

NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Mary F. Crean
Phone: 860-695-6360
E-mail: mcrean@hplct.org

Local Jazz Legends Slated for Sunday Afternoon Jazz Series

Hartford, Connecticut (December 29, 2010): Hartford Public Library announced today the Baby Grand Jazz Series for 2011, a free Sunday afternoon jazz piano program January 2, through April from 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.

In partnership with the Hartford Jazz Society, musicians are selected with jazz experts such as Maurice Robertson, host of the University of Hartford's WWUH 91.3 FM and program committee chair of Hartford Jazz Society. Robertson said, "Hartford Public Library is to be applauded for their expanded efforts in booking Connecticut-based jazz artists in their ongoing Baby Grand Jazz Series. It is a great way to relax while being educated by the sounds of America's greatest art form..."

Hartford Public Library began offering the Baby Grand Jazz Series in 2004. With pianists credentialed from Berklee, Julliard, the Hartt School of Music, and other fine institutions, audiences quickly grew to over a hundred for each concert. The Steinway baby grand piano combined with the Library's unique acoustical architecture attract musicians who have played with notable jazz artists such as Dizzy Gillespie, Aretha Franklin and Harry Belafonte.

The Baby Grand Jazz Series begins January 2, with a performance from Hartford native Warren Byrd. Warren is a prominent Pianist/Composer/Vocalist with an international touring schedule, multiple albums and compositions and many accolades from decades of performing jazz across the globe. "Hartford Public Library's Baby Grand Jazz Series is essential to the cultural fabric of this City because jazz artists here have been an integral part of the advancement of jazz music in America," according to Byrd.

Other upcoming jazz artists scheduled to perform are Peter Niedmann on January 9, Rich Goldstein on January 16, Matthew DeChamplain on January 23, and Jimmy Macbride on January 30.

This season refreshments will be available for purchase from *Icing* and *La Paloma Sabanera* Coffee House.

For more information visit www.hplct.org/babygrandjazz.

About Hartford Public Library

The Hartford Public Library traces its roots to 1774. It operates 10 locations in the City of Hartford. The Library receives more than 850,000 visits per year. Services include access to a large collection of materials for reading and research, as well as music and video.

Programs provide education, information and enrichment to the people of Hartford in such areas as citizenship training, literacy, business skills and cultural awareness. The mission of the Hartford Public Library is to promote and support literacy and learning; to provide free and open access to information and ideas and to help people participate in our democratic society.

For more information or to arrange an interview, please contact:

Mary F. Crean

Hartford Public Library

500 Main Street

Hartford, CT 06103

mcrean@hplct.org

www.hplct.org