



## PRESS RELEASE

**For IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### ***New Haven Free Public Library celebrates the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Wilson Library!***

**WHAT:** 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of the Courtland S. Wilson Branch of the New Haven Free Public Library

**WHEN:** Thursday, September 15, 10:30 am

**WHERE:** Wilson Branch Library, 303 Washington Avenue, New Haven, CT 06519  
*Free parking available behind the library off Daggett Street.*

City Librarian Martha Brogan is pleased to announce the celebration of the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Courtland S. Wilson Branch of the New Haven Free Public Library.

The celebration will highlight an incredible community achievement: the building of the Courtland S. Wilson Branch of the New Haven Free Public Library in the city's Hill neighborhood. Under the direction of City Librarian James C. Welbourne, efforts began more than fifteen years ago to extend the Library's reach into this diverse and underserved neighborhood of New Haven. Thanks to the efforts of the City, overwhelming support of the community and the hard work of the Library's Board of Directors, the Board of Alders and dedicated staff, a new branch—the first to be built in more than 40 years—opened in September 2006. The building was named in honor of Courtland Seymour Wilson, a passionate advocate and community leader remembered for his tireless work on behalf of the citizens of the Hill neighborhood and all New Haven residents.

Now 10 years later, the Wilson Library is the second most-visited location in the New Haven Free Public Library system after the Ives Main Library on the city's historic green. Wilson welcomes more than 100,000 visitors annually, serves a neighborhood of more than 16,000 residents and boasts an impressive roster of community partnerships and programs.

On Thursday, September 15 at 10:30 am at the Wilson Library, the festivities commence with Mayor Toni Harp; words from Michael Morand, President of the Library's Board of Directors; and Martha Brogan. There will be live music by [Sambeleza](#) Duo: Isabella Mendes & Jeff Fuller and refreshments provided by [La Cayeyana Donis Bakery](#) and [Blue State Coffee](#).

#### **About the New Haven Free Public Library**

The New Haven Free Public Library system includes the Ives Memorial Library on the historic New Haven Green, the 24/7 online services of our digital branch, the ReadMobile – bringing books to early childhood learning centers, and four neighborhood libraries: Fair Haven, Mitchell, Wilson and Stetson. The Library welcomes more than 600,000 library patrons through its doors each year across its five locations.

*The New Haven Free Public Library's mission is to ensure all New Haven's citizens have full and unlimited access to information and knowledge so that they may meet the needs of daily living, have opportunities for self-education, and participate successfully in self-government.*

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