Hartford Public Library to Make Service Changes and Cancel Some Programs as a Result of COVID19

HARTFORD – Hartford Public Library (HPL) has made service changes and canceled some programs in response to the outbreak of COVID19 in Connecticut.

Library hours may continue to change and additional programs may be canceled or postponed in an effort to protect the health of customers, staff and community.

“We are working closely with City and State officials. We recognize the need to be mindful of our public spaces, the number of people physically present in them and proximity of people in those spaces,” said Bridget Quinn-Carey, president and CEO of Hartford Public Library

Service and Program Changes:
For the foreseeable future, the renewal period for borrowed materials will be extended to compensate for late returns. Materials will be automatically renewed up to three times if no one else is waiting; any customer who has difficulty returning items should contact the library.

Upon consultation with the Hartford Public Schools, Hartford Public Library will be temporarily suspending public service at the Boundless Library@ Rawson from 3:00 – 6:00 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday.

Hartford Public Library is canceling the following programs and events. We will reschedule as many as possible and publicize new dates as they become available.

ArtWalk – Downtown Library, 500 Main Street
Opening Reception, Erik Williams’ Lost in Color - March 13th: 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Baby Grand Jazz Series (all 3:00-4:00pm) – Downtown Library, 500 Main Street
Iris Ornig Quintet- March 15th
Haneef N. Nelson Quintet- March 22nd
Ricky Alfonso Group- March 29th
Envisage Collective- April 5th
The Joe Carter Samba Rio- April 19th
TAEKO- April 26th

Mental Health Pre-Screening Day – Downtown Library, 500 Main Street
Saturday March 21st: 1:00-4:00pm

La Colectiva Feminista – Park Library, 744 Park Street
Tuesday March 24th: 5:00-7:45pm

Jazz 201 – Downtown Library, 500 Main Street
Mondays March 23rd-April 11th: 5:30-7:30pm

Andrea Cruz Concert – Downtown Library, 500 Main Street
Sunday April 5th: 1:30-2:30pm

A series of children’s events at the Downtown Library will be cancelled as well.

Read With Gizmo
Saturday, March 21st, April 4th & 18th, 10:30 am

Yoga for Success
Monday, March 23rd 5:30pm

Family Pajama Storytime
Thursday, March 26th 5:30pm

Celebrate Holi Festival of Colors
Thursday, April 9th 4:30 pm

Youth on Youth Bullying Workshop
Tuesday, April 14th 1:00pm

Family Literacy Day (Lego Day)
Wednesday, April 15th 10am-2pm

1,000 Books Before Kindergarten Celebration
Thursday, April 23rd 5:30 pm

HPL is taking practical steps to help reduce the potential spread of the virus:

- Enhancing cleaning measures in all buildings, with particular focus on high-traffic and high-touch areas
• Reminding all staff and Library users of proper hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette, such as: covering coughs and sneezes with something other than your hand; washing hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds; and, avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth. We have added more hand-sanitizer stations in our larger facilities.

• Encouraging all to stay home if they are sick

“Libraries are shared public spaces. For the health and safety of others, please be thoughtful about coming into a library if you are not feeling well,” Quinn-Carey said.

For more information, call 860-695-6300 or email contactus@hplct.org.

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