

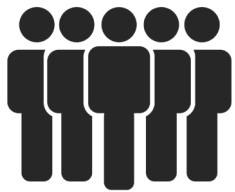
# Chief Executive Officer's Report

January 2019

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# OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2018

*at a glance*



**202,659**

TOTAL VISITS



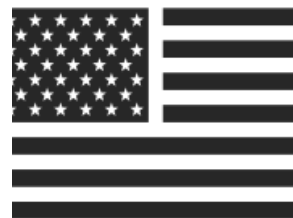
**2,346**

TEEN PROGRAM  
PARTICIPANTS



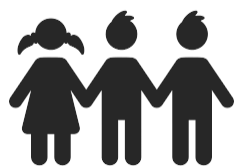
**72,012**

TOTAL CIRCULATION



**189**

CITIZENSHIP  
SCREENINGS



**16,807**

YOUTH PROGRAM  
PARTICIPANTS



**2,496**

ARTWALK VISITS



**7,725**

IMMIGRATION  
LEGAL CONSULTATIONS



**2,901**

INTERGENERATIONAL  
PROGRAMS

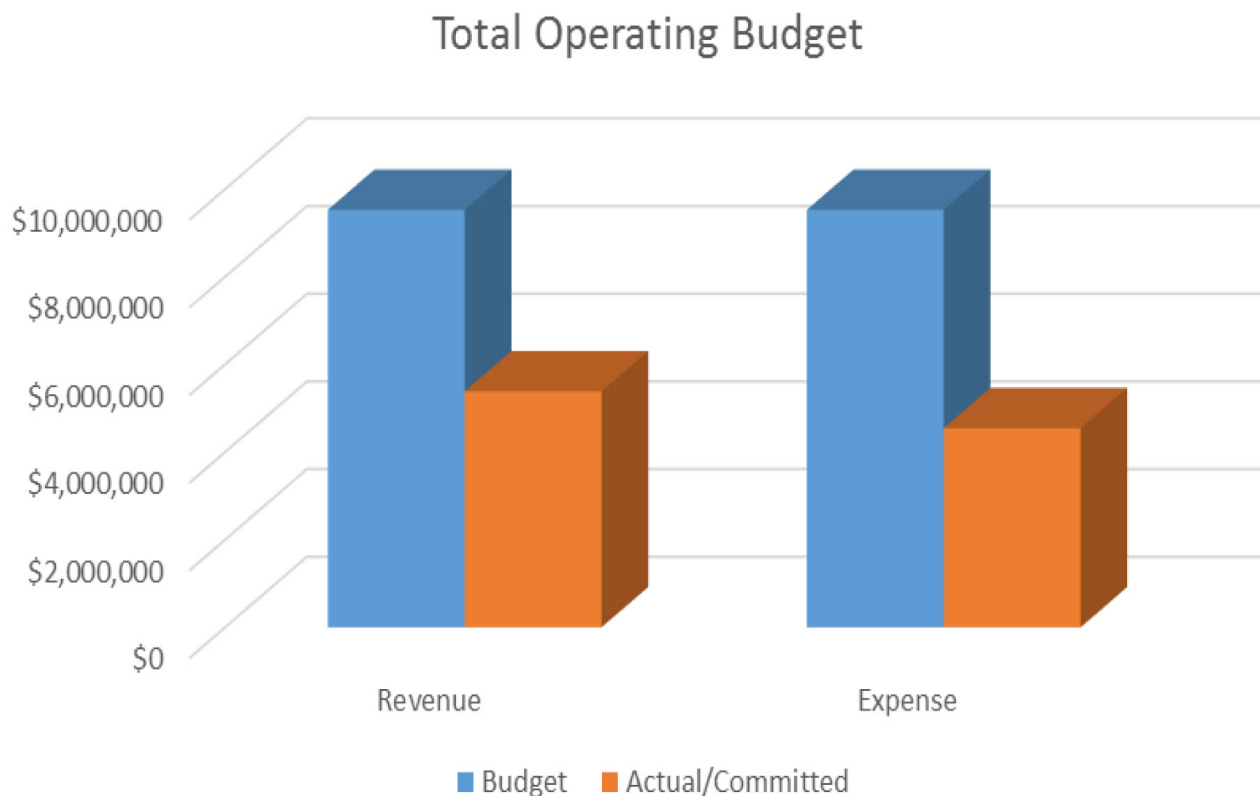
## Fiscal Year 2019 – Operating Budget Summary

As of December 31, 2018 – 50% through Fiscal Year

For the period ending 12/31/18, the Hartford Public Library has expended an estimated total of **\$4,541,370** which represents 47.7% of the revised operating budget of **\$9,526,574**. The Library has also collected an estimated **\$5,383,885** in operating funds, or 56.5% of the Fiscal Year 2019 budget.

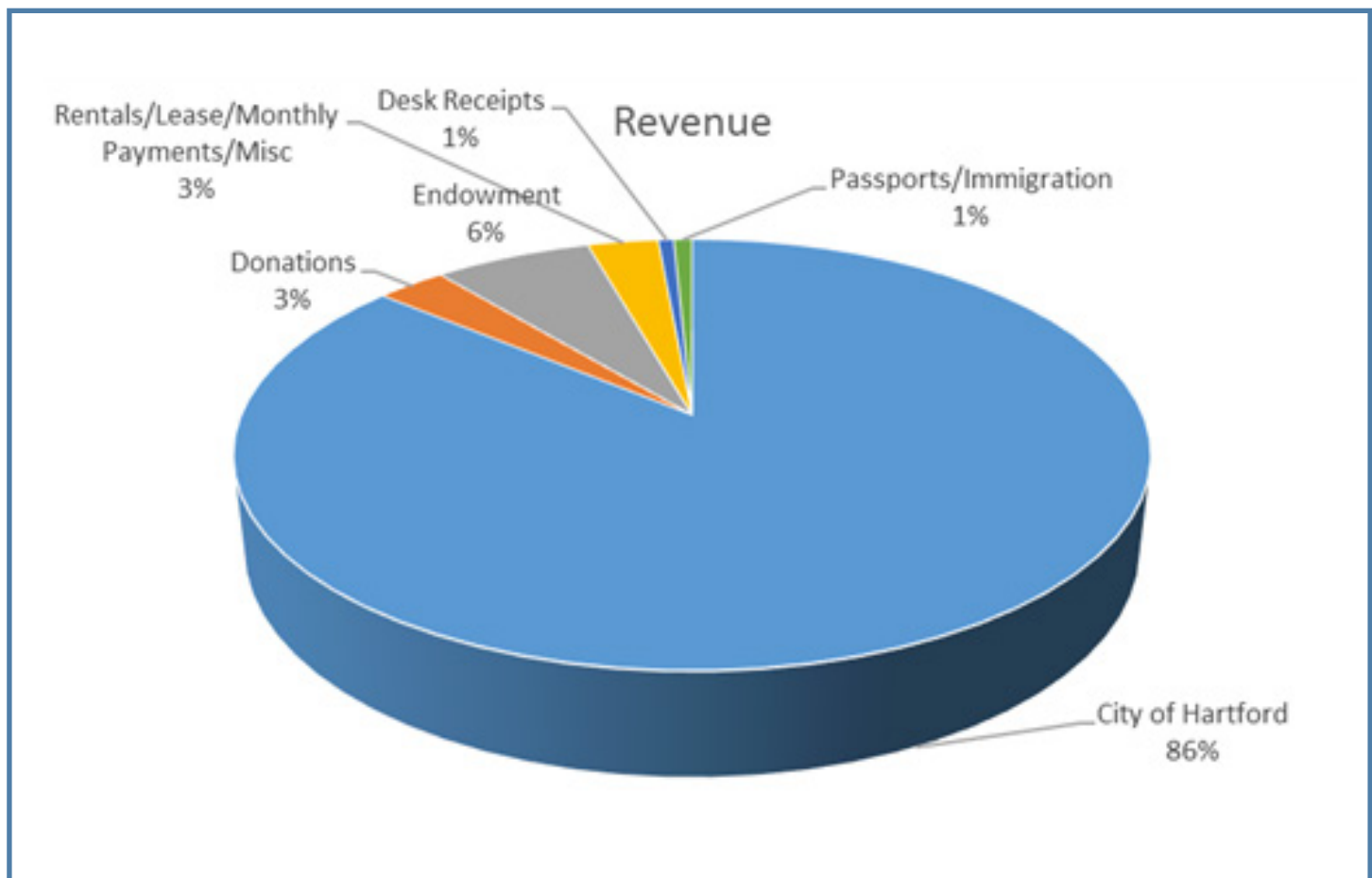
### TOTAL OPERATING BUDGET

	Budget	Actual/Committed	VARIANCE	% REVENUE & EXPENDITURE
Revenue	\$9,526,574	\$5,383,885	\$4,142,689	56.5%
Expense	\$9,526,574	\$4,541,370	\$4,985,204	47.7%
Variance	\$0	\$842,514	-\$842,514	



## REVENUE

REVENUE	Budget	Actual	Variance	%
City of Hartford	\$8,150,000	\$4,633,333	\$3,516,667	56.9%
Donations	\$325,000	\$156,955	\$168,045	48.3%
Endowment	\$674,238	\$356,792	\$317,446	52.9%
Rentals/Lease/Monthly Payments/Misc	\$242,336	\$159,864	\$82,472	66.0%
Desk Receipts	\$75,000	\$35,405	\$39,595	47.2%
Passports/Immigration	\$60,000	\$41,536	\$18,464	69.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$9,526,574</b>	<b>\$5,383,885</b>	<b>\$4,142,689</b>	<b>56.5%</b>





# grant management

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**2<sup>ND</sup> QUARTER**  
OCTOBER - DECEMBER, 2018

## **AWARDED GRANTS**

	<b>Number of Grants</b>	<b>Grant Amount</b>
Government		
Foundations	4	\$25,000
Corporation	5	\$57,200
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>\$82,200</b>

## **PENDING GRANTS**

	<b>Number of Grants</b>	<b>Grant Amount</b>
Government	2	\$200,000
Foundations	1	\$10,000
Corporation	1	\$10,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>\$220,000</b>

## **DECLINED GRANTS**

	<b>Number of Grants</b>	<b>Grant Amount</b>
Government	1	\$150,000
Foundations	2	\$57,980
Corporation	1	\$200,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>\$407,980</b>

# public services

## Increasing engagement with the arts through access and exposure

- Free Piano Lessons with pianists Orice Jenkins, Taino Pacheco, and Sarah Rose, were offered for students as young as 8 years old and up to our retired patrons. Customer feedback: "What a wonderful idea to have these lessons... I really enjoyed my lessons and Sarah taught me a lot in such a short period." We received many requests to offer more in 2019.
- "Pasos & Connections: Latin Dance Classes" monthly series allowed participants to explore communication, conflict resolution, cooperation, teamwork, empathy, and cultural appreciation by learning and practicing different Latin dances.
- Concepcion exhibit by artist Raul Camacho featured portraits of well-known Hispanic and Latino individuals through modern history such as Roberto Clemente, Frida Kahlo, and Hector Lavoe. Arts Classes with Raul Camacho at the Park Branch exposed participants on how to draw self-portraits with graphite. Subjects for the portraits included past community leaders such as Maria Sanchez and Trude Mero.
- "In Honor of African American Veterans" from the Costen Cultural Exhibition, historian and collector Bill Costen arranged a display of rare photos and collection materials of the Pullman Porters, Buffalo Soldiers, Tuskegee Airmen, among other groups of African American Veterans. HPL hosted an exhibit reception around Veteran's Day in November, where attendees young and old were able to speak with Mr. Costen about his collection and his experience as a veteran.
- Art workshop "Honor Those Who Serve" provided participants the opportunities to write cards and design a medal that would be mailed out to American servicemen and servicewomen all over the world. The workshop surfaced many stories from patrons who either served themselves or had family members or friends who had military experience.
- Facilitated poetry workshops were held with Hartford writer and poet Bessy Reyna in our "Poetry as Memoir" series. By using poetry as inspiration, the workshop taught participants to write about and reflect on important life events and create their own memoirs. Hartford area-based authors got the opportunity to display their publications on Indie Author Day.

### Program Participation

Museum Passes	539
77 Intergenerational Programs	2,901

- Book Discussions: With the following mission, to establish presence and awareness of Greater Hartford's local authors, diverse artists and entrepreneurs as well as revitalize literary arts and communication, the Hartford's Literary Integrated Trailblazers focuses on literacy, literary productions, entrepreneurial building and networking within communities; including the under-served and non-traditional communities. Book chats of Michelle Obama's newly released book Becoming took place at the Albany Branch with L.I.T. in addition to discussions on the following titles: Another Country by James Baldwin, Barracoon by Zora Neale Hurston, and Another Brooklyn by Jacqueline Woodson during this quarter.
- Community quilt: Welcome to Hartford Quilt-Making Marathon, now hangs on our main floor. Participants of all ages created quilt squares that represented their "Welcome to Hartford" story.
- Together with Sandy Fromson, weavers from the Hartford Artisans Weaving Center continued the 2017 "Woven Threads, Woven Lives," a community weaving project to create a banner showing greater Hartford's diversity and interconnectivity. The final banner will be displayed at multiple HPL locations in 2019.
- Jewelry making classes at the Albany and Barbour branches with well regarded Hartford resident, Jackie Bright, helped build a supportive community of learning for both adults and children. An Albany Branch customer registered her mother for the classes. At the end of the series she shared that participating in the classes has had a great impact on her mother's mood. Prior to coming to the classes, her mother spent a lot of time at home and in pain.

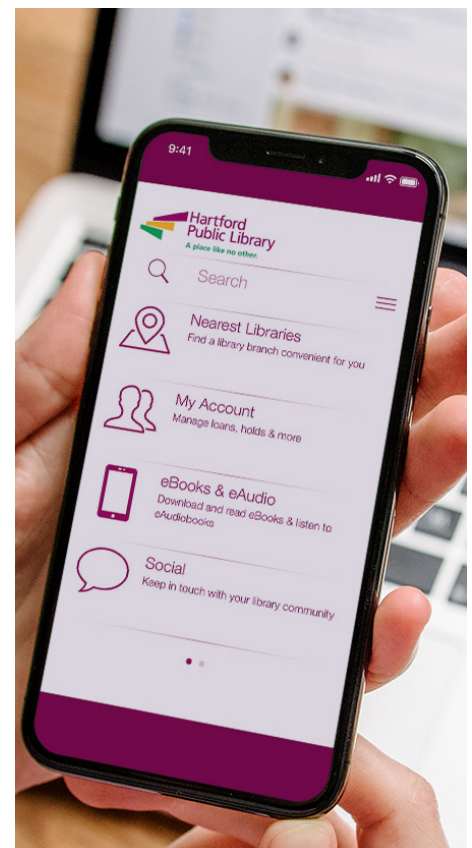
# public services (continued)

## HPL Bridging the Digital Divide

- To target the significant digital literacy needs of the community, staff frequently assisted customers with basic computer functions, such as email, printing, and computer processing skills. To supplement the daily assistance provided, computer classes were offered on a drop-in basis throughout the summer and are continuing in the fall by registration.
- Computer classes at the Branches provide participants opportunities to gain a better understanding of how Windows works, an overview of the most used computer programs, how to use and manage an email address, and understanding and managing social media.
- Digital Technology assistance expanded to helping customers navigate websites to select fall semester courses online at Capital Community College. These new computer skills helped customers qualify for jobs, apply for jobs online, and gain knowledge on particular health issues to make informed decisions on course of treatment.
- HPL experienced a decrease in PC use sessions, but an increase system wide in WIFI use in addition to an increase in use of databases. The most popular e-resources were streaming music through Freegal and higher use of Zinio (electronic magazine circulation).
- The migration of our Integrated Library System to Sirsi Dynix offers more flexibility with service packages and product options. Some new functionalities for the customer include auto renewal of materials, the ability to increase access of library resources to students in the Hartford Schools with use of their student ID and a new HPL app.

Reference Services	# of times Staff Engaged
Employment Reference Coaching and Questions answered	1,118
Collection and Library Services Reference Questions answered	9,971
Education Reference Questions Answered	1,807
Service	Outreach
Municipal ID's	102
Passport Services	339
Registered Voters	53
LOW Community Outreach Program Attendees	386

LOW Outreach Locations
Willie Ware Community Warming Center
North End Senior Center
Woodland House Apartments
Open Hearth Shelter
Job Corp



# public services (cont.)

## Civic Engagement

Program	Partner
Election Day at Albany Branch	Advocacy to Legacy
T-21 Signing/ Mayor's Youth Town Hall Meeting	Advocacy to Legacy
Candidate Forums	City of Hartford; Hartford Votes Coalition
Get Out the Vote	Hartford 2000
WET: A DACAmentary Journey	UConn, U of St. Joseph
Documentary: Be Financially Unafraid	CT Students for a Dream
Housing After Prison: Hartford Listening Tour	CT Commission on Equity and Opportunity and Community Solutions
CT Civic Ambassadors Summit	Everyday Democracy and the UConn Humanities Institute

- Albany branch collaborated with Advocacy to Legacy with an election day program for a mock election day ballot which allowed kids to "vote". The participants were provided with their own I VOTED! sticker created by Advocacy to Legacy.
- The Tobacco 21 Proclamation signing, was the most visible event for the Albany branch. The mayor attended and signed the proclamation raising the legal age for purchase of tobacco products. To prepare for the event the Albany branch held Albany Branch Town Hall meetings on two nights prior to the official town hall. The mayor also held a short Youth Town Hall meeting, where our youth were given the opportunity to ask questions about the city.
- The Downtown Library served as a polling place for the midterm election in November. In an effort to "Get Out the Vote," HPL partnered with Hartford 2000 and The Office of the Secretary of State to set up voter kiosks in all of our library locations to register people to vote and offer resources such as a ride to the polls.
- Anecdote from Head of Circulation and Access Services Elizabeth Davis: The week before the election a gentleman came in with the packet he received in order to vote by absentee ballot. We sat and read through the materials together. Neither of us had prior experience with the process. Fortunately we had enough staff coverage for me to work with him for the 40 minutes it took to ensure he knew exactly how to handle the ballot so that his vote would be counted.
- HPL partnered with UConn Hartford, UConn School of Social Work, UConn Human Rights Institute and University of St. Joseph to present "WET: A DACAmented Journey," a one man show examining the mental, emotional, and psychological hardship one man endures in a broken U.S. immigration system.
- In November, HPL worked with CT Students for a Dream to present the popular workshop "Undocumoney: Be Financially Unafraid," which addressed barriers that prevent undocumented immigrants from being financially secured and provided support in becoming financially independent. Youth from the IMLS program also attended this workshop, as well as around 40 other youth from the Greater Hartford area.

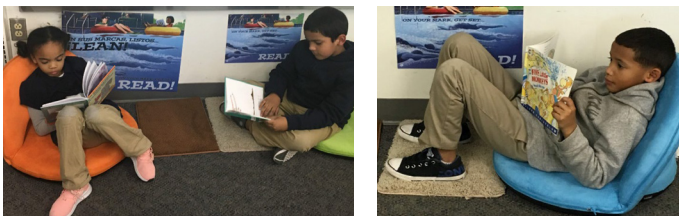


# youth and family services

## Readiness for School Success and Literacy

Programs	Participation
831 Youth Programs	16,807 Participants
197 Teen Programs	2,346 Participants
850 Meals Served @ Albany	1046
66 Boundless Programs	1,223 Participants
1,000 books before Kindergarten	231 children enrolled

- The Park Branch partnered with the Hispanic Health Council to raise awareness about Domestic Violence in the Latino community with a primary focus on the female population. “Honoring Latina women and their children” brought in different organizations across the state who provide support and services for victims of domestic violence. Local businesses in the Frog hollow community showed their support by donating prizes that were raffled at the event. The program was well attended (75 Adults & 50 children) and demonstrates the powerful outcomes when organizations come together to provide wrap around services to the community.
- Governor’s Prevention Partnership worked with Albany and Park to help parents learn to gather facts and information on their own in addition to how to talk to their children about drugs. Participants were shocked to see the statistics of how early in life children can experiment drugs, many started talking about their own experiences and asked a lot of questions. Families from the Frog Hollow neighborhood received tickets to attend the Holiday light show at Goodwin Park courtesy from Eversource.
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, University of Connecticut provided attendees from the Barbour Branch information on good nutrition and how to prepare nutritious meals inexpensively. Recipes were prepared and sampled in each class.



Youth participants enjoying a book and the new seats at Ropkins.

### BOUNDLESS HARTFORD READERS PROGRAM

This fall saw the launch of Boundless Hartford Readers, a year-long program aimed at capturing the impact that HPL/HPS Boundless partnership has on student success. Parents with children who attend an HPS school and are currently in grades K-5 were invited to enroll them in this unique program, which promises to nurture a love of reading, and provide resources to support their education. We currently have 50 students enrolled in the program. For October through December they visited the library 785 times, attended 648 programs, read for 255 hours, and finished 494 books!

► COMING SOON!

### BOUNDLESS LIBRARY@RAWSON

The pilot Boundless Library @ Rawson began taking shape this fall with the hiring of Boundless Librarian Sara Lestage to oversee its operations. The Boundless Library will serve students, teachers, parents and families of students, as well as offer community access to collections, services and programs – developing a robust, supportive and multi-faceted community school environment. The library and its staff will be a critical instructional partner in the academic success and achievement of students, and a trusted resource for parents and the entire school community. We are collaborating with the Village for Families and Children after school program and the Blue Hills Civic Association to ensure we are meeting the community’s needs in the North End. The quarter was spent weeding old materials from the Rawson collection, ordering new books, materials and programming supplies and preparing for the official launch on January 25th.

# youth and family services (cont.)

## STEM Programming Picking up STEAM

What on the surface appears to be a fun, one-off program, Slime Time has evolved into an all-ages science exploration. Driven by their exposure to it in school and popular You-Tube “slime personalities”, this program was our most requested and most popular this fall. Here is a great anecdote from Ted, youth service librarian at Park, about the impact Slime Time has had at his branch.

*I am very encouraged by the different types of slime participants are willing to attempt, as well as the cooperative approach program participants take. I assist with recipes and making the slime itself, but many of the young people are self-designated slime “experts” and anxious to work with less confident peers to assist with slime, explain about activators and other components, and help troubleshoot. Another extremely positive aspect of slime programs is that get a great age range of participants, from young school age to teens.*

3-D printer programs continue to garner interest and spark creativity. In December youth at Barbour, Camp Field, Park, Ropkins, and Downtown designed and 3-D printed their own snowflakes. Students demonstrated an acquisition of this technology literacy when they applied it to other objects that they wanted to print, including experimenting with not changing the diameter, but simply making something thinner in the scaling process.



Youth Services and Outreach Librarian Bonnie Solberg brought sewing programs to Barbour and Downtown



Students used the sewing machine to create felt ornaments. They used the digital programming to select a variety of stitches to decorate their ornament. Never having operated a sewing machine prior to this, they quickly gained confidence in operating the machine and were incredibly creative in their choices. One group of boys were super engaged in this process and were already discussing future possible projects using the machine.

## 10TH ANNUAL KWANZAA FESTIVAL DECEMBER 2018

Roughly, 350 families including children and their parents, as well community partners and other visiting adults participated in this program. There was a strong representation of the elderly from the African American community. Kwanzaa’s host Melissa Craig from Sankofah Cultural Arts alongside master drummer Inara Ramin, opened the event with a traditional drum-call (a call to attention), cultural dancing, a Stilt performance by students from the Greater Hartford Academy, and a presentation of the seven Kwanzaa principles by Leslie Manselle who gave the audience a thorough recount of African American ancestry and culture.



Kwanzaa @ Albany Branch: Michael Scott, a community artist offered to drum with his friends and host a drum circle. The former director of the Wilson-Gray YMCA brought a full table of Kwanzaa decorations, candles, the wooden holder, african patterned tablecloths. Huge wooden artifacts from Africa were also placed around the table.

# The American Place

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## **Fall 2018 Highlights**

### **MaturityWorks**

Discussions are underway to become a training site for MaturityWorks, a federally-funded Senior Community Service and Employment Program designed to provide unemployed, low-income adults, age 55 and older, with work-based training (up to six months) which enhances their access to job placements. As a pilot, we will train one or two individuals to serve as Teacher Assistants and/or Cultural Navigators. In addition, this new partnership will facilitate a mutual referral process in which our students are referred directly to MaturityWorks, since a number of our students are 55+ and previously worked as professionals in their native countries.

### **Juniper House Care**

As an enhancement to the Patient Care Assistant Certificate training offered to students enrolled in ESL classes, a new partnership is underway with Juniper Home Care to provide contextualized hands-on instruction on-site at their facility.

### **Knox Foundation & UCONN's Urban Agriculture Program**

Servsafe trainings, offered in the fall at the Barbour branch, were extremely well received with an average attendance rate of 13 in each of the 10 class sessions. As a result, the program is continuing with a new winter/spring cycle. A collaboration with the Knox Foundation and UCONN's Urban Agriculture program will introduce Servsafe participants to urban gardening as a way to build income by cultivating fruits and vegetables for the growing food-to-table restaurant movement.

### **CT Peer Library Citizenship Collaborative**

Over the past two years, USCIS funds supported our efforts to establish a collaborative amongst CT libraries to promote citizenship. This is accomplished and we now have a framework in place - the CT Peer Library Citizenship Collaborative (CT-PLCC) - that will sustain itself going forward by transitioning from a pilot project into a formal Round Table of the Connecticut Library Consortium.

### **"It's Like School, but not Really"**

Attendance and retention in ESL classes remain strong, both for adults and late-arrival high school students. Indeed,

when comparing the retention rate of the teens enrolled in the after-school ESL classes at the Library to those ELLs enrolled in the schools, the library's retention rates are significantly higher. This phenomenon is discussed in a recent article titled "It's Like School, but not Really" written by the program's evaluator, Sophia Rodriguez. In addition, a chapter proposal by Dr. Rodriguez has been accepted for publication in Litwin Book's *Borders & Belonging* entitled, "We're Building the Community; It's a Hub for Democracy: Lessons Learned from a Library-based, School-district Partnership to Increase Belonging for Newcomer Immigrant and Refugee Youth". A significant highlight of our after-school program was the acceptance of one of the students into the The Hartford/Junior Achievement of Southwest New England's Entrepreneurial Academy.

### **Mission Creep - NOT**

An article in *American Libraries* January/February 2019 issue asked seven librarians throughout the country their thoughts about the many directions in which the profession is being pulled, such as supporting the homeless, administering Narcan, active shooter response training, and supporting refugees and immigrants. Homa Naficy was interviewed on immigration and asked if public libraries should even be in this space given the issues surrounding immigration and the work it entails. According to Homa, "It's not about issues, it's about our mission, and our mission is to help people meet their informational needs". She went on to mention some of the pathways HPL has already developed for immigrants to obtain the range of information necessary for them to successfully acculturate.

### **Crossroads2Conectivity (C2C)**

Extensive outreach is underway to launch the first phase of HPLs C2C initiative. This phase involves the loan of a laptop and Wifi hotspot to Hartford residents age 24 or older enrolled in a high school completion or WIOA certificate program. Applicants are required to complete a basic computer skills assessment; those that don't pass are provided training to eligible for participation.

### **Trainings**

Staff participated in the following trainings: Disability Workshop sponsored by CTSDE; GED Day at Hamden sponsored by ACES CASAS Proctor/Administrator online training; Northstar Digital Literacy online training.



# The American Place (cont.)

	Oct	Nov	Dec
<b>Beneficiaries: Immigrants</b>			
Citizenship screenings	60	62	67
Citizenship apps. prepared & submitted	34	23	37
Green Card Renewals prepared & submitted	14	3	3
Individuals achieved Citizenship	14	18	15
Citizenship Classes @ CTRL	14	10	12
Citizenship Attendance @CTRL	292	171	172
<b>Beneficiaries: ELLs</b>			
ESL Classes CTRL youth	12	11	8
ESL Attendees CTRL youth	156	136	122
ESL Classes CTRL	54	45	39
ESL Attendees CTRL	451	314	346
ESL Classes @ Dwight	7	6	4
ESL Attendance @Dwight	55	40	18
ESL Classes @Asylum Hill	4	3	3
ESL Attendance @Asylum Hill	63	45	39
Food Handler/Servsafe Classes @CTRL	48	7	11
Food Handler/Servsafe Attendance @CTRL	233	137	50
Classes @ Barbour	9	1	
Attendance @ Barbour	117	13	
Drivers Prep Classes CTRL	7	5	
Drivers Prep Attendance CTRL	62	91	
<b>Beneficiaries: Non-high school completers</b>			
GED Testing	14	14	12
<b>Beneficiaries: Unemployed / Dislocated</b>			
Total AJC services	276	191	244
Total AJC customers served	139	70	119
<b>Beneficiaries:</b>			
Digital Literacy Classes	4	3	3
Digital Literacy Attendance	40	30	30
<b>Beneficiaries: Tutees/tutors</b>			
# of volunteers	14	12	13
# of volunteer hours	113	80	56
<b>Beneficiaries: Lifelong Learners</b>			
Spanish Classes @ Asylum Hill	4	3	3
Spanish Attendance @ Asylum Hill	34	23	13
<b>Revenue</b>			
<b>Immigration Legal Consultations</b>	2665	2075	2985
<b>NCS Pearson GED fees</b>	281	253	151
* indicates quarterly figure			



# Hartford History Center & ArtWalk

## HIGHLIGHTS:

- Jennifer Sharp joined the Hartford History Center team in December as its archivist. Jennifer was formerly the Downtown Library's Technical Services Manager. She holds a Master of Science and Information with a concentration in Archives and Records Management from the University of Michigan.
- Hartford History Center contracted with Connecticut poet Kate Rushin to create the 125th poem Library Card. Kate read the poem at the annual Beyond Words fundraiser December 7.

### **PARTNERSHIPS: (Strategic Outcome 6: Stronger relationships among community organizations)**

- HHC staff participated in the Hartford History Mural Project Steering Committee with UConn Hartford Director Mark Overmyer-Velazquez
- HHC staff filmed and archived the "Housing After Prison Panel" that took place at the Hartford Public Library and co-hosted by the Legislative Housing Re-Entry Working Group directed by the Commission on Equity and Opportunity in partnership with State Representative Brandon McGee, Jr.
- The HHC wrote a letter of support for the Voices of Migration grant with Trinity College in order to support programming around their student collections of oral histories and essays about communities in the Frog Hollow neighborhood from the past 10 years.
- We have continued our meeting and relationship with Faith Congregational Church with an effort to create a panel discussion program and a marker of their original church, Talcott Street Congregational Church, which is celebrating 200 years in 2019. This partnership also includes CT Humanities, the Old State House, Capitol Community College, The Amistad Center for Art and Culture, Real Art Ways, and local community historians Steve Thornton and Charles Teale.

### **EDUCATION/OUTREACH: (Strategic Outcome 3: Deeper understanding of self and connection to community by learning Hartford history)**

- On Wednesday, December 5, 2018, the Hartford History Center welcomed about 20 students from CREC's IMPACT YEAR Program to explore Hartford heroes using the Draw a Hartford History Maker exhibition featuring portraits of African Americans who made major differences in their communities and accompanying resources such as books written by and about them as well as newspaper clippings and photographs.



- HHC has continued to introduce UConn first year students to our collections through an exploratory hands-on session giving entering college students their first opportunity to begin to learn what it's like to conduct archival research.

### **PROGRAMS/EXHIBITIONS: (Strategic Outcome 1: Increased engagement with the arts and humanities through access and exposure)**

- Our 2018-2019 ArtWalk season opened with Andrew Reardon's exhibition, Equanimity, on October 19, 2018. In addition to a well-attended artist talk where Reardon talked about his experience travelling to Marpha, Nepal and creating his film and landscape photographs, approx. 45 students from the Creative Writing department at the Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts visited the ArtWalk to view and engage in writing activities prompted by the exhibition.



ArtWalk Book Club: Equanimity - Dr. Brandon Nappi, spiritual teacher, speaker, writer, and founder/executive director of Copper Beech Institute, joined us for a discussion of select zen koans from The Book of Equanimity.

**2,496** ARTWALK VISITS

# Hartford History Center & ArtWalk (cont.)

- HHC launched its book, *In the Grand Tradition: The Enduring Art of Elbert Weinberg* at the Greater Hartford Jewish Community Center on November 1.
- Our 3rd season of the Encounters program in partnership with UConn's Humanities Institute continued with a small group discussion on surrealism and war with the "Monsters and Myths" exhibition at the Wadsworth Atheneum on October 20 and with a major one-day conference at UConn Hartford that attracted professors, students, and community members to explore various topics on current events and the Encounters model on November 17.
- On December 27, the Hartford History Center hosted over 60 alum, families, and friends of the Looking In Theatre program based at the Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts to celebrate a book launch on anecdotes from 30 years of the this Greater Hartford teen theatre program by director Jonathan Gillman.
- ArtWalk judges gathered in December to review almost 30 applications for the 2019-2020 ArtWalk season, choosing four exhibitions showcasing artists from the Greater Hartford area and in a variety of media.



## **RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS: (Strategic Outcome 3: Deeper understanding of self and connection to community by learning Hartford history)**

- Amy Kilkenny, Head of the Auerbach Library and Archives at the Wadsworth Atheneum came by the Hartford History Center to work with staff to use our microfilm reader in order to review the Library's microfilm for a research project.
- Retired members of the Hartford Police Department found a number of archival images of the Hartford police in the Hartford Times photograph collection and were excited to be able to share some with their retired Hartford police community on Facebook.
- Former Weaver high school basketball star player was assisted by HHC staff in using the Hartford Courant historical database to locate articles about him from 1990.

## **COLLECTION HIGHLIGHTS: (Strategic Outcome 5: Preserving history of Hartford for future generations)**

- The Hartford Public Library Annual Reports Finding Aid is now available on the HHC website thanks to volunteer Maureen Heher who worked diligently on describing the Library's collection of institutional reports dating back to 1840.
- Volunteers Betty Grudzinski and Don Eiler have been transcribing the Hartford NAACP presidents' video oral histories that were originally conducted in 2017. Once transcribed, the videos will be made accessible to the public through the HHC's digital repository.

## **Professional Development / Offsite workshops:**

- HHC staff participated in Connecticut Library Consortium's Social Justice Roundtable on library resources for homeless communities and will be part of a larger library-wide discussion on this topic.
- HHC staff participated in a workshop for educators on Connecticut History Day so we can be prepared to support student research for this project.
- HHC staff attended an Arts & Economic Impact workshop held by the CT Office of the Arts in order to learn about more resources for collecting data and measuring impact on arts and culture-based programs.
- HHC staff participated in Hartford Foundation's Social Enterprise Accelerator project with Library colleagues from other departments. Social enterprise accelerator programs are specifically designed to help social entrepreneurs create and grow sustainable for-purpose businesses.

**21,163** ONLINE VISITS TO THE  
HARTFORD HISTORY CENTER



# Communications

## • COMMUNICATIONS – 2nd Quarter Update

- The Communications Department was brought up to full strength in November 2018. Brenda Miller, Executive Director of the Hartford History Center and ArtWalk gallery, assumed additional duties as Executive Director, Culture and Communications. Andy Hart was transferred to Communications Manager and Catherine Torres joined the team as Graphic Designer (see below).

### Inquiring News

Vol. 11, No. 21  
Hartford, Connecticut  
Wednesday, October 31, 2018

#### Famed Photographer Bill Costen's African-American History Exhibit on Display at Library



- Brenda instituted a new system for publicity requests from the different sectors of the library to streamline workflow and increase output of marketing materials.

- The department has also continued to improve its relationships with the local press. One example of this was the coverage given to historian Bill Costen's exhibit, "In Honor of African American Veterans" outside the Hartford History Center.

The Hartford Courant did a feature story on the exhibit and the Hartford Inquirer devoted the entire front page of

its October 31 edition to the exhibit. The "Woven Threads, Woven Lives" community weaving project also received extensive press coverage, including a 3 column photo on page 1 of the Hartford Courant on November 29.

## New Graphic Designer

- Catherine Torres began work as HPL's Graphic Designer in November 2018. Prior to this, she was a Graphic Designer at Designs for Health in Suffield, where she created a wide variety of labels, logos and other marketing materials. Catherine grew up in Hartford and New Britain, attended Classical Magnet School in Hartford and graduated from New Britain High School.



She obtained her Bachelor's Degree from Central Connecticut State University, where she majored in Graphic Design with a minor in Fine Arts. In addition to publicizing HPL events and programs through flyers, posters and other materials, Catherine has revived HPL's E-news and the library's Instagram account and is posting on a regular basis.

## Hartford Courant

VOLUME CLXXIII NUMBER 333 COURANT.COM THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2018

### CVS CEO upbeat about future

Merlo discusses company's acquisition of Aetna as \$69 billion deal closes

BY KENNETH R. GOSSELIN  
AND STEPHEN SINGER  
singer@courant.com

As CVS Health Corp. closed its \$69 billion acquisition of Hartford-based insurer Aetna Inc. on Wednesday, CVS Chief Executive Officer Larry Merlo was modestly upbeat about the future of the merged companies in Hartford, where Aetna was founded in 1853.

that we certainly don't have any plans to migrate jobs away from Hartford," Merlo said in a telephone interview with The Courant.

At the same time, CVS is not considering — at least for now — expanding its businesses in the city beyond health insurance to include parts of CVS pharmacy benefits management business. The benefits management business helps employers control drug costs.

"It would be premature at this point to

talk about any plans that would result in additional functions being resident in Hartford," Merlo said.

CVS has named Hartford one of its Centers of Excellence, a hub focused on growing Aetna's health insurance business and on ways to use data analytics to improve member health and care. Other centers are in Arizona, Illinois and Texas.

Turn to Aetna, Page A4

### Dems choose Pelosi in vote

Real test comes when full House votes for speaker in January

By LINA MARCARO  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Nancy Pelosi was nominated by fellow Democrats to be House speaker on Wednesday, but she still faces a showdown vote when the full House convenes in January.

Pelosi entered the closed-door caucus election in an unusual position — running unopposed for the nomination despite the clamor by some Democrats for new leadership. The lopsided 2018 tally showed both the weakness of her opposition but also the challenges ahead.

The California Democrat has been deftly picking off opponents — including one who announced their support as voting was underway — a trend she'll need to accelerate to reach the 218-vote threshold for election when Democrats take control of the chamber in the new year.

"Are there dissenters? Yes," the California Democrat told reporters as the ballots were being counted. "But I expect to have a powerful vote going forward."

Pelosi was nominated by Rep. Joe Kennedy of Massachusetts, with no fewer than eight colleagues seconding the choice, including Rep. John Lewis of Georgia, the civil rights leader, and three newly elected lawmakers.

As House Democrats met in private in the Capitol, they faced a simple "yes" or "no" choice.

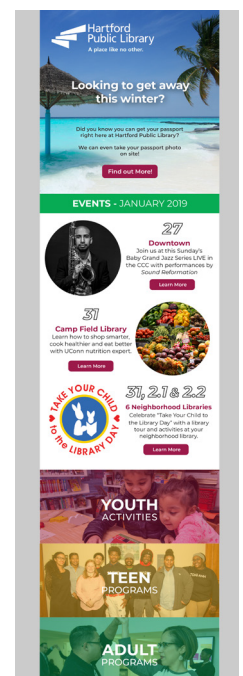
A sign of the party's mood emerged early as the House Democrats elected Rep. Hakeem Jeffries of New York as caucus



MARK NIKON/HARTFORD COURANT PHOTOS

### WOVEN INTO A COMMUNITY

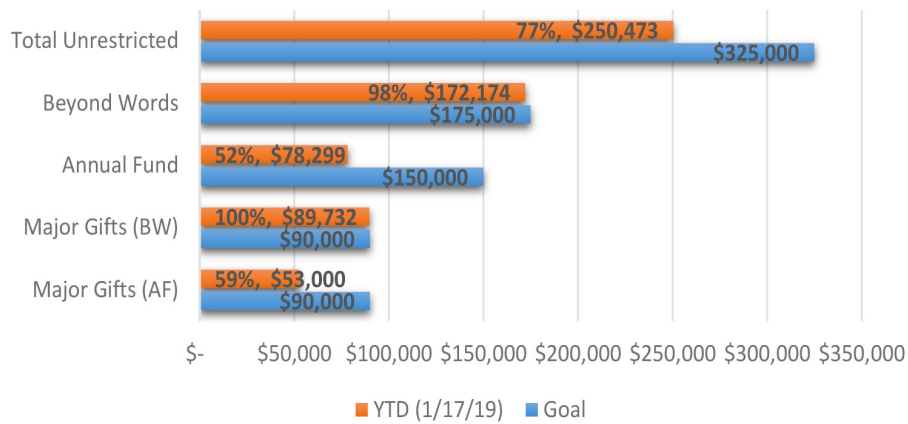
UConn student Howard Ortiz, above center, weaves on a loom set up by textile artist Sandy Bender-Frison, above left, at the Hartford Public Library on Wednesday. People are being invited by Frison to contribute to a community art project she's calling "Woven Threads, Woven Lives." At right, Hartford resident Gornath



# Development Progress on FY 2018-19 Goals

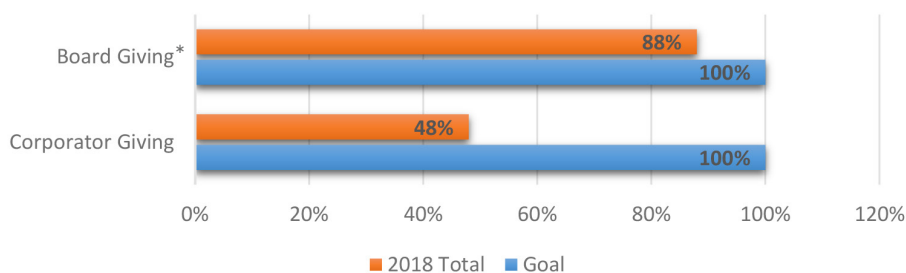
## FY19 Unrestricted Giving

as of 1/17/19



Sandra Bender Fromson and Howard Fromson receiving the Caroline M. Hewins Award from HPL CEO Bridget Quinn-Carey and HPL Board President Greg Davis at Beyond Words on December 7, 2018

## 2018 BOD & Corporator Giving

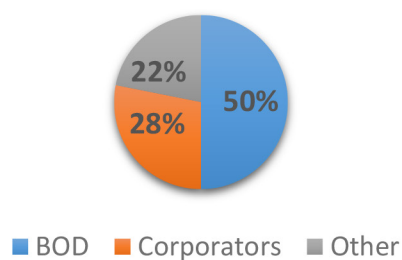


\* Fiscal Year 2018 board giving was 100% - change to calendar year impacted giving percentage one time.

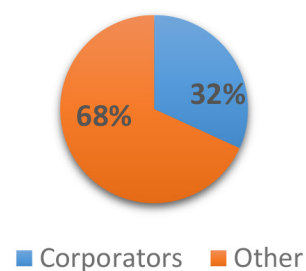


Poet Kate Rushin, Author of HPL's 125th Anniversary Poem "Library Card," with author Jacqueline Woodson, Beyond Words 2018 Featured Speaker.

## BW18 Table Captains & Committee



## BW18 Honorary Committee



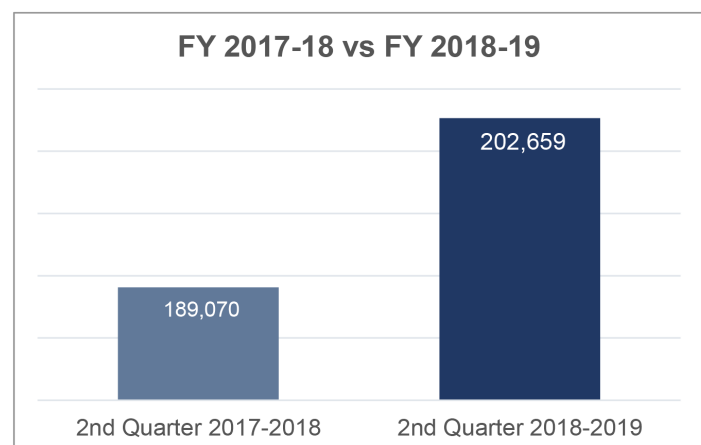
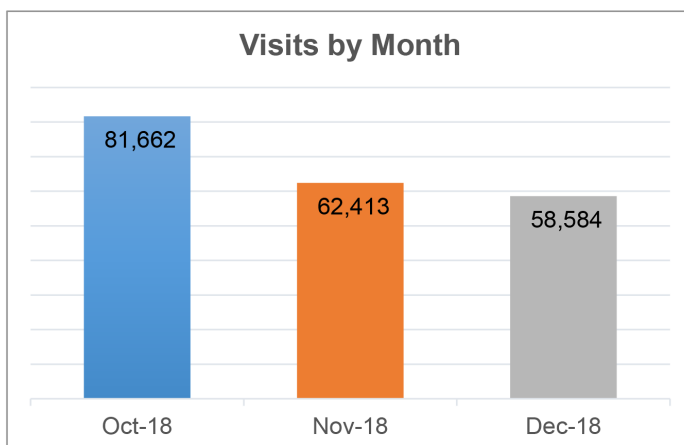
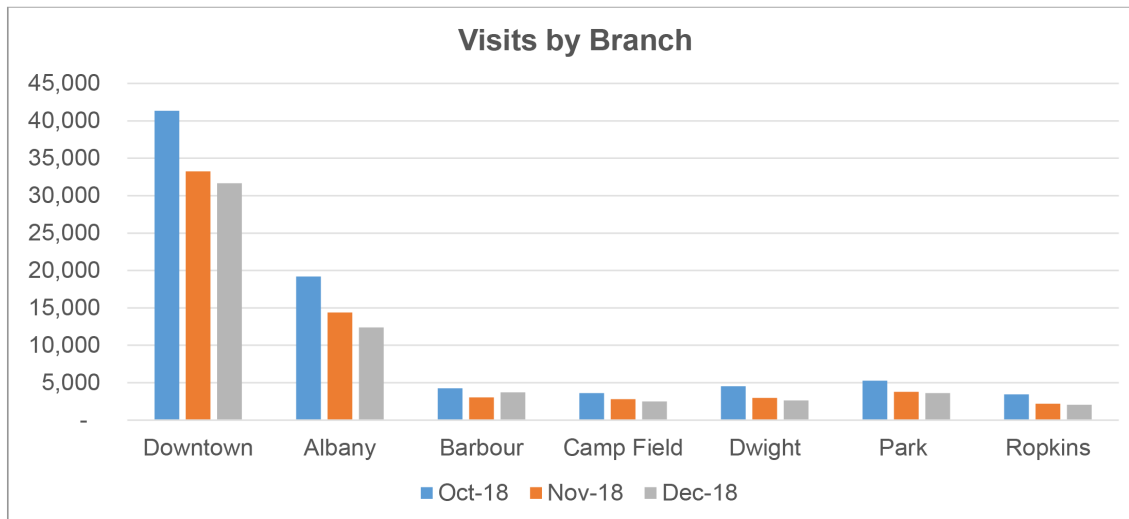
Juanita Giles - Corporator of Distinction 2018



# statistics: visits

## 2<sup>ND</sup> QUARTER FY 2018-2019 OCTOBER - DECEMBER, 2018

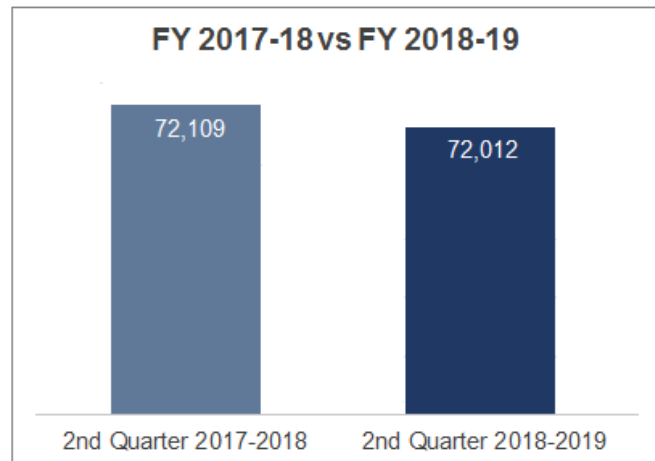
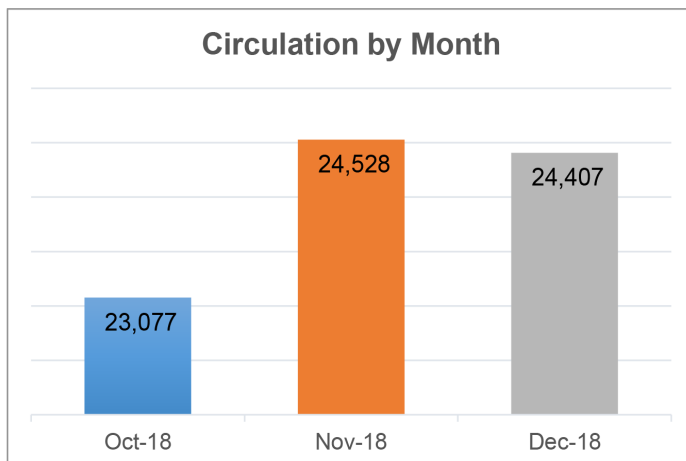
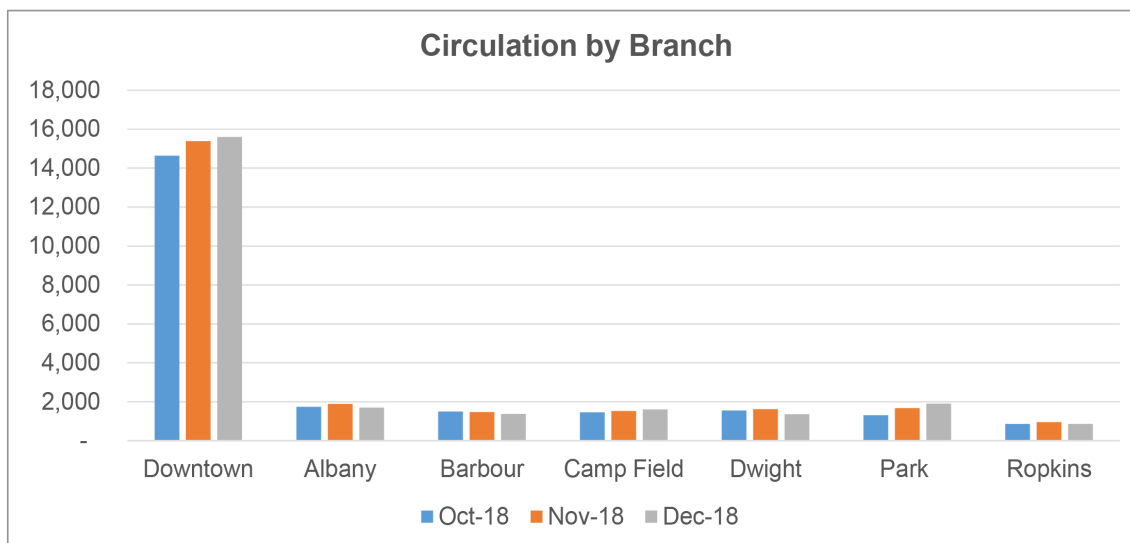
VISITS	2nd Quarter 2018-19				2nd Q 2017-18	Difference	%
	Oct-18	Nov-18	Dec-18	Total	Total		
Downtown	41,346	33,253	31,644	106,243	110,240	(3,997)	-4%
Albany	19,189	14,393	12,400	45,982	30,149	15,833	53%
Barbour	4,267	3,046	3,711	11,024	5,752	5,272	92%
Camp Field	3,627	2,798	2,512	8,937	12,876	(3,939)	-31%
Dwight	4,520	2,968	2,616	10,104	11,411	(1,307)	-11%
Park	5,259	3,769	3,630	12,658	14,950	(2,292)	-15%
Ropkins	3,454	2,186	2,071	7,711	3,692	4,019	109%
<b>Total</b>	<b>81,662</b>	<b>62,413</b>	<b>58,584</b>	<b>202,659</b>	<b>189,070</b>	<b>13,589</b>	<b>7%</b>



# statistics: circulation

## 2<sup>ND</sup> QUARTER FY 2018-2019 OCTOBER - DECEMBER, 2018

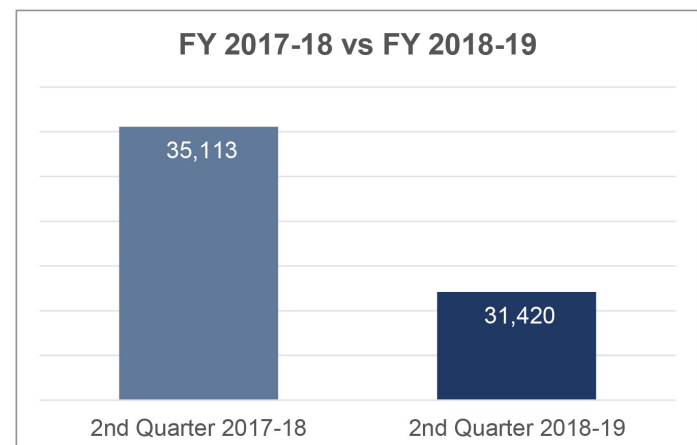
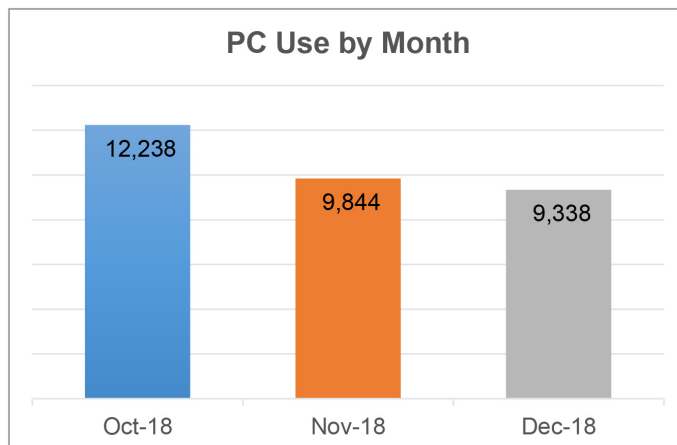
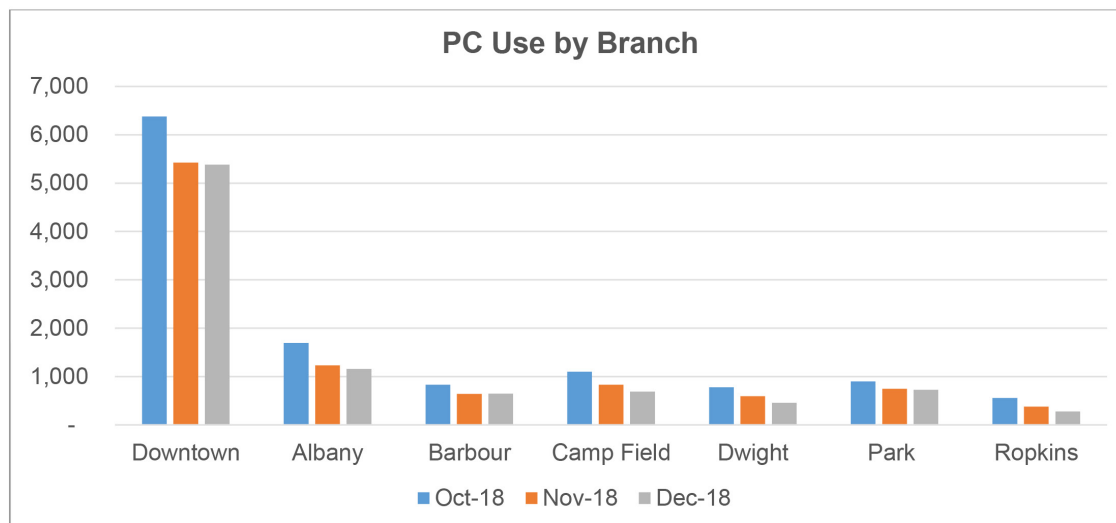
CIRCULATION	2nd Quarter 2018-19				2nd Q 2017-18	Difference	%
	Oct-18	Nov-18	Dec-18	Total	Total		
Downtown	14,645	15,392	15,597	45,634	45,355	279	1%
Albany	1,745	1,895	1,709	5,349	5,542	(193)	-3%
Barbour	1,497	1,477	1,371	4,345	3,655	690	19%
Camp Field	1,462	1,524	1,610	4,596	4,799	(203)	-4%
Dwight	1,558	1,615	1,358	4,531	4,524	7	0%
Park	1,305	1,674	1,901	4,880	5,459	(579)	-11%
Ropkins	865	951	861	2,677	2,775	(98)	-4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>23,077</b>	<b>24,528</b>	<b>24,407</b>	<b>72,012</b>	<b>72,109</b>	<b>(97)</b>	<b>0%</b>



# statistics: pc use

## 2<sup>ND</sup> QUARTER FY 2018-2019 OCTOBER - DECEMBER, 2018

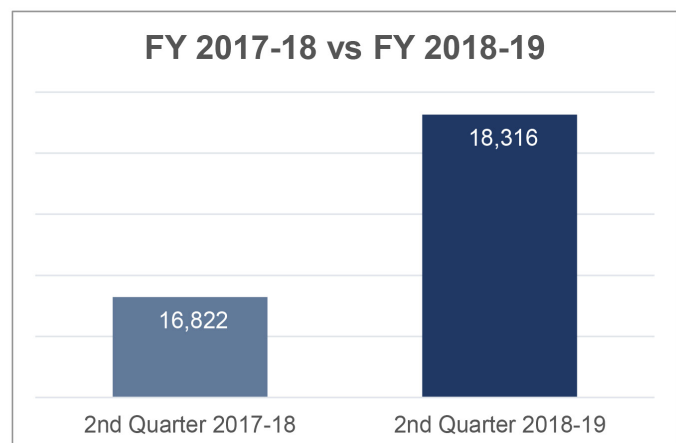
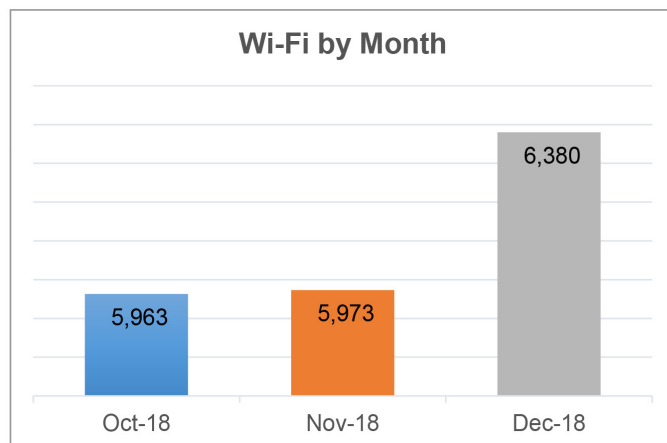
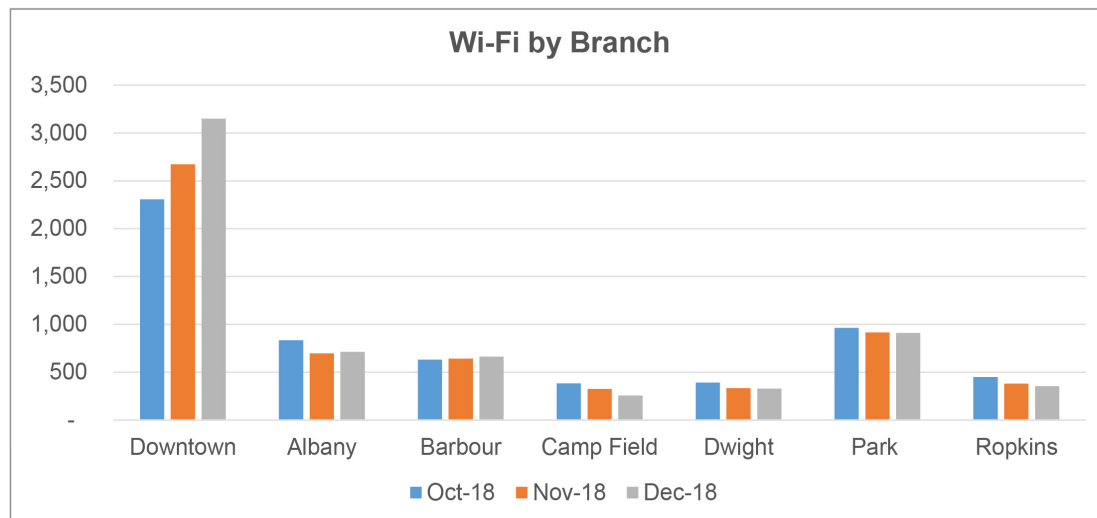
PC USE	2nd Quarter 2018-19				2nd Q 2017-18	Difference	%
	Oct-18	Nov-18	Dec-18	Total	Total		
Downtown	6,381	5,424	5,381	17,186	18,175	(989)	-5%
Albany	1,693	1,232	1,158	4,083	4,100	(17)	0%
Barbour	831	639	648	2,118	1,949	169	9%
Camp Field	1,098	833	689	2,620	3,257	(637)	-20%
Dwight	776	592	457	1,825	2,003	(178)	-9%
Park	900	744	727	2,371	4,234	(1,863)	-44%
Ropkins	559	380	278	1,217	1,395	(178)	-13%
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,238</b>	<b>9,844</b>	<b>9,338</b>	<b>31,420</b>	<b>35,113</b>	<b>(3,693)</b>	<b>-11%</b>



# statistics: wifi

## 2<sup>ND</sup> QUARTER FY 2018-2019 OCTOBER - DECEMBER, 2018

Wi-Fi	2nd Quarter 2018-19				2nd Q 2017-18	Difference	%
	Oct-18	Nov-18	Dec-18	Total	Total		
Downtown	2,308	2,673	3,149	8,130	9,356	(1,226)	-13%
Albany	835	697	714	2,246	1,747	499	29%
Barbour	631	643	664	1,938	693	1,245	180%
Camp Field	385	327	258	970	1,069	(99)	-9%
Dwight	391	335	329	1,055	787	268	34%
Park	963	917	910	2,790	2,404	386	16%
Ropkins	450	381	356	1,187	766	421	55%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,963</b>	<b>5,973</b>	<b>6,380</b>	<b>18,316</b>	<b>16,822</b>	<b>1,494</b>	<b>9%</b>





# statistics: programs

## Programs

October - December 2018  
FY 2017-18 vs FY 2018-19

FY 2017-2018	2nd Quarter	
Downtown	Programs	Attendance
American Place	256	3,304
Hartford History Center	27	687
Programming	97	4,845
Youth Department	108	3,910
YOUmedia	133	1,046
<b>Totals</b>	<b>621</b>	<b>13,792</b>

FY 2018-2019	2nd Quarter	
Downtown	Programs	Attendance
American Place	316	3,102
Hartford History Center	17	670
Programming	77	3,027
Youth Department	83	2,494
YOUmedia	104	563
<b>Totals</b>	<b>597</b>	<b>9,856</b>

FY 2017-2018	2nd Quarter	
Branches	Programs	Attendance
Albany Adult	-	-
Albany Youth	92	3,467
Barbour Adult	53	245
Barbour Youth	82	1,132
Camp Field Adult	-	-
Camp Field Youth	120	2,366
Dwight Adult	16	338
Dwight Youth	4	120
Park Adult	18	308
Park Youth	107	1,581
Ropkins Adult	-	-
Ropkins Youth	157	2,679
Library on Wheels	89	1,248
<b>Totals</b>	<b>738</b>	<b>13,484</b>

FY 2018-2019	2nd Quarter	
Branches	Programs	Attendance
Albany Adult	17	158
Albany Youth	157	2,569
Barbour Adult	19	182
Barbour Youth	84	783
Camp Field Adult	7	14
Camp Field Youth	93	1,564
Dwight Adult	30	180
Dwight Youth	113	1,145
Park Adult	8	54
Park Youth	92	1,132
Ropkins Adult	-	-
Ropkins Youth	115	2,221
Library on Wheels	33	599
<b>Totals</b>	<b>768</b>	<b>10,601</b>

FY 2017-2018	2nd Quarter	
Hartford Public Library (includes Downtown and Branches)	Programs	Attendance
American Place	306	3,540
Hartford History Center	27	687
Programming	134	5,500
Youth Department	694	15,668
YOUmedia	198	1,881
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1,359</b>	<b>27,276</b>

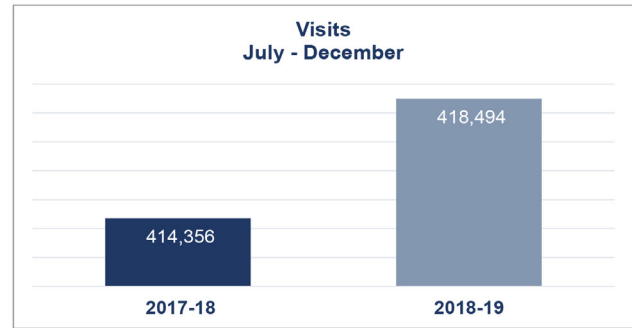
FY 2018-2019	2nd Quarter	
Hartford Public Library (includes Downtown and Branches)	Programs	Attendance
American Place	357	3,399
Hartford History Center	18	670
Programming	116	3,318
Youth Department	619	11,004
YOUmedia	255	2,066
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1,365</b>	<b>20,457</b>

# statistics: YTD totals

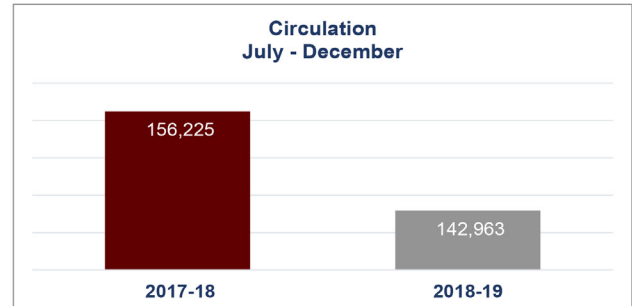
July - December  
FY 2017-18 vs FY 2018-19

	2017-18	2018-19		
TOTAL VISITS	Jul. - Dec.	Jul. - Dec.	Difference	%
Downtown	229,461	218,013	(11,448)	-5%
Albany	53,031	87,105	34,074	64%
Barbour	13,074	24,098	11,024	84%
Blue Hills	6,103	-	(6,103)	-100%
Camp Field	28,614	22,516	(6,098)	-21%
Dwight	22,722	23,476	754	3%
Goodwin	9,964	-	(9,964)	-100%
Mark Twain	417	-	(417)	-100%
Park	36,878	26,904	(9,974)	-27%
Ropkins	14,092	16,382	2,290	16%
<b>TOTAL VISITS</b>	<b>414,356</b>	<b>418,494</b>	<b>4,138</b>	<b>1%</b>

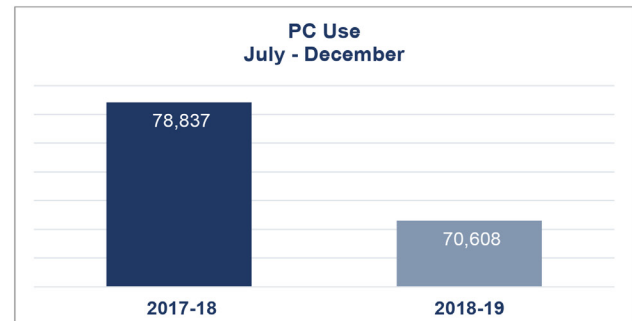
YTD  
July - December  
FY 2017-18 vs FY 2018-19



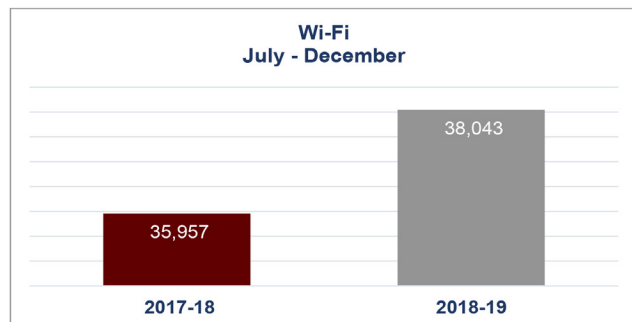
	2017-18	2018-19		
TOTAL CIRCULATION	Jul. - Dec.	Jul. - Dec.	Difference	%
Downtown	95,867	92,056	(3,811)	-4%
Albany	10,923	10,256	(667)	-6%
Barbour	6,904	7,800	896	13%
Blue Hills	1,782	-	(1,782)	-100%
Camp Field	9,984	9,373	(611)	-6%
Dwight	9,288	9,341	53	1%
Goodwin	5,102	-	(5,102)	-100%
Mark Twain	447	-	(447)	-100%
Park	10,663	9,569	(1,094)	-10%
Ropkins	5,265	4,568	(697)	-13%
<b>TOTAL CIRCULATION</b>	<b>156,225</b>	<b>142,963</b>	<b>(13,262)</b>	<b>-8%</b>



	2017-18	2018-19		
TOTAL PC USE	Jul. - Dec.	Jul. - Dec.	Difference	%
Downtown	36,972	36,777	(195)	-1%
Albany	8,447	9,407	960	11%
Barbour	4,469	4,850	381	9%
Blue Hills	1,681	-	(1,681)	-100%
Camp Field	7,159	6,128	(1,031)	-14%
Dwight	4,190	4,278	88	2%
Goodwin	1,709	-	(1,709)	-100%
Mark Twain	228	-	(228)	-100%
Park	9,479	6,466	(3,013)	-32%
Ropkins	4,503	2,702	(1,801)	-40%
<b>TOTAL PC USE</b>	<b>78,837</b>	<b>70,608</b>	<b>(8,229)</b>	<b>-10%</b>



	2017-18	2018-19		
TOTAL WI-FI	Jul. - Dec.	Jul. - Dec.	Difference	%
Downtown	19,157	17,788	(1,369)	-7%
Albany	3,341	4,428	1,087	33%
Barbour	1,472	3,727	2,255	153%
Blue Hills	1,240	-	(1,240)	-100%
Camp Field	2,230	2,160	(70)	-3%
Dwight	1,551	2,230	679	44%
Goodwin	766	-	(766)	-100%
Mark Twain	-	-	-	0%
Park	4,605	5,415	810	18%
Ropkins	1,595	2,295	700	44%
<b>TOTAL WI-FI</b>	<b>35,957</b>	<b>38,043</b>	<b>2,086</b>	<b>6%</b>



# statistics: municipal IDs

**Municipal ID's Breakdown  
FY 2018 - 2019**

Month	Downtown	Albany	Park	Total ID's	Redo
July	25	5	9	39	0
August	36	2	0	38	0
September	20	0	0	20	0
October	27	0	15	42	0
November	15	2	14	31	0
December	19	5	5	29	0
January				0	
February				0	
March				0	
April				0	
May				0	
June				0	
<b>Total</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>0</b>

FY 2017-18
160
89
61
32
52
61
62
37
37
37
48
46
<b>722</b>

	Downtown	Albany	Park	Hurricane Relief	Total FY 17
<b>FY 2017-18</b>	562	27	39	94	722
<b>YTD</b>	<b>1104</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>1,330</b>

Redo
47
<b>67</b>