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## For Immediate Release

### Hartford Public Library Holds Maps for All Event March 1

**Feb. 23, 2017** — Hartford Public Library, the ThinkWell Center, and the World Affairs Council of Connecticut, will launch a Maps for All Initiative, Wednesday, March 1, from noon to 1 pm, in the Hartford History Center on the third floor of the Downtown Library at 500 Main St.

The mission is to promote geographic literacy and a greater awareness of global issues. Library visitors will be encouraged to mark the place of their birth on the map with stickers or magnets.

The M4A Initiative was started by educator Louise Loomis, founder of ThinkWell, who noticed a lack of geographic literacy. Loomis, who earned a doctorate in education from the University of Massachusetts, taught critical thinking to hundreds of students and educators, and to employees in the corporate and nonprofit sectors. She is the author of *Nimble Thinking, 10 Ways to Solve Problems, Think Creatively, Form Accurate Judgments, and Make Brilliant Decisions*.

It became affiliated with the World Affairs Council. The partnership allows for providing easel maps and individual maps for attendees at World Affairs events.

World maps will be on display at all branches of Hartford Public Library.

Speakers at the March 1 launch include CEO Bridget Quinn-Carey, Hartford Public Library ; Louise Loomis, ThinkWell Center founder; Meghan Clark Torrey, Executive Director of World Affairs Council Connecticut; and Michael Howser, Hartford Campus Library Director, University of Connecticut.

#### **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. In 2015-

16, the 10 locations of the Hartford Public Library counted 850,000 visits, circulated 408,972 items and had 71,059 registered borrowers. 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).