

In June 2018, the New Haven Free Public Library opened **Ives Squared**, a new space designed for adults (ages 18+) to explore, create, innovate, and connect. Located in Ives Main Library at 133 Elm Street along the New Haven Green, Ives Squared strives to inspire and contribute to the vibrant civic and innovative culture of the New Haven community by sparking new ideas and spontaneous opportunities, learning new skills, and networking with mentors and peers.

As part of the launch Ives Squared, a Creative-In-Residence (as well as an Entrepreneur-In-Residence) appointment was created. The fifth wave of Entrepreneur-In-Residence and Creative-In-Residence appointments will run from October 2020– June 2021.

The Entrepreneur-In-Residence (EIR) embodies the spirit of innovation and the transference of practical information. This program offers the opportunity for an individual to impact emerging entrepreneurs by:

- Sharing skills and knowledge through workshops and classes
- Conducting one-on-one sessions to guide library customers across all development phases -- exploring a concept for a business/non-profit/social enterprise, testing a concept, launching an enterprise, and growing it
- Creating an active community of inquisitive professionals – to help establish the relevance of the new Ives Squared space and foster the innovative talent of the city of New Haven

Ives Squared

Ives Squared includes:

The Tinker Lab:

The Tinker Lab supplies the training and tools for experimentation and an introduction to the world of creating and making, an essential element of 21st century learning. The Tinker Lab is equipped with two MakerBot Replicator+ 3D printers, a Prusa 3D printer, an Epilog Zing 60-Watt laser cutter, a Roland Cam GS vinyl cutter, a Carvey CNC (computer numerical control), sewing machines, a virtual reality station, 3 PC and 3 Mac desktops loaded with Adobe Creative Suite, Rhinoceros and Office 365. There is a common working table, a cutting table and seating throughout as well as a collection of the latest publications.

The Switchboard:

The Switchboard is the welcoming front door for individuals to connect their interests to opportunity, services, databases, and resources inside and outside the Library.

The Exchange:

The Exchange offers an entrepreneurial and social space for collaboration and co-working around business, civic and community issues. Characterized by flexible, modular seating and tables, writeable and magnetic walls for brainstorming and areas for flexible technology use. The space includes tech-enabled teaching tools such as a SMART board, five PC and five Mac laptops, as well as a host of the latest business publications.

Café in Ives Squared:

The café provides the setting for meaningful conversations in a warm and neighborly environment – and is available to library customers throughout the library opening hours – with varied seating options including seasonal outside patio tables overlooking the green. The menu includes baked goods, sandwiches, and brewed beverages.

The Entrepreneur-In-Residence

About the Entrepreneur-In-Residence

The Entrepreneur-In-Residence (EIR) will be a person who can speak with authority on the requirements/challenges of launching and running a business/non-profit/social enterprise – drawing from their personal experience in creating, operating or having a leading role in running it. They are well-versed in the New Haven market and able to help program participants find the resources available to them beyond the library walls. They have a passion for the mechanics of launching and operating an enterprise across multiple disciplines (finance, marketing, operations, strategic development, etc.) with both a willingness and an ability to impart that knowledge to others – encompassing both library customers and library staff. They will enjoy working with a diverse population and be able to effectively communicate and interact with the New Haven community – actively applying social networks to increase awareness of the EIR activities, Ives Squared and the library. They will work closely with the Ives Squared staff to provide patrons with an experience that is distinctive and buzz-worthy -- making Ives Squared a destination for innovation and collaboration.

Compensation

If selected as an Entrepreneur-In-Residence, you will receive a stipend of \$2000 a month. Funds are also available for mutually-agreed-to materials to support the programs conducted by the EIR.

Eligibility

To be considered for the Entrepreneur-In-Residence program, you must be able to meet these criteria*:

- Have demonstrated experience in the launch and operations of a business, non-profit or social enterprise
- Be able to make a 9-month commitment
- Be present in the Ives Squared space at least three periods each week (minimum 2 hours/period). At least one period should be used for office hours and 3-4 periods per month should be used for a program event. **If physical presence in the building is not possible due to temporary library closure, virtual office hours and programs are acceptable.**
- Can transport any needed materials to and from the library
- Be consistent, organized, and punctual
- Be available during the library's regular hours of operation, including evenings and/or Saturdays contingent on the project and target audience
- Have outstanding customer service skills including experience working with a diverse community

**Terms are open to negotiation contingent on the applicant's background, skills, and project proposal*

Input from Library Users

Based on feedback from participants in past library programs and other existing resources available in the New Haven area, we anticipate that participants in Ives Squared programs have an interest in the following:

- Entry-level business skills – since these patrons may be just forming the ideas for their first venture
- One-on-one counseling/mentoring – so that program participants can receive personalized input in the development of their concepts, guidance in overcoming specific challenges, referrals to relevant resources and be held accountable to take the steps needed to make progress.
- Examples of past requests from patrons would include: how to start/build an enterprise, how to evaluate which markets to target, how to find sources of capital, how to make connections with other enterprises to build collaborations

Timeline

August 20 - Applications due

October 1- June 30 - Entrepreneur-In-Residence: 2020-2021

Application and Selection Process

Applications are reviewed by a panel of members from the New Haven Free Public Library and the New Haven community. Panelists will be recused from selection when they have a professional or personal relationship with the applicant that presents a conflict of interest.

During review of applications, panelists will consider the following:

- Relevant experience
- Creativity and feasibility of proposal
- Appropriateness of proposal for Ives Squared and public community
- Proposal reflects and acknowledges the diversity of the community and provides opportunity for community enrichment or engagement
- Quality and completeness of application

As a public institution of the City of New Haven, the New Haven Free Public Library and the panelists reserve the right to select individuals and proposals appropriate for public space that is open and accessible to all.

Submission

To apply to the Entrepreneur-In-Residence program, the following materials must be submitted.

1. Completed proposal form
2. Resume or C.V. for main applicant and any additional partners as appropriate
3. Contact information for at least three professional references

All submissions should be emailed to Gina Bingham, Manager of Ives Squared: gbingham@nhfpl.org.