



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Mary F. Crean, 860.695.6360, [mcrean@hplct.org](mailto:mcrean@hplct.org)

**BABY GRAND JAZZ OPENS ITS 9<sup>TH</sup> SEASON AT HARTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY**

**Hartford, Connecticut (January 3, 2012)** — Hartford Public Library announced today that the Baby Grand Jazz Series for 2012, a free Sunday afternoon jazz piano program, will open for its 9<sup>th</sup> season this Sunday, January 8, at 3:00 p.m.

Hartford Public Library plays a vital role in offering free jazz performances in downtown Hartford and has done so since 2004. 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.

In partnership with the Hartford Jazz Society, musicians are selected with renowned 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."

The Baby Grand Jazz Series will open its season with a performance by Eri Yamamoto. "A library offers access to the world. At Baby Grand Jazz, I feel deeply connected with the audience through my music," said Eri Yamamoto. Since moving to the United States in 1995 from her native Japan, Yamamoto has established herself as one of jazz's most original and compelling pianists and composers. In her work, Yamamoto has managed to combine pianistic precision with a freewheeling spirit and the ability to mesh eclectic and intelligent jazz with unabashedly sunny melodies and rhythms.

The Series is free and open to the public and runs Sundays at 3:00 p.m. through April 29.

Other upcoming jazz artists scheduled to perform Sundays at 3:00 p.m. are Yunie Mojica on January 15, Larry Gareau on January 22, and Ed Fast on January 29.

For more information visit [www.hplct.org](http://www.hplct.org) and click on Baby Grand Jazz.

**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 860,000 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 Hartford Public Library is to provide free resources that inspire reading, guide learning, and encourage individual exploration.

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](mailto:mcrean@hplct.org)  
[www.hplct.org](http://www.hplct.org)