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Hartford Public Library Receives CT Main Street Award of Excellence

Hartford, Connecticut (May 9, 2012) — Hartford Public Library is pleased to announce that it received a 2012 CT Main Street Award of Excellence. The Library received the award of excellence in the Community Investment category for its newly constructed Albany Branch.

In 2011 Hartford Public Library opened the doors to this new 8,000 square foot one-story handicapped-accessible facility on the corner of Albany and Blue Hills Avenues which replaced the sixty-one year old 5,400 foot two-story structure. This state-of-the-art library provides an environment that offers greater access to educational programs, new technological services, a beautiful meeting space and the adaptability to expand its multimedia collections.

“The purpose of this project was to develop a new 21st Century library that sparks learning, creativity, innovation and economic development in the Upper Albany neighborhood,” said Matthew K. Poland, chief executive officer of Hartford Public Library. The City of Hartford and Hartford Public Library responded to the critical needs of the residents of this neighborhood by creating this vital community resource that fulfills both design goals and service objectives.

The winners of these prestigious awards actively championed the revitalization and economic development of downtowns across Connecticut through initiatives ranging from rebuilding and redesigning downtown spaces to working with local police to increase safety for area businesses.

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

About Connecticut Main Street Center

Connecticut Main Street Center is a statewide nonprofit that inspires great Connecticut downtowns, Main Street by Main Street. Its mission is to be the champion and leading resource for vibrant and sustainable Main Streets as foundations for healthy communities.