



# President and CEO Report

*August 2024*

FISCAL YEAR 2023–24  
FOURTH QUARTER  
(APRIL–JUNE 2024)

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## *At a glance*



84,442

total visits

47,850

items checked out

18,880

wifi sessions

13,318

computer sessions

9,001

reference questions answered

8,966

youth program participants

2,020

Library on Wheels visitors

250

years of Hartford Public Library

# DEVELOPMENT

## GRANTS

In 4th QT, the Library received \$574,159 in Awarded Grants (consisting of Foundation, Corporate, Federal, State, and City Grants). For capital projects, the Library was awarded \$75,000 from the Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority (CHEFA) for the construction at the downtown location.

There is \$658,744 in Pending Grants for this period. Declined grant applications include Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, Summer Shower Pilot for Hartford Area People Experiencing Homelessness for \$20,000 and National Endowment of the Arts (Arts Midwest) for the 2024 The Big Read for \$19,994.

Fiscal Year	Restricted and Unrestricted "Grants"	Annual Fund***	Annual Fund Restricted	Legacy	Beyond Words**	Total
2020	\$1,328,764	\$144,843	\$49,579	\$8,000	\$273,448	\$1,804,634
2021	\$875,832	\$105,112	\$12,092	\$57,445	\$257,789	\$1,308,270
2022	\$1,182,003	\$124,446	\$44,970	\$21,649	\$260,924	\$1,633,992
2023	\$3,150,362	\$96,603	\$9,925	\$11,612	\$281,703	\$3,550,205
2024	\$1,611,344	\$143,503	\$8,370	\$3,854	\$315,516	\$2,082,587
Goal	\$1,500,000	\$150,000	\$25,000	\$10,000	\$300,000	\$1,985,000
% to Goal	107%	96%	33%	39%	105%	

Fiscal Year	Restore and Renew*
2023	\$427,133
2024	\$3,577,685
TOTAL*	\$4,004,818

### YEAR TO DATE TOTALS THROUGH JUNE 2024

## AWARDED GRANTS

### Government Grants

The State of Connecticut Public Utilities Regulatory Authority for \$20,433 to support HPL Studios programming and equipment, CHEFA (CT Health & Educational Facilities Auth.), \$75,000.00 for TAP spaces in the Downtown location repair and renovation and the Connecticut Department of Education for \$168,416.00 for the Regional School Choice Organization grant supporting school choice enrollment support at HPL locations and in the community. National Library of Medicine through University of Iowa for \$5,000.00 for All of Us Summer 2024 Bus Tour.

### Foundation Grants

The Evelyn W. Preston Memorial Trust Fund at Bank of America for \$9,000 for summer music at HPL branches and Stanley D. and Hinda N. Fisher Fund at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving for \$5,000 for Summer Learning.

Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, \$20,000.00, Hartford Public Library Summer Literacy Program 2024, Greater Hartford Arts Council, \$30,000.00, Jazz Activations – Jazz 201, Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, \$17,000.00 for Empower and Educate: Voter Literacy in Hartford, Hartford Foundation for Public Giving \$28,000.00 for the Development Department Development Assessment, Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, \$18,810.00 for the Candid Community Partnership which will include training and community access to Foundation Center Online and GuideStar 990 access.

### Corporate Grants

Liberty Bank for \$15,000.00 for Community Capital: Financial Integration at Library North End Branch Locations. PeoplesBank for \$2,500.00 for the Community Pantry at the Barbour Library. The Hartford for \$60,000 for the Boundless Library at West Middle Elementary School. Travelers Foundation/Companies, \$100,000.00 for the Drivers Education Initiative and YOUmedia.

### HPL BOARD AND AMBASSADORS

Board Members and Ambassadors took a scenic journey across our beloved library branches on Thursday, May 16, aboard Autumn Transportation. They visited Albany, Barbour, and Camp Field, plus the future location of the new Barbour Library. Our branch managers and youth and family services librarians shared insights and stories at each stop, bringing each library's story to life.

Bridget Quinn, HPL President & CEO, spoke on the impressive Branch Library stats from 2023–2024 and outlined the exciting future plans, especially focusing on the renovations for Albany and Barbour libraries.

“Every branch is unique. It is unique because of the community it serves, and it's intentional. We want each branch to reflect the people that use it most,” said Quinn.

Special thanks to Berkins on Main for fueling the delicious lunches and to Autumn Transportation for the comfortable bus rides that made the tour possible.

The library branch tour offered a small preview of the transformative initiatives being undertaken to benefit the community.

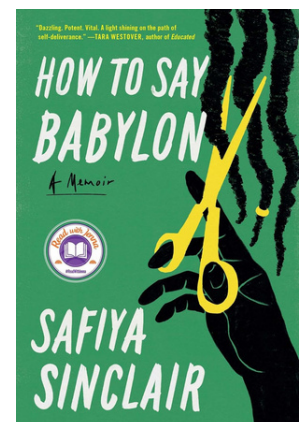


From the left: Gilda Roncari, Director of Donor Relations; Sarah Needham, Board Member; Cheryl O'Meara, Ambassador; Letty Cotto, Customer Experience Officer; Gwen Cannon, Director of Human Resources; Steve Harris, Board Member; David Barrett, Board Chair; Margaret Patricelli, Board Member, and Bonnie Solberg, Assistant Director of Branch Services. In the front are Bridget Quinn, President & CEO, and Cate and Terry D'Italia, Ambassadors



### BEYOND WORDS – 2024 AUTHOR SELECTION

Beyond Words 2024 will feature Safiya Sinclair, author of *How to Say Babylon*, winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award in Autobiography, a finalist for the Kirkus Prize, longlisted for the Women's Prize in Non-Fiction and for the OCM Bocas Prize for Caribbean Literature. Sinclair was born and raised in Montego Bay, Jamaica.





# PUBLIC SERVICES



47,850

items checked out

18,880

WiFi sessions

13,318

computer sessions

9,001

reference questions  
answered

245

documents notarized

225

municipal IDs created

- Hartford Public Library continues to provide excellent service to the community. With the arrival of warmer weather during the fourth quarter, patio service was able to resume Downtown and has been very well received. In May and June, over 200 people visited as HPL offered programming, passports, youth services, teen services, social services, Regional School Choice Office, the American Job Center, and others. Patio games were purchased and added music to enhance the experience.
- Summer Learning has begun and includes a challenge for adults! Cards were distributed on June 1st and branches have already received completed entries. The adult “Summer Spark” bookmarks with clear instructions, available in English and Spanish, have allowed staff to quickly promote the program and encourage all adults, especially parents, to participate for cash prizes!
- In May and June, the Albany Library hosted a 7-week workshop series that focused on a holistic approach to overall health and managing substance abuse, facilitated by Yvette Williams (C 2 Your Health LLC). She included information about nutrition and research supported health content along with featured speakers. Activities included planting with a hike at Keney Park. Over the series, there were 98 participants, many of whom sent in testimonials on how helpful and accessible they found the workshops.
- At the Barbour Library, a yoga class series and self-defense class were offered in April through the Network of the National Library of Medicine (NNLM) health grant with a total attendance of 28 for both programs. The NNLM health grant also funded materials for the Cricut T-shirt class, clay bracelet workshop, pressed flower bookmark craft time, and Bingo. On June 27th, 75 customers were also treated to a performance by The Lost tribe, an Afro-funk fusion ensemble, led by multi-percussionist Jocelyn Pleasant through the Evelyn Preston Grant. The Barbour Library customers have really enjoyed the opportunities for creativity, enrichment, and fun social engagement.

## PUBLIC SERVICES continued

- A Resource Day was held at the Camp Field Library on June 11th, featuring the program Crafting Wellness: Brain Health and Disease Risk in recognition of Alzheimer's Awareness Month. To encourage program participation, highlight community resources, and promote civic engagement, community partners including HARTFORD DECIDE\$, American Job Center, Voter Registration, and COVID Vaccine Confidence Survey tabled information and participated in the workshop. The 250th Scavenger Hunt was promoted and a customer recorded their story for the HPL & YOU Project. Freshly popped popcorn provided a festive treat for all.

- On April 18th, the Dwight Library hosted a Library of Things Petting Zoo, showcasing all the wonderful Library of Things items. Customers were able to try, play, and check them out with their library card. Lizandra Matias, Dwight Library manager, has been assisting a senior citizen for over 2 years. Due to language barriers, he was unable to understand how to go about pursuing many of the services he needed or for which he was qualified. Liz helped him apply for SNAP benefits, find a contact to get information about receiving social security, and renew his green card. He was also experiencing near homelessness. She helped him apply for the newly built Parkville Senior Housing building, The New Samaritan. The process took about a year assisting him with all the documents he needed to provide, along with interpreting some of the meetings between him and the building manager before he received an acceptance letter in June. He is now living in his new apartment with all the wonderful amenities that the senior building offers!



- Throughout this quarter, the Park St. Library @ the Lyric hosted 14 weekly workshops in partnership with A Better Way Foundation/Hartford Deportation Defense. This was a cultural arts & craft program with members of artists group Arte Popular, comprised of 14 women from various countries of the Caribbean and Latin America who have special skill sets to share with the world. The workshops included painting, jewelry making, cooking, knitting and embroidery. Community members appreciated these creative opportunities taught in Spanish. On May 19, the Park St. Library had a unique opportunity to serve as a voting site for the Dominican Republic elections.

- Also in May, the Hartford Garden Club donated and planted a beautiful perennial garden in the planting beds surrounding the Fromson Courtyard. They spent hours working on this project resulting in a wonderful green space to share with the community. They have also donated planted boxes to use for youth programming focused on gardening. We look forward to continued collaboration with them and appreciate their generous donation.





## PUBLIC SERVICES continued

- The Ropkins Library designates Wednesdays as resource days for the Clay Arsenal community. They provide Tech help, have agencies table weekly, and host voter registration drives twice monthly. Tabling agencies include Hartford Behavioral Health, American Job Center, Community Engagement HUB - Husky and Hartford Health Initiative. Connecticut Health Resources come on Tuesdays to meet with clients and stay to assist others. They continue their Art Therapy series with monthly passive and active programming centered around creativity. On June 27th, they held a mini-canvas painting session.
- All branches participated in “Passports to CT Libraries” during the month of April, stamping visitors’ “passports” as they ventured around the state visiting libraries. Hundreds of customers visited our locations, receiving stamps and giveaways.

## YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES

- Throughout the fourth quarter, Youth Librarians presented 115 programs that included HPL 250th Anniversary Parade and Summer Learning kickoff parties, eclipse viewing parties, Juneteenth, celebrating pride month, celebrating Eid Mubarak, and aeroponic gardening. Attendance increased by 59% over this period last fiscal year with 3,652 participants.
- On June 1st, celebrated the kick-off of the Summer Learning program, “Reading Through Time” at the Downtown Library. The day began with a parade around the block in honor of the Library’s 250th anniversary. Hartford’s Proud Drill, Drum and Dance Core led the way with Ann Cubberly’s giant puppets and stilt performer Melissa Craig, while families waved flags and banners they created themselves. Stopped at the Wadsworth Atheneum to pay tribute to the library’s past home and then wrapped up the parade with addresses from HPS Superintendent Leslie Torres-Rodriguez and HPL President and CEO Bridget Quinn. Over 600 people enjoyed many crafts and activities including the Pride Cafe, YOUmedia AI and VR experiences, face painting, balloon twisting, community organizations tabling, a Bollywood performance, ice cream, visits from local mascots, and more. Each branch held their own Summer Learning Kick-Off as well.
- In honor of Juneteenth, Albany Library hosted a family fun day on Saturday, June 15th featuring Double Dutch, Juneteenth story times, free giveaways of books, Juneteenth pins, bookmarks, t-shirt tie-dying, face painting, and a Juneteenth lunch catered by Taste of Decadence. 42 participants had a great time learning about the significance of Juneteenth. Barbour and Dwight also hosted Juneteenth parties in June with 75 people in attendance.





3,652

youth program  
participants

115

youth programs

- System-wide solar eclipse viewing parties took place at all the branches on April 8th. Free eclipse viewing glasses were made available to all attendees and provided fun activities. 74 people visited to view the spectacular solar eclipse at the Barbour Library. Youth Librarian Felicia Gardner presented a variety of STEM activities like edible constellations, solar eclipse chalk art, and solar system bracelets. Downtown families viewed the eclipse from the Main St. terrace. At Dwight, sixteen children learned about the eclipse and made a solar eclipse art project. Over 60 participants gathered in front of Dwight to view the eclipse.



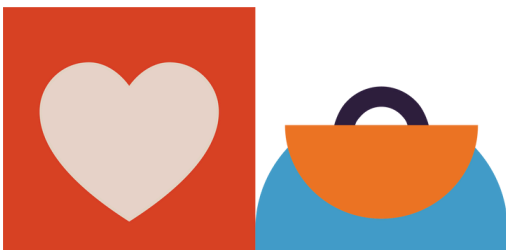
- The staff and families of Camp Field Library are very happy about the new puppet theater constructed and donated by Fresh Start Pallet Products. It is beautiful and getting so much use by the children. Youth Librarian Miles Dalrymple is building the felt and puppet collection to be used with the theater at story times.
- Dwight Library welcomed new Youth Services Librarian Erin Williams to the HPL team this past quarter. She has already formed a relationship with the Pequeñin Children's Multicultural Readiness Academy and hosted story times for over 50 preschoolers at the branch on multiple occasions.
- At the Ropkins Library, Youth Librarian Assistant Linda Montanez registered 339 students at SAND School for the Summer Learning Program.



- Boundless Library @ West Middle Librarian Denise Martens worked with the school's after school programs to provide programming on a weekly basis. Students in 2nd through 5th grade from the Boys and Girls Club and ConnectiKids engaged in programming with the Lord Hop Bot Ozobot kits. 90% of the students had not heard of or used Ozobots or any coding toy/robot before. This was a unique experience for the students available because of the Boundless partnership, and they were thrilled! They paid attention to the lessons, and then experimented on their own with blank paper. Additionally, now the Boys & Girls Club as well as ConnectiKids are aware they can use the HPL Library of Things to enhance their students' experiences.



- The Leap Into Learning Home Daycare Provider program wrapped up its second year in June. Ten daycares and 133 children, five and under benefited from the services provided by Leap Into Learning Coordinator Nichole Hawkins. The participants benefitted from high-quality enrichment programming with immersive literacy-rich learning experiences like supercharged story times, developing centers' learning environment to ensure it is print-rich with diverse books, and are equipped with age-appropriate learning toys and games to stimulate children's development. Partnerships with Read to Grow, United Way Dolly Parton Imagination Library, and UCONN Husky Nutrition Services, families added to their home libraries and learned how to help their children prepare for kindergarten and beyond.



## TEEN SERVICES

- Throughout the 4th quarter, Teen and Young Adult Services presented 298 programs to 3,374 participants, an amazing 83% increase in the number of programs and a 133% increase in attendance over this period last year. One of the standout events of the quarter was the Virtual Reality (VR) Creed Boxing Tournament organized by Albany YOUmedia in May. This innovative event brought students from Albany, Barbour, and Park libraries together to compete virtually via Zoom. The tournament was a successful test of cross-branch programming, fostering friendly competition and generating enthusiasm for future events.
- In April and May, YOUmedia Manager Marc Pettersen hosted VR workshops at several high schools in Hartford, reaching 370 students across more than 20 classes. These workshops successfully introduced VR technology to the students, with nearly 100% engagement.
- YOUmedia welcomed a new mentor to the team, Jahmal Reyes in April. Jahmal brings a wealth of expertise in drones, photography, and video editing. He has primarily worked with the Boundless program, where his contributions have significantly bolstered the program's success. Student-driven photoshoots were conducted both indoors and outdoors, giving students valuable hands-on experience both as subjects and behind the cameras. These sessions allowed students to explore different photography techniques and settings, enhancing their practical knowledge and skills. Jahmal also assisted Hartford High seniors with their capstone projects.
- Esports-related programming consistently attracted six to eight unique participants per session. Three "Main Events" were held – NBA 2k, Madden 24, and Smash Bros. tournaments. Additionally, two PCs were set up for team training in games like Apex Legends and Overwatch. Our Main Events introduced shoutcasting and streaming programming alongside esports tournaments. The aim is for students to eventually take on roles in full esports production, ideally hosting community events in the CCC room by 1st QT 2025.
- This past quarter marked a significant milestone as we concluded both the school year and the fifth and final year of the Boundless Enrichment Program at Hartford High School. Over its duration, this program has been a beacon of support and growth, serving 463 students with a rich blend of educational and recreational activities tailored to students' developmental needs. In the last year, the program shifted to focus on workforce development and driver's education in particular: 120 students were enrolled in the 21st CCLC program at HPHS, and of these students 12 earned their permit, 2 earned their license, and 190 hours of driver's education were completed.



# PROGRAMMING & OUTREACH



24

in-person programs

1,061

in-person attendees

8

live virtual programs

406

live virtual attendees

## PROGRAMMING

### Baby Grand Jazz 2024

The 20th season of Baby Grand Jazz at Hartford Public Library, made possible by the Kaman Foundation, was an outstanding success, marked by high levels of engagement and enthusiasm from the community. This milestone season offered a rich array of bands that not only entertained but also inspired customers. Every performance was live streamed to HPL's Facebook page and YouTube channel.

The 20th season concluded with a remarkable performance by the talented Haneef Nelson, whose captivating jazz performance left a lasting impression on all attendees. Haneef's show was a fitting finale, encapsulating the spirit and diversity of this landmark season

This jazz group blends history with today and creates a sound that's both timeless and classic. Haneef N. Nelson works as a composer/arranger, bandleader, sideman, musical curator, and educator, based out of Hartford, CT. His earliest education in Jazz came from the Jazzmobile where he studied with Eddie Preston, Cecil Bridgewater, and Donald Byrd among others. He also studied with Dave Burns at the Long Island High School of the Arts and then attended The Hartt School to study with Jackie McLean, Raymond Williams, Steve Davis, Nat Reeves, and more. He has taught at The Hartt School, UMASS Amherst, Amherst College, Keene State College and currently teaches at the University of Rhode Island.

One of the most notable achievements of this season was the increased diversity in audience. There was a significant growth in the variety of attendees, with a more balanced representation of different age groups and ethnic backgrounds. This shift reflects ongoing efforts to create inclusive and accessible programs that resonate with a broad segment of the community.



Haneef N. Nelson, trumpet/flugelhorn | Nathan Edwards, tenor/soprano sax | Andrew Wilcox, piano/vibraphone | Matt Dwonszyk, base | Akin Hobson, drums



## PROGRAMMING & OUTREACH continued

### Stress Awareness Month

April is recognized as Stress Awareness Month, a time dedicated to raising awareness about the impact of stress on mental and physical health. By promoting a greater understanding of stress and its effects, Stress Awareness Month aims to encourage healthier lifestyles and improve overall well-being.

In honor of Stress Awareness Month, the programming department held an event at Albany: "Stress and Marginalized Communities". This program was one of the most impactful initiatives of this quarter. This program was designed to address the unique stressors faced by marginalized communities and to provide valuable resources and strategies for managing and mitigating stress. The facilitator focused on stress in the workplace and how it impacts marginalized communities and shared healthy ways to manage stress. A massage therapist gave 10 free 10–15-minute chair massages and each participant left with a mug and made their own loose leaf tea bags.



### James Baldwin Centennial Celebration

This year marks the centennial of the birth of the iconic writer and social critic James Baldwin. To honor his profound legacy and contributions to literature and civil rights, Hartford Public Library organized a series of James Baldwin public readings. These events took place at Semilla Cafe, UCONN Hartford, and the Downtown Library. Each read-aloud featured selections from Baldwin's powerful works, bringing his eloquent reflections on race, identity, and justice to life. The events were well-received, attracting a diverse audience eager to celebrate Baldwin's enduring influence and engage in meaningful discussions about his timeless themes.



### Saukiog Harvest Committee STOMP Event

The Saukiog Harvest Committee recently hosted an invigorating STOMP event at Semilla Cafe. This dynamic gathering celebrated Indigenous culture through traditional drumming, dancing, and storytelling. Attendees were captivated by the rhythmic performances and the powerful sense of community fostered during the event. The STOMP not only highlighted the rich cultural heritage of Indigenous people but also provided an opportunity for participants to engage with and appreciate these timeless traditions in a lively and welcoming setting. Guests were able to enjoy a meal catered by the Three Sisters Restaurant.

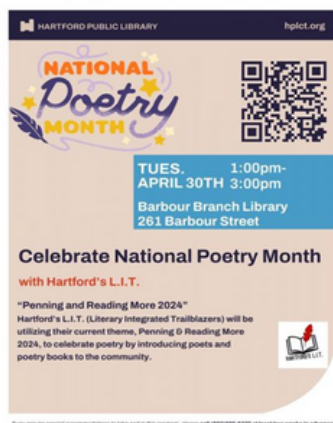
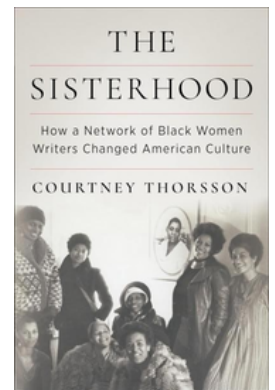
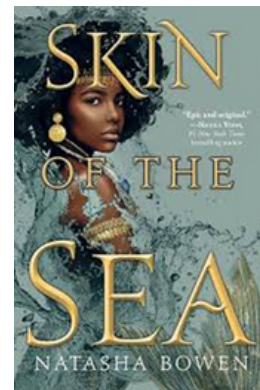


## PROGRAMMING & OUTREACH continued

### Hartford Reads in Color

Hartford Reads in Color is a vibrant virtual book club dedicated to celebrating and exploring literature by authors of color. This engaging program fosters meaningful discussions on diverse narratives and themes, providing participants with a platform to delve into stories that reflect a wide range of cultural experiences. Each month, members gather online to share insights, reflect on the selected book, and connect with one another, all while broadening their understanding of different perspectives and voices in literature.

April's book was "Sisterhood: How a Network of Black Women Writers Changed American Culture" by Courtney Thorsson. May and June, they read "Skin of the Sea" by Natasha Bowen.



### National Poetry Month

In April, HPL celebrated National Poetry Month with a special event at the Barbour Library. The festivities included a poetry writing workshop led by Hartford's L.I.T., a local literary organization dedicated to nurturing creative expression. The workshop provided participants with the opportunity to explore their poetic talents, learn new writing techniques, and share their work in a supportive environment. This event not only highlighted the importance of poetry in our cultural landscape but also encouraged community members to find their unique voices and express themselves through the art of poetry.

### Jazz 201

The Jazz 201 program, held from May 6th to July 1st, consisted of an eight-part lecture series on the history of Jazz, featuring in-depth workshops led by four esteemed local musicians. The series was held every Monday night in the Center for Contemporary Culture at the Hartford Public Library's Downtown Library. The program aimed to deepen participants' understanding and appreciation of Jazz music through interactive and educational sessions. Community members, musicians, and jazz lovers of all ages and backgrounds attended the program.

*Expert Musicians:* HPL had four talented local musicians (Haneef Nelson, Zaccai Curtis, Dr. Emmett Goods, and Alta DeChamplain), who are not only skilled performers but also passionate educators. Each musician brought unique perspectives and expertise, enriching the learning experience for participants.

*Attendee:* "I have always been appreciative of the Jazz series on Sunday afternoons during the winter. But I would like to add the recent series of jazz lectures on Monday evenings were outstanding and I am very very much thankful that HPL presented these programs."

**JOB WELL DONE!!!!**



## PROGRAMMING & OUTREACH continued

### Empanadas and Mindfulness

In May, HPL hosted "Empanadas and Mindfulness," a unique program celebrating both Haitian Heritage Month and Mental Health Awareness Month. This event combined culinary delight with mental wellness, offering participants the chance to enjoy delicious empanadas while engaging in mindfulness practices. Through guided meditation sessions and discussions on mental health, attendees explored techniques for stress relief and emotional well-being. The program honored Haitian culture and traditions while emphasizing the importance of mental health, creating a harmonious blend of cultural appreciation and self-care.



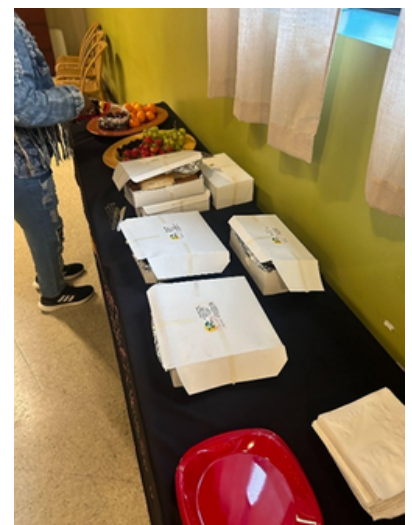
### Hartford Art Connect: Chat & Chew

Hartford Public Library has partnered with the 224 EcoSpace to engage with Hartford artists through a series of Hartford Art Connect programs. This new collaboration kicked off with a "Chat and Chew" event, where local artists gathered to eat, network, and brainstorm. The event provided a vibrant space for creative minds to connect, share ideas, and discuss potential collaborations. This initiative aims to foster a supportive artistic community in Hartford, offering ongoing opportunities for artists to engage, inspire, and grow together.

### Hartford's L.I.T. Writers Symposium

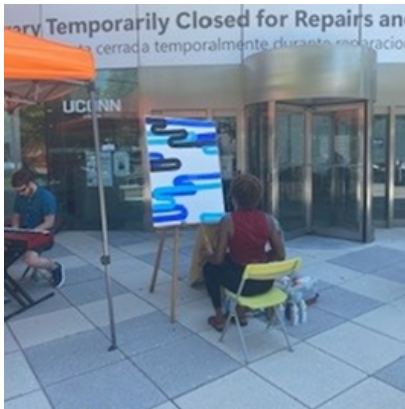
Hartford's L.I.T. recently held a two-part Writers Symposium that brought together aspiring and established writers from the community. Part one of the symposium took place at Hartford Public Library, where participants engaged in workshops and discussions on various aspects of writing and publishing. Part two was held at Semilla Cafe, offering a more intimate setting for deeper conversations, networking, and creative exchanges, while also celebrating James Baldwin's literary works. This event series provided valuable insights, fostered connections, and inspired participants to advance their writing journeys.

"The Symposium/Panel & Workshop celebrated Black Women Writers changing American culture, through support of literary craft, sisterhood and networking. In addition, actively taking up space together writing and using generative writing prompts curated by Hartford's L.I.T. team. Passages and quotes of June Jordan, Alice Walker, Ntozake Shange, Audre Lorde and others will be analyzed and explored. This gathering is in celebration of *The Sisterhood; How a Network of Black Women Writers Changed American Culture* book. This gathering is intended for women writers and enthusiasts." -Hartford's L.I.T.





## PROGRAMMING & OUTREACH continued



### Juneteenth

HPL celebrated Juneteenth with festivities that included a live painting session, a James Baldwin read-aloud, and a captivating performance by the Haneef Nelson Quintet made possible by the Evelyn W. Preston Memorial Fund. The live painting captured the spirit of the day by honoring James Baldwin's centennial, and the Baldwin read-aloud highlighted powerful themes of freedom and resilience. The musical performance by the Haneef Nelson Quintet brought the celebration to life, creating an atmosphere of joy and reflection. This event honored the significance of Juneteenth and brought the community together in a celebration of culture and heritage.

**Jazz Education: Cultural vs. Academic Learning**

**PANELISTS**

**MODERATED BY**

**Haneef Nelson**  
Trumpet Player,  
Professor of Jazz  
at WCSU and  
UMass Amherst

**Avery Sharpe**  
Bassist,  
Educator,  
Former Professor  
of Jazz at  
Williams College  
and UMass  
Amherst

**Jocelyn Pleasant**  
Drummer,  
Performer,  
Professor of Jazz  
at UConn

**Jonathan Barber**  
Drummer,  
Professor of Jazz  
at UConn

**Topic and Discussion**

**Historical Differences in Learning**  
How has the way jazz is taught and studied evolved?

**Is there a Difference in Musicianship Now vs. Then?**  
What has been/is being produced?

**Tuesday, June 25th 2024**  
**6:00-8:00 PM**  
Hartford Public Library Albany Ave Branch  
1250 Albany Avenue  
Hartford, CT 06102

### Jazz Activation 2024

Made possible by the Greater Hartford Arts Council, the Jazz Activation program, curated by fellow Haneef Nelson, is a dynamic series of events and performances taking place throughout Hartford. The program featured panel discussions, jazz performances, African drumming sessions, and a special presentation from an Indigenous artist. In total, 18 events and programs were held, with six taking place at Hartford Public Library. These events celebrated the rich cultural tapestry of jazz, engaging the community through diverse and immersive experiences. The Jazz Activation program not only highlighted the historical and cultural significance of jazz but also fostered a deeper appreciation for the arts within Hartford.

**MATT DECHAMPLAIN PRESENTS**

**THE GENIUS OF FATS WALLER**

**12PM, June 28th 2024**

Downtown Library Center for Contemporary Culture,  
500 Main St, Hartford, CT 06103

In June, Hartford Public Library hosted two enriching events as part of the Jazz Activation program. The first was a panel discussion on Jazz Education: Cultural vs. Academic Learning at the Albany library, featuring esteemed musicians Haneef Nelson, Avery Sharp, Jonathan Barber, and Jocelyn Pleasant. This engaging discussion explored the different approaches to jazz education and their impact on musicians and the community. The second event was a lecture demonstration titled "The Genius of Fats Waller" by Matt DeChamplain in the CCC. This insightful presentation delved into the life and musical brilliance of Fats Waller, offering attendees a deeper appreciation for his contributions to jazz. Both events highlighted the library's commitment to cultural enrichment and education.

## PROGRAMMING & OUTREACH continued

### World Refugee Day

In June, Hartford Public Library celebrated World Refugee Month with a vibrant event on the patio. The celebration honored people from all over the world, featuring giveaways, refreshments, and multicultural music, creating a welcoming atmosphere for all attendees. The event also included an information table on obtaining a U.S. passport and the HUSKY HUB, which provided valuable resources and support for refugees and immigrants. This celebration recognized the resilience and contributions of refugees, fostering a sense of community and offering practical assistance to those navigating their new lives in Hartford.



### HPL STUDIOS

HPL Studios in partnership with HPATV and Alonzo Beckett ran a Video Production workshop. This workshop filled initial registration and was well attended. This course ended with a capstone screening party of work made by students of the workshop along with a screening/discussion of *Thoughts Are Things*.



### HPL Studios Infrastructure

*Public, Educational and Governmental Programming and Educational Technology Investment Account (PEGPETIA) Grant Program.*

HPL Studios successfully applied for PEGPETIA 2024 and was awarded \$23k. HPL Studios is currently in the process of securing the items from this funding and organizing future workshops set to begin in late summer/early fall.





## PROGRAMMING & OUTREACH continued



**Community Outreach and Future Programming**  
HPL Studios is in communication with community partner The Bushnell about a concert showcasing our The Beat 2023 series artists this coming September.



HPL Studios presented this year at the PLA 2024 Conference. This quarter, HPL Studios' Production and Audio Managers created and refined both the visual and presentational aspects of the program entitled Film Production and Storytelling as a Form of Community Dialogue, Engagement and Advocacy.

This presentation was well attended and will lead to future collaboration with other library systems across North America.

### Virtual Reality Thoughts Are Things Community Screenings

Central CT State University (CCSU) collaborated with the Manager of Production to offer V.R. Screenings of Thoughts Are Things to students, faculty, and elementary students who receive tutoring at the Literacy, Elementary, & Early Childhood Education's Literacy Center. The Manager of Production was surprised to receive a Library Hero Award at a ceremony that followed the screening.



## PROGRAMMING & OUTREACH continued



In celebration of Hartford Public Library's 250th, HPL Studios has continued its work on the 250 Stories project. A few notable participants this quarter include President Berger-Sweeney from Trinity College, CCSU education professor Jesse Turner, and councilman Amilcar Hernandez.

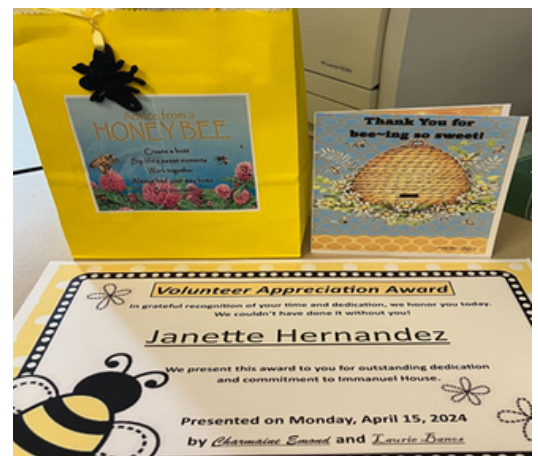
### **LIBRARY ON WHEELS OUTREACH**

The LOW completed a busy schedule of visits to diverse community partners throughout the city. LOW brought to each site a large collection of books, resources and services, delivered special requested books and encouraged the public to also participate in events at their local branch.

The Immanuel House Senior Residents recognized HPL's LOW team and a few other partners at their April Volunteer Appreciation Award launch.

The team was very grateful and honored that the residents and the staff recognized them.

April at Trinity SAMBA Fest with the bilingual outreach team English, Spanish and Portuguese.





## PROGRAMMING & OUTREACH continued

May 2024 Community Library boxes visit Broad Street, Garden Street, Charter Oak Ave.



June 2024 weekly visit to West Middle School and North End Farmers Market, Hartford HealthCare Community Block Party, Hartford Hospital Health and Wellness and Urban League.



West Middle School



North End Farmers Market



Community Block Party with partner Favor Inc.



Hartford Health Care Health and Wellness Day

# PROGRAMMING & OUTREACH continued

## TECHNICAL SERVICES

### Top Databases Used FY24 Q4

Database	April	May	June	Total
<b>BookFlix</b>	21,724	45,378	17,193	84,295
<b>World Book</b>	6,810	23,062	2,443	32,315
<b>Tumblebooks</b>	1,321	2,536	1,402	5,259
<b>ScienceFlix</b>	1,619	1,059	245	2,923
<b>ProQuest Historical Newspapers: Hartford Courant (1764--1993) (Historical)</b>	699	536	217	1,452
<b>Universal Class</b>	206	464	621	1,291
<b>Totals</b>	32,379	73,035	22,121	127,535

## POPULAR GENRES

2,750

picture books

1,751

kid reads

1,744

fantasy & scifi

1,723

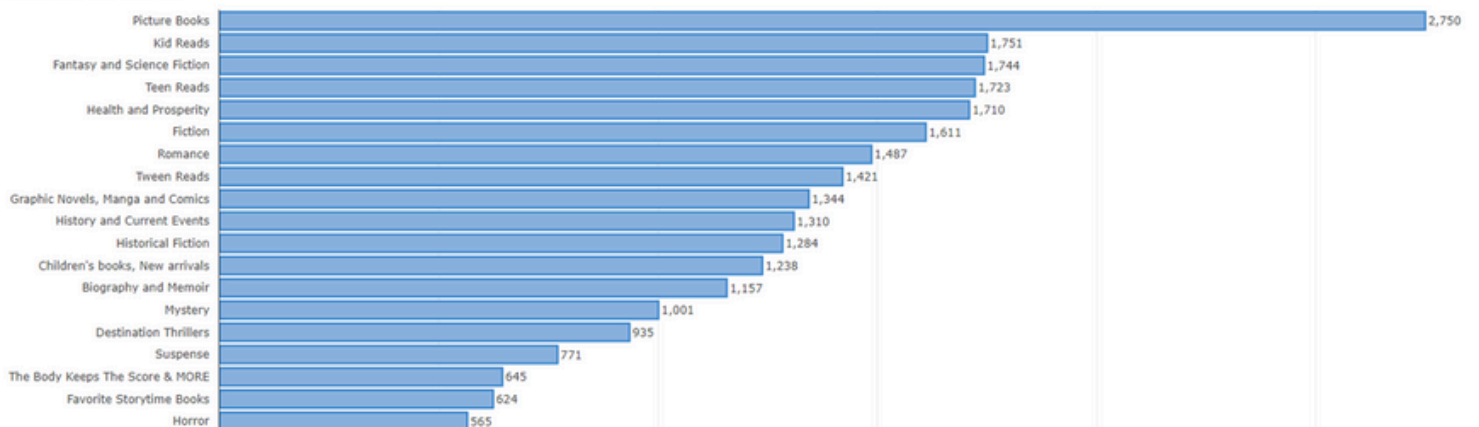
teen reads

1,710

health &  
prosperity

### Popular Lists

Patrons have seen these lists





## PROGRAMMING & OUTREACH continued

### Top 20 Circulating Books/Magazines FY24 Q4

Title	Author	Audience	Item Type	Number of Checkouts
Jujutsu Kaisen	Akutami, Gege	TEEN	Manga	56
Future English for results (Intro)	Nishio, Yvonne Wong	ADULT	Book	43
Future English for results (1)	Fuchs, Marjorie	ADULT	Book	39
People weekly		ADULT	Magazine	39
Naruto	Kishimoto, Masashi	TEEN	Manga	38
Us weekly		ADULT	Magazine	38
Attack on Titan	Isayama, Hajime	TEEN	Manga	37
Sonic the Hedgehog	Flynn, Ian	SCHOOL	Book	36
Blue exorcist	Katō, Kazue	TEEN	Manga	33
Phoebe and her unicorn series	Simpson, Dana	YOUTH	Graphic Novels	30
Dog Man	Pilkey, Dav	YOUTH	Graphic Novels	27
Future English for results (2)	Lynn, Sarah	ADULT	Book	25
Spy x family	Endo, Tatsuya	TEEN	Manga	25
Bleach	Kubo, Tite	TEEN	Manga	24
Big Nate series	Peirce, Lincoln	YOUTH	Graphic Novels	23
Blue Lock	Kaneshiro, Muneyuki	TEEN	Manga	22
Fire force	Ōkubo, Atsushi	TEEN	Manga	22
Amulet	Kibuishi, Kazu	YOUTH	Graphic Novels	21
Dragon Ball Super	Toriyama, Akira	TEEN	Manga	20
Black clover	Tabata, Yūki	TEEN	Manga	17

## PROGRAMMING & OUTREACH continued

Digital Media eResource circulation in FY24 Q4 is up 3% from FY24 Q3

- FY24 Q3: 9,359
- FY24 Q4: 9,613
- Increase of 254

Database eResource circulation in FY24 Q4 is up 34% from FY24 Q3

- FY24 Q3: 98,082
- FY24 Q4: 131,756
- Increase of: 33,674

Number of interactions with our catalog this quarter: 3,911

- Interactions include hovering on covers to read summaries, clicking "read more" to expand text, opening lightboxes, clicking within lightboxes, and clicking on "Check Availability."

Museum Passes have seen an 20% increase in circulation from FY23 to FY24

- FY23: 1,329
- FY24: 1,598
- Increase of 269

Freegal Streams have seen an 31% increase in circulation from FY24 Q3 to FY24 Q4

- FY24 Q3: 2,174
- FY24 Q4: 2,844
- Increase of 670

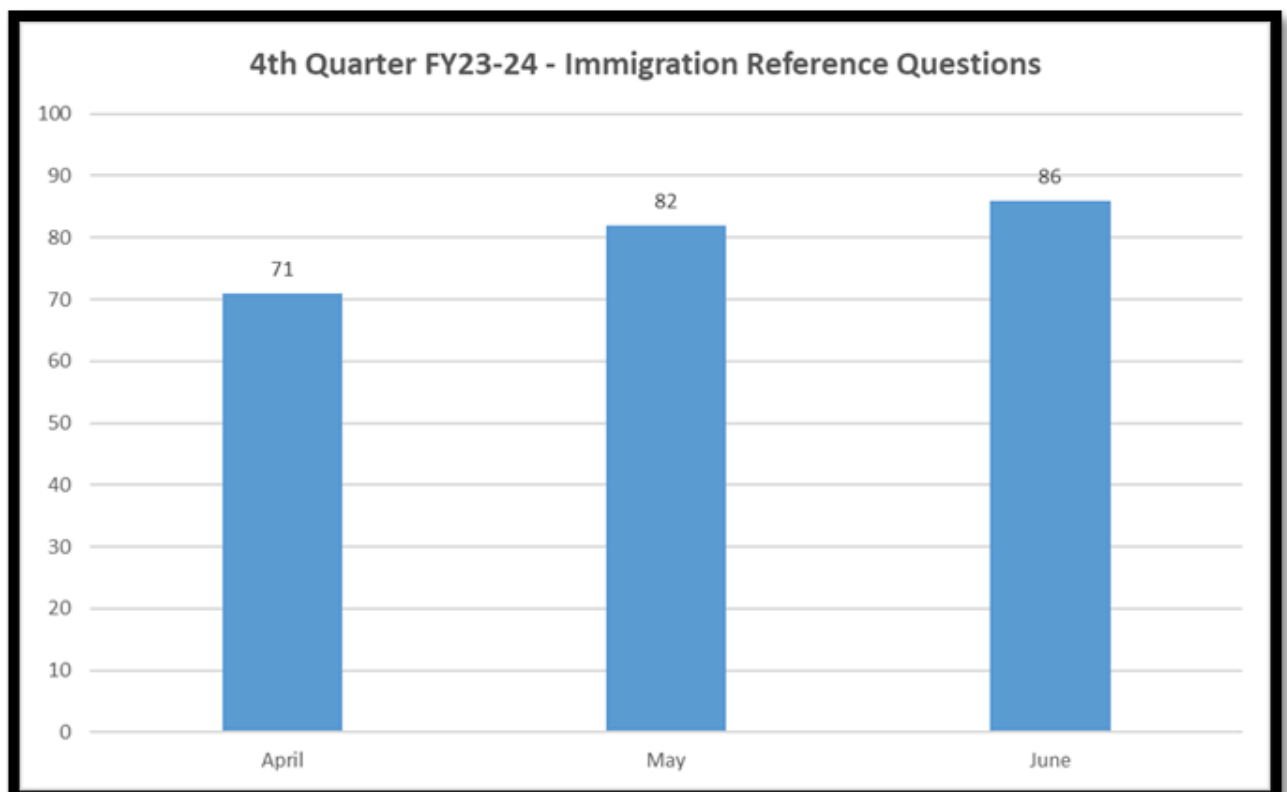
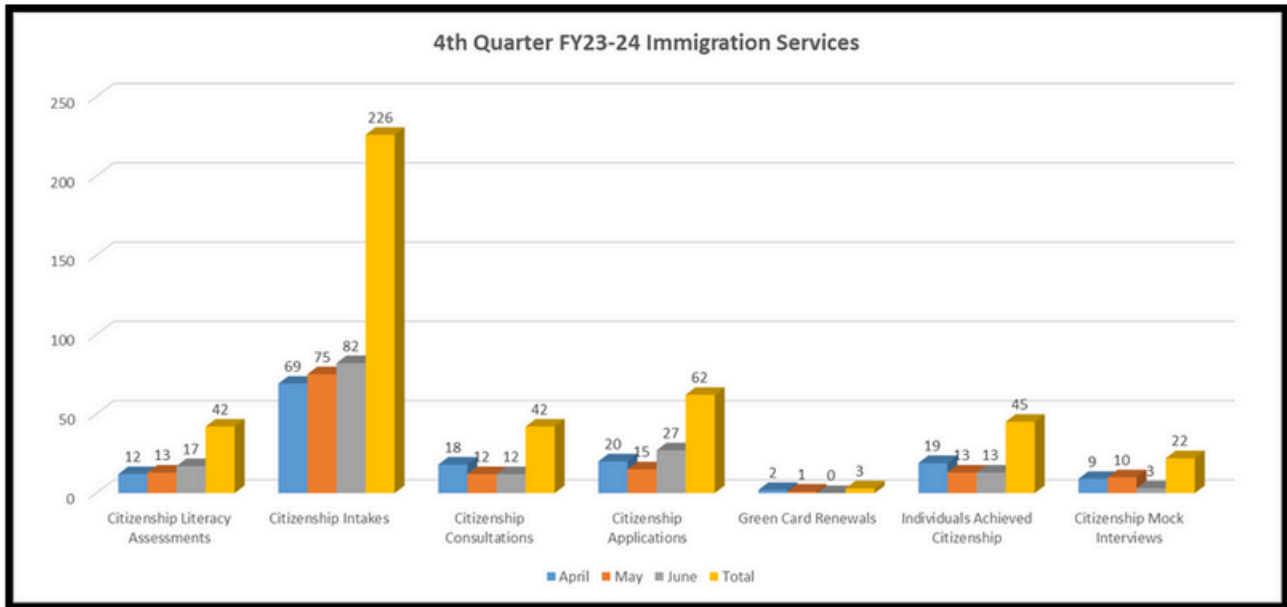


# THE AMERICAN PLACE

## THE AMERICAN PLACE

### Citizenship & Immigration Services

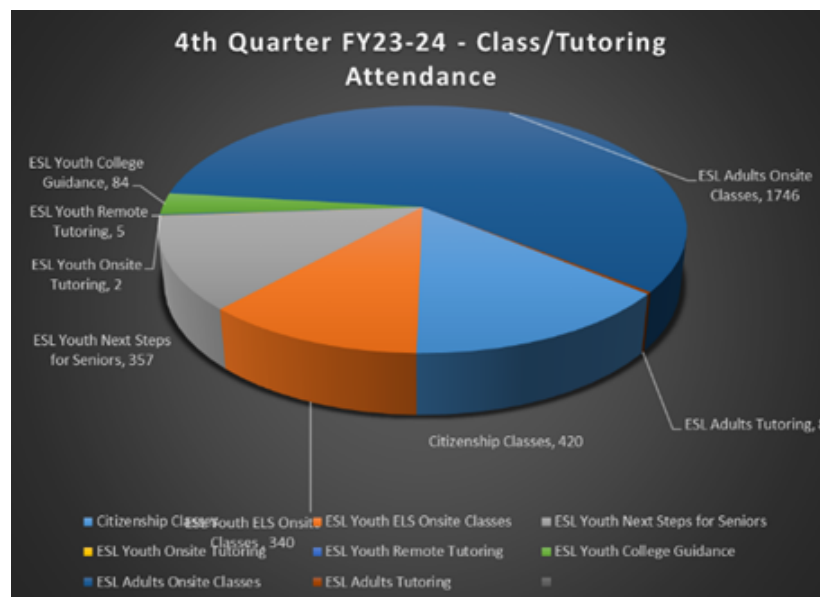
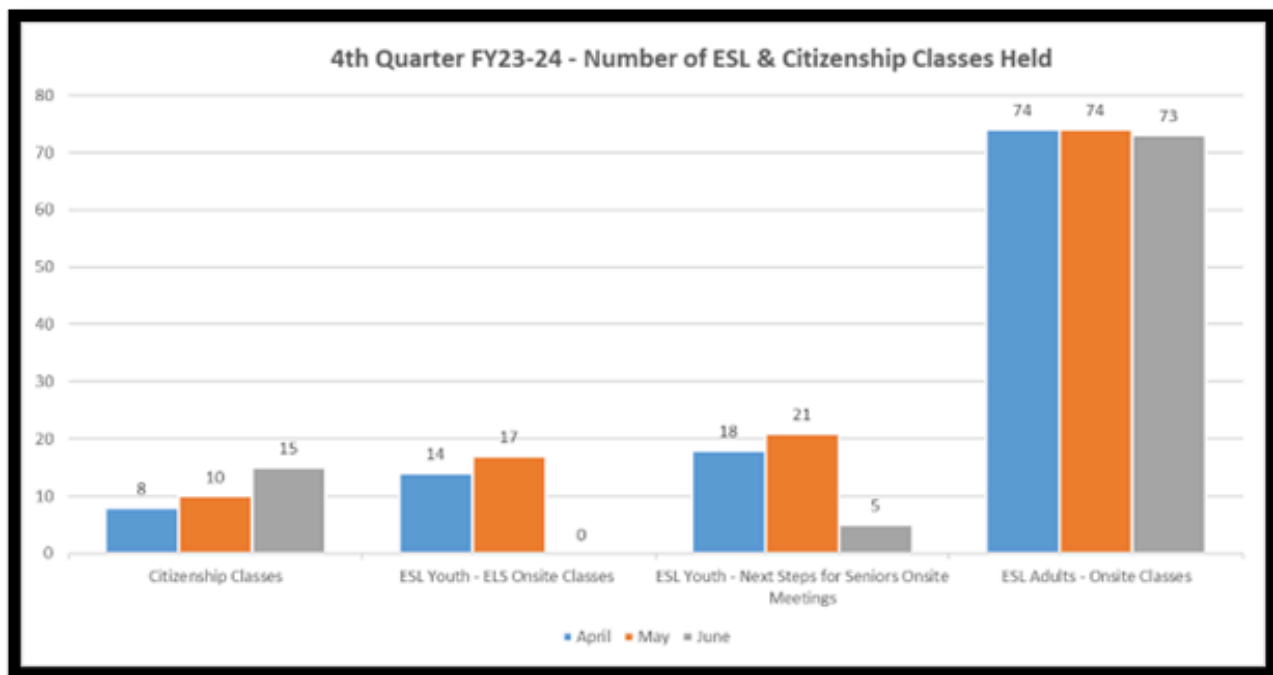
The American Place staff responded to 239 immigration reference questions during this quarter. Two-hundred and twenty-six (226) immigrants were screened for Citizenship eligibility. Immigration counselors conducted 42 legal consultations and prepared and submitted 62 citizenship applications. Adult education staff, volunteers, and pro bono attorneys conducted 22 citizenship mock naturalization interviews. Forty-five (45) clients achieved U.S. Citizenship.





## ESL & Citizenship Education

The Spring cycle of ESL classes ended in June. A total of 10 ESL classes ran weekdays, weeknights, and Saturday mornings between Central and West Middle; two of these classes were offered in partnership with Hartford Adult Education. Prospective students who were interested but unable to attend a registration session were offered “English for All,” a blended learning course on Wednesday mornings using English Discoveries. During 23-24, ESL classes enrolled a total of 237 individual students equaling 307 total enrollments. The ESL program offered a total of 1,320 instructional hours! A total of 71.8% of students were post-tested, with 59% making score gains and 40.6% achieving measurable skills gains, meeting State Department of Education expected outcomes. The bulk of ESL students are between the ages of 25 to 44 and the vast majority are Hispanic/Latino. A total of 33 citizenship classes were held with cumulative attendance of 420 students. Classes were held at Central, West Middle, and the Old State House.



## THE AMERICAN PLACE continued



Students enrolled in our ESL youth programs, Opportunities for All and English Learner Success, had a productive 4th quarter! In addition to participating in tutoring and ESL academic and enrichment classes, they volunteered with library programs and Midwest Foodbank, registered for driver's permit test, and took a field trip to Riverfront Recapture. The Youth also partook in watching the Sanctuary City play at Theaterworks and a creative arts workshop by Inside ARTside. During the month of May, most Seniors completed their college admissions and financial aid application and once decisions were made, were assisted with the process of making deposits, taking placements tests, and signing up for new student orientations and advising appointments in order to register for fall classes. Forty-one students were accepted and enrolled in colleges and universities across the state and beyond. Over 30 of our students were recognized for achieving the Seal of Biliteracy designation, with 4 receiving it for TRI-literacy! The program year ended with a fabulous English Learner Family Celebration with approximately 150 students, parents, family members, school personnel, volunteers, and staff in attendance. The English Learner Success program received a positive evaluation from the State grant's Quality Advisor.

### **Career Pathways Initiative:**

#### **Servsafe Courses**

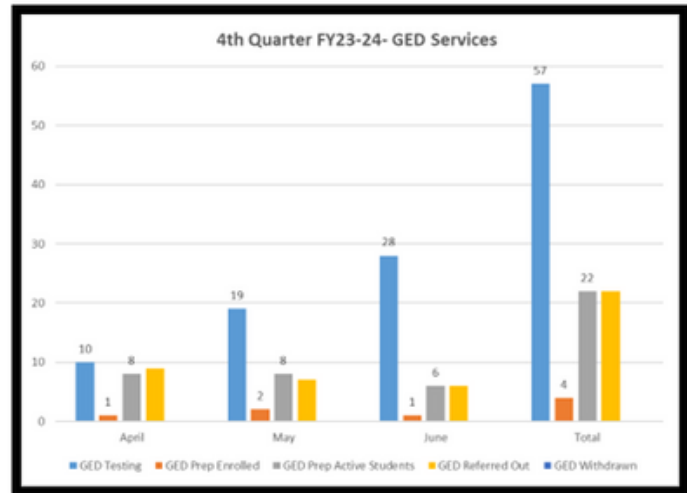
TAP is currently offering four strands of Servsafe courses, Food Handler, Food Manager, Alcohol Server, and Allergens. Programs are administered in a hybrid environment – instructional sessions are offered both onsite and remotely to meet varying childcare and work schedule needs. Students also receive 1:1 and small group coaching and wraparound services. Earning Servsafe certificates allows students to retain employment, gain employment, and/or achieve upward mobility and growth.

## Crossroads to Connectivity Program

The Crossroads to Connectivity program continues to support adults in their journey to education and training attainment. TAP continues to lend devices to students participating in TAP's various education and workforce programs. During this quarter, 25 digital devices were loaned through Crossroads to Connectivity.

## GED Preparation Services

GED Preparation Services were offered both onsite and remotely during the last quarter. Prospective students are oriented to the various routes to earning a high school credential and referred out if another program best suits their needs and experiences.

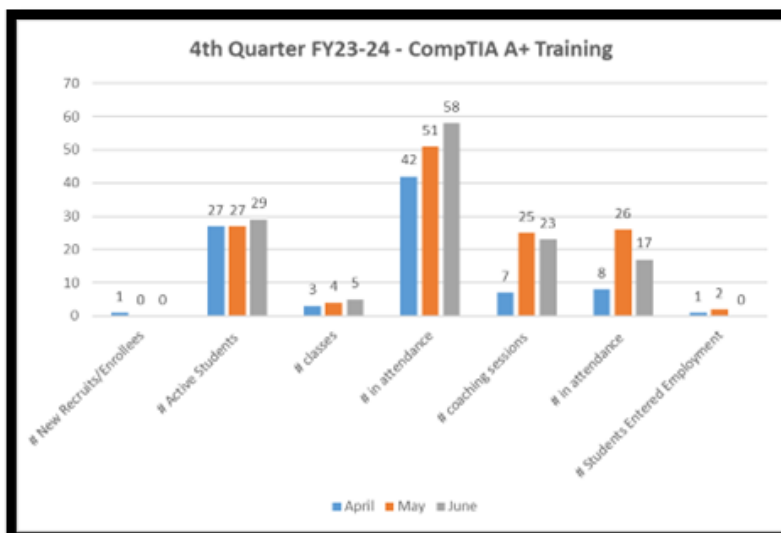


## Pearson Vue, GED, and Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment Systems (CASAS) Testing

A total of 57 GED Tests and 189 IT, Insurance, and other industry certification tests were administered through Pearson Vue, an international testing company, during the fourth quarter. During the month of June, the Pearson Vue Testing Center located at Central Library was reactivated and reopened, offering GED and other testing services at a second HPL location. A total of 388 CASAS reading and math assessments were administered to students enrolled in TAP's programs.

## Math Tutoring

Math tutoring was offered in small groups to youth and adults, onsite and remotely. A total of 41 tutoring sessions were held.



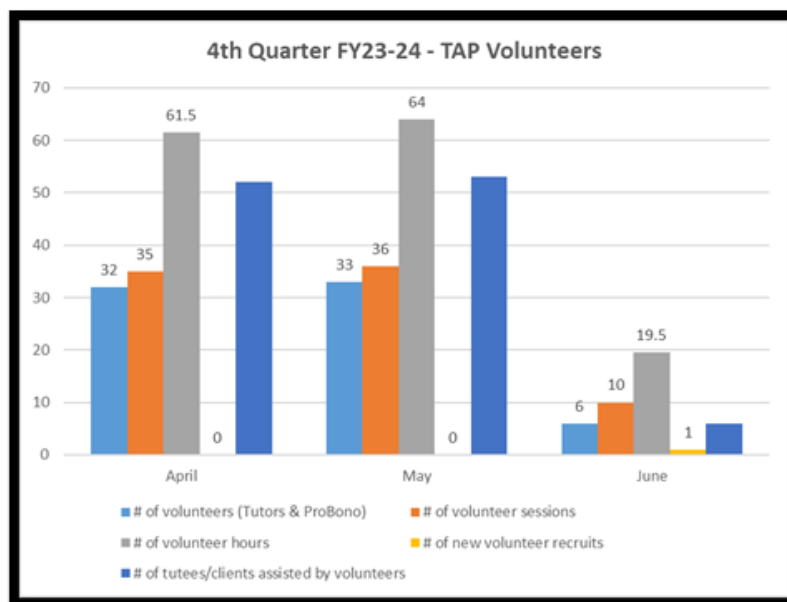


## CompTIA A+ Networking Academy for Youth (18 to 24 years old)

The program offers computer networking certificate training, job-shadowing experience, and a paid internship opportunity. Currently, there are 29 active youth enrolled in the program. Twelve classes were held in the fourth quarter with an average of 13 students in attendance per session. Additionally, 55 coaching sessions were offered supporting student learning. Six students worked a total of 1,142 internship hours at library branches, ESL digital literacy classes, the Digital Library Lab, and Metro Hartford Innovation Services. Seven students passed their certification exams and earned their CompTIA A+ Certification, 3 students entered employment, and 4 college applications were submitted.

## Volunteer Support

TAP has received continuous support from volunteers. During this quarter, 71 volunteers contributed 145 hours of volunteer support, including pro-bono attorneys. Volunteer citizenship coaches provided 26.5 hours of small group/individual tutoring in 17 sessions supporting 8 students. The pro-bono attorneys provided 29.5 hours over 19 sessions supporting TAP clients with application preparation, mock interviews or application review. Volunteer tutors provided 84 hours of support to ESL Youth, onsite and remotely.



## Financial Literacy Classes

The Financial Literacy program is offered in partnership with Bank On and Liberty Bank, and funded by an IMLS grant. Participants learn about savings, budgeting, credit-building, and finances through a 6-week course and receive financial coaching at no cost. During the month of June, the financial literacy team worked in partnership with the Adult ESL team to register English language learners for a Financial Literacy class geared towards English language learners.



# CULTURE & COMMUNICATIONS

## HARTFORD HISTORY CENTER

### Increased engagement with the arts and humanities through access and exposure

The June 1 Summer Learning Kick-Off began with an HPL 250th parade. Participants were enthusiastic and many wore costumes. The parade route included a stop at Wadsworth Atheneum where we were welcomed back to HPL's first home. The HPL 250th Hartford History Scavenger Hunt also launched on June 1st. The scavenger hunt is proving to be popular with almost all 500 printed versions of the card handed out by the end of June. The scavenger hunt card is available online and in just-released HPL 250th magazine. We hope for great participation between now and August 17th.



### Deeper understanding of self and connection to community by learning Hartford history

In the 4th quarter, the HHC Annex at Ropkins welcomed 22 researchers and 14 Visitors. Over 82 reference questions were received by phone and email and answered. 430 collection items were used during the 4th quarter to answer reference questions and for researchers' use.

The HHC Annex was relatively quiet in April and May. It was bustling in June with researchers working on a variety of topics that included Hartford Police/Community Relations in the 1970's; Connecticut River Flooding and Sewage Overflow and Community Impact in the 1970's; Development of Hartford City Playgrounds in the first half of the 20th Century; Loss of Affordable Housing Stock due to Construction of I84; Creation of Bushnell Park and Eminent Domain; and, Pre-English Settlement Indigenous Population.



# CULTURE & COMMUNICATIONS

## Preserving Hartford's history for future generations

Highlights from the archives this quarter are:

### Addition of HHC oral histories to the Connecticut Digital Archive (CTDA).

- Edna Negron
- Glaisma Perez Silva
- Hartford '67: Steve Harris, Charles Teale, Dr. Benjamin Foster, Jr., Patricia Kelly, Willie Mann

### Uploading of Hartford Times clippings to the CTDA

- Business and Banking topics

Partnered with Connecticut Archives Online (at Western Connecticut State University) to display our finding aids on their site. This aggregation of finding aids from across the state increases the profile of the HHC holdings.

### HHC holdings

Continued working on a finding aid for the most recent Town and City Clerk accession.

## Work completed by HHC's metadata specialist

HHC Collections in the CTDA

- Continued to test functionality and analyze results of uploads, edits and display in the new CTDA platform, reported on observations and issues to CTDA team via emails and ongoing Slack conversation with team and other early adopters. Continued to trouble-shoot problems with migrated items that impeded workflow and issues with new ingests via spreadsheets, engaging in back-and-forth with CTDA staff.
- Successfully uploaded 432 Hartford Times compound objects (1296 metadata records + relevant images) via spreadsheet ingest after troubleshooting issues and making adjustments to the process per CTDA discussions.
- Requested access to Hartford History Center CTDA resources access and use statistics from 2020 to present from CTDA staff, who added a feature to the HHC/HPL CTDA home page that supports targeted generation of statistics by specific time periods in a variety of views.

Other:

- Maintained communication with Hartford Public High School Museum & Archives archivist Luke Williams regarding status of new CTDA delayed rollout; the new site launch took place on May 15, and all his concerns regarding HPHSMA yearbooks thumbnails were addressed satisfactorily.

## THE ARTWALK

After due deliberation of more than 25 submissions with volunteer judges Olivia White and Will K. Wilkins weighing in, the Artwalk 2025-26 exhibition calendar was set in late April. Artists showing when the ArtWalk reopens in 2025 are: Traé Brooks; group show curated by Joe Bun Keo (both shows were delayed, originally set to open in winter/spring of 2023); and newly chosen Tatyana Nadgor; Katharine Owens; Patricia Carrigan; and Jason Werner.





### COMMUNICATIONS

- In the 4th quarter, Communications created and published a special edition 250th magazine. It included stories about the library's history, an advanced look at the Caroline Hewins children's book written and illustrated by HPL staff, and more. The Communications team worked closely with the Development team to get the magazine mailed and distributed.
- Communications worked closely with Hartford Public Schools (HPS) and the HPL Children's Department to organize and implement Reading Through Time, our Summer Reading Challenge. Together with the HPS Communications team, we created collateral, marketing materials, and a robust communication plan to promote Summer Learning and our 250th Parade and Summer Learning Kickoff on June 1.
- Communications worked with HPL's Public Service department to create a communications and marketing plan for the Get Out the Vote voter registration campaign. This included plans for information cards, pop-up banners, ads in local news, community engagement, and more.
- Communications continued to work with Programming on Baby Grand Jazz, which concluded this season at the end of April. The Communications Team worked on promoting the opening of submissions for the 2025 BGJ season, and an ad was placed in the Hartford Jazz Fest pamphlet. We continued to promote Baby Grand Jazz and the Jazz 201 program with monthly newsletters and inclusion on our socials and in our e-news.
- The Communications team helped promote Vision To Learn, with inclusion on social media, in our e-news, a press release, and digital screens.
- The Communications and Development teams continue to collaborate with monthly Philanthropy Spotlight, which is featured in our newsletter, on social media, and with bi-weekly planning meetings.
- We are actively working on our social media strategy and have implemented the creation of weekly reels to be featured on Instagram and Facebook. This quarter, we created 13 reels to share on our various programming and events. Our most successful reel featured our Library of Things; it had 4,907 views, 123 likes, 7 comments, 11 shares, and 2 saves.
- Communications developed, designed, and published a Capital Project website for the public to view updates on our 3 ongoing capital projects: the Downtown, Albany, and Barbour libraries. This site features designated pages for each and will continue to be updated as the projects progress.
- The Communications Team also worked closely with a third-party local printer to get custom HPL tote bags featuring our new logo. This limited-edition tote can be purchased system-wide at our branches for \$15.
- Communications partnered with the Regional School Choice Office to collaborate monthly on social media.

## CULTURE & COMMUNICATIONS continued

- The Communications and Development teams continue to collaborate with monthly Philanthropy Spotlight, which is featured in our newsletter, on social media, and with bi-weekly planning meetings.
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243

Instagram stories

85

Facebook posts

55

X/Twitter posts

69

Instagram posts

127

Facebook stories

**Highlighted across HPL's communication channels in the 4th quarter (in addition to miscellaneous smaller programs**

**- arts, crafts, etc):**

- National Library Week
- Baby Grand Jazz
- Right to Read day
- Eclipse celebrations
- CT Library Passport Program
- STOMP, a celebration of the Indigenous Community in Hartford
- Hartford Reads in Color
- Collaborations with UConn Hartford
- National Poetry Month with Hartford L.I.T.
- Patio Service returns
- Arte Popular events at Park Street Library @ the Lyric
- The Digital Library Lab tabling at the CT Library Association Conference in Mystic
- Jazz 201
- Our Teen Boundless Program at Hartford Public Schools
- Fresh Start Hartford donation of a new puppet theater to the Camp Field Library
- Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month
- Headspace App – free to Hartford residents
- HPL Board and Ambassador tour of 3 library branches
- 250th Parade and Summer Learning Kickoff

**In the 4th quarter, the Communications Team photographed 21 events throughout the system.**

**April**

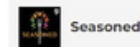
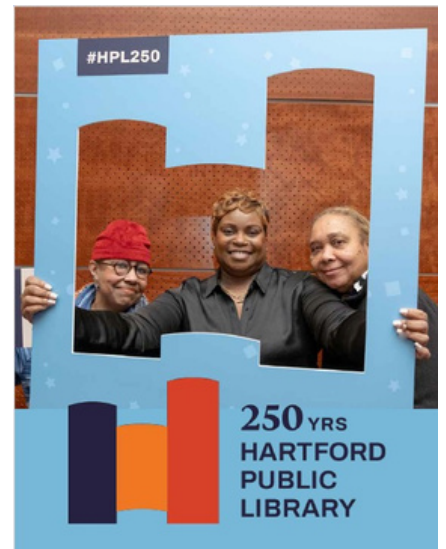
- Ropkins Eclipse
- Downtown Eclipse
- James Baldwin Read Aloud Part 1
- Construction Photos
- Trendy Reels (reel)
- Natalie's Headshot

**May**

- Hartford Day
- LOW at Tag Sale
- Breathe & Read at Downtown
- Puppet Theater Delivery
- Empanadas and Mindfulness (reel)
- Library Tours with Ambassadors

**June**

- Summer Kickoff
- Terracotta Pot Painting & Planting at Albany
- Ropkins Summer Kickoff
- Dwight Summer Kickoff
- Park Summer Kickoff (and reel)
- LOW photos Downtown
- Camp Field Summer Kickoff
- James Baldwin Read Aloud Part 3/ Juneteenth Celebration at Downtown
- Barbour Summer Kickoff
- Refugee Stories at Park
- Summer Learning Challenge (reel)
- World Refugee Day at Downtown
- Pride at Albany
- Lost Tribe Concert at Barbour



## Seasoned celebrates National Library Week

By Robyn Ouyon-Aikens, Meg Dalton, Katrice Claudio, Stephanie Stender, Tegan Engel  
Published April 4, 2024 at 10:23 AM EDT

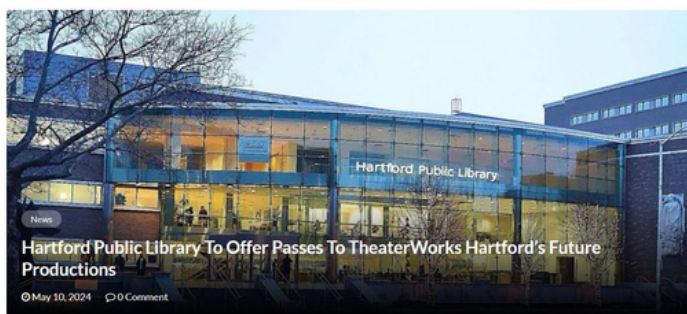
▶ LISTEN • 49:00



4 of 7  
Andres Wapkins and Doug Barber stand for a portrait in their cafe, Berken on Main, in downtown Hartford. They also run Berken Blend Cafe in Glastonbury. Berken on Main is on the top floor of the Hartford Public Library. Barber says he hopes the cafe will create "spaces for people like us, people of color, that have a place that they can comfortably come and call their own," said Barber.  
Photo: Meg Dalton/Seasoned Photo

## Hartford leaders remind residents to check on neighbors during heat wave

During this time of extreme heat, the city has opened 13 cooling centers. Six of them are public libraries.

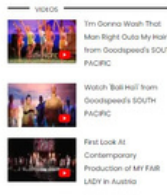
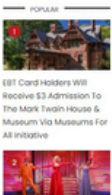


Starting Thursday, May 30, 2024

## Hartford Public Library To Offer Passes To TheaterWorks Hartford Productions

The offer begins with TW's upcoming production of Sandra by David Cole, music by Matthew Deam Marsh.

By Chris Robinson May 10, 2024



## MEMBER NEWS ROUNDUP



## Tackling the Summer Slide Through School System Partnerships

### Hartford Public Library

Earlier this month, Hartford Public Library and Hartford Public Schools held their Summer Learning Kick-Off celebration at the Downtown Library. The event included a 250th Anniversary parade, celebrating the historic milestone of the Library. This strong partnership between the library and school system demonstrates their shared belief that learning has to happen all 12 months of the year. [READ MORE.](#)



# CULTURE & COMMUNICATIONS continued

## DIGITAL LIBRARY LAB

Client/Contact	Project Description	Start Date	Completion Date	Invoice Date	Paid	Project Amount	Amount Paid	Note
Hartford History Center	Digitize the Hartford Times Photo Collection	7/1/2022	Ongoing	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	This work recommenced in May. Boxes 13-27, 41, and 46-49; over 5000 prints were digitized this quarter using both DLL and student intern labor.
Hartford History Center	Digitize the Hartford Times Clippings Collection	2/6/2024	Ongoing	N/A	N/A	\$38,000.00	Previous Quarters: \$38,000.00	Completed digitizing 9 boxes of HPL's collection. 784 pdfs were created for uploading to CTDA.
Hartford History Center	Digitize the Hartford Times Clippings Collection	1/1/2024	4/19/2024	N/A	N/A	\$38,000.00	Previous Quarters: \$38,000.00	As part of the Hartford Times Clippings digitization, a summary report highlighting costs, topics scanned, and student staffing was submitted to close out this portion of the work.

DLL Job Quote	Knights of Columbus Supreme Council Archives	12/20/2023	Ongoing			Est: \$5060.00		Funding / decision delayed: Knights of Columbus' Vivian Lea Solek is expected to identify and begin the project in July, 2024.
DLL Job Quote	Coast Guard Academy Yearbooks	2/7/2024	Ongoing	N/A		Est: \$7425.00		Funding / decision delayed: Digitize the Coast Guard Academy Yearbooks, "Tide Rips," 1905-2021. CGA's Elisa Graydon expects to deliver the yearbooks next quarter.
DLL Job Quote	Document Scanning for the City of Hartford's Development Services Dept	3/5/2024	Ongoing	N/A	N/A	Est: \$151,578.00		Delayed: Work will include digitizing 9 file cabinets of standard and wide format documents and designs related to Hartford planning and zoning. City staff is scheduled to visit the DLL on July 12, 2024. Work is expected to begin next quarter.
DLL Job Quote	Mark Twain House and Museum	6/20/2024	Ongoing	N/A	N/A	Est: \$38,612		Provided an estimate and commitment to partner as a digitization service with the MTHM as part of their grant application for the 2024 NEH cycle. Funding decision made in 2025.
DLL Job Quote	Harriet Beecher Stowe Center	6/6/2024	Ongoing	N/A	N/A	Est: \$166,508		Provided an estimate and commitment to partner as a digitization service with the HBSC as

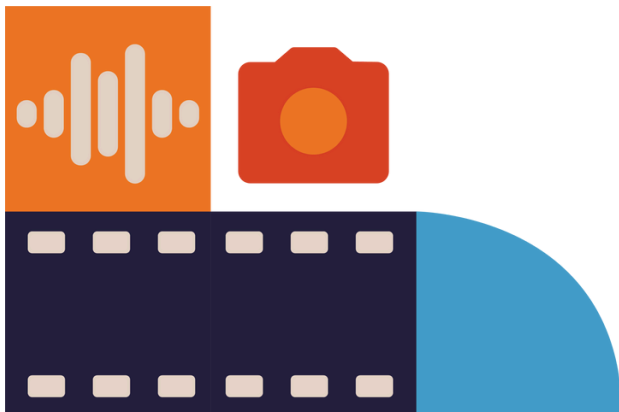
## CULTURE & COMMUNICATIONS continued

							part of their grant application for the 2024 NEH cycle. Funding decisions made in 2025.
Administration	New DLL website	7/21/2023	6/28/2024	N/A	N/A	N/A	The new DLL website went live on 6/28/2024: Link: <a href="https://dll.hplct.org/">https://dll.hplct.org/</a>
Administrative	Conference	4/28/2024	4/29/2024	N/A	N/A	N/A	DLL's Nara Giannella and Jessica Emonds tabled and presented DLL information to attendees of the two-day 2024 CT Library Association Conference in Mystic.
Administrative	Conference	6/3/2024	6/3/2024	N/A	N/A	N/A	DLL's Bradley Overturf and Nara Giannella tabled and presented DLL information to attendees of the one-day 2024 CT League of Museums Conference at CCSU.
Administration	Trinity College Student Internships(s)	10/10/2023	5/2/2024	N/A	N/A	N/A	DLL's Trinity College Kelter Scholar Program student intern Kyarra Valentin completed her Spring semester, 60-hour internship on May 2, 2024.
Administration	CompTIA A+ Internship started	4/9/2024	6/30/2024	N/A	N/A	N/A	Gerald Green completed his work for DLL in cooperation with HPL's CompTIA A+ paid internship program. Gerald's term was extended through June 30, 2024.

4

### Next Quarter's Anticipated Work:

- Digitize ad hoc for HPL/HHC, including the Hartford Times photos.
- Continue work on the Hartford Times Clippings project. A new HPL Intern is starting on July 16, 2024.
- Continue to monitor potential work with the Department of Development Services. Host the new City of Hartford Director of Development Services on July 12, 2024.
- Maintain communication with potential clients who received "Job Quotes" and ongoing work this quarter: Development Services, Knights of Columbus, Coast Guard Academy, and the Mermin Family for remaining notebooks.
- Test a potential new service: Digitize twenty-two (22) Puerto Rican Culture-related MiniDV video cassettes for the University of Connecticut.
- Continue to grow the DLL and its revenue generating capability, continue website and marketing planning activities and identify applicable bids for digitization services. A DLL business meeting with HPL's Finance Department is scheduled for April 24.



# CAPITAL PROJECTS

## DOWNTOWN LIBRARY

Conference space build-outs were completed in the 2nd and 3rd floor staff areas. The public service elevator arrived in May for installation. Work was completed in the elevator shaft and the elevator was installed; electrical work will be taking place in the late July/August timeframe. A significant amount of electrical work has been completed on the first floor. The upgrade of the HVAC software is in progress. New air handling units were installed and two BMS water detection alarm systems were installed. The YOUmedia space has been painted and prepared the new floor installation.

## ALBANY LIBRARY

Design development is moving along for the Albany Library. Discussions have taken place with the State Historic Preservation Office regarding the North West School in order to update the drawings and scope of work required for the remediation and stabilization of the school.



## BARBOUR LIBRARY

Geotechnical assessments including environmental testing were completed of the Barbour site. Design development work is in progress, work is presently in process with respect to the interior design of the library space. An updated cost estimate for the project is in process.



# HUMAN RESOURCES

## RECRUITMENT AND STAFFING

During the 4th quarter, 10 vacancies were filled for the following service area/business units:

Public Services	The American Place	Customer Experience	IT, Facilities & Finance	Develop	Culture & Communications	Administration
YOUMedia Mentor  Library Assistant-Floater	ESL Program Coordinator  Program Coordinator-Financial Literacy  Program Support Financial Literacy  Case Worker  Instructional Designer	Technical Services Manager	Maintainer II			Employee Engagement Manager

For the same period in FY23-4th quarter, 13 vacancies were filled.

Notable Hire: HPL realized a significant hiring goal in recruitment and selection of the Employee Engagement Manager role! The hire is an important anchor necessary for the growth and nurture of our staff and Library work culture.

## TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

During the 4th quarter of FY24, Hartford Public Library began implementation of a grant awarded by Capital Workforce Partners in January 2024. As part of HPL's commitment to workforce training and development, the grant will provide 20, Hartford area students (ages 16-19), the opportunity to participate in a 8-week program including 2 weeks of professional development and 6-weeks of work experience. As the Library launches its annual Summer Learning Program, students will be assigned to branch locations in support of summer student learning. Students will also be placed with the Digital Library Lab and YouMedia Teen Services, and The American Place. The Library hopes to hire at least 10% of students at the close of the program in August, for ongoing part-time or full-time work once the program is completed.

## STAFF ENGAGEMENT:

During 4th quarter, the Library was pleased to welcome Oliver Scholes, as the new Manager of Employee Engagement! Oliver has worked with the Hartford Public Library in support of our equity, diversity, and inclusion visioning and strategic planning. Oliver brings over 5 years of work in building and strengthening workplace environments through DEI planning, community engagement and conversations, and through the fostering of diverse perspectives. He has worked as a Public Programs Coordinator in museum settings and served for several years as a history instructor for the University of Connecticut. In 2015, Oliver received the History Department Award for Graduate Teaching Excellence! Filling the Employee Engagement Manager role marks an important step in realizing HPL's strategic goal to invest in the strengthening of the Library's work culture and staff.

# STATISTICS

## PROGRAMS 4th QUARTER April - June 2024

	FY 2022-2023			FY 2023-2024		
Downtown	Programs	Attendance	Views	Programs	Attendance	Views
American Place	296	3,197	0	351	3,323	0
Development	4	145	0	0	0	0
Hartford History Center	1	27	0	0	0	0
Programming	32	1,307	1,788	44	1,231	382
YOUmedia	0	0	0	0	0	0
Youth Department	88	2,299	115	115	3,652	72
<b>Totals</b>	<b>421</b>	<b>6,975</b>	<b>1,903</b>	<b>510</b>	<b>8,206</b>	<b>454</b>

Branches	Programs	Attendance	Views	Programs	Attendance	Views
Albany Adult	33	489	0	33	522	0
Albany Youth/Teens	113	887	0	227	1,875	0
Barbour Adult	4	135	0	15	181	0
Barbour Youth	29	544	0	43	799	0
Camp Field Adult	5	98	0	12	87	0
Camp Field Youth	26	600	0	23	490	0
Dwight Adult	24	139	0	18	181	0
Dwight Youth	123	2,184	0	37	1,107	0
Park Adult	19	397	0	19	486	0
Park Youth	35	1,265	0	41	1,126	0
Ropkins Adult	7	149	0	6	19	0
Ropkins Youth	35	882	0	75	1,249	0
LOW	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>453</b>	<b>7,769</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>549</b>	<b>8,122</b>	<b>0</b>

Boundless Pilot & Other Programs	Programs	Attendance	Views	Programs	Attendance	Views
Rawson - Pilot Program	57	1,160	0	40	683	0
West Middle - Pilot Program	0	0	0	84	1,791	0
Boundless Enrichment @ HPHS*	32	98	0	96	2,042	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>1,258</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>4,516</b>	<b>0</b>

## HARTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY 4th Quarter Programming Totals

	FY 2022-2023	FY 2023-2024
Total Programs	963	1,279
Total Attendance	16,002	20,844
Recorded Program Views	1,903	454

\*Hartford Public High School