HARTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

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www.hplct.org/classes-seminars-exhibits/

ArtWalk Artist Talk: "Beyond Surface" by Brian McClear

Artist Brian McClear will discuss his show, "Beyond Surface," which presents a sampling from two concurrent projects hat challenge the viewer to look beyond the surface, whether considering everyday objects or the people they meet. Show runs through June 29.

Thursday, June 6, 6:00 p.m. HPL ArtWalk, 3rd Flr., Downtown Library

Celebrating Gertrude Blanks, Hartford's Legendary Griot

A special Book Voyagers program presented by Connecticut Humanities and Hartford Public Library Connecticut Humanities and Hartford Public Library will celebrate the life of Gertrude Blanks, "Hartford's Storyteller," with a special Book Voyagers program. She is also known as "Hartford's Griot," a West African term for a storyteller and repository of the community's history and traditions. The event will feature live music with spoken words and a special performance by master storyteller Andre Keitt.

Saturday, June 8, 1:00 - 3:00 pm Hartford History Center, 3rd flr., Downtown Library

Candidate Forum: City Council Candidates Candidates running for Mayor of Hartford will take the stage for a discussion about issues facing the city.

Wednesday, June 19, 6 pm (Doors open at 5:30 pm) Center for Contemporary Culture, 1st Flr., Downtown Library

Candidate Forum: Mayoral Candidates

Candidates running for Mayor of Hartford will take the stage for a discussion about issues facing the city.

Wednesday, June 26, 6 pm (Doors open at 5:30 pm) Center for Contemporary Culture, 1st Flr., Downtown Library

Circus Fire 75th Anniversary Discussion with Author Stewart O'Nan

Join us for a conversation with Stewart O'Nan, HPL CEO Bridget Quinn-Carey, and a special guest about the tragic Hartford Circus Fire in 1944. Free and open to the public.

Thursday, June 27, 6-8 pm Center for Contemporary Culture

NOTE: Before the discussion, a special reception with Stewart O'Nan to benefit the library will be held from 5:30-6:30 in the Hartford History Center. Tickets are now available for \$25 (Link: https://donorbox.org/ hplstewartonan). Light refreshments will be served.

Ongoing Events

African American Literature Book Club

The AAL Book Club is for anyone interested in reading and discussing African American literature, both fiction and nonfiction, as well as sharing information and learning about the African American experience.

Monthly 1st Tuesdays

6-7:30 pm, Classroom 141, Downtown

June 4: The Good Lord Bird, by James McBride

RSVP to Carolyn Korber at cjkorber@gmail.com.

Robert Benson Photo Exhibit

See a display of photos by Parkville's own, Robert Benson, an award-winning architectural photographer.

On display through the month of June, Dwight Library

Chicago Steppin'

Learn one of the nation's most popular dance styles from two experienced instructors.

Mondays at 6:00 pm, Atrium, Downtown Library

Toastmasters

Monthly 2nd, 3rd, 4th Tuesdays: 6-7:45 pm, Downtown Library, Classroom 140, Main Floor 500 Main Street