

## **Hartford Public Library Kicks Off Summer Learning Program June 9**

### **—NEWS RELEASE—**

**(May 31, 2018)** – Hartford Public Library will be launching its Summer Learning Program at its Kick-Off Celebration on Saturday, June 9 from 12:30 to 3:00 PM at the Downtown Library, 500 Main Street. The event will include local authors, a maker space offering a variety of activities, community booths, and tattoo and face painting booths. The band, Boogie Chillun,' will perform at 2:00 PM on the Library terrace.

Summer Learning passports and log books will also be available at the kick-off event. Those who participate in the day's activities and have their passports stamped will receive a free ice cream from Ice Cream for Dream.

Many community organizations are scheduled to attend the celebration including: the Connecticut Science Center; Village for Families and Children; Sexual Assault Crisis Service; Paws to Read; Regional School Choice Office; Community Solutions Inc.; Hartford Yard Goats; Hartford Stage; UConn Book Store; Jumoke Academy; Habitat for Humanity; NAACP Youth Council; Double Dutch League; Wadsworth Atheneum; Mount Olive Nurse Ministries; Trinity Health of New England; and, 4Unity.

Arch Street will be closed between Main Street and Prospect Street from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM for the event.

This year's summer learning program in Hartford is about building a better world together. Marie Jarry, HPL Youth and Family Services Director, said, "Building a better world can sometimes mean taking care of ourselves, our communities, or the earth. This summer, learning is about getting out into Hartford to Read. Go. Do!"

Everyone who signs up for the Summer Learning Program will receive free Connecticut Suns tickets, available throughout the program from June 9 to August 24. Participants who join one of the Library's clubs—Health, Hartford, STEM, Art, Nature, or Literature—and complete at least 5 club activities will also earn a free book (for those under 19) and a ticket to the August 24th Hartford Yard Goats game, the Summer Learning Program's finale event. Six hundred Yard Goat tickets are available, and the event will include fireworks and a barbecue - first come, first served.

To learn more about Hartford Public Library's Summer Learning Program, please visit [summer.hplct.org](http://summer.hplct.org).

### **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 national leader in redefining the urban public library in the 21st century as an innovative and stimulating place that provides free resources that inspire reading, guide learning, and encourage individual exploration. We serve adults, children and families seeking early literacy opportunities, work skills training, civic engagement, arts enrichment, and so much more. Please visit [www.hplct.org](http://www.hplct.org).