



ANNUAL REPORT

JULY 1, 2017 TO JUNE 30, 2018

nhfpl 
NEW HAVEN FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

***“I can't imagine life without a library.
Libraries are for every age, for every
community, for everyone.”***

– NHFPL Foundation donor

Cover: children exploring together in the Young Minds and Family Learning Center at Ives Main Library

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Message from the City Librarian and Board President



NHFPL Board President Shana N. Schneider (left) and City Librarian and Director Martha L. Brogan (right).

NEW HAVEN FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY Board of Directors

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Terms Expired in 2017

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As a community evolves, so do the institutions that support its needs, its direction, and its future. For the New Haven Free Public Library, this past year has been one of prominent milestones, notable achievements, exciting expansions, and deeper connections with the community. Two of our branch libraries turned 100 and two of our long-serving librarians received distinguished awards for exceptional service in the community. Ives Squared—our new space to promote innovation, entrepreneurship, and creativity—opened, and we launched a new strategic framework.

We partnered with Innovation Builders' EXCITE Transformation for Libraries* over a 10-month period to create our new Strategic Framework 2018-2023: ***Growing Together. One City. One Future.*** Relying on human-centered design methods and tools, our in-depth exploration of community needs and motivations took us beyond a review of user transactions and a traditional “life phases” model (tots to teens, adults to seniors) to understand the functional and emotional drivers underlying customer engagement.

Leadership training empowered library staff with new skills ranging from empathetic active listening to building engagement and fostering connections—ultimately gathering input from more than 1,000 community members. We heard that the library is a place to learn and gather, as much as it is a place of comfort and caring.

Inspired by listening to you, we refreshed the vision, mission, and seven core values of the New Haven Free Public Library. This report highlights those values which reverberate through all of our services. As you read these pages, you will note that we could not do this work alone. The dedicated staff, the Mayor and Board of Alders, Board of Directors, New Haven Free Public Library Foundation, and scores of partners across the city all play a vital role. Together, we are stronger and eager to create opportunities for everyone across our city.

Martha L. Brogan
City Librarian

Shana N. Schneider
NHFPL Board President

** The EXCITE Transformation for Libraries project was funded by an Institute for Museum & Library Services grant to the Connecticut State Library.*



Original stained-glass artwork representing New Haven installed in the Café at Ives Squared. Designed by Robert L. Mele, fabricated by Jayne Crowley, installation by Dwight Pederson. In loving memory of Jennifer Pugh, a dedicated city employee

Vision

Now and tomorrow, the New Haven Free Public Library will transform lives and contribute to creating a strong, resilient, and informed community where everyone can thrive.

Mission

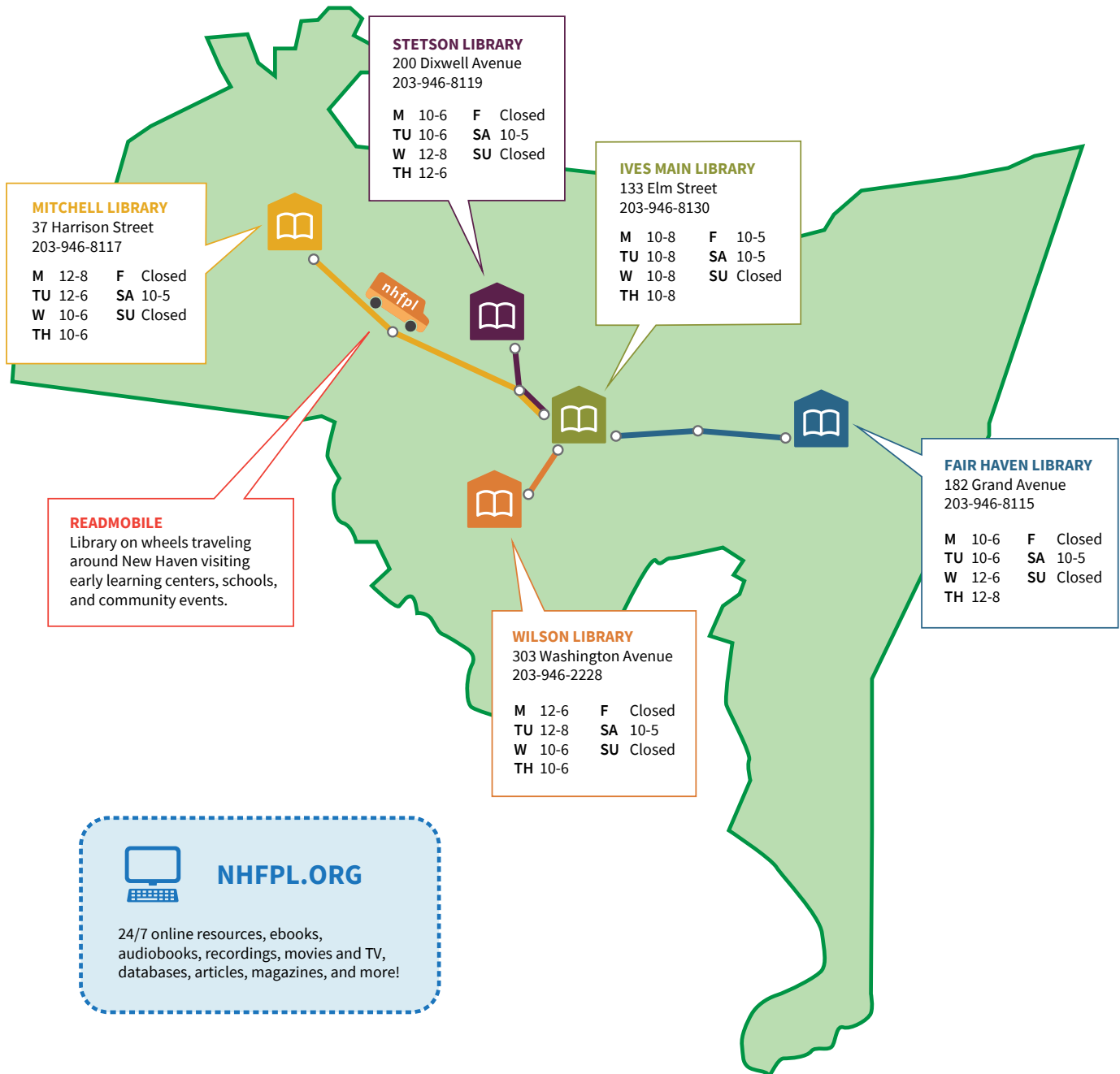
The New Haven Free Public Library fosters lifelong learning, inspires curiosity, and builds community through shared access to resources, experiences, and opportunities for all.

Values

1. Advance Literacy
2. Foster Learning and Achievement
3. Provide Access to Knowledge
4. Empower Economic Success
5. Inspire Exploration
6. Promote Connection and Collaboration
7. Deliver World-Class Service

New Haven Free Public Library

System Map

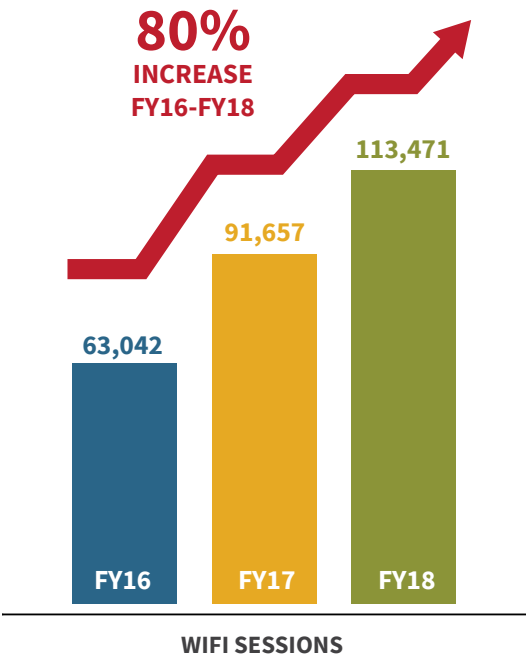
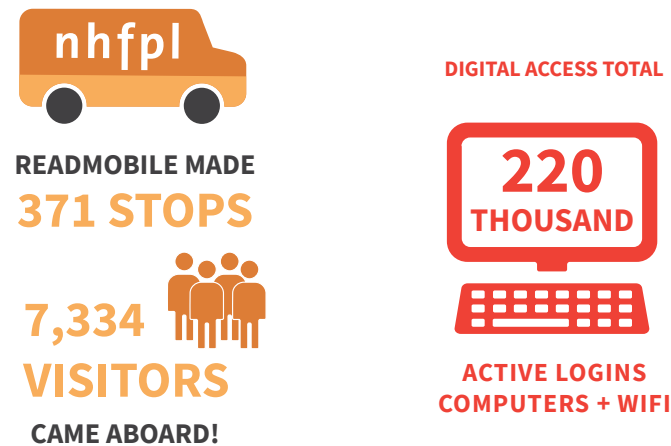
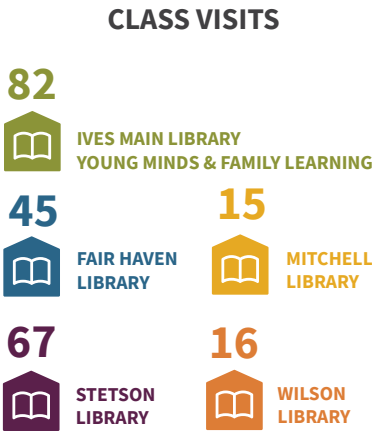
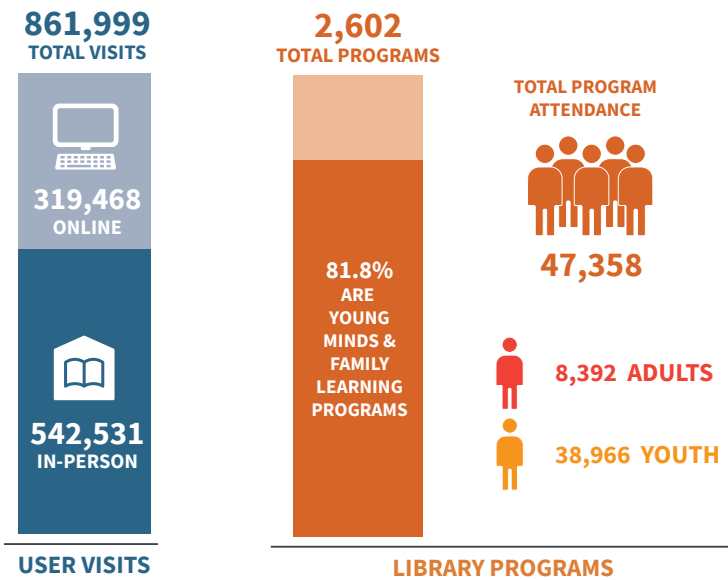
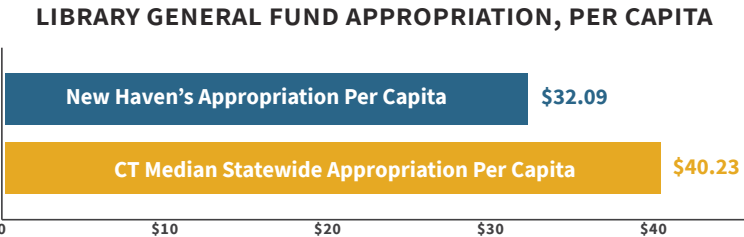


#1 request from library customers is longer hours of operation at all locations.

– Cited by 45% of survey respondents, NHFPL Strategic Framework

New Haven Free Public Library

Statistics at a Glance

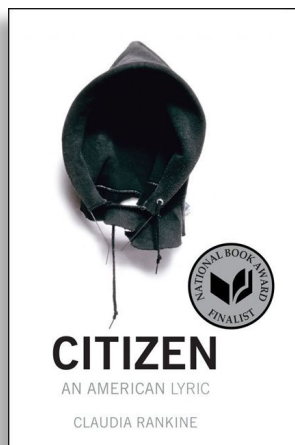


Advance Literacy



Ensure that our community has access to materials, services, and training to accelerate literacy, and to promote the joy of reading across generations.

REIMAGINING CITIZENSHIP: NEW HAVEN'S 2018 NEA BIG READ



The Big Read, an initiative of the National Endowment of the Arts and Arts Midwest, broadens our understanding of our world, our communities, and ourselves through the joy of sharing a good book. This year, the library was proud to partner with the International Festival of Arts & Ideas, Gateway Community College, New Haven Public Schools, and other community organizations to showcase Claudia Rankine's book *Citizen: An American Lyric* and offer free events and programs throughout greater New Haven during May and June.

Aboard the Readmobile, a mini-collection of related stories, recordings, and videos examining the themes in *Citizen* traveled to all three Arts & Ideas neighborhood festivals—Hillfest, Dixwell and Fair Haven—before landing on the historic New Haven Green to join NHFPL's micro-branch curated with materials complementing Festival performances and events.

We stacked our collection with *Citizen*—print copies, ebooks, and audiobooks were checked out 103 times! Across our system, the library hosted 15 programs including book discussions, films, town hall conversations, and family-friendly activities with more than 300 participants.

Stay tuned for the NEA Big Read 2019—we will read *The Namesake* by Jhumpa Lahiri!

“Literacy is the language of opportunity.”

– The City of New Haven Blue Ribbon Commission on Reading Report 2017,
Margie Gillis, Ed. D. and Jerry Poole, Co-Chairs

SUMMERTIME READING TO BUILD A BETTER WORLD



Children at Wilson Library line up to take out books and receive prizes for their summer reading accomplishments

“Build a Better World” was the theme of the library’s 2017 Summer Learning program. Students set their own goals and earned prizes like books and t-shirts to reward their commitment to reading. Nearly 2,400 children and teens participated, and together they completed 556,000 minutes of reading!

The accompanying World Builder program series, held at all library locations, expanded the summer reading theme with weekly activities exploring the ways youth can make a better world. Children made sketchbooks and journals, saw a production from the Imaginary Theater Company, constructed crafts from recycled materials, and joined the New Haven Symphony Orchestra to pair books with pieces of music.

Last summer, more than 10,500 people attended the 468 programs offered by the Young Minds and Family Learning department across all our libraries.

THE JOY OF READING: NHFPL BOOK CLUBS AND BOOK TALK RADIO

New Haven Free Public Library locations proudly host a variety of topical community book clubs—from the Fair Haven and Stetson Book Clubs to Mitchell’s Monday Afternoon Book Club and Wilson’s Urban Experience Book Discussion Series. These social gatherings center around a love of reading and bring neighbors and new friends together to explore literature, discuss important community issues, and learn from each other’s diverse experiences.

Young Minds and Family Learning librarians joined Cyd Oppenheimer’s “Book Talk,” on WNHH Community Radio (103.5 FM) twice a month to close each show with special young adult book recommendations. Have you read: *We’re All Wonders* by R.J. Palacio, *P.S. Be Eleven* by Rita Garcia-Williams or *A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeleine L’Engle?

NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNING

The New Haven Free Public Library welcomes immigrants and helps them thrive in their new community. ESOL classes, presented in partnership with Literacy Volunteers of Greater New Haven, helped more than 80 people learn English last year.

pronunciator: 
Learn a new language!

New to our collection: the online database Pronunciator, featuring a comprehensive ESOL curriculum with courses taught in 51 non-English languages. Pronunciator also provides U.S. citizenship test preparation and live classes teaching more than 80 foreign languages. Nearly 550 people have used their library card to access these resources since we launched the database in November 2017.

Foster Learning and Achievement



Teach skills for all customers that are crucial in the 21st century, help to close the digital divide, bridge educational gaps, and navigate the complexities of daily life.

STUDENTS GET READY FOR THE GRADE

READY for the Grade, an award-winning summer learning initiative of the NewAlliance Foundation, is a six-week program for children in grades 1-3 held at Wilson Library that aims to prevent “summer slide,” or learning loss, during summer vacation. Children meet individually and in small groups with tutors and reading specialists; weekly Family Nights teach parents and caregivers how to support their child’s learning and provide at-home reading strategies for the whole family. In 2017, 37 children completed the program and spent almost 750 hours on literacy activities to achieve grade-level reading comprehension. Every participant met the goal of either maintaining (30% of participants) or improving (70% of participants) their reading level.

As the program progressed, children were eager to read and grew more confident in their abilities, gaining knowledge and making new friends. Parents and caregivers also learned valuable tools to keep children excited and engaged in reading outside of school. And parents let us know that READY for the Grade was working: “My son loves the teachers in this program, they help him learn to read and they give him attention which helps him with his shyness.”



Arts & crafts at the Ladybug Release Party at Mitchell Library

A CELEBRATION OF SPRING: LADYBUG RELEASE PARTY AT MITCHELL LIBRARY



Each spring, Mitchell Library partners with local organizations and neighborhood groups for the Ladybug Release Party, held this year on the evening of June 4. More than 150 people gathered at Mitchell Library to learn from Blockwatch 303 volunteers about the flowers and trees planted in the gardens, complete insect-themed arts and crafts, and participate in hands-on science projects and demonstrations. Adults, children, and families ended the celebration by releasing hundreds of live ladybugs into the flower garden at Mitchell Library.

TECHNOLOGY CLASSES BUILD LIFELONG COMPUTER SKILLS

In 2017/2018:



TOTAL CLASSES



491

ATTENDEES
ACROSS THE SYSTEM

Weekly 90-minute computer classes, held in the Tech Center at Ives Main Library, provide easy, entry-level instruction for those new to computers and technology. The hands-on curriculum begins with a starter class that demystifies fundamental topics like operating system basics and how to use email. Intermediate and advanced classes teach specific software programs, including Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint, allowing patrons to explore skills relevant to their personal and career goals. Classes emphasize the fun of learning new technology and remind our users that the library offers a place where anyone can practice their computer skills for free—keeping these tools available and accessible to all.

“I have learned more in one hour than I’ve learned anywhere else.” - Intro to Excel student



S.P.O.R.T. Academy's chess program at Stetson Library

S.P.O.R.T. ACADEMY AT STETSON

For more than five years, Stetson Library has collaborated with S.P.O.R.T. Academy's Sean Reeves and Ed Trimble to offer youth programs and mentorship opportunities.

While S.P.O.R.T. Academy presents both the Family Literacy Day and Open Mic Night at Stetson, the most popular and well-known program is the Saturday chess series where young minds, paired with adult mentors, learn valuable life lessons while mastering the world's most popular game of strategy. Last year, 624 attendees participated in 42 programs, connecting Stetson's youth with positive role models from the community.



The Readmobile visits a LEAP program on the historic New Haven Green

LEARNING WITH LEAP

Leadership, Education, & Athletics in Partnership (LEAP) trains New Haven college and public high school students to teach younger children literacy skills through classes in the arts, computer science, swimming, athletics, camping, cooking and team-building programs.

887 children in LEAP camps visited the library in summer 2017!

Provide Access to Knowledge



Provide collections and resources that will allow our customers to gain access to knowledge whenever and wherever they need it.



READY for the Grade students watch the solar eclipse through special viewing glasses outside Wilson Library

SEEING THE SOLAR ECLIPSE

We knew our library users would be thrilled to learn more about the solar eclipse—but we never imagined it would become such an incredible shared experience for the entire New Haven community! This unusual and rare phenomenon, observed on August 21, 2017, dazzled and delighted students, families, and lifelong learners of every age. In total, our five locations received nearly 800 visitors all in one day! The library gave away 1,000 free pairs of eclipse viewing glasses, aired livestream broadcasts of the solar eclipse around the country, and offered STEAM learning activities. Finally, folks stepped outside to view the eclipse in person, sharing glasses and swapping camerae obscurae, meeting neighbors and making friends—all in the name of scientific discovery!



lynda.com

Did you know NHFPL offers free access to the popular online tutorial database lynda.com? Your library card unlocks thousands of videos and lessons that teach technical skills, design tools, creative techniques, and business strategies. On lynda.com, self-paced tutorials train you to use Adobe Creative Suite, program a website, edit photos and audio, open your own Etsy crafts business and so much more. Last year, our cardholders logged-in more than 13,000 times to learn with lynda.com!

Top 5 lynda.com Tutorials:

1. Programming Foundations Fundamentals
2. Excel 2016 Essential Training
3. Photoshop CC 2017 Fundamentals
4. WordPress Essential Training
5. Deke's Techniques
(learn creative effects and quick-fixes with Photoshop and Illustrator)

TOP 10 ADULT PRINT TITLES

Camino Island by John Grisham

Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste Ng

Origin by Dan Brown

The Late Show by Michael Connelly

A Gentleman in Moscow by Amor Towles

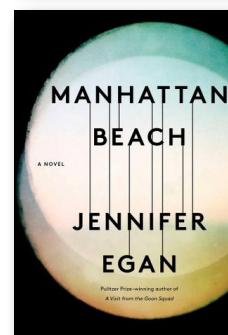
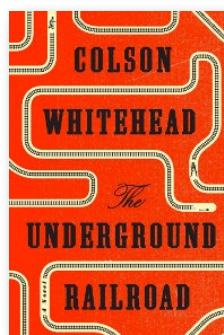
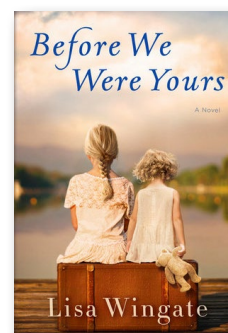
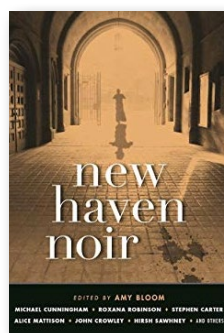
Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis by J.D. Vance

The Underground Railroad
by Colson Whitehead

Before We Were Yours by Lisa Wingate

Manhattan Beach by Jennifer Egan

New Haven Noir edited by Amy Bloom



TOP 10 DIGITAL BOOKS

The 7½ Deaths of Evelyn Hardcastle
by Stuart Turton

The Address: A Novel by Fiona Davis

After Anna by Lisa Scottoline

Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis by J.D. Vance

Al Franken: Giant of the Senate
by Al Franken

Astrophysics for People in a Hurry
by Neil DeGrasse Tyson

You Are a Badass: How to Stop Doubting Your Greatness and Start Living an Awesome Life
by Jen Sincero

An American Marriage by Tayari Jones

The Alice Network by Kate Quinn

All the Beautiful Lies by Peter Swanson



There were **55,396 downloads** from our electronic resources, including Overdrive, Hoopla, Freading, Kanopy, RBDigital, Gale, Tumblebooks, BookFlix, TrueFlix, and ScienceFlix.

Empower Economic Success



Provide access to services, training, resources, and networks that foster economic success for individuals pursuing jobs, career growth, or exploring business development and entrepreneurship.



SCORE workshop in the program room at Ives Main Library

SCORE ENTREPRENEUR WORKSHOPS

Now in its seventh year, this successful Entrepreneur Workshop series invites local business experts from SCORE (Service Core of Retired Executives) to help aspiring business owners learn the skills to succeed in their new endeavors. The SCORE Association, supported by the Small Business Administration, is a nonprofit collective of thousands of volunteer business counselors across the U.S. and its territories. Topics include start-up and long-term business planning, branding, digital marketing, legal considerations, finance, and registering your business with state and federal government. Said one participant, “[the Entrepreneurial Series] was a fantastic opportunity to learn about business planning for a novice audience.”

Of the 145 SCORE participants surveyed, 90% felt more confident and 92% felt more knowledgeable about starting a business. 95% intended to apply what they had learned.

CAREER RESOURCES AT THE NEW HAVEN FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Many New Haven residents rely on the library to provide job search and career readiness services. The Tech Center at Ives Main Library offers quarterly resume and cover letter classes, and one-on-one appointments at each of our locations help job seekers navigate internet job boards and submit their completed resumes and applications online. The library also hosts informational sessions and job fairs with prospective employers from the community. Last fall, My Language Link held a 3-hour session at Mitchell Library for positions as legal and medical interpreters. Approximately half of the bilingual library users who attended this session were hired as interpreters.



ELMSEED CONSULTING

The Elmseed Enterprise Fund, an LLC founded and staffed by enterprising Yale undergraduates, has become a valuable resource for more than 500 New Haven businesses since 2001. Elmseed provides access to one-on-one personalized consulting, business training, technical assistance, and a network of peer support to empower entrepreneurs and enable sustainable economic self-reliance.

Summer evening and Saturday office hours, held at Ives Main Library, have helped those clients who work full-time to access these valuable offerings outside of regular work hours. Elmseed services take advantage of the library's business collection, including full access to the Foundation Center's online database where clients discover grant-funding opportunities.



Photo by Rachel Liu Photography

COLLAB DISCUSSION SERIES

The New Haven Free Public Library joined with Collab, an Elm City Innovation Collaborative partner, to offer four panel discussions examining New Haven's vibrant and diverse start-up community: Faith in Entrepreneurship on September 21, 2017; Youth in Entrepreneurship on October 19, 2017; and Breaking the Mold: Women & Mothers in Entrepreneurship on December 5, 2017 (*pictured*) were all held at Ives Main Library; and Immigrantes Emprendedores/ Immigrants in Entrepreneurship at Fair Haven Library on May 24, 2018.

TAX ASSISTANCE FOR THE COMMUNITY

Each year, the New Haven Free Public Library serves as a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program site, one of 50 across the state of Connecticut. With IRS-trained volunteers, VITA provides free tax preparation services to low-to-moderate-income individuals and families earning less than \$54,000 a year.

Together, the library's two VITA sites—Ives and Wilson libraries—comprised nearly 40% of all VITA filings in New Haven and 10% in Connecticut, totaling **\$2.3M in taxpayer returns!**

DID YOU KNOW?

Ives Main Library was the busiest VITA tax site in the state: volunteers helped file more 1,200 federal tax returns.

Inspire Exploration



Create experiences, present new technology and build collections that inspire our customers while promoting learning through social connection and cultural enrichment.

IVES SQUARED IS NOW OPEN!

Ives Squared, a new center for innovation and collaboration at Ives Main Library, is designed to inspire and augment the vibrant civic and entrepreneurial culture of the New Haven community. Part of the Elm City Innovation Collaborative supported by a CTNext Innovation Places Grant, Ives Squared includes the Tinker Lab makerspace; the Exchange, a co-working space; and G Café Bakery, all designed for active learning, networking, and creative exploration.

On June 27, 2018, we celebrated the Ives Squared Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting with Mayor Toni Harp and an enthusiastic crowd of 250 New Haven innovators, advocates, and entrepreneurs. With Ives Squared and G Café Bakery now in full swing, Tinker Lab programs are growing, and Exchange opportunities are expanding through partnerships with SCORE, Collab, and Elmseed, more than 1,500 people have visited!

In the first week following the opening:

- Staff fielded 118 inquiries.
- Ives Squared conducted 21 orientations for 34 users.
- We awarded our first new technology certifications for the laser cutter, vinyl cutter, and 3D printers.
- Alex Gonzalez, our inaugural creative-in-residence, held his first 5 office hour sessions on Virtual Reality (VR) technology.
- Will Geiger, our inaugural entrepreneur-in-residence, held his first 3 office hour sessions.
- Our business outreach librarian conducted 8 individual research and database tutorials.

According to a Pew Research Center report, “Libraries 2016,” 79% of U.S. adults say libraries are a trusted place for people to learn about new technologies.



*Top: Mayor Harp speaks at the Ives Squared ribbon cutting
Bottom: a Virtual Reality (VR) demonstration. Photos by Johnathon Henninger Photography*

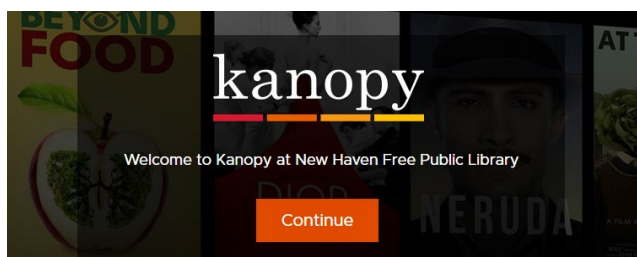
“This [Ives Squared] is a wonderful place for people of all ages and the café just makes it that much more pleasurable.” – NHFPL customer



Young minds at Stetson Library's Tinker Tuesdays

MAKERSPACE AT STETSON = TINKER TUESDAYS WITH SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY HILTON C. BULEY LIBRARY

In an effort to further STEAM literacy, Stetson Library has joined forces with SCSU's Hilton C. Buley Library Makerspace, creating new learning opportunities for our young patrons. These programs allow youth to experiment with STEAM activities and materials including Makey Makey™ (simple circuits which allows users to turn everyday objects into musical instruments), Keva Planks™ (small wooden planks that encourage experimenting with engineering and design concepts), gaming controllers, and more. Tinker Tuesdays give participants hands-on, interactive experiences with one-on-one facilitation and instruction. The program attracts a regular group of participants spanning generations—and there is an overwhelming response for more!



NEW TO THE COLLECTION: KANOPY

In December 2017, the New Haven Free Public Library added Kanopy, a movie streaming service, to the digital collection at the request of library customers after national media coverage. Kanopy offers access to more than 30,000 of the world's most acclaimed films, including award-winning documentaries, hard-to-find titles, film festival favorites, as well as indie and classic films. NHFPL cardholders are able to view the films remotely from any location free of charge and we had over 1,000 downloads last year!

TOP 5 MUSEUM PASSES (BY CIRCULATION)



Long Wharf Theatre Pass • 544
883 theater tickets!

Peabody Museum of Natural History • 178

Beardsley Zoo Pass • 119

Yale Repertory Theatre Pass • 61
New this year!

Mystic Aquarium Pass • 33

***Passes to museums, theaters, and
other cultural attractions were
checked-out 1,025 times!***

Promote Connection and Collaboration



Be a catalyst to connect people to people and provide programs, space, and resources to foster creative collaboration across a wide variety of purposes.

LONG WHARF THEATRE: A PARTNERSHIP THAT SPARKS CONVERSATION

The New Haven Free Public Library and Long Wharf Theatre are building on six years of collaboration! Our partnership, designed to broaden access to both organizations, includes community conversation at all five libraries, a curated micro-branch in the theatre lobby for each play, library passes for free tickets available to New Haven Free Public Library cardholders, and a community ambassador program across our neighborhoods.

This season, 883 free theatre tickets were distributed to library cardholders! Ten community programs explored two LWT productions, *Office Hour* and *Crowns*, attracting more than 250 participants. From “Creating Peace in Schools” at Fair Haven Library and “Challenging Assumptions on Youth & Mental Health” at Wilson to “Otherness & Outsiders Story Slam” at Mitchell and “Practicing Anti-Violence in Our Neighborhoods” at Stetson, we give community leaders and partner organizations a platform for ongoing cultural exploration and amplify the conversations happening across our city.



Left: “Otherness and Outsiders” story slam at Ives Main Library. Right: Office Hour director Lisa Peterson speaks at Mitchell Library

“The library needs to be a hub of resources and local information. When I moved here with a young child I spent a lot of time there looking for connections and local happenings. It was a great help.” – NHFPL customer



NEW HAVEN LAND TRUST GARDEN AT FAIR HAVEN LIBRARY

Every Thursday from spring through fall, library users, staff, and students gather in the Fair Haven Library community garden to water, weed, and harvest seasonal vegetables. The New Haven Land Trust provides the gardening materials and the library community cares for the garden throughout the growing season, distributing the veggies and fruits they grow to their fellow patrons for free. New this year is a pair of pear trees!

HELPING THOSE IN NEED WITH LIBERTY COMMUNITY SERVICES

The New Haven Free Public Library strives to meet the diverse needs of all who walk through our doors, and has continued our successful partnership with Liberty Community Services (LCS) to offer one-on-one consultations for those who struggle to afford reliable housing, health care, food, and other basic needs. The LCS case manager, on site at Ives Main Library, met with more than 550 people for almost 1,000 total appointments last year.

As a warming and cooling center located in the heart of downtown New Haven, Ives Main Library is a safe refuge for many of the city's most vulnerable residents. As one of our patrons commented in the recent Community Needs Assessment, "In today's world, the NHFPL system has the greatest impact on people who do not have the same privilege as I do. The more the libraries can do to serve as a support system for people in need, the better."

TOWN HALL SERIES: CITYWIDE YOUTH COALITION

Citywide Youth Coalition (CWYC) is a nonprofit organization with a vision to build a courageous community in which all youth can succeed. CWYC gathers bi-monthly at Ives Main Library for Dinner & Dialogue, a town hall series co-facilitated by youth advisory board leaders and adult mentors. "We value being at the library because we are able to have a central location accessible to all New Haven youth," shared Sharon Rabera, Lead Prevention Organizer of CWYC. "Our collaboration with the library is able to provide a safe environment where we have open and necessary conversations about issues that affect us in our communities."



CWYC event at Ives Main Library

Deliver World-Class Service



Deliver responsive and effective service through welcoming, knowledgeable, and caring library staff resulting in customer trust, confidence, and satisfaction.

“You guys are doing such excellent creative work for so many people... it is wonderful to see the amazing events happening at the library.”

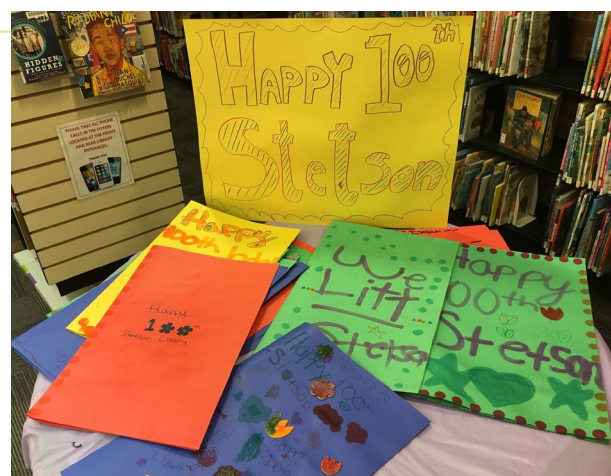
– Howard McGinn, former City Librarian and Director (1997-2000)

FAIR HAVEN AND STETSON LIBRARIES CELEBRATE 100 YEARS

This year the New Haven Free Public Library celebrated two important milestones: the centennials of the first two branch libraries in the library system.

In July 2017, we celebrated the 100th anniversary of the Dixwell and Newhallville neighborhood library, from its humble beginnings in a house on Division Street in Newhallville to today's Willis K. Stetson Library, named after our first city librarian, at the heart of a busy commercial plaza on Dixwell Avenue. To mark the occasion, families, patrons and community partners enjoyed refreshments and live music while experiencing a sample of Stetson programs and activities. The Stetson branch has an incredible history of service in Dixwell and Newhallville and an exciting future as it prepares to move into a new home in the Q House!

Then, in December, the Fair Haven Library celebrated its 100th anniversary on a snowy Saturday afternoon. One of three libraries in the city founded with a gift from Andrew Carnegie, Fair Haven is the only remaining original Carnegie library still in operation in New Haven. This family-friendly event celebrated the branch's history with community partners Music Haven and the New Haven Land Trust joining the fun. Children applied veggie temporary tattoos while guests listened to the Phat Orangez, a student string quartet. Connecticut State Senate President Pro Tempore Martin Looney regaled attendees with stories from his childhood growing up in the neighborhood and visiting the Fair Haven Library where he was introduced to “a great world of books.”



Top: birthday cards for Stetson Library
Bottom: children apply temporary tattoos at Fair Haven Library, photo by Johnathon Henninger Photography

STAR LIBRARIANS WIN EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE AWARDS

Stetson Branch Manager Diane Brown received the Arts Council of Greater New Haven's Arts Award in December 2017 in recognition of her work "building a community space that truly celebrates African-American history and literature." At the awards ceremony, Diane highlighted the collaborative work of the Dixwell and Newhallville "village" and the many community partners that help create the vibrant culture at Stetson Library. As Diane has said of Stetson, "a library is not just a home for books, it's a home for the community."



Stetson Library Branch Manager Diane Brown



In April 2018, **Public Services Administrator Xia Feng** received Yale University's Seton Elm Award "for her tireless work connecting cultures, neighborhoods and generations through the New Haven Free Public Library." For more than twenty years, Xia Feng has been an advocate for the library in the community, collaborating with Yale programs, organizing outreach to visiting teachers and their families, creating cross-cultural programming, and at times going door to door to spread the word about library programs and services to local Chinese families.

Photo (L to R): Board of Alders President Tyisha Walker-Myers, Yale President Peter Salovey, and NHFPL Public Services Administrator Xia Feng

Congratulations to Diane Brown and Xia Feng on their accomplishments, and thank you for your dedication to the New Haven Free Public Library!

CURRENT LIBRARY STAFF:



45 Full-Time
(37.5 hrs/week)



**39 Temporary
and Part-Time**
(19 hrs/week)

During our Community Needs Assessment, users had overwhelmingly positive things to say about library staff:



72% of patrons surveyed rate NHFPL staff as "very good" or "excellent" in providing a welcoming environment and 69% rate the staff as "very good" or "excellent" for being knowledgeable, answering questions or providing information.

– 2017 survey, Community Needs Assessment

Community Partners

Achievement First
 All Our Kin
 Amistad Committee
 Arte
 ArtEcon of Kehler Liddell Gallery
 Arts Council of Greater New Haven
 Atwater Senior Center
 Baobab Tree Studios
 Believe In Me
 Bethel AME
 Bereavement Care
 Blockwatch 303
 Book Talk, WNHH Community Radio
 BOOST
 Boys & Girls Club
 Breakthru
 Casa Otoñal
 Chapel Haven
 Chatham Square Neighborhood Association
 Christian Community Action
 City of New Haven Peace Commission
 CitySeed
 Citywide Youth Coalition
 Clifford Beers Clinic
 Collab New Haven
 Columbus House
 Comcast Internet Essentials
 Common Ground High School
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 Concepts for Adaptive Learning
 Connecticut Center for Arts and Technology (ConnCAT)
 Connecticut Children's Museum
 Connecticut Mental Health Center Foundation
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 Elephant in the Room
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 Fair Haven Clinic
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 Family Alliance
 Fathers Cry Too
 Formata
 Foundation Center-New York
 Gateway Community College
 Greater New Haven Chamber of Commerce
 Greater New Haven Peace Council
 Guns Down Books Up
 HomeHaven
 Hopkins School
 Innovation Builders
 The Institute Library
 Integrated Refugee & Immigrant Services (IRIS)
 Integrated Wellness Group
 International Festival of Arts & Ideas
 Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven
 JUNTA for Progressive Action
 Leadership, Education, & Athletics in Partnership (LEAP)
 Liberty Community Services
 Literacy Volunteers of Greater New Haven

Long Wharf Theatre
 MakeHaven
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 Mary Wade Home
 McClam Funeral Home
 MOMS Partnership
 Morse Summer Music Academy, Yale School of Music
 Music Haven
 New Haven Community Management Teams
 New Haven Documentary Film Festival
 New Haven Early Childhood Council
 New Haven Family Alliance
 New Haven Food Policy Council
 New Haven Healthy Start
 New Haven Land Trust
 New Haven Museum
 New Haven Promise
 New Haven Public Schools
 New Haven Reads
 New Haven Rising
 New Haven Symphony Orchestra
 New Haven Works
 Peabody Museum of Natural History at Yale University
 Pequeñas Ligas
 Planned Parenthood
 Project Longevity
 Public Humanities at Yale
 S.P.O.R.T. Academy
 SCORE New Haven
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 Spanish American Merchant's Association
 The Grove
 Town Green Special Services District
 University of New Haven
 Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)
 Westville Village Renaissance Alliance
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 Library, Yale University
 The Word
 Yale Center for the Study of Race, Indigeneity, and
 Transnational Migration
 Yale New Haven Hospital
 Yale Presidential Public Service Fellows
 Yale Repertory Theatre
 Yale School of Management Social Impact Consulting Club
 Yale University Art Gallery
 Youth at Work

**If we left your name or organization off inadvertently,
please let us know!*



Created using the laser cutter in Ives Squared. Photo by Johnathon Henninger Photography

Message from the New Haven Free Public Library Foundation Board President



NHFPL Foundation Board President
Elsie B. Chapman

NEW HAVEN FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION

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The New Haven Free Public Library is truly a community treasure: a public space open to all to discover, explore, and inspire. As the President of the Board of Directors of the New Haven Free Public Library Foundation, I am proud to support the library and all it inspires in our community.

The library is not just a home for lifelong learning, cultural exploration, and civic engagement but also a critical access point to bridge the digital divide, offering free WiFi, public computers, and computer classes. Now, with a new makerspace in Ives Squared outfitted with a laser cutter, vinyl cutter, and 3D printers plus the instruction to learn how to use them, the library is throwing open its front door to the creative and entrepreneurial economies. All you need is a library card.

As a trusted “third place” that welcomes all who walk through its doors, the New Haven Free Public Library is democratizing access to the tools and skills of the 21st century. Whether you want to try new technologies, learn the basics of starting a business, or network and share with peers across disciplines, the public library is the access point that is open to all. Drawing inspiration from the community it serves, the library amplifies the innovation and creativity of those who turn first to it to make their ideas and dreams a reality.

Support for the New Haven Free Public Library is an investment in your community. Thank you to the many generous individuals, organizations, foundations and corporations who have made a contribution to the library this year. Your generosity inspires a transformative vision for our library, our community, and our city.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elsie".

Elsie B. Chapman
NHFPL Foundation Board President

Terms expired in 2017

Edward S.K. Bottomley

Priscilla S. Dannies, *past president*

Stetson Library: The Next Chapter

Campaign Update



Rendering of the Q House,
Kenneth Boroson Architects

THE CAMPAIGN TO MOVE STETSON LIBRARY TO A NEW HOME AT THE Q HOUSE

Last year, the New Haven Free Public Library Foundation launched **Stetson Library: The Next Chapter**, a community-wide capital campaign to move Stetson Library into a new home in the reimagined Q House. This larger, newly outfitted space will help Stetson build on its impressive reputation as the center of learning, cultural exploration, and community service for the residents of the Dixwell and Newhallville neighborhoods while expanding to meet the evolving needs of New Haven residents. The new Stetson Library will be flexible and dynamic, with the materials, resources and programs designed to meet the needs and interests of the community and teach 21st-century skills for academic and career success.

To date, **Stetson Library: The Next Chapter** has raised over \$1.4 million for the new Stetson Library, including more than \$115,000 as part of the Seedlings Foundation “Community Challenge.” The Community Challenge matches gifts of \$50 up to \$10,000 dollar for dollar, and has catalyzed excitement about the campaign within both the Stetson Library service district and the Greater New Haven community. More than 500 community members from local churches, businesses, New Haven Public Schools, affinity groups, and professional associations have contributed—with just a few months remaining, momentum continues to build to fulfill the promise of the Community Challenge match.

REMAINING GOAL
\$560,000+

RAISED TO DATE*
**\$1.4
MILLION
72%
OF GOAL**

**as of June 30, 2018*

\$2 MILLION GOAL

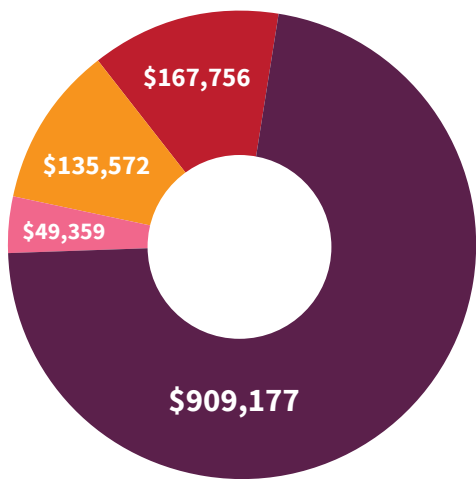


LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PROJECT AND DONATE
ONLINE AT NEXTSTETSON.ORG

Annual Campaign

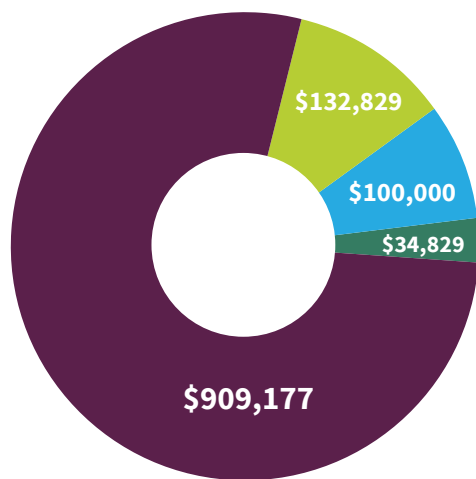
The New Haven Free Public Library Foundation raises funds to support the mission of the New Haven Free Public Library and builds awareness of the library's community impact. The Foundation works together with the library's board and staff members to ensure a strong, thriving library system to benefit current and future generations of New Haven residents.

Donations supplement the city's commitment to operational expenses, providing crucial support to offer free programs and services, to grow and expand collections and resources, and to innovate and inspire the community. Your support is essential to help keep ideas and information accessible to everyone: a mission more important now than ever.



Sources of Funding

- Stetson Capital Campaign • 72%
- Grants & Corporate Support • 13%
- Individual Giving • 11%
- Events • 4%



Support for Library System

- Restricted for Stetson Capital Expenses • 77%
New materials/resources, furnishings, technology, and equipment
- Restricted Support: CTNext Grant for Ives Squared • 11%
- Unrestricted Support • 8%
Collections, special programs, staff training, marketing and strategic priorities
- Restricted for Adult and Young Minds Programs • 3%



MARDI GRAS: THE LIBRARY'S BIGGEST BASH!

In February 2018, the New Haven Free Public Library hosted its signature Mardi Gras fundraiser. As in years past, guests donned masks and beads, sampled dishes from some of the city's best restaurants, and sang along to "When the Saints Go Marching In." New this year, we moved the party across town to Mitchell Library, transforming the Westville branch into a Fat Tuesday extravaganza. Thanks to the incredible support of the New Haven community, we raised almost \$50,000!

Save the Date: Mardi Gras 2019 is Tuesday, March 5!

NHFPL Foundation Vice President Tori Rysz and Ronnie Rysz at Mardi Gras 2018. Photo by Defining Studio

Our Donors & Supporters

*Thank you to the
generous individuals,
organizations,
foundations and
businesses that support
the New Haven
Free Public Library
Foundation.*

**Donations made July 1, 2017
to June 30, 2018.**

\$20,000+

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William and Jean Graustein

\$5,000+

Elsie B. Chapman
Priscilla and Robert Dannies

\$2,000+

Mary Ellen Savage
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George Zdru
Philipp Ziesche
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Up to \$100

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Susan Weisselberg
Xia Feng
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Christopher Zurcher
Anonymous (10)

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by Elsie Chapman
Gift in honor of Nannearl Blackshear
by Elsie Chapman
Gift in honor of David Brancati
by Danielle Piendak

Gift in honor of Jill Campbell
by Mary and Warren Campbell
Gift in honor of Mary and Warren Campbell
by Jill Campbell
Gift in honor of Elsie Chapman
by Gordon Geballe
Gift in honor of Elsie Chapman
by Carmen Shortt
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by Bruce Peabody
Gift in honor of CT Children's Museum
by Paul Wessel
Gift in honor of Susan Fellows
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Gift in honor of William Freeman
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Gift in honor of Cynthia Haiken
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Gift in honor of Ed Harris by Gary Crakes
Gift in honor of Faith Katkin and Jim Mayer
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Gift in honor of Sharon Lovett-Graff
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Gift in honor of Tori Rysz by Cynthia Cross
Gift in honor of William P. Tocchi
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Gift in honor of Margaret Ann Watley
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Gift in honor of Courtland Wilson Sr.
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for Small Business Workshop series

NewAlliance Foundation
for the READY for the Grade program

NewAlliance Foundation
for Stetson Library: The Next Chapter

Town Green Special Services District and
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Change in support of NHFPL's services for
the homeless

Anonymous
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MARDI GRAS 2018

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Valencia Goodridge
Willie Hoffman and Lucy O'Connell
Bill Nardini and Holly Grossetta Nardini
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Claire's Corner Copia
Edible Arrangements
Elm City Social
G Café Bakery
Gateway Community College Cafe Vincenzo
Heirloom Restaurant & Lounge
Katalina's Cupcakes
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Cave à Vin
Chip in a Bottle
Christy's Irish Pub
Claire's Corner Copia
Creative Arts Workshop
Donut Crazy
East Rock Coffee
Fashionista Vintage and Variety
Koffee?
L'Orcio
Lena's Cafe and Confections
Long Wharf Theatre
Maison Mathis
Mezcal Restaurante Mexicano
Music Haven
Idiom
Raquet Koop
Soul de Cuba Cafe
Strange Ways
The Beer Collective
The Devil's Gear Bike Shop
The Frame Shop
The Hive Hair Studio
The Juice Box
Wave Gallery
Willoughby's Coffee and Tea
Yale Cabaret
Yale Center for British Art
Yurway Boutique
Zafra Rum Bar

Entertainment

The Funky Dawgz Brass Band

Production Design

Andrew Rubenoff

Sound Design

Access Audio-Visual Systems

STETSON LIBRARY: THE NEXT CHAPTER

Leadership Donors

\$50,000+

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The Curran Foundation
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NewAlliance Foundation
The Seedlings Foundation*
Yale University

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Alex Sulpasso and Karla Lindquist
Yale New Haven Health

Community Challenge

Gifts of \$50-\$10,000 are matched dollar for dollar by Seedlings Foundation!

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James and Kavita Bhandary-Alexander
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 Alder Adam Marchand
 David Margolis
 Delores Marshall
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 Rory Martorana
 Lynne Maser
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 Ginger May
 Reginald and Patsy Mayo
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 Milda McClain
 Miriam McCrary
 Linda McLaughlin
 Tiffanie McMillan
 Crystal Lynn McPhail
 Daniel Mims
 Bryana Minor
 Eleanor Montgomery
 Mary Ann Moran
 Michael Morand and Wm. Frank Mitchell
 Maria Morris
 Kirk Morrison
 Mount Hope Temple UHCA Inc.
 Morris Moveland
 Charles Murphy

George Musgrove
 Taura Musgrove
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 NAACP of Greater New Haven
 Judith Naden
 James Najarian
 National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa,
 Delta Phi Chapter
 Raymond Nelson
 Alina Nevins
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 New Haven Guardians
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 Regional Water Authority
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 Angela Smith
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 Brett Spearman
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 START Community Bank
 Aleta Staton
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 Alex Sulpasso and Karla Lindquist
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 Walter Wright
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 Yale New Haven Health
 Diane Young Turner
 George Zdru
 Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc.
 Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.,
 Phi Delta Zeta Chapter
 Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.,
 Pi Lambda Zeta Chapter
 Anonymous (39)

****Denotes a pledged gift***

*We apologize in advance for
 any mistakes! If you notice an
 error or if we need to make
 a correction, please contact
 Lauren Bisio at the New Haven
 Free Public Library Foundation.*

THE LIBRARY IS LIKE:



The **United Nations** because of the **diversity of cultures**.

Air because **it is vital**.

A secular church for the community because it has the potential to **bring people together to reflect and share**.



Home because the staff and community **feel like family**.

A **very good but lazy teacher** because **it can teach you anything you want but you need to take the initiative**.



A **treasure chest** because it is **filled with valuable resources**.

My **Aunt Anna** because **it is welcoming**.



A **sweet shop** because **it has so many goodies**.

A **second home** because I've been coming **since I was six**.

– customer comments from the Community Needs Assessment



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New Haven, CT 06510

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