

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Bridget Quinn-Carey Named New CEO of Hartford Public Library

Hartford, Connecticut (March 4) — The Hartford Public Library announced today that Bridget Quinn-Carey will serve as its new Chief Executive Officer. She was confirmed at a board of directors meeting on Friday, said Gregory C. Davis, board president. Quinn-Carey is expected to start on April 11.

"We are excited about Bridget coming to Hartford., Davis said. "She has the experience, vision and energy we need to keep us as one of the top urban libraries in the country. The timing is right and we believe Bridget is the right person to lead the Hartford Public Library."

Quinn-Carey is interim President and CEO of Queens Library, which has 65 locations in the New York City borough that has a population of 2.3 million people. Queens Library has a \$130 million annual operating budget and 1,300 full time staffers. Quinn-Carey was executive vice president and chief operating officer in Queens from 2011 to 2014 when she moved into her current position.

Hartford Public Library has 10 branches in a city with a population of 125,000. In 2015, its annual budget was \$10,210,198. It has 77 full time staffers.

Quinn-Carey was one of three finalists introduced in a public forum Feb. 22 at the downtown branch of the library. (View a video of the event: <u>http://bit.ly/1poWINo</u>) The board considered 29 applicants for the position.

"I have long admired the Hartford Public Library and am thrilled to be joining this innovative and inspiring team," Quinn-Carey said. "Together we will do great things for the City of Hartford."

Quinn-Carey began her career as a children's librarian at Middle Country Public Library on Long Island. She was an Interlibrary Loan Coordinator with the Connecticut State Library in Middletown for two years, director of Essex Library Association in Connecticut for nine years, and director of the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library System in New York for 3 years.

Quinn-Carey will earn \$160,000 annually, Davis said.

She attended Aarhus University in Denmark, earned a BA in literature and rhetoric from Binghamton University, and MLS and MBA degrees from St. John's University. Quinn-Carey is married to James W. Carey, an attorney. They have two daughters, Quinn, 19, and Emma, 14. The search was conducted by Bradbury Associates/Gossage Sager Associates, which specializes in executive searches for libraries. HPL's Chief Administrative Officer, Mary Tzambazakis, has been serving as interim CEO. HPL's previous CEO, Matthew Poland, served as CEO from to October, 2009 to December, 2015. He became director of the Russell Library in Middletown on Feb. 22.

ABOUT HARTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

As a finalist for the 2013 and 2014 National Medal from the Institute for Museum and Library Services, Hartford Public Library has been recognized as a national leader in redefining the urban public library in the 21st century as an innovative and stimulating place where people can learn and discover, explore their passions, and find a rich array of resources that contribute to a full life. Hartford Public Library provides free resources that inspire reading, guide learning, and encourage individual exploration. Serving the residents of Hartford and beyond at its nine branches and Downtown location, Hartford Public Library receives more than 833,000 visits per year from adults, children and families seeking early literacy opportunities, work skills training, civic engagement, arts enrichment, and so much more. Visit hplct.org.