oral History Project," a production of Hartford Stage. This exciting work, originally staged at the Tony Award-winning theatre in 2003, examines multicultural events in Hartford's history through the stories of real Hartford residents. A diverse ensemble of young actors will bring these captivating stories to life.
6:00 to 6:30 p.m., Hartford History Center
- Bring your Hartford stories in pictures and words and join visual artist Anne Cubberly for a banner making session and create a living banner of our city. Prepare for the harmony banner procession on Saturday, January 5.
6:30 to 7:30 p.m., Hartford History Center

FRIDAY, JANUARY 4

Dancing Our Stories

- Children dress up for world dances and have a photo taken that you can keep.
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Youth Library
- Enjoy world dances performed by cultural troupes from our diverse community.
4:00 to 6:00 p.m., Atrium
- Enjoy dancers from The Artists Collective.
6:00 to 6:30 p.m., Main Lobby
- Join the dancers to rehearse a community dance of harmony in motion to be performed on Saturday, January 5.
6:30 to 7:30 p.m., Main Lobby

SATURDAY, JANUARY 5

Celebrate!

- Celebrate your new Downtown Library and the words, ideas and opportunities that Hartford Public Library champions for our community.
- Our Grand Opening celebration begins at 1:30 p.m. in the Main Street lobby. Drumming will set the beat and lead the procession of Harmony Banners through the Main Lobby. Dancers will follow. Singers from The Greater Hartford Academy of Arts will lead in the *Hartford in Harmony* song. The music is just beginning, join us.
1:30 to 3:00 p.m.
Downtown Library, Main Floor

**Religion in Wood:
A Book of Shaker Furniture**
by Edward Deming Andrews
and Faith Andrews



Louise Blalock

NEW EXHIBITS

Telling Passages

Telling Passages is a multimedia presentation of Hartford readers sharing a passage from a book that has significant meaning for them. The exhibit is mounted on LCD screens in The Hartford Atrium.

Of Hartford in a Purple Light

The kinetic wall exhibition is comprised of photographs from the library's Hartford History Center collection.

The exhibition images were chosen with Wallace Stevens' poem, "Of Hartford in a Purple Light," in mind. "Of Hartford in a Purple Light" is a poetic interpretation of Hartford's landscape – both the concrete and the fanciful that define our city and nurture our community. "Of Hartford in a Purple Light" was published in *The Collected Poems of Wallace Stevens* (Knopf) in 1954. *Collected Poems* earned Stevens a Pulitzer Prize in 1955.

This stanza, from an original poem by Rennie McQuilkin, will be set to music by Maestro Edward Cumming, Music Director of the Hartford Symphony Orchestra.

*... we gather now to praise
this reborn library which lets in so much of the out
of doors – joins shades of trees and shades of cloud
to leaves of books – such dancing on the dance within.*

"Of Hartford in a Purple Light"
by Wallace Stevens

A long time you have been making the trip
From Havre to Hartford, Master Soleil,
Bringing the lights of Norway and all that.

A long time the ocean has come with you,
Shaking the water off, like a poodle,
That splatters incessant thousands of drops,

Each drop a petty tricolor. For this,
The aunts in Pasadena, remembering,
Abhor the plaster of the western horses,

Souvenirs of museums. But, Master, there are
Lights masculine and lights feminine.
What is this purple, this parasol,

This stage-light of the Opera?
It is like a region full of intonings.
It is Hartford seen in a purple light.

A moment ago, light masculine,
Working, with big hands, on the town,
Arranging its heroic attitudes.

But now as in an amour of women
Purple sets purple round. Look, Master,
See the river, the railroad, the cathedral...

When male light fell on the naked back
Of the town, the river, the railroad were clear.
Now, every muscle slops away.

Hi! Whisk it, poodle, flick the spray
Of the ocean, ever-freshening,
On the irised hunks, the stone bouquet.



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