

ANNUAL REPORT

JULY 1, 2019 TO JUNE 30, 2020



***“The Library has been so progressive,
creative, and valuable to the New Haven
community. Continue your good work!”***

-NHFPL Foundation Donor

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MESSAGE FROM THE CITY LIBRARIAN AND NHFPL BOARD PRESIDENT

As we write this letter mid-2020 amidst both the COVID-19 pandemic and a nationwide movement against racism, we ask ourselves: how can we look back and reflect on the last fiscal year when we are so focused on the present moment and future needs? And yet, we learn from the work we have done, the ways we have responded to the needs of the community, and the unexpected obstacles we have all faced. And we strive to build upon these successes, lessons, and struggles as we move forward.

The New Haven Free Public Library's strategic framework, *Growing Together. One City. One Future.*, drives library priorities and program design. Last year, we focused on three initiatives:

- Connect Our Community
- Ensure a Thriving Community
- Inspire Personal and Social Enrichment

In these pages, you will see the creativity and innovation of staff and community members responding in ways that motivate and support, challenge and empower. What you will not find in this report, however, is where the Library is heading, and so we also want to highlight some exciting new updates for the coming year.

We are thrilled to share that as of July 1, 2020 the New Haven Free Public Library is now FINE FREE. We are proud to join this national movement to reduce barriers to library use, foster inclusion and equity, and promote equal access to information and resources for all New Haven residents.

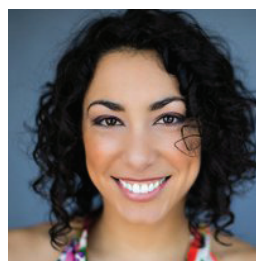
We are also eager to extend access to library services beyond the walls of our buildings. The Library has long served as a critical technology access point for families, jobseekers, and people with unstable housing. COVID-19 has magnified the digital divide. In order to expand digital equity and inclusion, the Library is now lending Chromebook computers and WiFi hotspots, and has turned Ives Main Library and Wilson Library into neighborhood hotspots by projecting WiFi signals out in a three-block radius from each building. We are also improving our digital presence with a new website, enhanced email communications, and more virtual programs in the coming year.

And finally, as we examine the proud tradition of public libraries as democratic spaces open and welcoming to all, we will be commissioning a master facilities plan to guide updates of the New Haven Free Public Library's physical spaces into the future. Each library location embraces its role as a community hub, embedded in the neighborhoods and communities they serve, and we are eager to welcome people back safely.

Please read on to see what we accomplished this year and join us online, on social media, and in the community as we endeavor to serve the evolving needs of the greater New Haven community.



John Jessen
City Librarian



Shana N. Schneider
NHFPL Board President

NEW HAVEN FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ex-officio

The Honorable Justin Elicker
Mayor of New Haven

Aldermanic Representative

The Honorable Jeanette
Morrison

Lee Cruz

Dr. Dolores Garcia-Blocker

Andrew Giering

Susan L. Lamar

Claudia Merson

Terms concluded in 2019:

Dr. Abie Lane Benitez

Dr. Sheila Jewel

Alexander Sulpasso

President

Shana N. Schneider

Vice-President

Lauren Anderson



AWARDS AND MILESTONES



MARTHA BROGAN RETIRES AS CITY LIBRARIAN AFTER FIVE YEARS

Martha L. Brogan retired after five years as City Librarian in October 2019. Under her tenure, the Library extended hours of operation and opened the Teen Center and Ives Squared in Ives Main Library, launched the campaign to move Stetson Library into a new home in the Q House, and won the 2019 National Medal from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. We wish Martha all the best in her retirement and we will strive to build on her work to bring a dynamic approach of innovation and collaboration to services.

OUR 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.

OUR 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.

OUR VALUES

*Advance Literacy
Foster Learning and Achievement
Provide Access to Knowledge
Empower Economic Success
Inspire Exploration
Promote Connection and Collaboration
Deliver World-Class Service*

STORYCORPS VISITS NHFPL

As a part of the **Institute of Museum and Library Services National Medal Award**, StoryCorps visited the New Haven Free Public Library last March to record and preserve fifteen stories from across New Haven. StoryCorps is an independent nonprofit organization whose mission is to preserve and share humanity's stories in order to build connections between people and create a more just and compassionate world. Each story is a conversation between two people who know each other, and all recorded stories are housed at the Library of Congress. Visit <https://archive.storycorps.org/> to listen to New Haven's stories!



NHFPL Librarian Gina Bingham interviewed Jessica Lopez about her experiences with homelessness, her 12-step fellowship, the support she has received from the library and how her daughter's birth changed her life.

NHFPL WINS CONNECTICUT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION PUBLICITY AWARD



The New Haven Free Public Library was honored to receive a **2020 Connecticut Library Association Publicity Award** for our video series, **My NHFPL Story**, created in partnership with local videographer Travis Carbonella. The videos include a newly arrived family deepening ties to their community via the library, a volunteer's perspective on why representation matters, and teens finding a safe space at the library where they feel free to be themselves. Watch them all on our website!

LIBRARY SYSTEM AND STATS



IVES MAIN LIBRARY

133 ELM STREET | 208-946-8130



MITCHELL LIBRARY

37 HARRISON STREET | 208-946-8117



STETSON LIBRARY

200 DIXWELL AVENUE | 208-946-8119



WILSON LIBRARY

303 WASHINGTON AVENUE | 208-946-2228



FAIR HAVEN LIBRARY

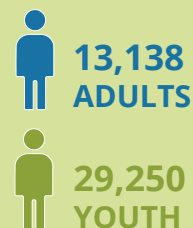
182 GRAND AVENUE | 208-946-8115

A LIBRARY ON WHEELS TRAVELING AROUND
NEW HAVEN VISITING EARLY LEARNING CENTERS,
SCHOOLS, AND COMMUNITY EVENTS.



2,739 PROGRAMS

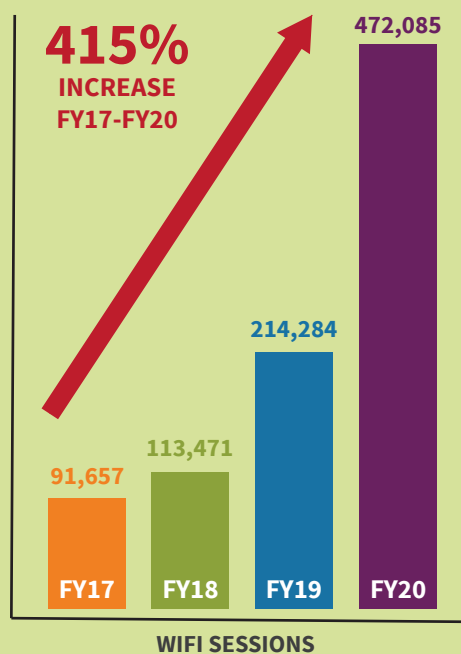
TOTAL FY20 PROGRAM ATTENDANCE



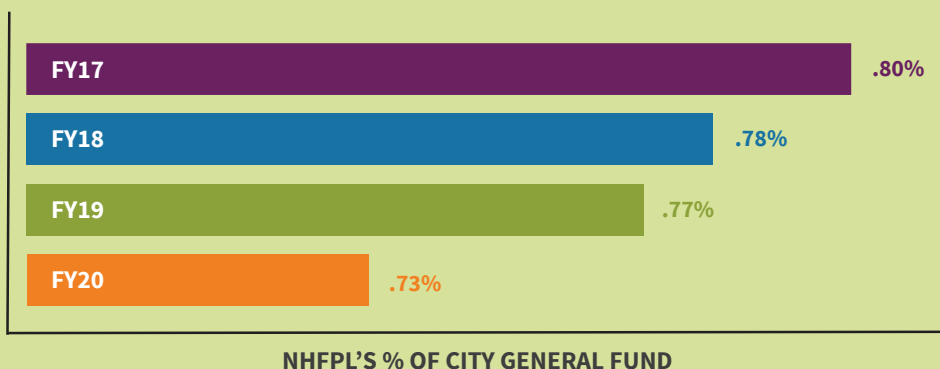
TOTAL FY20 COMPUTER USE



ACTIVE LOGINS
COMPUTERS + WIFI

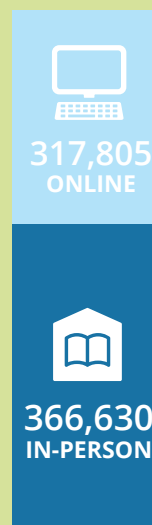


FY20 ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET \$4.1 MILLION



A **8.75%** DECREASE OVER THE LAST 4 YEARS

684,435 TOTAL FY20 USER VISITS





IVES SQUARED: A DESTINATION FOR CREATIVITY AND INNOVATION

Ives Squared, the Library's award-winning space for innovation and collaboration, continues to develop partnerships with area agencies and organizations to give patrons increased exposure to the network of support and expertise for entrepreneurs and creatives in New Haven. More than 31,000 people have visited Ives Squared since the space opened on the first floor of Ives Main Library.

With the ongoing support of the **New Haven Innovation Collaborative**, the Library has offered nearly 250 programs and workshops for local entrepreneurs, nonprofits, and creatives! Programs included collaborations with the **Community Economic Development Fund**, the **Small Business Association**, **Creative Arts Workshop**, and **Collab**.

In an ongoing effort to evaluate and improve programming, Ives Squared hosted two **Community Voice Panel** events this year. Facilitated by former Entrepreneur-in-Residence (EIR) Eric Rey, the conversations generated valuable input from patrons about their experiences with Ives Squared. As the space builds a reputation as a vibrant, trusted place for creative exploration and entrepreneurial opportunity, we will continue to expand and enhance our services and programs in response to community feedback.



Creative-in-Residence Chris Ward teaching a class on Adobe Lightroom

1,510 library customers participated in 242 workshops

134 referrals to New Haven Innovation Collaborative partners and other community organizations

2,187 Tinker Lab computer log-ins

450 individuals certified on Tinker Lab equipment



Mayor Elicker at the Jan. 2020 Fair Haven Community Management Team Meeting

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT FINDS A HOME AT FAIR HAVEN LIBRARY

*"Shifting the **Fair Haven Community Management Team** monthly meetings to the Library has been transformative for our work. We are now gathering in a safe space full of community resources, our overall attendance and diversity of attendants have increased, and we can finally use technology to augment our presentations. The staff are consistently supportive of our work, and we're proud that the Library is home to rigorous discourse, neighborly dialogue, and decision-making that impacts all of us."*

- David Weinreb, Corresponding Secretary
Fair Haven Community Management Team



Participants in the Inklings Writers Group working on their stories

EVERYONE HAS A STORY TO TELL!

Facilitated by Lucy Gellman, local journalist and Editor of The Arts Paper, **Inklings** is an all-ages writers group at **Wilson Library** run in partnership with the **Arts Council of Greater New Haven** and **Long Wharf Theatre**. Meeting monthly, the group writes in response to direct prompts with all forms of writing always welcomed and encouraged. Inklings offers the time, space, and structure to write—and for participants to take ownership of their story. Writers praised the “camaraderie” and the “safe space” of the group dynamic, with one person commenting, “I definitely find healing in writing.” Noted another participant, the “writing prompts challenge me to grow as a writer.”

DEMOCRACY IN AMERICA EXPANDS TO SECOND LOCATION



Democracy in America, the Library’s popular collaboration with **Public Humanities at Yale**, expanded to include monthly programs at both **Ives Main Library** and **Wilson Library**. Local scholars explored topics such as neoliberalism, health care policy, environmental justice, and labor movements, as well as the role that political and cultural figures like Frederick Douglass and Toni Morrison contributed to our democracy. The series encourages us to consider how we participate within a larger society while examining the tension between democratic ideals and practice.

SOCIAL MEDIA 101

The **Ives Squared** team partnered with the **City of New Haven Office of Business Development** to provide a 3-part Social Media for Business curriculum as part of the **Small Business Resource Center**’s 13-week entrepreneurship program. With the popularity of the first three sessions and the follow-up office hour sessions with each of the participants, we were able to expand to 14 programs, with a total of 93 entrepreneurs receiving assistance in improving the online presence of their venture. Additionally, in October, we coordinated the Social Media Influencers Panel Discussion in which influential figures from social media came to discuss how they use branding to reach thousands of followers. Working with the **Community Economic Development Fund**, we were able to expand beyond the basics to offer programming to guide learners on ways to improve their brand resonance and reach through tools such as SEMrush and SEO.



Fact

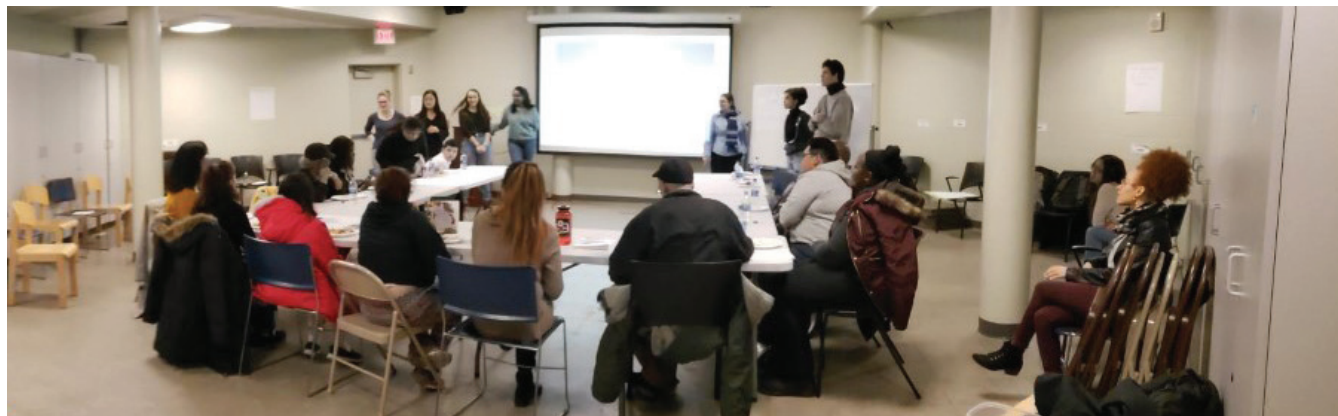
In 2019 Americans visited libraries more often than any other cultural activity, including museums, concerts, movies, zoos, and sporting events.

“Visiting the library remains the most common cultural activity Americans engage in, by far.”

In U.S., Library Visits Outpaced Trips to Movies in 2019, Gallop, January 24, 2020



ENSURE A THRIVING COMMUNITY



The November 2019 Body & Soul program on self care and building healthy habits

WILSON LIBRARY NURTURES “BODY & SOUL”

The **Body & Soul** series brought local health experts, medical professionals, scholars, and community leaders to **Wilson Library** each month to discuss the topics that affect our health in both obvious and unseen ways. Complementary book displays, funded by the **Network of the National Library of Medicine New England Region**, helped guide patrons who wanted to learn more about related topics. From nutrition and exercise to health care policy and the effects of debt on health, participants were encouraged to share their experiences and learn from one another before sharing a dinner from local restaurants.

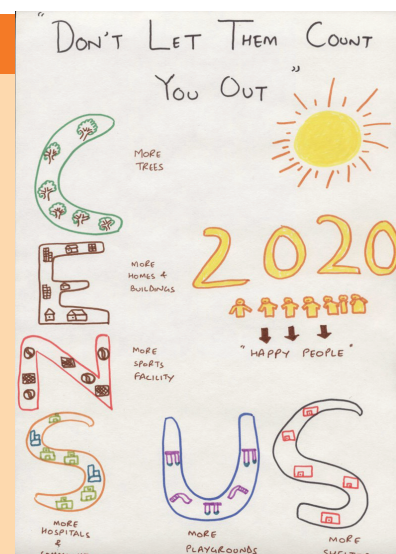
With over 150 patrons attending the 6-month series, people praised the “community based” forum for discussion, the opportunity to share their experiences, and the “focus on community members’ feelings, thoughts, and input.” Said one participant, “I think that hearing from people from different backgrounds and cultures is a good way to learn and encourage the fostering of spiritual, physical, [and] mental health.”

DON'T LET THEM COUNT YOU OUT!

NHFPL joined citywide efforts to promote participation in the 2020 Census as a member of the New Haven Complete Count Census Planning Committee; working alongside partners including The **Community Foundation for Greater New Haven** and community members from across the city. The census guides the distribution of federal funding to support vital programs, affecting everything from housing, schools, and health care to infrastructure and jobs. The City of New Haven receives about \$3,000 for each person counted.

NHFPL supported the City’s efforts by hosting job recruiting sessions at all five locations, holding an educational program with Census experts, and conducting a **Census 2020: New Haven Counts** poster contest with four days of creative events at the Library.

Census Poster by contest winner, Abeer Hussain

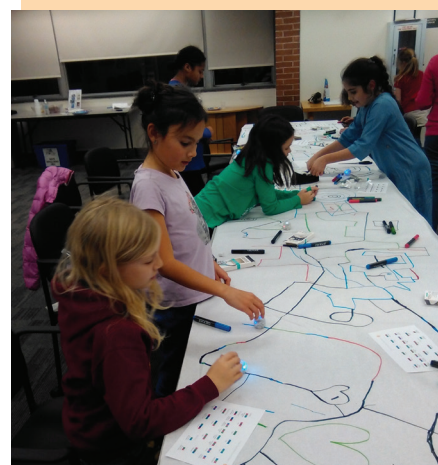


GIRLS CODE ACROSS NEW HAVEN

Functions. Loops. Conditionals. Variables. New Haven's tween and teen girls are well-versed in the language of coding thanks to **Tech Titans: Girls Who Code**. This program started at **Stetson Library** in 2018 and has now grown to all five library locations thanks to funding from **The Community Fund for Women and Girls**. In addition to teaching coding fundamentals, the clubs emphasize teamwork and build girls' confidence.

Over 90% of the girls surveyed after the program agreed that "Coding is fun!" and felt confident in their coding skills. More importantly, as friendships formed within the clubs, older students mentored younger girls and club members bonded together while working to complete activities, solve problems, and finish challenges.

STEM programming, like Tech Titans: Girls Who Code, positions the New Haven Free Public Library as a building block in the local tech talent pipeline by creating opportunities for participants to continue building their skills through school and advance to internships and career pathways.



Top: Tech Titans at Fair Haven Library
Bottom: Girls working together at Mitchell Library

MITCHELL LIBRARY EMPOWERS PARENTS, CAREGIVERS, AND FAMILIES

Mitchell Library organized a workshop series focused on empowering parents and co-sponsored by local schools and nonprofits. Programs tackled topics that affect the physical and mental health of children and families: including a mom and baby fitness class, a session with the **Yale Child Study Center** and the **Westville Community Nursery School** on parenting so children will listen, and "Real Life, Real Talk: Sex Ed for Parents" with **Planned Parenthood of Southern New England**. Programs also addressed local education, with information sessions about the New Haven Public Schools 2020 School Choice options and presentations by New Haven Promise for parents and students to learn about college scholarship opportunities.



Photo by Christopher Capozziello

READY FOR THE GRADE

READY for the Grade, the award-winning initiative of the **NewAlliance Foundation**, returned to Wilson Library last summer for six weeks of group lessons, one-on-one tutoring, and family activities. Now in its eighth year, **READY for the Grade** helps prevent summer learning loss or "summer slide" by keeping kids engaged in reading activities outside of school. Weekly family nights bring in parents, caregivers, and siblings to promote whole-family literacy. By the end of the program, 90% of the participating students had maintained or improved their reading skills!

INSPIRE PERSONAL AND SOCIAL ENRICHMENT



STUDENTS EXPLORE "A UNIVERSE OF STORIES"

Students across the city discovered **A Universe of Stories** through the New Haven Free Public Library's annual summer learning initiative. With prizes for reading books, joining library programs, and completing activities at home or in the community, participants learned about constellations, got up close and personal with nocturnal animals, and launched balloon rockets. More than 900 students participated in the 2019 summer learning program and completed over 8,600 hours of reading! Parents reported that kids "loved learning and getting rewarded" for reading and praised "the warm and encouraging environment" and "seeing what other young people have read and recommended."



Families at Stetson Library during a Summer Learning program

924 participants

8,607 total hours read

704 programs

14,044 program attendees

Computer Classes



COMPUTER CLASSES AND TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT

Computer classes and **technical support** are a core part of the library's offerings. With over 70 classes provided last year to help library users skill-up by focusing on resume-writing, basic graphic design, and building experience with Microsoft Excel, accessible computer instruction and technical support continue to be a core part of the Library's service to the community.

STEAM CLUB AND TINKER TUESDAYS

Donning lab coats and safety goggles, participants in the New Haven Free Public Library's **STEAM Club** learned about the scientific method and tested hypotheses using hands-on experiments in chemistry, physics, and biology. With creative art projects and collection recommendations for at-home exploration, STEAM Club transitioned to virtual programming this spring without skipping a beat!

Fair Haven Library STEAM Club members with their Artbots.





FAMILY POP-UP MAKERSPACE

Building on the success of the Pop-Up Makerspace for Youth and feedback that many parents and caregivers expressed to learn more about the technology that their children were exploring, Stetson Library expanded this program to include the whole family. This series of programs provided families the opportunity to learn new skills together through STEAM activities like sewing, coding, knitting, crocheting, T-shirt printing, playing with Keva Planks, Makey-Makey, Ozobots, and more!

People choose their supplies during a pop-up event in November to make autumnal wreaths

TOP 5 TITLES IN CIRCULATION IN 2019-2020

Did you know that the New Haven Free Public Library circulated over **261,014** print and digital materials last year?

PRINT BOOKS

It by Stephen King

A Warning by Anonymous

Catch and Kill by Ronan Farrow

A Minute to Midnight by David Baldacci

The Yellow House by Sarah M. Broom

AUDIOBOOKS

The Testaments by Margaret Atwood

Talking to Strangers by Malcolm Gladwell

A Warning by Anonymous

The Family Upstairs by Lisa Jewell

The Turn of the Key by Ruth Ware

E-BOOKS

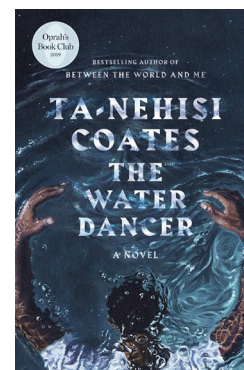
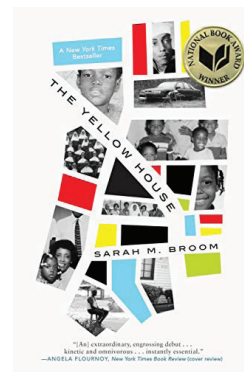
The Water Dancer by Ta-Nehisi Coates

The Testaments by Margaret Atwood

The Dutch House by Ann Patchett

Talking to Strangers by Malcolm Gladwell

American Dirt by Jeanine Cummins



34,000
CARDHOLDERS
IN FY20

Fact

Library cards are not just for borrowing books. Your library card connects you to digital downloads, research databases, museum and theater passes, and cake pans too!

ONE CITY. ONE FUTURE. NHFPL IN THE COMMUNITY



NEW DATABASES!

With the support of **CTNext** and the **New Haven Innovation Collaborative**, the Library expanded our digital resources for entrepreneurs, small businesses, nonprofits, and the creative industry.



Mergent Intellect is an expansive directory database with multifaceted advanced search functionality for millions of local and global businesses.



Grant Watch lets you find nonprofit grants and small business grants for your community or religious organization, 501c3, NGO, school, university, or municipality on GrantWatch.



Statista is a statistics portal that integrates thousands of diverse topics of data and facts from a wide range of sources onto a single platform.



Creativebug offers unlimited access to thousands of videos to create craft and art projects for all ages and includes downloadable patterns, recipes, templates, and more.

THE PUBLIC FILM SCREENING



In July 2019, Ives Main Library hosted a screening of the film **The Public**, a drama set at the Cincinnati Public Library during an unusually cold winter night that fills the city's homeless shelters beyond capacity. At odds with library officials, patrons turn the building into a homeless shelter for the night, and what begins as an act of civil disobedience becomes a stand-off with police and a rush-to-judgment media.

Following the film, Silvia Moscariello of **Liberty Community Services** moderated a discussion. Liberty Community Services has partnered with the library for six years to provide on-site case management services at three library locations: Ives, Wilson, and Fair Haven Libraries. With funding from the **Network of the National Library of Medicine New England Region**, qualified social service workers meet with library patrons to answer questions about homelessness and housing instability, health and wellness, and employment opportunities, and to make referrals to relevant service providers.

The Library is an active participant in civic dialogues to share information and best practices to address housing instability, identifying needs, and finding solutions for common concerns within the library system and across the community.

IVES GALLERY

For five years, the Ives Gallery has proudly exhibited work that reflects and celebrates the rich diversity of greater New Haven's cultural community. This past year included **Celebrating CETA: A Look Back at New Haven's Community Mural Program** curated by Laura Macaluso; **Queer Joy: LGBTQ Portraits in Pairs** by Cate Barry, **FacePoems** by Fred Wallace, and **Raíces sin Fronteras / Roots Without Borders** by Miguel Angel Mendoza Melchor.

Flor De Piña by Miguel Angel Mendoza Melchor





Photo by Christopher Capozziello



Photo by Christopher Capozziello

NATIONAL BOOK FOUNDATION PRESENTS

The New Haven Free Public Library was proud to partner with the **National Book Foundation** to bring **2019 National Book Award** nominees to New Haven for NBF Presents, a program series that “actively works to develop and support a nation of inspired and enthusiastic readers.” Longlistor Greg Grandin (*The End of the Myth*, Nonfiction) and Finalist Carmen Giménez Smith (*Be Recorder*, Poetry) visited Ives Main Library in November 2019 for a conversation on borders -- both physical and figurative -- in shaping identity, history, and literature. The event featured brief readings, a conversation moderated by John Jairo Lugo, Co-Founder and Community Organizing Director of **Unidad Latina en Acción** in New Haven, and a lively question-and-answer session. Following the program, Greg Grandin and Carmen Giménez Smith signed copies of their books in Ives Squared during a reception to celebrate the **NHFPL’s National Medal for Museum and Library Service**.

WINDHAM CAMPBELL DRAWS A CROWD

We were thrilled to welcome the **2019 Windham Campbell Prizes** to Ives Main Library for two panel discussions with an enthusiastic audience. Tracey Meares, a Founding Director of the Justice Collaboratory at Yale Law School, moderated a panel discussion with prize winners David Chariandy, Raghu Karnad, and Rebecca Solnit about state violence, how policing informs collective identity, and the possibility of re-framing policing as a public good, discussing what role the humanities—specifically, journalism and literature—play in the transformation of policing.



Photo by Beowulf Sheehan

“Approaching Police Violence: A Writers’ Conversation”



Fans lined up to meet Mr. Takei.

GEORGE TAKEI VISITS NEW HAVEN

We were thrilled to welcome actor and activist **George Takei** to the New Haven Free Public Library following his acceptance of the **Visionary Leadership Award** from the **International Festival of Arts & Ideas** this past February. Mr. Takei signed copies of his graphic novel memoir, *They Called Us Enemy*, as hundreds of fans lined up throughout the library, inspired by both his celebrated film career and passionate social justice advocacy.

THE LIBRARY RESPONDS TO COVID-19



VIRTUAL PROGRAMMING

The New Haven Free Public Library's virtual programs have helped connect our community during the COVID-19 pandemic, keeping us engaged in the broader world from the safety of our homes. When the Library closed its doors in mid-March, staff quickly pivoted to live and recorded virtual programs for kids, teens, and adults. It has also provided an opportunity to reach new presenters and audiences, including a presentation by scholar and author **Helen Yaffe** on her new book, *We Are Cuba! How a Revolutionary People Have Survived in a Post-Soviet World* from her home in Scotland.



Helen Yaffe presenting from her home in Scotland

Ives Squared launched several virtual programs to continue to build a creative, innovative, and entrepreneurial community virtually. The **Learn to Code** computer programming series helps to grow the technological skills of aspiring entrepreneurs and job seekers in line with developing opportunities in the tech sphere. The **Artrepreneur** series features conversations about the opportunities and challenges unique to being an artist and an entrepreneur. Library patrons were even able to take the joys of the Tinker Lab maker space home to enjoy with the whole family through a series of **"Take and Make" kits**.



NEW HAVEN FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

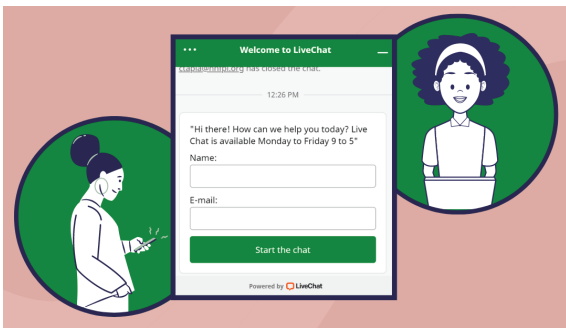
Reviews

NHFPL REVIEWS

Listen to reviews from our library staff to help choose your next book, movie, and more with our new NHFPL Reviews on our website!

NEW! LIVE CHAT

As part of the New Haven Free Public Library shift to virtual operations, we launched a new service with LiveChat available Monday through Friday from 9-5 pm. Through the end of the fiscal year, we had 239 chats with our community - and we are still going!





MASK-MAKING

When library buildings closed to the public in March, we repurposed the **Ives Squared Tinker Lab** to help meet critical needs for personal protective equipment. Staff sewed over 150 cloth face masks for local community organizations and 3D-printed nearly 550 face shield frames that were donated to area health care providers, including **Yale New Haven Hospital** and **Lawrence + Memorial Hospital**.

3D-printing face shield frames in Ives Squared

THE BIG READ GOES VIRTUAL

The New Haven Free Public Library was pleased to once again participate in the **NEA Big Read**, an initiative of the **National Endowment for the Arts** in partnership with **Arts Midwest** that broadens our understanding of our world, our communities, and ourselves through the joy of sharing a good book. Last year's selection, *Advice from the Lights* by Stephanie Burt (Graywolf Press, 2017), is a critically acclaimed collection of poetry exploring themes of gender, identity, transitions, contemporary politics, and parenthood.

Along with the **International Festival of Arts & Ideas**, **The Pride Center**, **People Get Ready**, **New Haven Public Schools**, and **The Word**, our Big Read programming went virtual last May and June. Young Minds Librarians put together a selection of story time videos, virtual craft projects, and a young adult book discussion. Adult Services Librarians joined the efforts, assembling a virtual micro-branch of all digital resources available online including ebooks, audiobooks, and films that related to the themes in *Advice from the Lights*.



Photo by Jessica Bennett



VIRTUAL AND RECORDED PROGRAMS

Programs included Local History Tours, Inklings Writers Group, Live Story Times, Yale Science in the News, and more!

273 Programs with
4,140 total views

150 Adult programs with
1520 views

123 Youth programs with
2620 views



60,157
DOWNLOADS

**EBOOKS, ARTICLES,
AUDIOBOOKS, FILMS, TV SHOWS**
from our Electronic Databases

COMMUNITY PARTNERS



Albertus Magnus College
Amistad Committee, Inc.
Arts Council of Greater New Haven
The Arts Paper
Artsucation Academy Network
Baobab Tree Studios
Black Student Alliance at Yale
Blockwatch 303
Boys and Girls Club
Bradley Street Bike Co-op
Candid
CDS Records
Chapel Haven
Chatham Square Neighborhood Association
Christian Community Action Inc.
Connecticut Mental Health Center
City of New Haven Peace Commission
CitySeed
Citywide Youth Coalition
Collab
Columbus House
Community Economic Development Fund
Community Foundation for Greater New Haven
Concepts for Adaptive Learning
Connecticut Center for Arts and Technology (ConnCAT)
ConnCorps
Connecticut State Library
Cornell Scott Hill Health Center
Creative Arts Workshop
CTNext
Daily Nutmeg
DEFA Film Library Umass Amherst
Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen
Economic Development Corporation of New Haven/ Regional Economic
Xcelleration (REX) Development
Elmseed Enterprise Fund
Environmental Film Festival at Yale
Fair Haven Community Health Care
Freddy Fixer Parade Committee
Gather New Haven (fmr. New Haven Land Trust)
Urban Grants 4 Us
Greater New Haven Chamber of Commerce
Harris and Tucker School
Highville Charter School
HomeHaven
Hopkins School
International Festival of Arts & Ideas
Irving S. Gilmore Music Library
JUNTA for Progressive Action
Leadership, Education, & Athletics in Partnership (LEAP)
Liberty Community Services
Literacy Volunteers of Greater New Haven
Long Wharf Theatre
LULAC Head Start
MakeHaven
Marrakech
Mary Wade Home
Millennials Making Boss Moves
Morse Summer Music Academy, Yale School of Music
Music Haven

New Haven Adult Education
New Haven Board of Alders Black and Hispanic Caucus
New Haven Community Management Teams
New Haven Complete Count 2020
New Haven Documentary Film Festival
New Haven Early Childhood Council
New Haven Innovation Collaborative
New Haven Museum
New Haven Pride Center
New Haven Promise
New Haven Public Schools
New Haven Reads
New Haven Symphony Orchestra
New HYTEs Tennis
NextHaven
Peabody Museum of Natural History at Yale University
People Get Ready Book Store
Planned Parenthood of Southern New England
Project Longevity
Public Humanities at Yale
Push To Start
Rainbow Library GLSEN CT
S.P.O.R.T. Academy
SCORE New Haven
Showing Up For Racial Justice (SURJ)
Southern Connecticut State University Hilton C. Buley Library
Spanish American Merchants Association
STRIVE-New Haven/Career Resources, Inc
Taproot Foundation
TLC Daycare
Town Green Special Services District
University of New Haven
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A MESSAGE FROM THE NHFPL FOUNDATION BOARD PRESIDENT

It's an understatement to say that last year – for the New Haven Free Public Library (NHFPL), its Foundation, as for everyone, everywhere – was a year like no other. Amidst the challenges, one thing cannot be overstated: the NHFPL thrived ... and you helped make that happen.

I write as the new President of the Board of Directors of the NHFPL Foundation, but I am not new to the Library. I've been closely involved with the NHFPL since serving as a New Haven alder in the early 1990s, a tough time for both the city and the NHFPL. New Haven's revival over recent decades has put it in a better place to confront the extraordinary challenges of these times and the NHFPL is in a stronger, more resilient place today than it was just 30 years ago.

The NHFPL has embraced the digital revolution and been a pioneer in addressing the digital divide. The Wilson Library opened just over 10 years ago. Ives Squared has remade the ground floor of the Ives Memorial Library downtown, inspiring a new generation of entrepreneurial innovation (and swerving magnificently to online-only when circumstances required). Recent decades have seen the first Black City Librarian, the first woman City Librarian, and, this year, the first City Librarian in more than 50 years to be promoted from within. The strength of the system was confirmed in 2019 when the NHFPL was awarded the National Medal for Museum and Library Service, the nation's highest honor for museums and libraries.

Behind all those outward signs of progress, there's been another essential change, more behind the scenes: the major growth in support from you and other loyal donors to NHFPL Foundation. Now, thanks to you, the Library raises hundreds of thousands of dollars annually from individuals, corporations, and foundations to strengthen services on-site and online for New Haven residents. Together, we are closing in on the \$2 million goal to move the Stetson Library into a new home in the Q House with an expanded collection of books and state-of-the-art technology.

This year truly underscored the importance of a vibrant public library. Confronting COVID-19 requires informed residents and requires broad community access to digital resources and technology. Addressing anti-Black racism demands education and advocacy. Demilitarizing public safety services necessitates increasing investment in community services, including libraries.

Your stalwart support has created meaningful change and true progress. Together, my colleagues in the NHFPL Foundation and I are confident that we will meet this moment and help secure an even brighter future for the New Haven Free Public Library.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Morand". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mike" and last name "Morand" clearly legible.

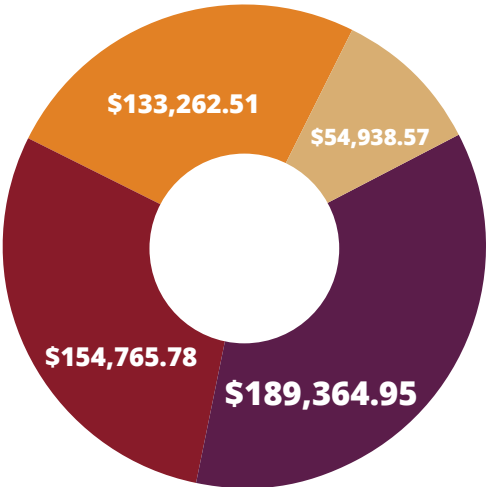
Michael J. Morand

ANNUAL CAMPAIGN



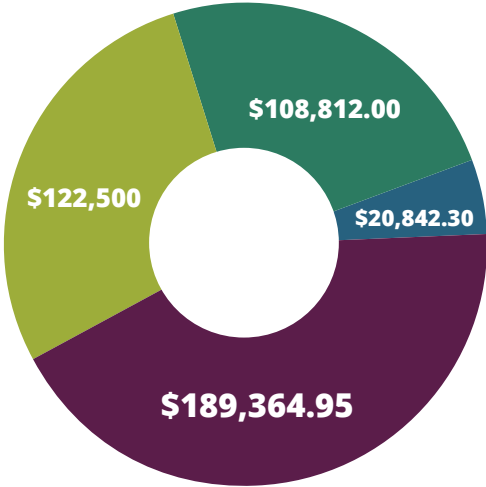
The New Haven Free Public Library Foundation raises funds to support the mission of the New Haven Free Public Library and builds awareness of the Library’s community impact. Gifts to the New Haven Free Public Library Foundation supplement the City’s commitment to operational expenses, helping to grow the Library’s print and digital collections, offer thousands of free programs throughout the year, and fund special projects and strategic priorities to amplify the Library’s impact across the community.

SOURCES OF FUNDING



- Stetson Capital Campaign • 36%
- Individual Giving • 29%
- Grants & Corporate Support • 25%
- Events • 10%

SUPPORT FOR LIBRARY SYSTEM



- Restricted for Stetson Capital Expenses • 43%
- Unrestricted Support • 28%
- Restricted Support: CTNext Grant for Ives Squared • 24%
- Restricted for Adult and Young Minds Programs • 5%



MARDI GRAS 2020

Mardi Gras returned to Ives Main Library on February 25, 2020. Over 250 guests celebrated “New Haven: A City of Stories,” while sipping cocktails, tasting New Orleans-inspired dishes from some of New Haven’s favorite restaurants, and dancing to the music of Thabisa (pictured). Together, we raised **over \$50,000** to grow the Library’s collection of print and digital materials and offer thousands of free programs and services throughout the year!

Thabisa performing during Mardi Gras

Photo by Johnathon Henninger

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*Thank you to our generous donors
that support the New Haven Free Public
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**Donations made July 1, 2019
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Mardi Gras 2020

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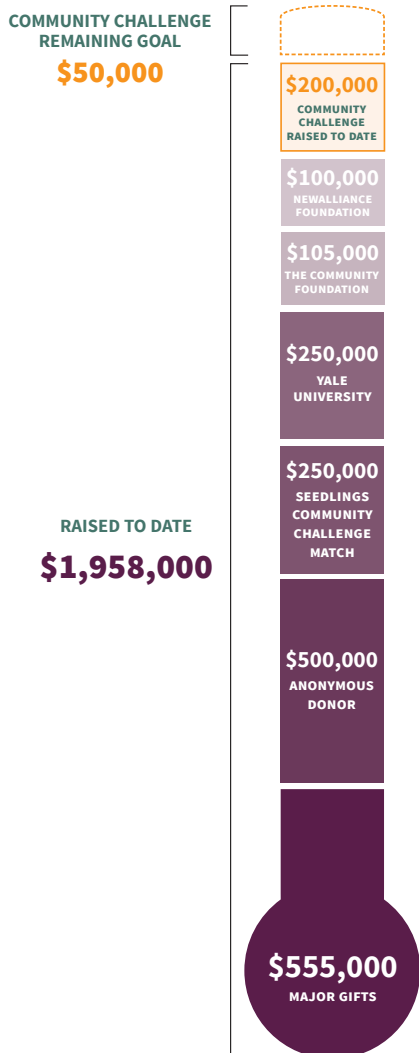
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STETSON CAMPAIGN: THE NEXT CHAPTER



\$2 MILLION GOAL



STETSON CAMPAIGN CLOSES IN ON \$2M GOAL!

Stetson Library: The Next Chapter is a community-wide campaign to raise \$2 million to move the Stetson Library into the Q House with an expanded collection, improved community services, new furnishings, and state-of-the-art equipment and technology.

With construction underway and an anticipated opening in Spring 2021, the new Stetson Library will be a sterling showcase of the contemporary public library: a significant increase in space and services to empower the community and reaffirm the Library's role as a leader in improving education, building cultural connections, and shaping the workforce of tomorrow.

Thanks to the thousands of neighborhood organizations, churches, school groups, and community members like you that have donated, we are only \$50,000 away from the \$250,000 Community Challenge goal! With gifts of \$50 - \$10,000 matched by the Seedlings Foundation Community Challenge, every gift makes a difference.

Visit nextstetson.org to donate today.

"I love Stetson Library and what it symbolizes and offers to our youth in the New Haven schools and community."

- Stetson Campaign Donor

*Stetson Campaign fundraising as of 6/30/2020

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