What A Day!

Ropkins Library is back!

Ropkins Library has been a welcoming fixture in the Clay Arsenal community for many years. The newly renovated library is also now home to the first Hartford History Center annex in HPL’s branch system.

Special thanks to Mayor Luke Bronin, State Representative James Sanchez, and special guests Clyde Mark Billington III and his sister Cristal Billington Anderson, who gifted their father’s photographic mid-20th century Hartford streetscapes to HPL’s Hartford History Center.

YA Books that read like poetry
**We Are All So Good At Smiling**  
Amber McBride  
National Book Award Finalist

An imaginative and haunting story told in verse, about trauma, strength and hope.

"This is a story about the power of stories and how they can help us survive the darkest times." — **NPR**

"This phenomenal novel-in-verse transports readers into an impassioned tale of heartache and hope that belongs on every bookshelf serving teens." — **School Library Journal, starred review**

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**If I Tell You The Truth**  
Jasmin Kaur  
Nominee for Best Poetry (2021)

Exploring fear, pain, justice, courage, and community in prose and celebrates the healing power of love in all forms.

"A bold and heartrending story unflinchingly told in poetry and prose." — **Ms. Magazine**

Kaur’s one-of-a-kind style is captivating and the story she tells here is critically important on so many levels." — **The Nerd Daily**

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**Sharing fantastic music**
Sarah LeMieux's *Jazz for the End of the World*

LeMieux composes for instruments normally associated with classical music...with an advanced sense of harmony and counterpoint. Her ensemble plays with studied confidence and grace, and they’re in no rush; songs lope along in round, swing-heavy grooves. ” - Hartford Courant— Michael Hamad

**Sunday, April 23, 3:00 pm**
Center Church
675 Main Street

Sneak peak of *Jazz for the End of the World* [HERE](#) (oh man. we love her voice)

Seating is first come, first seated, starting at 2 pm each Sunday. No registration is required. Concerts will continue to be streamed on our [Facebook](#) page and [YouTube](#) channel. Learn more [HERE](#).
“Every word a woman writes changes the story of the world, revises the official version.”—Carolyn See, author of Making a Literary Life

Focusing on the basics of writing and an introduction to fiction, character and plot devices. Writers welcomed to showcase their talent in a virtual/in-person reading.

Girls’ Writing Club - Writing Workshop Series
April 29 & May 20 10:30 am -2:30 pm
Ages 13-19
Only 8 spots remaining - register HERE today!
The Poems of Phillis Wheatley: With Letters and a Memoir by Phillis Wheatley

Born in Africa in 1753, Phillis Wheatley was kidnapped at the age of seven and sold into slavery. At nineteen, she became the first Black American poet to publish a book, Poems on Various Subjects: Religious and Moral, on which this volume is based.

"Perhaps one of the greatest instances of pure, unassisted genius that the world ever produced." The London Chronicle

Sunday, April 30 - 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Online Book Discussion
Register HERE

Library Resources Workshop
Join us in the Park Street Library @ the Lyric 2nd floor learning lab for a presentation in English and Spanish on digital library resources available to you with your library card. So much to offer!

**Wednesday, April 19**  
12:30 - 1:30 pm  
Park Street Library @ the Lyric  
603 Park Street  
Register [HERE](#)  

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**Celebrating Earth Day**
Celebrate Earth Day
with films focused on the environment

Kanopy has so many great titles for you to celebrate and learn more about nature. Check them out HERE

See the entire catalog of films at Kanopy — all free with your library card

Join our Team!
Join a fantastic group of people making a difference in our community. Check out our many opportunities in a variety of departments [HERE](#).

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**Free Health Screening**
Free health screenings (blood pressure, diabetes and other health related conditions) and/or free COVID-19 vaccination provided for ages 12 and up. No appointment needed.

Friday, April 21
1:00 - 4:00 pm
Camp Field Branch
30 Camptfield Ave.

"if i tell you the truth
that i’ve dug
from the hardened depths
of this shrapnel-filled dirt
with these aching, bloody hands
would you believe me?
would you still love me?"

"If I Tell You The Truth" Jasmin Kaur