

Chief Executive Officer's Report

August 2018

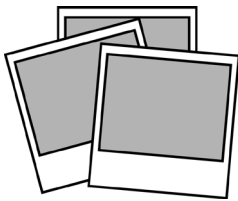
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April, May & June

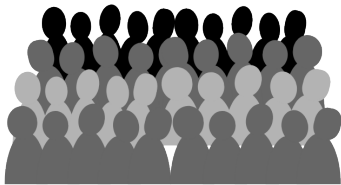
at a glance



1,854 new library card holders



8,662 visits to the Hartford History Center digital repository



2,332 teen program attendees



800 youth programs offered



41 intergenerational programs



61 students in new driver's prep classes



518 job seekers served



174 passports submitted

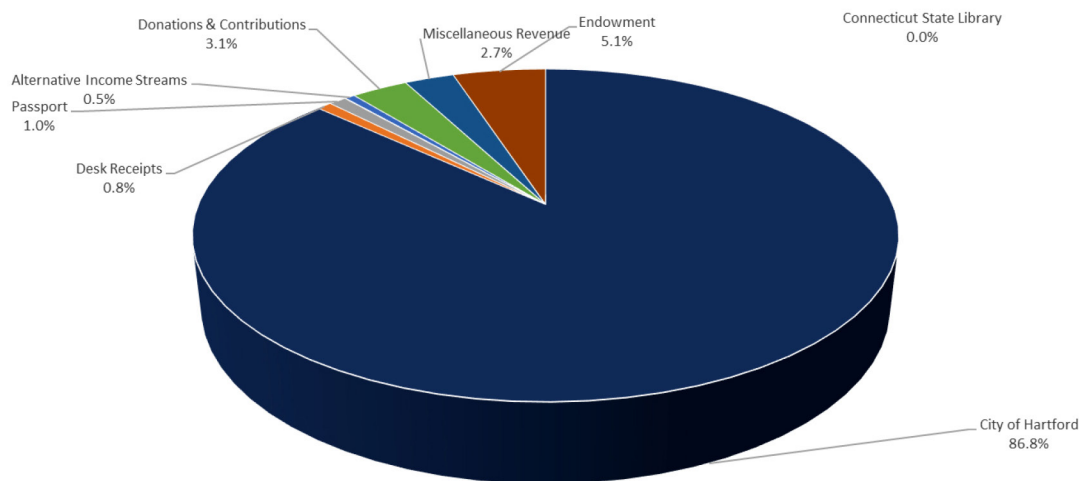
OPERATING BUDGET SUMMARY FISCAL YEAR 2018

AS OF JUN 30, 2018 – 100% THROUGH FISCAL YEAR

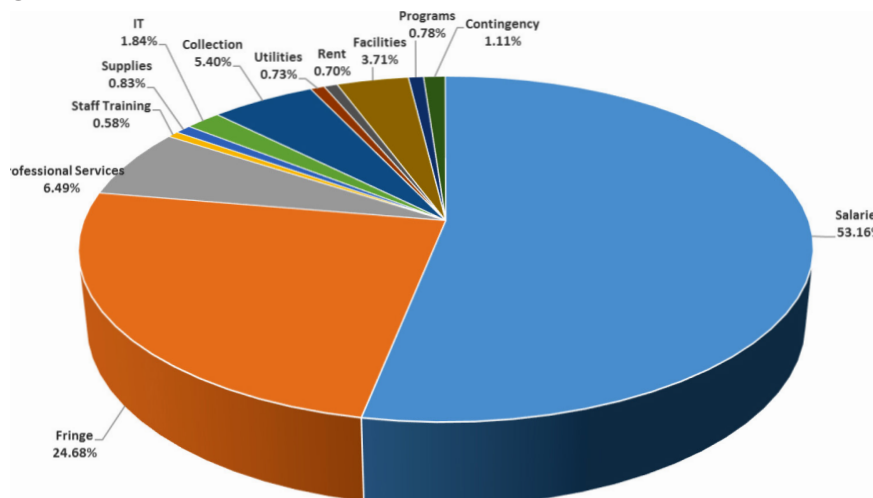
For the period ending 6/30/18, the Hartford Public Library has expended an estimated total of \$9,240,793 which represents 98.3% of the revised operating budget of \$9,400,427. The Library has also collected an estimated \$9,333,253 in operating funds, or 99.3% of the Fiscal Year 2018 budget. ***These totals are un-audited and subject to change.***

	REVISED BUDGET	ACTUAL/COMMITTED	VARIANCE	% REVENUE & EXPENDITURE
Revenue	\$9,400,427	\$9,333,253	\$67,174	99.3%
Expense	\$9,400,427	\$9,240,793	\$159,634	98.3%
Variance	\$0	\$92,460	-\$92,460	

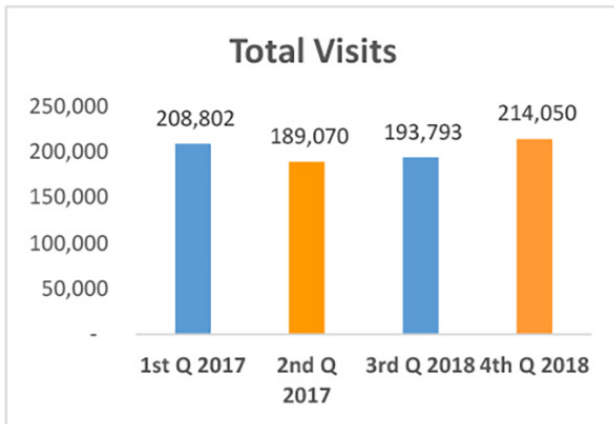
REVENUE



EXPENSE

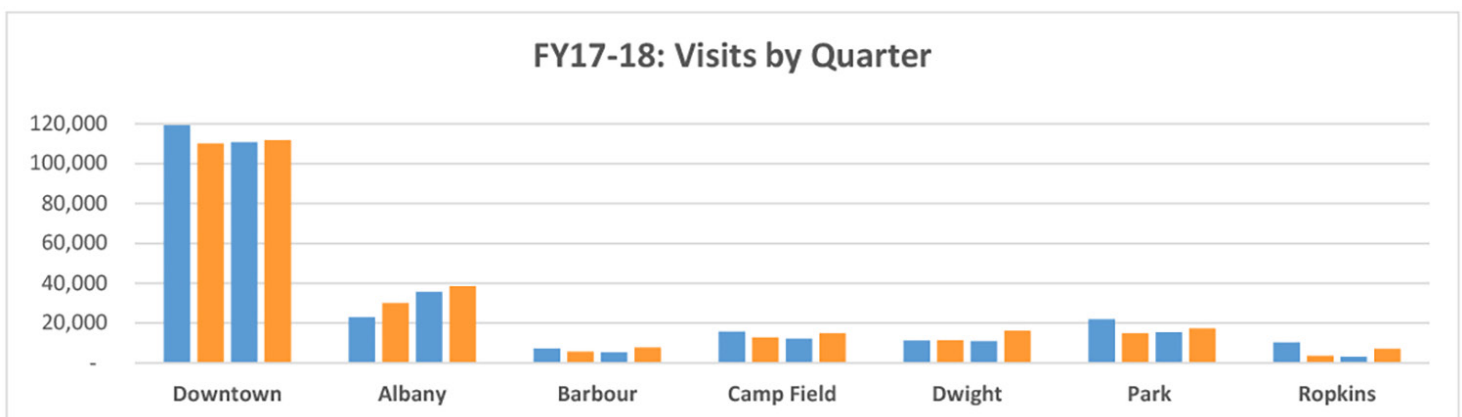


TOTAL VISITS: Q1 THRU Q4

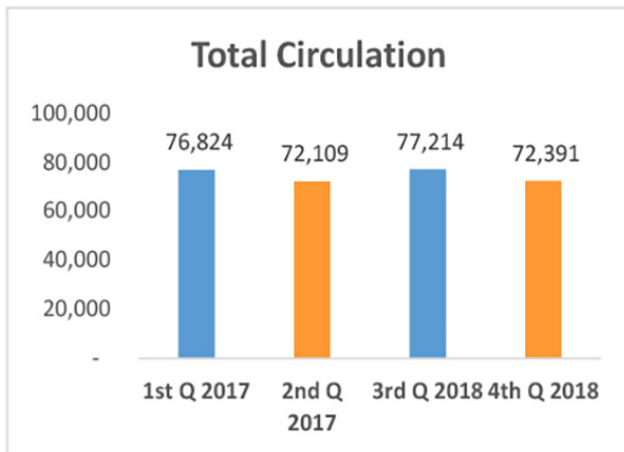


	APR 2018	MAY 2018	JUN 2018	4th Q Total
Downtown	41,464	34,736	35,617	111,817
Albany	13,526	14,023	11,036	38,585
Barbour	1,963	1,755	4,133	7,851
Camp Field	4,656	5,043	5,226	14,925
Dwight	4,504	5,855	5,870	16,229
Park	3,199	6,732	7,501	17,432
Ropkins	1,863	2,647	2,701	7,211
Total	71,175	70,791	72,084	214,050

VISITS BY BRANCH: Q1 THRU Q4

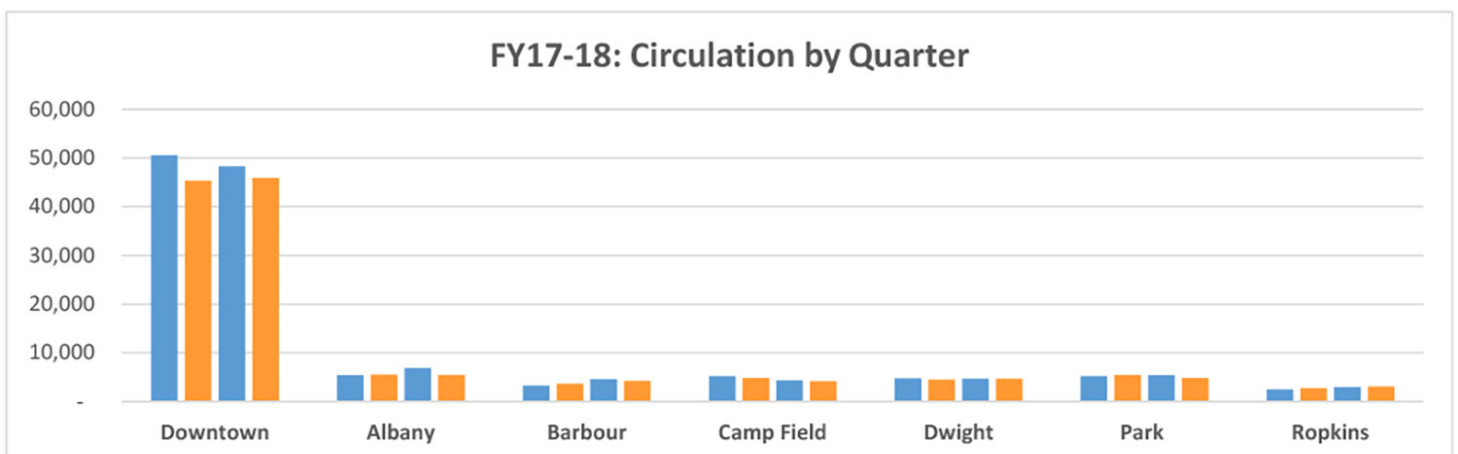


TOTAL CIRCULATION: Q1 THRU Q4

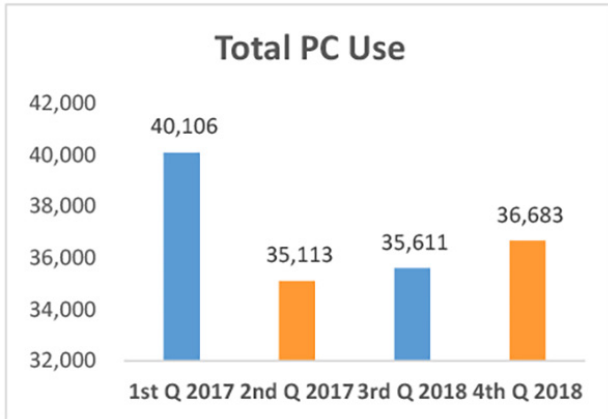


	APR 2018	MAY 2018	JUN 2018	4TH Q TOTAL
Downtown	15,837	14,931	15,137	45,905
Albany	1,953	1,781	1,770	5,504
Barbour	1,698	1,374	1,161	4,233
Camp Field	1,390	1,270	1,536	4,196
Dwight	1,620	1,525	1,540	4,685
Park	1,647	1,532	1,624	4,803
Ropkins	1,258	1,149	658	3,065
Total	25,403	23,562	23,426	72,391

CIRCULATION BY BRANCH: Q1 THRU Q4

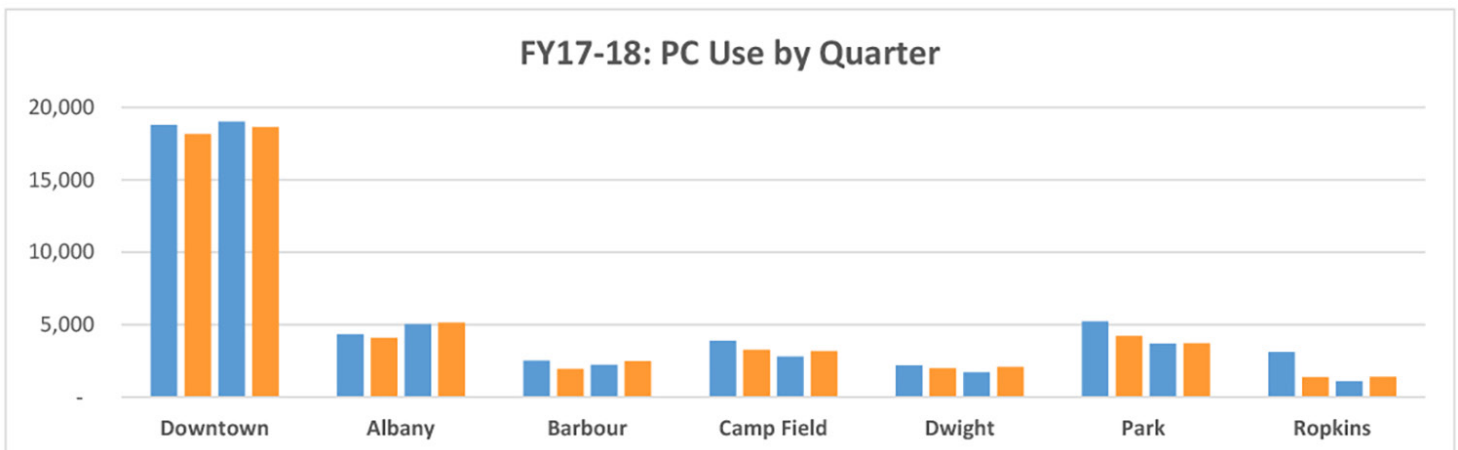


TOTAL PC USE: Q1 THRU Q4



	APR 2018	MAY 2018	JUN 2018	4TH Q TOTAL
Downtown	6,311	6,010	6,330	18,651
Albany	1,744	1,650	1,757	5,151
Barbour	822	860	804	2,486
Camp Field	1,030	1,056	1,088	3,174
Dwight	650	731	712	2,093
Park	1,242	904	1,576	3,722
Ropkins	433	455	518	1,406
Total	12,232	11,666	12,785	36,683

PC USE BY BRANCH: Q1 THRU Q4



HPL Community Connections and Outreach

HPL @ Hartford Stage

The Hartford Stage Ambassador Program connected life-long Hartford residents and HPL cardholders to The Hartford Stage Company's programs and shows. The Literary Theme of the shows helped to encourage book lovers see their favorite novels come to life on stage. 290 sets of tickets were claimed. 17 books were checked out from the HPL @ Hartford Stage Display.

Museum Passes

The most popular destinations this quarter were passes for the Bushnell Park Carousel, the Lutz Children's Museum and the Beardsley Zoo. 569 museum passes were checked out.

Municipal ID's: 131

New Library Card Holders: 1,854

Online Cards Created: 144

By Zip Code: 209 from 06120; 266 from 06112; 217 from 06103; 282 from 06114; 211 from 06105; 409 from 06106, and 260 from other towns

569

MUSEUM PASSES
CHECKED OUT

1,854

NEW LIBRARY CARD HOLDERS

Approximately 1,782 people were introduced to the free and vital services HPL offers at 20 outreach events throughout the quarter. Below are examples of a few stops.

- **Hartford Day at the State Capitol:** The library was one of 20 community agencies attending and sharing information of the programs, classes and services offered to the public in addition to sharing HPL's strategic plan and monthly magazine.
- **Betty Knox/Mary Mahoney Health Fair:** We shared information to seniors who reside in assisted living and independent apartment complexes located in the North End of Hartford.
- **Urban League End of the Year Event:** We shared information with students and parents at their end of year event. In addition to books, programs and classes students and parents were informed of the ability to register to vote at the library. 100 free books were given away at this event.
- **Tru Books Annual Children's Appreciation Day:** Local bookstore owner Trevor Foster invited the community to play games. All invitees refrained from using electronic devices. The purpose of the event was to encourage interaction with conversation and cooperating with each other. HPL participated in this event by providing the large Jenga game played by adults and children.
- **40k Book Give Away:** In partnership with the City of Hartford, HPL provided an information table at Parker Memorial Center during this incredible free book give away. OWL Enrichment students managed the library table. They learned the value of community outreach and networking. This event connected families and educators to resources to help improve the literacy levels of the youth in Hartford.



In addition to attending this event, HPL accepted an additional 500 books and distributed them to residents in the North and South ends of the city.

- **Knox Green House Grand Opening Event:** Knox has opened a new greenhouse in the Asylum Hill community. During this event, tours were given and elected officials addressed the crowd about the importance of gardens and green spaces in Hartford. HPL was present to provide information about services and materials.
- **Community Collections Promoting Literacy:** To date there are 17 community bookshelves located in residential spaces, recreation centers, laundromats, barbershops and schools. The books for this project are transferred from weeded HPL library collections. This project has allowed books to have a presence in non-traditional spaces increasing access to literacy.
- **Library on Wheels (LOW)** made 36 visits, reaching a total of 1,368 attendees. The 10 locations visited on regular rotation were: The Right Place, Growing Tree, Mary Mahoney Village, Betty Knox Apt., and the weekly River Reads events.

youth & family services

800 programs offered

17,000 participants served

Central Children's Room saw a 34% increase in print circulation over last fiscal year resulting in almost 10,000 books checked out.

34%

INCREASE IN PRINT CIRCULATION

Early Literacy and Family Engagement: In continued efforts in removing barriers to access to materials and services that promote and improve reading, HPL is promoting literacy to youth and families in and outside of our 4 walls in the following ways:

Summer Learning: Build a Better World: Read, Go, Do encourages participants to not only read over the summer, but also engage in activities around six themes: Nature, STEM, Hartford, Literature, Health, and Arts. Participants who complete at least five activities in any one of these "clubs" or at least one activity from each will get a free ticket to the Hartford Yard Goats game on August 24th. Participants who complete all six clubs and earn a free bag and a certificate. The Summer Learning Program kicked off on June 6th with family friendly activities, the band Boogie Chillun', face painting, ice cream, local author's fair, free books, and tabling by community organizations. About 500 people attended the event, one made a remark that they could not believe all of it was free and thanking us for all we do. "The Library of Things" was also introduced at the event. In efforts to connect library services and materials in nontraditional ways to the public, customers can now check out cake pans, sewing machines, fishing poles, and game equipment. Interest was high and the sewing machines already have a number of holds on them!

17,000

PARTICIPANTS SERVED

Story Walk: HPL reached 135 participants in this year's Story Walk, encouraging families to read and talk about a story together in addition to engage in early literacy activities. Despite the weather preventing the Story Walk from being held in Bushnell Park, staff managed to have a great event inside the library. Ann Gaulin from RSCO said it was one of the best library events she has ever attended.

El Día de los Niños was celebrated at each branch. Participants received a bilingual copy of *Lola Plants a Garden*. The celebrations emphasized the importance of literacy for children of all linguistic and cultural backgrounds. Parent Library Ambassadors planned activities such as reading the story *Día*, singing songs in their native language, Rangoli an Indian form of art which patterns are created on the floor using colored rice powder or flower petals. Other activities included painting and learning "hello" in many languages, performances from a children's Indian dance group and from X Dance Studio, a traditional Puerto Rican Dance and a Hip Hip dance.

Stories in the Park: Story time on picnic blankets were presented in Bushnell Park followed by outdoor activities such as sidewalk chalk, tossing and catching balls, parachute games, a bubble station, and jump ropes. Over 55 children and 50 parents attend.

1,000 Books before Kindergarten: 210 children enrolled. Eight children completed their 1,000 books this quarter.

Summer STEM Camps with the Children's Museum: A partnership with the Children's Museum in West Hartford will once again, provide families the opportunity to participate in a week long, family STEM Camp, where families will be exposed to STEM activities and at the end of the week, and go on a field trip to the museum. The camp was offered to Downtown engaging 196 participants and will be offered in August at the Park Branch and Barbour Branch.

Working towards School Readiness and School Success: 2,055 students received homework help Playaway Launchpads: At least 10 Playaway Launchpad tablets are now available for checkout at every branch. These preloaded tablets, each based around a theme for a particular age group, provide access to educational and enriching apps. 228 launchpads circulated in the 4th quarter.



boundless programs

In Q4 2017-18, there were 117 Boundless programs with a total attendance of 3,449. These include class visits to the library, librarians attending events at the schools, and librarians visiting classrooms. Boundless card distribution included Parkville, Maria Sanchez and McDonough School for 3,230 cards issued.



3,449

TOTAL ATTENDANCE IN
BOUNDLESS PROGRAMS

3,230

LIBRARY CARDS ISSUED

117

BOUNDLESS PROGRAMS

Outreach to Wish School by Barbour Branch Staff resulted in the creation of an institutional library card resulting in a sharing of library materials with the students that visit the library weekly at their school but don't visit the Barbour branch. The school librarian reported that the HPL Book Shelf @ WISH School has been very popular.

HPL staff have been working to weed the Rawson school library in preparation for the launch of the new Boundless Library program there in the fall. Story boards were made accessible to Betances School for classes and Mi Casa's after school program children to enjoy.

Ozobots have been incorporated into the Boundless programming offered from Camp Field Branch to Naylor School's 3rd, 5th and 6th graders, where school library staff and teachers worked collaboratively to experiment with different color codes to make the Ozobots move in a variety of ways.

After a brief introduction to how the Ozobot works, students were given code reference sheets and tips for drawing successful pathways for the Ozobots. Our school liaison invited teachers from classes around the school to come in during the visits to see the Ozobots in action and student's total engagement with the project. At the end of the sessions, teachers expressed interest in professional development for Ozobots and coding with children in the classroom. Plans for this training are underway for Fall 2018.

Park Youth Services Librarian reports the following about the Park Library's relationship with the Pre-K at Maria Sanchez.

Throughout the winter and spring, I have been conducting outreach storytimes with Room 109 at Maria Sanchez Elementary School. This ongoing storytime has been an excellent opportunity to work with the young people on the early literacy components of storytime, and allow them to develop rapport with their local librarian. As the school year wound down, I was able to further cement this rapport when I spent two days distributing Boundless cards at Maria Sanchez. This allowed me to engage with Pre-K students I had been working with in a new environment, meet parents, caregivers, and siblings, and talk about what the library has in store for them over the summer. This was crucial to me as an extension of the work we had been doing in storytime, as they were engaging with early literacy practices but also getting to know me as a librarian and what I (as librarian) meant going forward.

Once summer reading hit, I was extremely pleased to see three Pre-K students from Maria Sanchez Room 109 in the library during that first week. Each was with a caregiver, had their Boundless card, and was using it to check out materials. I was able to have several conversations about materials that might be most beneficial to their summer reading goals, recommending picture books and early readers (*Elephant and Piggy* were particular favorites) to read over the summer.

Having the outreach storytime connection also allowed me to more effectively share information about the Summer Learning program. Jaillani has been the most frequent former Room 109 library visitor so far. She and her mom and sister came in that Tuesday Maria Sanchez let out, and I sat down with them to do the Upcycled Paper Butterflies craft. I was able to show them both the rudiments of how to create a butterfly, then Jaillani's mother helped her make her own. The time crafting gave us an opportunity to discuss Summer Learning and how the library can support them going forward.

Feedback from Customers

"I love this library! It's got more than books!"

"You need to see our refrigerator! It's covered with projects that we did in the library!"



Stories from Assistant Youth Librarians

Dwight Library:

Youssef is a youth who is a regular visitor at the Dwight Branch. Besides taking advantage of the usual library services, Youssef gets home schooled here by his tutor Susan. He is usually dropped off or accompanied by his mother and sometimes also by his two sisters. His Egyptian immigrant family has become valuable members of our branch community as they attend the library as well as the community programs. I was extremely happy to see them and enjoy their company at the Real Art Ways summer kick-off event.

Barbour Library:

There are two sisters who have been daily visitors to the Barbour Branch for years but I only met them when I started here in September. The older sister, Audrey, aged 11, recently surprised me when she exclaimed, "You need to see our refrigerator!" Confused by what she meant I asked, "Why?" Audrey explained that their whole refrigerator at home is covered with projects that they did in the library! A few weeks later I met the girls' mother for the first time. I introduced myself and identified myself as the Youth Services librarian that works with her children after-school and I told her about the refrigerator comment. Mom responded, "Yes, it used to be only the front of the refrigerator but now it's the entire side too! This exchange illustrates that the kids are proud of the work they do in the programs at the Barbour Branch. The sisters now have a library wall of all their work. It's no longer on the refrigerator but they have devoted a wall to their projects. They promise to take a photo!"

teen services

HPL Teen Services offered 269 programs: 139 arts & entertainment, 71 STEM, 32 literature, 25 life skills, and 2 library promotion & skills. Programs were attended by 2,332 participants, 1,599 of which were teens.

YOUmedia Albany Ribbon Cutting: YOUmedia opened to great fanfare on April 17th. Elected officials – Luke Bronin, Doug McCrory and Joshua Hall – attended, as well as philanthropist Joyce Mandell and teens from the Urban League, OWL Enrichment Center, YOUmedia, and Youth Service Corps Interns. The Center is sponsored by the Mandell-Braunstein Family Foundation.

Coding for Teens: Eleven teens and young adults were engaged in an introductory Java course 5 of whom attended very regularly.

Summer Learning Kickoff: Teens from across Hartford came Downtown during the June 9th Summer Learning Kickoff to volunteer. They supported a range of activities including setting up the community organization fair, passing out water bottles, and running several maker activities in the Center for Contemporary Culture. A total of 16 youth engaged several hundred children and families in virtual reality, sticker-making, coloring, painting, candy jewelry, and photography.

Summer Youth Employment and Learning Program applications opened for the month of May. HPL referred more than two dozen youth to three providers: Center for Latino Progress, Blue Hills Civic Association, and Our Piece of the Pie. With existing partnerships in place with all three providers, youth who applied through the library were prioritized and offered an opportunity to work at the library. An ongoing partnership with Pathways Academy of Technology resulted in Hartford youth being selected to work at the library through an interview and interest assessment.

Greater Hartford Arts Council and Hartford Public Library partnered with GHAC to support Make Music Day Hartford on June 21st. Through this connection, the library provided live entertainment for families at 6 library locations. More than 200 youth participated at the libraries alone. Music programs were coordinated at each of the branch libraries. Barbour: Bucket Drumming; Camp Field: Sea Tea Improve Musical Comedy; Downtown: YOUmedia Soleil + DJ Soul Selektah; Dwight: Austen Ballard; Park: LAUGH, and Ropkins: Proud Drill, Drum, & Dance Corps. These events were successful in bringing in new patron into the locations.

HPL teen support services staff provided outreach services to the Juvenile Detention Center. Weeding of the fiction, series, and graphic novel collection has been completed; books have been organized into fiction, non-fiction, graphic novels, series, and a small Spanish-language collection; and nonfiction and fiction book purchases were recommended to round out the collection. Youth are very engaged in the library, circulating approximately 75 books per week. Unit officers report a significant increase in requests to use the library since its redesign.

Stories from Teen Librarians

Hartford Public Library is a safe space for teens and young adults. N, age 16, comes to the Camp Field Library daily to do homework, socialize online and watch her brother and younger cousins. N loves art and regularly participates in arts and craft activities, encouraging her brother and cousins to get involved. She also acts as a library ambassador for her large extended family to promote library services among family members such as the summer lunch, special programs etc. N has a parent with a substance use disorder which she openly talks about including how it causes stress in the family, how her mother works to support the whole family and they stay at the library until closing because there are frequent fights at home. N has shared that she enjoys and would like to do more art therapy because that really calms her down and makes her feel better.

During DIY Craft Hours, a long-time YOUmedia teen designed and sewed a shirt from scratch. The shirt was needed as a costume piece for a short social media film in which the actor was portraying a slave working in a field. The film was a response/criticism of Kanye West's comments regarding slavery.

A former intern and recent teen-turned-"legend" suggested that we start a tradition of celebrating the graduating seniors with a small party. On June 19th, in celebration of Juneteenth and all graduating seniors, we held a ceremony that involved pizza, cake, The Pomp and Circumstance score, and a certificate of achievement. 15 teens walked across the stage and were celebrated. While the connection to Juneteenth was and provided a historical learning opportunity, the date coincided with a graduation and will be pushed one week in future years.

Written work from the OWL Enrichment Teens were featured in the North End Agent because of workshops that they participated in with the editor of the newspaper.

269

PROGRAMS OFFERED

2,332

PARTICIPANTS

adult programming

41 intergenerational programs with a total audience of 2,915. Programming included art programs, literary programs, films, performing arts, and civic engagement.

Civic Engagement

PROGRAM	PARTNER
Gubernatorial Forum and 4th District State Representative Candidates Forum	Hartford Votes Coalition
CRIA Meetings	City of Hartford
Public speaking and leadership workshops	Toastmasters Club development
Citizen Demos: Revisiting Democracy	Everyday Democracy, CT Civic Ambassadors and CT Humanities

2,915

TOTAL AUDIENCE

41

INTERGENERATIONAL
PROGRAMS

As with every election, the Downtown Library served as a polling place for the 4th District State Representative Special Election in June. With the Library's help, the coalition is planning three upcoming candidate forums in July to take place before the August Primary Election, as well as two branch-wide voter registration drives in August and September.

Citizen Demos: Revisiting Democracy featured a keynote address by international critical thinker, speaker, and conflict resolution expert Ashok Panikkar, who also led a conversation about the culture and values of democracy, the challenges it faces, and our roles as "citizens" in strengthening it.

Supportive Community for Learning

PROGRAM	PARTNER
Poets on Poetry	Connecticut Poetry Society
African American Literature Book Club	Community Members
Documentary "Without a Net" The Digital Divide in America	Department of Consumer Protection and the Office of Consumer Counsel
Lifelong Learning for Older Adults: Classes in the Arts at Hartford Public Library. "Faces & Places: Collaging Hartford's History"	Ensworth Charitable Foundation, Bank of America, N.A., Trustee.
Chicago Style Steppin Dance Classes	Hartford City Steppers
Budget Coaching Program	United Way of Central and Northeastern Connecticut.
Big Read Programming	The Amistad Center for Art & Culture, Charter Oak Cultural Center, COMPASS Youth Collaborative, Connecticut Center for Nonviolence, The Connecticut Poetry Society, Cultura Mosaica, Hands on Hartford, Harriet Beecher Stowe Center, Hartford Youth Scholars, Real Art Ways, The Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, UConn Hartford, UConn Library, UConn Humanities Institute – UCHI.

adult programming continued

Adult Programming Highlights

The Connecticut Poetry Society's "Poets on Poetry" monthly series highlighted poets Maxine Kumin and Billy Collins.

"Without a Net: The Digital Divide in America," a documentary that explores how access to technology can provide opportunities for learning and help level the playing field for underserved communities, was screened and followed by a dynamic panel discussion and audience conversation. The one-hour film focuses on digital inequalities in public school classrooms, by examining the challenges of providing connectivity, technology, and computer learning in public schools (Grades 6-12), as well as the transformative potential of fully equipping all students for the digital world.

The collage series, led by artist Andres Chaparro, celebrates Hartford history and Hartford artists past and present, using reproductions of materials from the library's Hartford History Center collection. These classes are designed for adults ages 55+. Funding made possible through the generous support of the of the Ensworth Charitable Foundation, Bank of America, N.A., Trustee.



Artist andres chaparro (rear, right) with participants in his "Faces and Places Collage Workshop" at the Albany Library.

Baby Grand Jazz Total audience for 2018 Baby Grand Jazz was 12,454; up from 5,914 last year.

HPL in partnership with UConn hosted the 2018 Piano Project: Sour Flowers & Enchanted Gardens in April.

Weekly pop up games at the Downtown Library on Tuesdays evenings and Thursday's midday include board games, puzzles, arts and crafts, jumbo games, marble mazes, cards, and more.

Big Read

HPL launched a very successful programming series for the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) "Big Read" grant. Survey data collected about the Big Read series was positively overwhelming and rich with quotes like the following:

"This experience was just brilliant, inclusive, relevant, and beautiful to see all staff collaborating helping the youth shine, and the author shine with the community. Celebrating across various genres of art, ages, and formats of expression was exceptional. Often institutions reinforce oppression while attempting to include a diverse author, but in this case the brilliant programming absolutely supplemented the work of the author."

One of the many Big Read events that occurred was the event "The Citizen's Lyric: Race, Class, and Policing," featuring a film screening of "13th," a documentary about the prison system in the United States and how it reveals the nation's history and current practice of racism. The film was followed by a panel of anti-racist community organizers from Hartford and Massachusetts, and the event was co-sponsored by Hands on Hartford.



adult programming continued

River Reads

During June – August, HPL in partnership with the nonprofit Riverfront Recapture cohosts a weekly summer series called “River Reads,” an outdoor read-aloud every Wednesday from 12-1:00 p.m. at Riverfront Plaza, a scenic park near the Founders Bridge promenade that connects Hartford to other cities and towns east of the Connecticut River. The books are read by a variety of guest readers known throughout the city.

The Great American Read

HPL is participating in The Great American Read, a series by PBS that explores and celebrates the power of reading, told through the prism of America’s 100 best-loved novels. As a participant of the Great American Read, HPL is displaying all 100 novels on the list and encourages patrons to read and vote for their favorite book. Book selections from the list of are featured in spring and summer programming; such as, Summer Learning, Community Collections, Library on Wheels, Public Read-Aloud Events (River Reads), and Book Clubs.

Adult Programming at our Community Libraries

45% of the programs offered at our community libraries this quarter focused on Digital Literacy. The participants in the Computer Coaching classes offered at the Barbour and Camp Field Libraries reported positive gains in basic computer skills to include:

- Being able to keep fingers on the home based keys to type
- Improving job searching skills and employability skills
- Ability to access and navigate tools needed for resources and services and important information such as insurance policies, housing information, genealogical searching for example

13% of the programs offered at our community libraries this quarter focused on increasing engagement with the arts and developing a supportive community for adult learning. Participants from the Park, Barbour, Dwight and Camp Field Libraries reported learning new skill in crocheting, couponing, jewelry making and gardening with programs such as:

- Green Cleaning
- Jewelry Making,
- Couponing
- Cannabis in CT
- Rock Painting

At the Park Library, the “Ocho Meses en la Vida...” “Eight Months in the life of...” Puerto Rico, post hurricane Maria exhibit featured pictures of different photographers who visited the Island of Puerto Rico up to 8 months after hurricane Maria. The curator of the exhibit explained to the audience the stories behind the photographs. Puerto-Rican poet Yara Liceaga, through a very touching poem she wrote, shared her experiences on the Island during and after hurricane Maria, and the difficult decision she had to make to leave the island. A week later Channel 8 news visited the branch to do a story on the exhibit featured in their daily news.

The community garden continues to thrive, and gardeners have started sharing their harvest amongst themselves. Trifecta Eco-systems a Benefit Corporation, looking to build an urban farm in Hartford, in the Frog hollow Neighborhood, reached out to the Park Library to host their information sessions at the library to work together with the community and explore what it takes to build an urban farm in Hartford. The goal was to figure out how a new urban farm can make Hartford residents more food secure.

At the Barbour Library, participants enjoyed the meditative quality of beading, leaving relaxed and happy. The class series has inspired a couple of the participants to continue jewelry making through buying their own beads and doing it and/or participating in classes offered by the teacher outside the library.

adult programming continued

At the Dwight Branch, attorney Aaron Romano led a discussion about Cannabis laws in CT. This program brought a draw of a millennial crown and others who do not frequent the branch. The community learned previously unknown US historical ties to government mandated marijuana growth, ties to ideologies in its prohibition, and the outlook of its future legalization in CT.

At the Camp Field Library, the Green cleaning program informed participants about eco-friendly, inexpensive alternatives to toxic, expensive household cleaners.

Looking Ahead

The outdoor concert series “World of Sound” is underway, with eight bands of differing musical traditions lined up to play at HPL branches across the city. A family funk band kicked off the series at our Summer Learning Kick-off in June, and lined up with dynamic bands to perform at all the branches June-August. Funding for the World of Sounds concert series is made possible thanks to the generous support of the Evelyn W. Preston Memorial Trust Fund, Bank of America, N.A., Trustee.



In June, HPL launched a series of Chicago Style Steppin Dance Classes in the Atrium of the Downtown Library on Mondays at 6 pm. Chicago Style Steppin is a style of dance that evolved from the “Bop” in the 1970s. This dance is also embraced as a form of exercise. Founders of the company Hartford City Steppers, Jannett Jennings and Price Hayes, led classes of around 40 participants of all levels and ages and taught the basics of steppin. Although the class was originally scheduled to be a four-week series, due to the overwhelming popularity and large number of attendees each week, it has been extended and will continue into July and August.

HPL will be hosting approximately 35 teen interns during July and August who will run maker activities, host escape rooms, MC open mic nights, help serve summer lunches, investigate Hartford History, and dive deep into computer science learning. Community partners and youth alike recognize Hartford Public Library as a reliable and valuable place to develop leadership skills. Intern training and continuous development is a top priority for the summer; a plan and an informal evaluation of its execution will be reported in the fall.

Half-day summer camps focused on professionalism, social media, human rights, and digital production will be run at HPL as a result of a collaboration with a class at Trinity college. The social media and professionalism programs will run at Camp Field, Barbour, YOUmedia Albany, YOUmedia Downtown. Building Knowledge for Social Change.

Owl Enrichment Center teens will be working on podcasting and their teen journalism project Monday’s thru Thursday’s at Hartford Public High.

MORE TO LOOK FORWARD TO!

Community Garden
Harvest Celebration
Free Piano Lessons

Job Fair at Barbour Library
Chinese History in Hartford
Library of Things Interactive Sessions

hartford history center

& artwalk

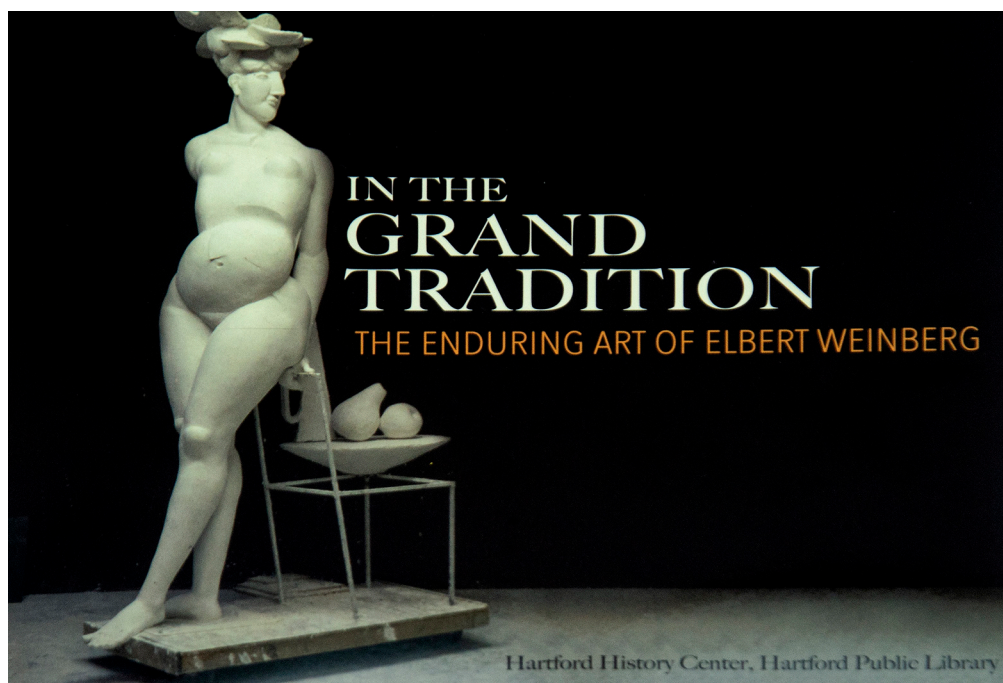
30,304

TOTAL VISITS TO THE
DIGITAL REPOSITORY
FY 2017-18

	APR 2018	MAY 2018	JUNE 2018
Visits—online	8,974	6,564	5,099
Visits—physical	855	573	1,065
Reference questions	326	309	382
Programs	11	6	15
Program attendance	485	172	361

Highlights

Hartford History Center, in concert with Wesleyan University Press, published In the Grand Tradition, *The Enduring Art of Elbert Weinberg* by HHC project curator Nancy Finlay this May. Weinberg, a Hartford native and artist, was widely regarded as one of the most promising young sculptors of the 1950s and 1960s. In the Grand Tradition takes a fresh look at the work of this gifted artist and reevaluates his contribution to modern art. In 2014, the Elbert Weinberg Trust donated a comprehensive collection of manuscripts, drawings, prints, photographs and sculptures covering the complete career of Elbert Weinberg. The gift forms the basis for the book.



Hartford History Center received the
2018 Empowering Communities

Award from the Connecticut Fair Housing Center this May. Hartford History Center received this award for its work done in collaboration with the Connecticut Fair Housing Center in creating the CT Fair Housing Tour of Hartford.

Hartford History Center awarded Marlena Pegolo the prize for outstanding entry as it relates to Hartford History in the **2018 Connecticut History Day** contest this spring. Marlena, a West Hartford student, focused her project on Hannah Bunce Watson, an early publisher of the Hartford Courant and one the country's first female publishers.

hartford history center continued & art walk



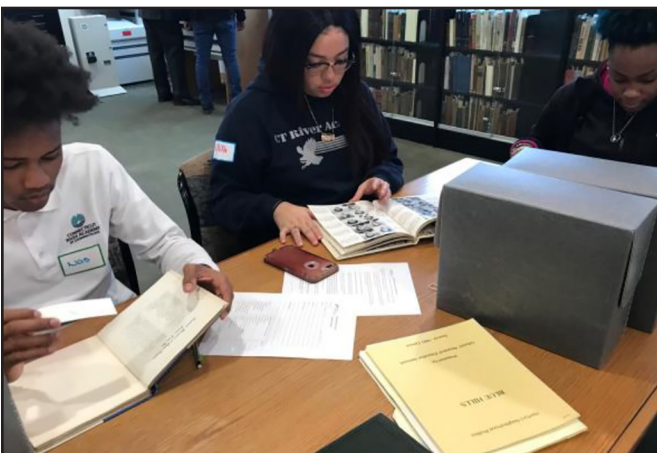
Increased Engagement with the Arts and Humanities through Access and Exposure

For the 4th quarter ArtWalk exhibit of the 2017-18 season, we exhibited *Linguistics Beheld* by local artist Adam Viens. We attracted a new group of young art lovers to the ArtWalk and the artist talk, as Adam was the youngest artist of this season's line up. With his more conceptually challenging work, his abstract, found-object, material-based show, which used sparse words and few pops of bright color, drew in a diverse audience with many questions. Adam's artist talk with Manchester Community College professor Gil Scullion helped to further an understanding of Adam's work and the material he chose.



Better Quality of Life through Engagement with Interests and Passions

Over 60 community members came to the Hartford History Center in late April to view a documentary about Ruby McCollum, a wealthy Black woman who shot and killed Senator-elect and doctor Clifford LeRoy Adams in Florida in 1952. This screening was followed by a panel discussion that explored, in this season of the #MeToo movement, what effect sexual harassment and inappropriate sexual conduct had on Black women and women of color. Panelists included the Rev. Dr. Barbara E. Headley, lecturer, trainer, and Senior Pastor of Zion Community Church in Springfield, MA; Kim Newland, LCSW, Psychotherapist and Principal Owner/CEO of KNC Associates, LLC; and Joelle A. Murchison, Executive, Diversity and Inclusion Champion and Founder of ExecMommy. Wanda N. Seldon, HR Administrator for the State of CT, moderated the panel.



Deeper Understanding of Self and Connection to Community by Learning Hartford History

About 60 high school seniors from Connecticut River Academy's Urban Studies class, most of whom are Hartford residents, came to the Hartford History Center to learn how to do archival research this spring. They reviewed collection materials that pertained to Hartford's neighborhood history including neighborhood statistical profiles, photographs, books, and newspaper articles as foundational research for contemporary neighborhood audio stories they were creating for a class project.

hartford history center continued & art walk



History Center Outreach Visits to Community Libraries

Our Hartford History Center branch outreach visits continued this quarter as we brought neighborhood specific materials to Camp Field, Park, and Dwight branches. At Camp Field, we shared early images of the mural and branch library, taken and published in the Hartford Times. At Park, we played footage from the Butch Lewis 1969 video collection, sharing videos of an early Puerto Rican parade, Maria Sanchez talking about challenges in the Puerto Rican community in her bodega, and Puerto Rican families discussing housing and employment issues they were experiencing at that time. At Dwight, we shared a collection of videos produced by Real Art Ways in 2001 of older adults in the Parkville neighborhood recalling their experiences working in the Royal Typewriter factory and growing up in the neighborhood.



Higher Levels of Civic Engagement and Stronger Relationships among Community Organizations

As part of an annual event the Hartford History Center produces with the friends and family of the late Butch Lewis (co-founder of the Hartford Black Panther Party and longtime resident and community organizer in the North End of Hartford), HHC presented a conversation with Shirley Sherrod, author of *The Courage To Hope*. Over 100 community members attended the program in early April and were encouraged by her story of resilience in the work she has done to support more sustainable lives for farmers in the South.



New Exhibit: "A Home Away From Home: Greater Hartford's West Indian Diaspora"

Over 70 community members came to the Hartford History Center in early June to view and learn about the exhibition, "A Home Away From Home: Greater Hartford's West Indian Diaspora" from curator and writer, Dr. Fiona Vernal, Associate Professor of History and Africana Studies, UConn. In addition to Dr. Vernal's brief talk, there was a welcome from West Indian Social Club president, Richard Gordan, Esq., and a brief historical note and dance presentation by Stephen D. Hankey, Artistic Director of Island Reflections, and dancers from the company. There were also brief stories shared by two people featured in the exhibition, Kenneth P. Bennett, one of the early Jamaican immigrants who came to Hartford to work tobacco and Barbara Henderson, who was sponsored by a family in West Hartford to live and attend school. The exhibition will stay up through July 2018.

STATISTICS

	April	May	June
Beneficiaries: Immigrants			
Citizenship screenings			138*
Citizenship apps. prepared & submitted			99*
Green Card Renewals prepared & submitted	13	14	14
Individuals achieved Citizenship			46*
Citizenship Classes @ CTRL	8	8	10
Citizenship Attendance @CTRL	178	143	175
Beneficiaries: ELLs			
ESL Classes CTRL youth	5	7	5
ESL Attendees CTRL youth	78	112	100
ESL Classes CTRL	48	57	45
ESL Attendees CTRL	399	539	287
Food Handler/Servsafe Classes	39	16	16
Food Handler/Servsafe Attendance	228	125	158
Drivers Prep Classes			4
Drivers Prep Attendance			61
Beneficiaries: Unemployed / Dislocated			
Total AJC services	513	504	518
Total AJC customers served	174	165	141
Beneficiaries: Adult Learners			
Digital Literacy Classes	4	4	4
Digital Literacy Attendance	6	6	6
Spanish classes	5	5	5
Spanish class attendance	10	10	10
Beneficiaries: Tutees/tutors			
# of volunteers	5	5	5
# of tutees	11	11	12
# of volunteer hours	37	37	32
Related Services			
Passports Submitted In-house	48	69	57
Passport Oath Ceremonies	219	106	91
Passport Outreach	2	14	26
Revenue			
Translation fees	\$120	\$280	\$480
Passport Fees	\$9,065	\$6,370	\$5,600
Photo Fees	\$1,485	\$1,635	\$1,560
Immigration application fees (I-90 renewals)	\$650	\$700	\$700

* Reflects 4th Quarter Total

99

CITIZENSHIP APPLICATIONS
PREPARED & SUBMITTED

1,535

JOB SEEKERS SERVED

61

STUDENTS IN NEW
DRIVER PREP COURSE

1,225

ESL ATTENDEES

the american place continued

Highlights

The American Place launched the **CT Driver's Preparation Pilot class** targeting immigrants with limited English proficiency for passing the written test for the CT Learner's Permit. The class also includes the 8-hour Safe Driving Practices course required before taking the on-the-road skills test. A state certified driving school instructor teaches this portion of the class.



New Partnership: The Patient Care Assistant (PCA) training has opened a new partnership and placement opportunities with A Caring Hand agency. In addition to class instruction, students receive hands-on instruction taught by a certified RN at the A Caring Hand's facility. All student participants successfully completed the Red Cross First Aid and Child Care training.

The Soft-Skills Gap: The lack of soft skills remains a major impediment to retaining a job today. In response, a Career Counselor was contracted by TAP's Career Pathways Coordinator to design a soft-skills course that can be readily integrated into TAP's workforce readiness trainings.

Case Management Makes a Difference: Many students enrolled in our Workforce Readiness programs face barriers in their personal lives that hold them back from successfully entering the workforce such as lack of medical coverage, transportation challenges, food insecurity and social/cultural adjustment issues. During the months of May and June, grant funds were utilized to connect those most in need with a case manager who guided multiple clients and their families in obtaining the following: food stamp and Medicaid reinstatements, energy assistance program enrollment for heat and electricity bills, securing emergency medical treatment for a relatively new arrival client, housing application assistance for a long term shelter resident, and cancellation of \$300+ healthcare monthly payment for an unemployed student.



Field Trips: Summer trips included a walk into history on Boston's Freedom Trail and a visit to NYC's 9/11 Memorial and National Museum of the American Indian.

National Library Week (April 8-14) hit a high note when six libraries across the State hosted six naturalization ceremonies. At Hartford Public Library, the Ceremony was held at its Downtown branch on April 12. Fifty new American citizens took the Oath of Allegiance, presided by Honorable Vanessa L. Bryant, United States District Judge. Lieutenant Governor Nancy Wyman, Secretary of the State Denise Merrill and UConn School of Medicine's Dean, Dr. Bruce Liang, offered congratulatory remarks. The event is beautifully captured in the following short video. <https://www.msn.com/en-ie/news/video/u-s-naturalization-ceremony/vi-AAVOENB>



City of Asylum (Pittsburgh, PA): Exiled writers in residence, Osama Aloma from Syria and Tuhin Das from Bangladesh visited the after-school immigrant youth program. Sponsored by University of Saint Joseph, the writers presented at a few venues but claimed that their connection with the immigrant youth group was most fulfilling.

the american place continued

Awards & Recognitions

The **Angela R. Anderson Memorial Award** was presented to TAP's Teens4Citizenship program which partners with Hartford Public High Schools to recruits and train immigrants to serve as Citizenship Guides working in the roles of teacher aids and citizenship preparation coaches. The award was presented by The CT Immigrant & Refugee Coalition on CT Immigrant Day celebrated at The Capitol on April 4.

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services highlights the important work undertaken by TAP in educating immigrant teens about citizenship and the naturalization process. Hartford High School students can choose to participate in an academic citizenship class, a senior capstone project, or an internship program. The students engage in outreach related to the citizenship process and volunteer to assist eligible lawful permanent residents in their community as they pursue citizenship. Read more at: <https://www.uscis.gov/citizenship/organizations/grant-program/engaging-immigrant-teens>

HFPG Basic Human Needs Grant 20,000: 93% of the immigrants for whom we complete and submit their Citizenship applications fall below the federal poverty guidelines and have qualified for fee waivers. These funds will be utilized in instances where much needed emergency funds can stabilize the presenting crisis/need such as utilities shut off, evictions, domestic violence, food scarcity, transportation to worksites, school supplies/uniforms, medical treatment, supplements for stand-by guardians, and outstanding fees for status adjustments

Trainings and Meetings

April 9: TAP Executive Director participated in the Free Library of Philadelphia's Advisory Committee meeting to review and offer feedback for the training curriculum being developed in support of our Skills for Community-Centered Librarianship initiative funded by an IMLS Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian grant.

April 30: IMLS staff attended the Liberal Arts Action Lab's digital poster fair to view details of the research project that a team of Capital Community College and Trinity College students conducted in collaboration with TAP focusing on the development of new strategies for increasing immigrant parent involvement with their teen children's education.

May 3: Two staff members attended the Hartford Consortium's 46th Anniversary Breakfast held at CPTV at which the collaborative initiatives of the 11 participating higher education institutions over the past year were highlighted.

May 8: TAP staff, Attorney Laurie Housman and (former staff) Mary Anne Daly Doran, who was instrumental in setting up TAP's BIA program, presented at Southern New England's Law Librarians Association (SNELLA) held at UCONN Law School. The presentation was entitled: Public Libraries: Redefining Access to Legal Assistance for Immigrants.

May 18: TAP staff attended the CT Learns & Works Breakfast Symposium on "Engaging Educators, Employers and the Workforce Development Community" at Goodwin College.

May 30 - June 1: Two staff members attended Catholic Legal Immigration Network's (CLINIC) annual convening in Tuscan, Arizona. The convening is a premier training event for those seeking to increase their knowledge of immigration law. Non-attorney staff accredited to offer legal immigration advice are required to demonstrate they actively participate in continuing education opportunities.



June 15: Staff attended Capital Workforce's Annual Meeting. Amongst the awardees were Elliot Ginsberg for receiving the President's Award, William Putt for receiving the Chairman Award, and Martha Rolon, Career Specialist, The American Job Center satellite at HPL. Excerpted from Nomination statement: "Martha Rolon, the real reason Martha deserves to be the recipient of the 2018 Workforce Professional award is because she is a true unsung hero, only seeking joy in the success of serving job seekers."

June 20: Staff attended MoveUP's 6th Annual Celebration of Adult Literacy at the Pond House Café. Jarnel Jimerson, Executive Director, Minority Inclusion Project (MIP) www.ctmip.org was the featured speaker. MIP works within a peer-learning network of nonprofit, private, and public partners to close the nonprofit racial leadership gap.

marketing & communications

Overview:



Andy Hart joined the Hartford Public Library team as our Director of Communications on June 25, 2018. Andy, a lifelong Hartford resident, brings years of journalism and design experience to HPL, along with his amazing talent behind the camera lens.

7,148

E-NEWS
RECIPIENTS

Major initiatives:

- New logo designed and launched for Summer Learning – Read. Go. Do. Creation of promotional pieces in English and Spanish
- I LOVE Hartford Public Library – community engagement campaign developed. Special thanks to Jasmin Agosto for designing the stickers.

6,382

FACEBOOK
FOLLOWERS



Hartford Public Library in the press

- Naturalization Ceremony covered by *Hartford Courant*, *WNPR*, *Fox News*, *Hartford News*
- “We the People” Players profiles with HPL CEO Bridget Quinn-Carey and coverage of HPL’s Big Read April culminating author event appeared in *Hartford Magazine*
- Adam Vein’s ArtWalk Exhibit “Linguistics Beheld” covered in *Hartford Courant*
- Summer Learning Program Kick-Off and 45,000 Free Books Give-Away covered by *Hartford Courant*
- Pastrami the World-Traveling Dog Exhibit at Albany Library covered by *Hartford Courant*
- Puerto Rican exhibit covered by *Channel 61*



FY18 Fundraising Goals

Total Unrestricted Gifts as of 6/30/18: \$317,196 - 106% of Goal

Beyond Words 2017

- ▶ Goal: \$100,000 (net)
- ▶ Gross: \$204,775
- ▶ Expenses: \$53,660
- ▶ Net: \$151,115

Annual Fund (Unrestricted)

Beyond Words not included

- ▶ Goal: \$200,000
- ▶ To date: \$166,081

Note: Appeal went out in June

Board Giving

- ▶ Goal: 100%
- ▶ To date: 100% (17/17)

Corporator Giving

- ▶ Goal: 100%
- ▶ To date: 46%

FY18 Recap and Accomplishments

- ▶ Beyond Words 2017: 400+ guests, successful "Fund the Mission" ask – exceeded goal
- ▶ Sandy Bender Fromson/Margaret Patricelli Arts Show Fundraiser (\$2,500 to date)
- ▶ Hosted Memorial Program for Sharon R. O'Meara
- ▶ Weekly email updates for HPL Corporators (including board, Library friends, and senior staff)
- ▶ Worked in partnership with ArtWalk to create ArtWalk book groups/talks
- ▶ Partnerships & programs: Hartford Stage, Judy Dworin, Mark Twain House, Cigna
- ▶ Major gifts from individuals (\$1,000+): 30 donors; total giving \$129,402.00*
- ▶ Planned Giving: 2 pledged, 2 received
- ▶ Spring Annual Fund Appeal: Launched June 1
 - ▶ Solicited support from HPL board and corporators to write personal notes on letters
 - ▶ Integrated approach with online appeals and phone follow-up

** Includes Beyond Words*

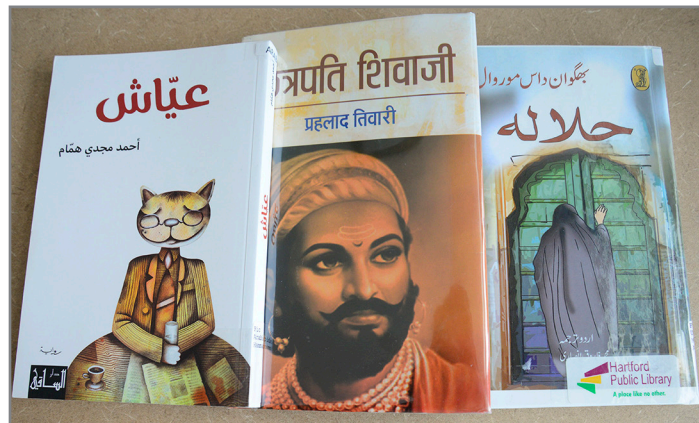
technical services

Technical Services continues to support all library initiatives from behind the scenes.

The Technical Services Department processes all new materials for the system, and this quarter that included preparing books and media (books on CD, e-books, and e-audio books) in support of The Great American Read and River Reads. Overall, more than 2,000 items are added to the collection each month. A big hit over the past couple of months has been the addition of books in Arabic, Hindi, Persian, Tamil, and Urdu. Hartford has a growing population from the Indian subcontinent, and many of them frequent the library.

On the day the cart was rolled out, a woman who routinely checks books out on her card for her children told us, "This is the first time I've used my card for myself."

Additionally, we have undertaken some new initiatives in the past few months aimed at promoting our new material. We have started displaying the titles of newly acquired e-audio



books on the main floor with the books on CD. Most new books are released on Tuesdays, and we now blog (blogs.hplct.org) synopses of these titles each week. This information is also emailed to the branch staff so they may encourage use among their readers.

staff updates

NEW STAFF MEMBERS



WILLIAM BAILEY is the new Assistant Technical Services Manager at HPL. He received his MLIS from the University of Southern Mississippi. William has previously served as Library Technical Assistant at New Haven Public Library as well as a City Carrier for the Postal Service. In his free time, he enjoys reading, traveling, movies, concerts, cooking, and exploring the city.



JENNIFER SHAKSHOBER is a new Library Assistant at the Park and Dwight branches. Jennifer has a BA in English and Economics, a MFA in Creative Non-Fiction, and a MLIS from Simmons College. Before starting with HPL, she has worked as a Customer Experience Officer at Marshalls and a Grant Writer for Foodshare. In addition to working with the public, Jennifer is also passionate about writing (primarily biographies and memoirs) and genealogy.



JOE CARDINALE is a new Immigration Counselor at the American Place. Joe has a BA in Management and has worked in the immigration field at the federal level for the last 45 ½ years, including Customs and Border Protection at Newark and JFK Airports, Customer Benefits for U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, and management positions in Philadelphia.

PROMOTIONS

CHARLES BARBIERI, Director of Security

LAUREN THOMPSON, Manager, Albany Library