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Hartford Public Library Named Small Business Association Eagle Awardee



Left to right: Bernard Sweeney, SBA District Director; Donna Haghghat, HPL Chief Development Officer; Homa Naficy, HPL Chief Adult Learning Officer; Emily Carter, SBDC State Director; and Seth Goodall SBA Regional Administrator

Hartford, Connecticut (November 25, 2014) – At its October 29 Annual Lender & Partners Meeting, the U.S. Small Business Association (SBA) presented Hartford Public Library (HPL) with its Eagle Award for Outstanding Resource. The award acknowledges the Library’s support of the local small business community, and partnership with SBA in providing free resources and workshops to business owners and entrepreneurs.

“One purpose of our Annual Lenders & Partners meeting is to publicly thank our partners for their tremendous support of the SBA and the Connecticut business communities by helping us to help Main Street businesses through our loan guaranty programs” said Bernard Sweeney, District Director for the SBA. “We look forward to continuing the growth in SBA activity and partnerships throughout 2015.”

In 2014, HPL hosted a series of free 5-week workshops in collaboration with the SBA and Hartford SCORE, which instructed 75 attendees in all matters relating to starting, funding, and successfully operating a small business. The workshops were held in both English and Spanish, and those who attended all five modules received a certificate of completion.

ABOUT [HARTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY](#)

As a finalist for the 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 where people can learn and discover, explore their passions, and find a rich array of resources that contribute to a full life. Hartford Public Library provides free resources that inspire reading, guide learning, and encourage individual exploration. Serving the residents of Hartford and beyond at its nine branches and Downtown location, Hartford Public Library receives more than 860,000 visits per year from adults, children and families seeking early literacy opportunities, work skills training, civic engagement, arts enrichment, and so much more. Visit hplct.org.

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