**Start your own garden and Celebrate Earth Day!**

### Basic Gardening Skills with Auden the Master Gardener
**Thursday, April 15: 2:00 PM**  
Virtual, Zoom  
Join us to learn some tips on how to start a basic garden. A "Take and Make" bag will be provided with some basic gardening essentials.  
Registration/Participation is required to get your take and make bag. Registration is limited.

### Earth Day Community Growing
**Thursday, April 22nd: 2:00 PM**  
*Dwight Branch (7 New Park Ave.)*  
Join us on Earth day, at the Dwight branch to plant your own flower. No registration needed, first come first serve all ages welcomed!

### Affleck Street Community Garden Beautify /Clean-up
**Friday, April 23: 10:00AM -12.00PM, 12:00PM-1:00PM**  
*Park Branch (744 Park Street)*  
The Hispanic Health Council's "Mujeres Empoderadas en Accion" will join Graciela, from HPL's Park Branch, in some garden projects at the Affleck Street Community Garden: Rock painting, the assembly of 3 new raised garden beds, and the painting of two new benches.

### It's Gardening Season! Seed Giveaway and More...
**Entire month of April while supplies last**  
*Park Branch - sign up link*  
Participants can fill out forms to share/submit garden themed things of interest such as: garden seed kits/giveaways available through contact free pick up, gardening tools kit, and reserve garden themed books in our catalog.

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"The Earth laughs in flowers"  
**Thursday, April 22: 3:00-4:00**  
*Barbour Branch (261 Barbour Street)*  
Celebrate Earth Day with potting a pansy or planting herb seeds in a pot to take home. Receive Ralph Waldo Emerson’s poem that gives earth a voice. Also, walk away with a poem written by Lucy Cooper Summers, renowned Hartford community leader, whose mission was "to plant beauty in gardens and in the hearts of urban dwellers."

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Experience New Beginnings in Poetry
Tuesdays, April 6th, 13th & 20th: 2:00 PM
Virtual, Zoom
This 3-week series will focus on different creative writing activities to guide participants in the poetry writing process and to expose them to poems written by a variety of poets. Program supplies will include a journal, sample poems, and watercolor set and paper, available by appointment through contact-free pickup. Registration required.

Blackout Poetry
Tuesday, April 13th:
Option 1: 2:00 PM OR Option 2: 7:00 PM
Virtual, Zoom
We will be pulling a simple poem out of a page of text and decorating to highlight the piece. Join us to enjoy playing with words in “found poetry” to create a thoughtful piece.

Poetry Play
Wednesday, April 7, 14, 21, & 28: 11:00-12:30
Downtown, Center for Contemporary Culture
Learn fun and easy poetry writing exercises, involving a bit of art.

Hartford Poets: Past and Present
Mondays at 6pm EST: April 5, 12, 19, 26
Watch on: IGTV, Facebook Live, or YouTube
On each Monday evening in April, a Hartford-based poet will recite a poem from a Hartford poet who is no longer with us and whose work is part of the Hartford History Center’s collection. They will also read a poem they wrote inspired by the poet they read. Historical Hartford poets featured: Ann Plato, Lucy Cooper Summers, James Overton Rogers, and Juan Fuentes Vizcarrondo. You can learn more about some of these poets on the Hartford Changemakers reference guide.

Foodshare Distribution
Thursday, April 8 & 22: 3:00-4:00
Barbour Branch
Come for a free bag of groceries.

STRONG GIRLS GROUP
Thursdays, April 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th: 2:00 PM
Downtown: Center for Contemporary Culture
HPL and Peacebuilders/Compass collaborate to provide programming for our young ladies in Hartford.

To register for all programs, visit: hplct.org/classes-seminars-exhibits

It's National Poetry Month!
Talkin' Drama with Kendra C. Johnson, Lead Actress in Tyler Perry’s sitcom Love Thy Neighbor
Thursday, April 29: 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
Virtual, Zoom
The Entertainment Entrepreneur: Getting Your First Project Made

This workshop will cover the practical aspects of why it is essential to work as a team to tell a story. Talkin' Drama will expose you to the tools you need to develop story and resolve conflict. It will cover the practical aspects of why it is essential to be entrepreneurial within the ever-changing landscape of the entertainment industry. Whether you strive to be a content creator, producer, writer, director, playwright, attorney, or entrepreneur, this workshop will help you identify how and why you should be developing your own projects.

Artist and Creators will discuss the mechanics of dramatic writing as it functions in their career. And get into the benefits and pitfalls of developing your own content. It will dive into the practical and real issues facing you as you develop your craft. They will highlight ways teamwork functions in the process of storytelling.

Workshops will be open discussions between the guest speaker, a moderator, and questions from HPL patrons.

Noname's Book Club
Virtual, Zoom
Hartford Public Library is a partner of Noname’s Book Club, an online/irl community dedicated to uplifting POC voices. They do this by highlighting two books each month written by authors of color. From cult classics to the words of emergent authors, Noname’s Book Club highlights books that speak on human conditions in critical and original ways.
April Picks:
1) Cane by Jean Toomer
2) This Nonviolent Stuff Will Get You Killed by Charles E. Cobb

BABY GRAND JAZZ 2021!
Every Sunday January 3rd - April 25th 2021
3:00-4:00 PM
Virtual, Facebook Live and YouTube Live
Hartford Public Library features local and regional musical artists as a part of our dynamic concert series. Tune in every Sunday at 3pm for new and familiar talent!

2021 April LINE UP
April 11th: Jonathan Barber and Vision Ahead
April 18th: People of Goodwill
April 25th: Trombeatz