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CELEBRATING THE FIRST ANNUAL TAKE YOUR CHILD TO THE LIBRARY DAY

Hartford, Connecticut (January 31, 2012) – Hartford Public Library will participate in the first annual *Take Your Child to the Library Day* on Saturday, February 4, 2012.

Take Your Child to the Library Day celebrates the importance of taking your child to the library and exposing them to books, educational materials, programming, computers and the many other resources that a library offers. Started by Nadine Lipman, head of children’s services at Waterford Public Library, this program will be observed by over 120 libraries across the nation.

Many children lack the skills necessary for school readiness or school success, and a trip to the library reinforces a family’s commitment to reading. Hartford Public Library customer Karla Morales said, “I bring my five children to the library so they can see the wonderful books that there are to read. They also love to be on the computers.”

Hartford Public Library’s warm and comfortable setting offers many options for a parent or caregiver to expand their children’s learning opportunities. Customer Sandra Wallace brings her children 1-2 times per week to watch episodes of *Disney Junior* and play games.

On Saturday, February 4, the Library will offer a fun craft all day that celebrates its customers with the theme, *I am the library!* Families, youth, teens, and adults can illustrate or write messages on paper strips that describe why they love the library and why they feel a part of it. These strips will be combined to form a long paper chain that symbolizes the many big things can be accomplished when we all become a part of the library. The chain will be displayed at Hartford Public Library’s downtown location, 500 Main Street.

Other activities will include a Bollywood dance class from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. at the downtown library featuring Mahi Arora from Dance with Mahi, and a Zumba class from 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. at the Albany Branch with fitness instructor Sister Anango from FLYY Fitness. Families and youth of any age can learn fun dance steps.

All programs are free. For more information please contact Lisa McClure, Director of Youth and Family Services at (860) 695-6328 or at lmclure@hplct.org.

[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. Visit hplct.org and the library's new blog at blogs.hplct.org