

# ANNUAL REPORT

JULY 1, 2020 TO JUNE 30, 2021



***“In good times, in bad times, and certainly in these times, the New Haven Free Public Library stands as a beacon and a bulwark in our community, free and open to all.”***

-NHFPL Foundation Board Member, Elsie Chapman

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# MESSAGE FROM THE CITY LIBRARIAN AND NHFPL BOARD PRESIDENT

As the following pages will attest, it has been another extraordinary year for the New Haven Free Public Library. When we look back at the beginning of this fiscal year, we are reminded of the uncertainty that we all felt as we navigated a new library landscape, let alone world.

As we have faced the global pandemic and risen to the challenge to help our neighborhoods, we have also looked inward to assess our further responsibility and role in working towards equity and inclusion. These circumstances and the enduring passion we have for our community pushed us to grow and serve in new ways, whether lending Chromebooks and Wi-Fi hotspots to connect those without, offering curbside pickup services, creating an impressive catalog of virtual programs, and more. We applaud the perseverance, professionalism, and commitment of the incredible Library staff to enhance life in New Haven while having to stay masked and six feet apart last year, and we look to the future with humility, excitement, and optimism.

In particular, we believe public libraries have a unique and vital role to play in advancing equity and addressing divides. To that end, Library staff have been working to bring to the foreground racial equity in programming as illustrated in the Cultural Academy at our Mitchell Branch exploring the African American experience and the conversation with sculptor Dana King at our Stetson Branch celebrating William Lanson, a New Haven economic powerhouse long overlooked by history books and now memorialized in a statue along the Farmington Canal Trail. Going forward, the Library is proud to participate in the Government Alliance on Race and Equity, a year-long training for government employees that builds the knowledge, skills, and frameworks to help dismantle systems of oppression inside and outside government agencies.

It is through this lens that we continue to reflect on the impact of our popular Books Sandwiched In and Animation Celebration programs, virtual book club discussions, Take and Make kits that bring STEAM learning to community members of all ages, popular and inclusive story times, and many more creative avenues where we have rediscovered the importance of staying connected, listening and reflecting deeply, and sharing knowledge during trying times.

All of us at the New Haven Free Public Library are here to embrace our friends and neighbors once again, deepen community ties, and celebrate lifelong learning and opportunity for all. We believe that every library space, whether virtual, physical or hybrid, must honor those who walk through the doors—or join Zoom rooms—and foster social cohesion among people who may not typically engage with one another. These communal events and the experience of coming into a library branch to browse books and, perhaps, bump into neighbors or a favorite library staff member, are what help to fortify us so that we can heal from adversity together and fulfill our city's promise.



John Jessen  
City Librarian



Dr. Lauren Anderson  
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

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John Jessen  
City Librarian

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# LIBRARY RESPONSE TO COVID-19

## PARTNERING TO PROTECT OUR COMMUNITY

In March, the Library partnered with **Cornell Scott-Hill Health Center** to increase access to COVID vaccines by hosting a regular vaccination clinic at the **Wilson Branch** as well as two pop-up clinics at the **Fair Haven Branch** in collaboration with **Griffin Hospital**. The clinics vaccinated over 1,000 people in the first three days and continued to be critical locations for people to turn to in the fight against the virus. Collectively, 7,814 vaccines were administered at NHFPL locations in three months.



**7,814**  
**VACCINES ADMINISTERED**



## LIBRARY CONTINUES SERVICE THROUGHOUT COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The New Haven Free Public Library has been an essential resource for New Haven residents throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, responding to the most pressing needs of the past year by growing the collection’s electronic resources, lending Chromebook computers and Wi-Fi hotspots to help bridge the digital divide, and providing self-check stations in all locations for books and other materials. Since reopening buildings to the public in July 2020 for computer access, printing, copying, and faxing, the Library has steadily increased open hours and services while putting safety at the forefront. We are eager to welcome you back to the New Haven Free Public Library!

A satisfied NHFPL member uses the curbside pick up service at the Mitchell Branch.

### 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.*

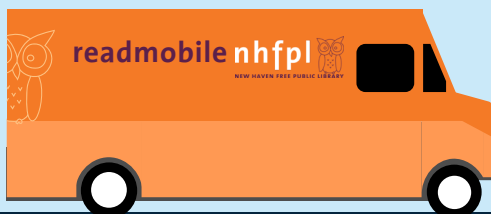
### OUR MISSION

*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*

# LIBRARY SYSTEM AND STATS



A library on wheels traveling around New Haven visiting early learning centers, schools, and community events.

## TECHNOLOGY USE



ACTIVE LOGINS  
COMPUTERS + WIFI



HOTSPOT + CHROMEBOOK  
CIRCULATION



DOWNLOADS OF EBOOKS,  
MEDIA, AND DATABASE USAGE

## PROGRAMS

1,062 PROGRAMS



37,527

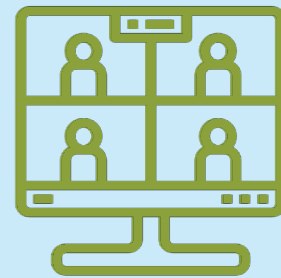
TOTAL ATTENDANCE



12,694  
ADULTS



24,833  
YOUTH +  
FAMILIES



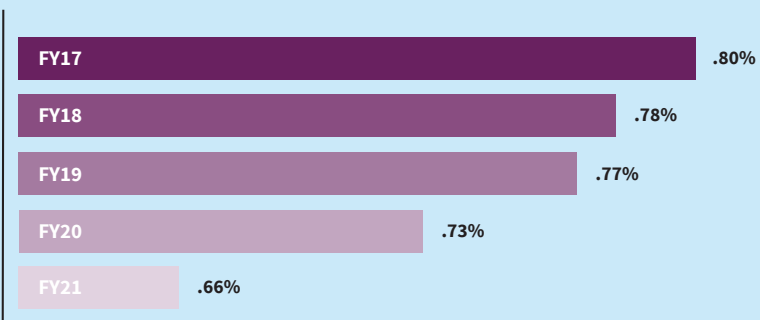
978

VIRTUAL PROGRAMS

## COLLECTIONS AND SERVICES

FY21 ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET  
**\$4.02 MILLION**

292,731  
TOTAL USER VISITS



NHFPL'S % OF CITY GENERAL FUND

A **17.5%** DECREASE OVER THE LAST 5 YEARS

239,160  
ONLINE

53,571  
IN-PERSON





## READY FOR THE GRADE

A partnership between public libraries and the **NewAlliance Foundation**, the **READY for the Grade** summer reading program at the **Wilson Branch** prevents summer learning loss in rising 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> graders with one-on-one tutoring, group reading lessons, and family activities. Family participation is integral to the success of the program, and READY for the Grade engages parents, caregivers, and siblings in activities to support young readers at home, cultivate a culture of reading, and nurture whole family literacy.

Last year, READY for the Grade took place entirely online due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In the virtual READY for the Grade program, 30 children participated in group reading lessons, one-on-one tutoring sessions, and weekly family activities. Students were further encouraged to participate in the Library’s systemwide summer learning programs and activities, which were also happening virtually.

The resulting program still provided the high level of personalization and interaction for participating students that has made READY for the Grade so successful year after year. Students received the support they needed to maintain or enhance their reading skills, learned more about how to take full advantage of virtual programming, accessed instructionally appropriate books, earned incentives, and had fun. We were also grateful to help our students and their families during this difficult time by providing gift card rewards and incentives, as well as a stable source of connection during uncertain times.



Photo by Lucy Gellman

READY for the Grade participant keeps connected to the library via virtual resources during the summer.

## THE THREE KINGS SPREAD JOY, CHEER — AND PRESENTS!



Photo by Lucy Gellman



Photo by Lucy Gellman

Spreading joy in the holiday season, the **Wilson Branch** brought the community together for an outdoor, socially distanced celebration of Three Kings Day with story times, music, and gifts donated by the **Yale Peabody Museum**.



## NEW WINTER READING PROGRAM WARMS COMMUNITY HEARTS



While COVID altered many plans for recreation, sharing the joys of reading with friends and family provided a facet to build unity in a time of isolation. The launch of the new **Community Winter Reading Program** focused on connecting adults, kids, and everyone in between to read and learn collaboratively.

Families, friends, and neighbors formed teams to work together to reach their reading goals. One participant shared, *"We are having a great time reading and are so grateful to you and all NHFPL staff for keeping our minds active and our souls fed."* Over 36 teams took part in this new, seasonal reading challenge!

A Winter Reading participant picking up a prize at the end of the program.

## MAKING STORY TIME FUN AND INCLUSIVE

Our **Young Minds and Family Learning** staff hosted over 300 virtual events this year garnering over 21,000 online views. Everything from story times to crafts were available to our youngest patrons and their caretakers. Exciting programs such as Take and Make crafts for families, Lunar New Year Story Time in collaboration with **Yale-China Association**, Spanish Story Time for **Yale Peabody Museum's Fiesta Latina**, Creating Musical Readers with the **New Haven Symphony Orchestra**, beginning American Sign Language, a presentation by the **Mohegan Tribe**, and more were offered!



Young Minds and Family Learning staff member Melissa Lopez leads a bilingual virtual story time on Facebook Live.

## BIG READ 2021: CELEBRATING FIRST NATIVE AMERICAN POET LAUREATE JOY HARJO

The Library was once again thrilled to take part in the virtual **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.

As part of the **International Festival of Arts & Ideas** in collaboration with the **New Haven Museum**, **Connecticut Public Radio**, and **CT Humanities**, we were honored to feature United States Poet Laureate **Joy Harjo** in conversation with playwright and director **Madeline Sayet**. Harjo is the first Native American Poet Laureate and a member of the Muscogee Nation. The focus of the discussion with Sayet, a member of the Mohegan Tribe, centered around the 2021 book selection: *An American Sunrise: Poems*. Harjo's poems express the complex emotions of her return to the land of her ancestors 200 years after the forceable removal of the Muscogee from their territory.



# FOSTER LEARNING AND ACHIEVEMENT



## BOOKS SANDWICHED IN RETURNS TO NHFPL

In October, NHFPL revived **Books Sandwiched In**, one of the Library's longest-standing author talk series, and took it to Zoom! Invited authors and notable experts, both local and from around the globe, were featured in lighthearted, lunchtime chats encouraging participants to ask questions while providing an atmosphere of openness, discussion, and discovery. NHFPL welcomed notable speakers including Pulitzer Prize-winning author Jake Halpern who documented the journey of a Syrian family immigrating to and settling in New Haven; international journalist Te-Ping Chen who discussed her critically acclaimed new book about the culture and history of China, *Land of Big Numbers: Stories*; Professor Brian Mitchell who shared the life of America's first Black lieutenant governor, Oscar Dunn; Professor Gerald Horne who vividly explained the settler colonialism of the Americas in the 1500s; Professor Frank Snowden who gave a timely presentation on disease epidemics and insights into vaccines and the COVID crisis; Jenara Nerenberg who discussed what it means to be neurodivergent with her book, *Divergent Mind*; and many more.



Joan Cavanagh, author of *Our Community at Winchester: The City and Its Workers at New Haven's Gun Factory*, discusses her book and research with library staff members Isaac Shub and Rory Martorana.

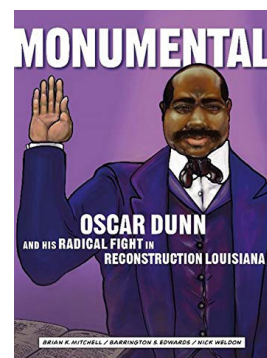
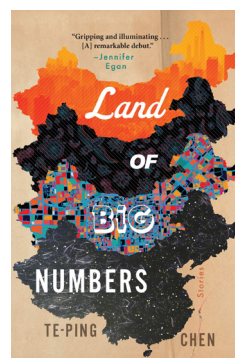
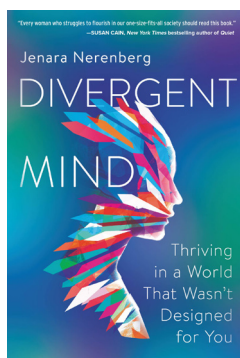
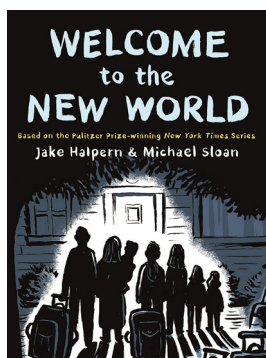
A selection of Books Sandwiched In talks were picked up by C-SPAN and aired on their BookTV program, shining a spotlight on and bringing national attention to these prominent issues.

## BOOKS SANDWICHED IN BY THE NUMBERS

**22** number of author talks

**1,317** live attendees

**4,764** post event recording views



## CELEBRATING WILLIAM LANSON AT STETSON

In collaboration with the **New Haven Department of Arts, Culture and Tourism**, the **Economic Development Administration**, and **New Haven Public Schools**, the **Stetson Branch** hosted artist **Dana King** virtually from her studio in Oakland, California. King discussed the process of creating her sculpture of William Lanson and its significance in the New Haven community and beyond. This statue is one of a growing number of monuments designed by King that bring light to untold stories of Black Americans like Lanson who have shaped our communities and histories. King's statue is now installed at its permanent location at the entrance to the Farmington Canal Heritage Trail.

King was joined in discussion by Lisa Dent, Executive Director of **Artspace New Haven**. Together they explored Lanson's life and legacy as a local engineer, entrepreneur, and political leader who spent his life advocating for both free and enslaved Black people. Stetson Branch Manager Diane Brown made a special effort to bring this program to students, noting, "It's a history lesson. A Black history lesson. And we need to have a component for the youth." Nearly 100 fourth grade students from New Haven Public Schools tuned in and there have been almost 300 total views of the program!



From left to right: NHFPL Director and City Librarian John Jessen, Stetson Branch Manager Diane Brown, Executive Director of Artspace New Haven Lisa Dent, Director of New Haven Department of Arts, Culture and Tourism Adriane Jefferson.



Photo by Regina Mason  
Artist Dana King in her California studio while working on the statue.

## CULTURAL ACADEMY BROADENS PERSPECTIVES ON RACE THROUGH READING

Collaborating with **Project Longevity New Haven** and the **Urban League of Southern Connecticut**, the **Mitchell Branch** hosted two rounds of **Cultural Academy: Introduction to African American History** in which select books were read over the course of several weeks and discussed in depth for a broader understanding of the impact and experiences of Black individuals in the United States. Using *Before the Mayflower* by Lerone Bennett and *The Warmth of Other Suns* by Isabel Wilkerson as a basis for conversations on race, Cultural Academy I and II worked to broaden the perspective of participants through discussion of racial tension and its historical and present consequences within the country. As one participant said:

“ *As we find our country coming apart at the seams over racial tensions, particularly as we witness the trial of the former police officer accused of murdering George Floyd and we white folks become more aware of the systemic racism in this country, and perhaps our own biases, the Cultural Academy is a port in this storm. To be part of an integrated group of Black and white people discussing “The Warmth of Other Suns” in the midst of such polarization was an honor and learning experience for me. I wish to thank Marian [Huggins, Mitchell Branch Manager] and all the members of this group at the Cultural Academy for a truly consciousness-raising experience.* ”

# PROVIDE ACCESS TO KNOWLEDGE



## STETSON ON THE STREET

Photo by Lucy Gellman

Local resident Chanelle Goldson came to represent the annual Freddie Fixer Parade with her two daughters and to connect with the community.

The **Stetson Branch** brought summer learning programs and fun activities for all ages outside to Dixwell Plaza while the building closed in preparation for the branch's upcoming move into the new Q House Community Center. In partnership with many local artists and neighborhood groups, this series of Saturday afternoon programs livened up the parking lot with art projects, hula hooping, music, and volunteers from partner organizations sharing information about community resources. The Stetson Branch remains integral to the Dixwell and Newhallville neighborhoods as it prepares to move into its new, expanded home across the street in the Q House. Stetson on the Street points to exciting programs and events to come to the neighborhood this next year.

## NHFPL JOINS CITY CELEBRATIONS AROUND TOWN



NHFPL is proud to be an active community member by working with partner agencies to promote opportunities and fun inside and outside of our libraries. NHFPL participated at the Fantasy of Lights and Haunted Road events with **New Haven Youth and Recreation** to bring a bookish flavor and holiday fun to over 1,000 residents!

## THE READMOBILE HITS THE ROAD



The **Readmobile**, NHFPL's library-on-wheels traversing New Haven, has made appearances at numerous community events and public greenspaces this past year. From **Westville's Artwalk** festival to beach days at **Lighthouse Point Park**, the Readmobile brought the Library's collection highlights and family activities to neighborhoods across the city. Keep an eye out for the distinctive orange truck as we hit the road in the coming year to bring NHFPL's programs and services outside the walls of our libraries and into a neighborhood near you!

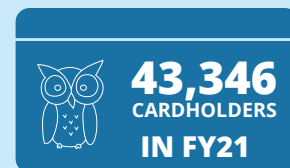
A musical story time at Westville's Artwalk.

## STETSON AND THE SHUBERT THEATRE BRING ONSTAGE MAGIC TO THE SCREEN

During the holiday season, the **Stetson Branch** partnered with **Shubert Theatre** to present live, streaming performances of the musical **Eleanor's Very Merry Christmas** as well as the dynamic **Hip Hop Nutcracker**. As a feature event for Black History Month, the five-part **Step Afrika!** series led viewers through the history and tradition of stepping with instruction and performance. These performances delighted audiences across the community.

## DEMOCRACY IN AMERICA: THREE YEARS OF DISCOVERY AND DIALOGUE

Standing with the tradition of public libraries as democratic spaces to foster the exploration of ideas, **Democracy in America**, the Library's collaboration with **Public Humanities at Yale**, brought this to the virtual screen and into homes throughout the city. This was the third year of this popular series featuring eminent scholars from around the country speaking on topics such as decolonization, Black feminism, the future of energy and climate change, and race and policing. Featured titles from NHFPL's collection highlighted additional learning opportunities to participants. Hundreds of attendees eagerly discussed and shared their thoughts on these critical themes from the glow of their home computer screens.



### Fact

*Library cards are not just for borrowing books. Your library card connects you to digital downloads available 24/7, research databases, Wi-Fi hotspots, Chromebooks for home use, maker space equipment, local history resources, cake pans, and much more!*



# EMPOWER ECONOMIC SUCCESS



## ARTREPRENEUR SERIES LIFTS LOCAL ARTISTS' VOICES



Former Ives Squared Entrepreneur-in-Residence Eric Rey facilitated the Artrepreneur Series.

The **Artrepreneur Series** took to the Zoom rooms featuring conversation with prominent New Haven artists as they discussed the opportunities and challenges unique to being an artist as well as an entrepreneur. Discussions around the intersections of business and art, as well as those involving race, politics, and artistic expression, took center stage featuring speakers such as Finn Henry, Chad Browne-Springer, Kwadwo Adea, Salwa Abdussabur, and more.

## LEARN TO CODE EXPANDS ACCESS TO DIGITAL SKILLS



Ives Squared Coder-in-Residence Page Swanson makes coding fun for all!

**Learn to Code** with Coder-in-Residence Page Swanson kept virtual learners on track with weekly community coding classes and follow-up office hours for one-on-one coding questions. Topics ranged from basic HTML and CSS to building databases and more! These sessions are available through the Library's Facebook video collection at [www.facebook.com/NHFPL/videos/](https://www.facebook.com/NHFPL/videos/).

## NHFPL TECHNOLOGY PROVIDES DIGITAL LIFELINE



We gladly supported the "Uprooting Racism" trainings with our partners at **CitySeed** through the lending of NHFPL laptops.

Access to reliable internet has become increasingly necessary to complete routine and required tasks in daily life: for schoolwork, to access unemployment benefits or small business loans, to locate food assistance programs, and to keep abreast of rapidly changing public health recommendations and information. The Library has long served as a critical technology access point for students, families, jobseekers, and people with unstable housing or experiencing homelessness. This past year, following the rapid transition to remote education, virtual meetings, and online applications for jobs and government benefits, the Library's connectivity extended beyond our physical spaces to reach those who would otherwise be cut off and disconnected.

Library buildings have transformed into neighborhood hotspots, projecting our Wi-Fi signals out in a three-block radius from **Ives Main Library** downtown, **Mitchell Branch** in Westville, and **Wilson Branch** in the Hill. And in every neighborhood across the city, the Library is bringing internet access into patrons' homes with new Chromebook computers and mobile Wi-Fi hotspots available to borrow for free with a library card. The Library is proud to advance digital equity and bridge the digital divide through creative solutions to some of our community's most pressing needs.

## NHFPL HOSTS UNITECT MOBILE BUS VISITS

**UniteCT** is a state program designed to provide rental and utility assistance to qualified Connecticut households financially impacted by COVID-19. The Library was proud to host the UniteCT Mobile Bus in June at the **Ives Main Library**, the **Wilson Branch**, the **Fair Haven Branch**, and the **Valley Street Community Center** in collaboration with the **Connecticut Department of Housing**, the **Urban League of Southern Connecticut**, **New Haven Homeownership Center**, and **United Way**. Through these events, over 100 residents were able to find out more about rental assistance programs and available aid.



New Haven Alder Honda Smith (Ward 30), Urban League of Southern Connecticut President Virginia Spell, and Mitchell Branch Manager Marian Huggins supporting the rental assistance efforts of the UniteCT program.

## HELPING NEW HAVEN GET COUNTED: 2020 CENSUS

The New Haven Free Public Library was a proud member of the city's **2020 Complete Count Census Planning Committee** and worked through the fall to encourage responses and promote participation in the 2020 Census. The hard work of community partners across the city paid off: we now know that New Haven's population grew 3.3% from ten years ago and became increasingly diverse.

## DIGITAL TOOLBOX RESOURCES GIVE ENTREPRENEURS THE EDGE

With the support of **CTNext** and the **New Haven Innovation Collaborative**, the Library was able to continue to offer powerful digital resources from the **Digital Toolbox** for our entrepreneurial and creative community. **Ives Squared** partnered with **KNOWN Coworking** to make sure that entrepreneurs looking to grow their ideas were able to learn about these resources and access remote research help from staff via phone and virtual meetings until the Library was able to safely open physical locations. Over 234 entrepreneurial mentorship office hours were offered over the last year!



**180** Ives Squared workshops offered

**15,695** views of program recordings

**234** virtual office hour participants

**2,102** library members participated in programming



## ANIMATION CELEBRATION HIGHLIGHTS BREADTH OF LIBRARY STREAMING SERVICES



Featuring animated films available in the Library’s digital **Kanopy** collection, the **Mitchell Branch’s** new, monthly Animation Celebration series brought together fans of film drawn to life. By taking the film discussion to the virtual screen, participants who might otherwise find it difficult to attend events, such as those individuals with disabilities or who are homebound, were able to join in the conversation. Works discussed included Aleksandr Petrov’s *The Old Man and the Sea*, which faithfully re-creates the classic Ernest Hemingway novella; Javier Mariscal’s *Chico and Rita*, which tells the story of two Cuban musicians in pre-revolution Havana; and the artistry of Jiří Trnka, nicknamed “The Walt Disney of Eastern Europe” and many more.

Kanopy is an award-winning video streaming service providing access to more than 30,000 independent and documentary films of unique social and cultural value from The Criterion Collection, The Great Courses, Media Education Foundation, and thousands of independent filmmakers. Check it out and discover your next favorite — free with your library card!

An Animation Celebration discussion of works by Yuri Nor led by Mitchell Branch staff member Haley Grunloh.

## TAKE AND MAKE KITS FOR ALL AGES!

Throughout the year, the **Young Minds and Family Learning** staff from all locations and the **Ives Squared** team lovingly packaged fun activities for NHFPL members to pick up and enjoy at home. Providing exploratory learning experiences for the whole family, kits spanned a variety of interests and allowed participants to try their hands at ornament making, no-sew face masks, colorful paper crafts, hydroponic gardening, mushroom growing, and more. Pairing more complex and technical kits with online live tutorials supplied a collaborative, digital atmosphere for neighbors to create together. The Library created and handed out nearly 3,000 kits!



An enthusiastic member shares their Take and Make creation.



Art Kits to Go supplied creatives of all ages with tools necessary to explore their imaginations at home. The kits were put together and donated by educators at the **Yale University Art Gallery**, the **Yale Center for British Art**, and the **Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History**.



# EXPLORING THE AFRICAN DIASPORA THROUGH COOKING



Throughout her tenure as **Ives Squared's 2020 Creative-in-Residence**, local chef, artist, and social justice advocate **Nadine Nelson** hosted several virtual cooking demonstrations exploring the diversity of cuisine from the African Diaspora. The themes of her programs broadened viewers' understanding of how to cook healthy meals with traditional ingredients, the evolution of food from the Caribbean and Africa, and how to repurpose surplus food to reduce waste. Nelson partnered with individuals and organizations across the city such as Haven's Harvest, Taste Comfort, and entrepreneur Karaine Smith-Holness to bring a wide range of expertise and experiences to the virtual table. These programs helped connect the New Haven community over cozy dinners during a time when it was not possible to do so in person.

## TOP 10 TITLES IN CIRCULATION

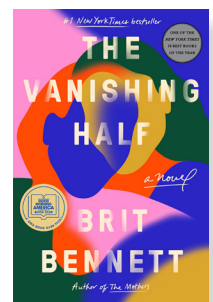
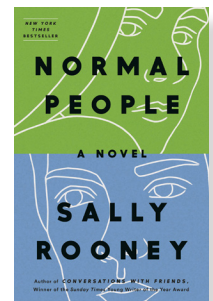
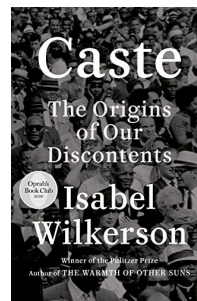
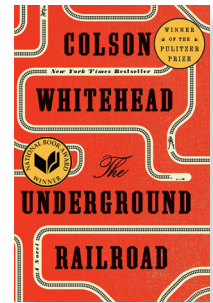
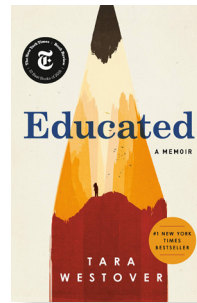
Looking to connect with other bibliophiles? Check out fabulous book clubs like our Urban Experience Book Club at Wilson, a collaborative virtual book club with Prospect Public Library, and the Monday Afternoon Book Club at Mitchell. Visit all of our events at [nhfpl.libnet.info/events](http://nhfpl.libnet.info/events) and enter "book club" in the search to join the fun.

## FICTION

- To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee
- The Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead
- The Midnight Library* by Matt Haig
- Homegoing* by Yaa Gyasi
- Normal People* by Sally Rooney
- The Testaments* by Margaret Atwood
- Into the Beautiful North* by Luis Alberto Urrea
- The Light Between Oceans* by M.L. Stedman
- The Vanishing Half* by Brit Bennett
- The Book of Ruth* by Jane Hamilton

## NONFICTION

- Educated* by Tara Westover
- Thinking, Fast and Slow* by Daniel Kahneman
- Best American Essays of the Century* edited by Joyce Carol Oates
- Jews in New Haven* edited by Jonathan D. Sarna
- Grit* by Angela Duckworth
- Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents* by Isabel Wilkerson
- The Subtle Art of Not Giving a F\*ck* by Mark Manson
- New Haven Celebrates the Bicentennial* edited by Harold Hornstein
- Three Centuries of New Haven 1639-1938* by Rollin G. Osterweis
- The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up* by Marie Kondo



# PROMOTE CONNECTION AND COLLABORATION



Photo by Lucy Gellman



Photo by Lucy Gellman

Barbara Gamble helps to complete one of the murals at the 5-Star Laundromat during the Community Paint Day.

## FIVE STARS FOR THE HILL'S 5-STAR MURALS

In June, the **Wilson Branch** partnered with **CTMurals** on a project to bring more public art to the Hill and enhance the **5-Star Laundromat** located on Washington Avenue across from the branch. Two murals, created by local artists **Isaac Bloodworth** and **Kyle Kearson**, were designed so that members of the Hill Community were welcome to join in the creation during a Community Paint Day. Once completed, the murals were unveiled in celebration of Juneteenth. Both events were a source of joy for the community in which neighbors gathered to connect and paint. One participant, Solomon Green, commented, "I grew up on Adeline Street, four blocks down. It's amazing to be able to drive down the street and say I took part in making a beautiful piece."

The unveiling was attended by community leaders, alders, and Hill families. Alder Ron Hurt (Ward 3) spoke at the event, "You know, love is love. Love is an action word. You can tell me that you love me, or you can show it. The Hill has been a forgotten part of the city, but I feel the love coming. People, let's continue to love. Let's continue to shine. The Hill is on the rise." We couldn't agree more!

## COMMON GROUND MOBILE MARKET STOPS AT FAIR HAVEN



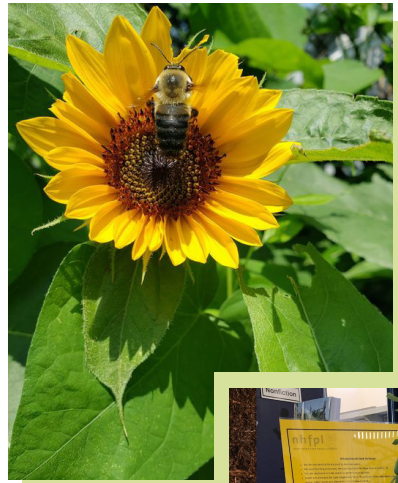
Library members were able to check out both books and veggies when the **Fair Haven** and **Wilson Branches** hosted the **Common Ground Mobile Market**. The Mobile Market provides locally grown produce to different neighborhoods across New Haven.

Fair Haven neighbors grab seasonal treats at the Mobile Market.

## SEED EXCHANGE SOWS SUNFLOWERS AND NEW GARDENS IN THE HILL

The **Wilson Branch** piloted NHFPL’s first seed exchange promoting personal gardening and the nutritional and economic benefits of growing one’s own food. The branch partnered with **The Sound School, Common Ground High School, the Hill North and South Management Teams, the New Haven Garden Exchange, Gather New Haven,** and many local gardeners to collect seeds and supplies. The seed exchange had approximately 25 borrowers per month from the early spring through the end of the planting season in July.

Wilson staff also distributed 1,800 sunflower seeds throughout the neighborhood to encourage community engagement and spread joy while promoting the seed exchange. The community gardening network, home gardeners, and local organizations quickly got to work planting sunflowers across the neighborhood, and their hard work bloomed across the Hill this summer.



Top: A sunflower grown by patron Leslie Blatteau.

Bottom: The Wilson Branch seed exchange.



## NHFPL COLLECTS PANDEMIC STORIES TO SAVE AND SHARE

I hope. I dream. I remember. I feel. These prompts inspired New Haveners across the city – and at NHFPL – to reflect on the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Ten large, black disks circulated throughout the city this past summer in a community-wide effort to document responses to the pandemic. The **Diary Disks** invite people to write, draw, or illustrate their responses to a multilingual prompt inscribed around the surface of the disk, and four were placed at library locations to give voice to pandemic experiences.

The **New Haven Free Public Library** was a proud partner in this project alongside **Design Brigade, Atelier Cho Thompson, the Center for Collaborative Arts and Media at Yale, NXTHVN, Yale-China Association, Yale School of Medicine, the New Haven Symphony Orchestra, CitySeed,** and other local organizations and faith groups.

The Library has been at the forefront of the drive to document and commemorate the effects of the pandemic on our city and its residents. From our **Pandemic Stories** project to community art projects that highlight the contributions of New Haven’s essential workers, these cultural preservation efforts help our community process the pandemic’s impacts and disruptions while memorializing this moment for future generations.



From left to right: Ming Thompson of Atelier Cho Thompson, Ye Qin Zhu of Design Brigade, Director of New Haven Department of Arts, Culture and Tourism Adrian Jefferson, Associate Director of Arts Programs at Yale-China Association Annie Lin, Deputy Director of NHFPL Luis Chavez-Brumell, and Chief Executive Officer of the New Haven Symphony Orchestra Elaine C. Carroll.

# DELIVER WORLD-CLASS SERVICE



## NHFPL GOES FINE FREE!

The **New Haven Free Public Library** is officially fine free as of July 1, 2020. In our efforts to provide equal access to the information, services, and opportunities that empower, enrich, and enhance the quality of life for all New Haven residents, we no longer charge overdue fines on New Haven Free Public Library items. We are proud to join this national movement away from overdue fines, joining hundreds of other libraries across the country to eliminate fines and fees. Studies show library fines do not actually increase overdue returns but instead become a barrier to library access and use for patrons with low incomes, seniors, and children. Since going fine free, over 7,000 patrons had library fines removed from their accounts!



Mayor Justin Elicker speaking at the press conference announcing the decision to go fine free.

## NHFPL GETS A FACILITIES FACELIFT



For the brief time in which the Library's doors were physically closed, staff was hard at work behind the scenes with repairs, collection inventory, and facilities upgrades to enhance energy efficiency at all branches. Be sure to stop by and check out the new carpet at Ives Main Library and the Mitchell Branch's new circulation desk. In response to health and safety guidelines, touchless fixtures have been installed systemwide in our restrooms.



Above: Staff worked to inventory the entire NHFPL collection. Below: Installation process at Mitchell for the new circulation desk.



### Fact

*A recent study concluded that capital investments in public libraries increase children's library use, visits, and program attendance, and even contribute to an improvement in school test scores and student achievement!*

Gilpin, Gregory, Karger, Ezra, & Necka, Peter (2021). The Returns to Public Library Investment. Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, EdWorkingPaper: 21-386, <https://doi.org/10.21033/wp-2021-06>

## NHFPL JOINS CITY TASK FORCE TO PROMOTE EQUITY

The Library continues to champion work supporting equity within our communities. In 2021, Deputy Director Luis Chavez-Brummel joined the newly created **New Haven Cultural Equity Team**. The coalition was established to build cultural equity, anti-racism, and inclusion efforts in New Haven through the creation of a citywide **Cultural Equity Plan**. This plan provides a roadmap to lift the voices and perspectives of artists and creatives who identify as Black, Brown, Latinx, Asian, Indigenous, Disabled, Neurodivergent, Queer, Immigrant, Young, Elderly, Poor, and English Language Learners. Highlighting organizations actively working towards a more equitable future, this plan calls for increased City resources to be allocated to these efforts.



Photo by Maya McFadden

Deputy Director Luis Chavez-Brummel speaking outside of City Hall at the announcement of the Cultural Equity Plan and its next steps.

## NHFPL'S AWARD-WINNING SERVICE!



Former Deputy Director Xia Feng and Stetson Branch Manager Diane Brown were honored recipients of the New Haven Symphony Orchestra's Education Award.



Library Technical Assistant Karina Gonzalez earned the Connecticut Library Association Support Staff of the Year Award for 2020.

## HAVE YOU SEEN OUR NEW LOOK?



With so many members accessing their 24/7 library from home, the **nhfpl.org** website now has a fresh and easier-to-navigate interface, is mobile friendly, and translates into 108 languages! Self-checkout stations throughout the system offer a self-service option and a new mobile app allows users to checkout using smartphones while visiting our locations.

# COMMUNITY PARTNERS



African American Cultural Center at Yale  
African Healing Drum  
Albertus Magnus College  
Amistad Committee, Inc.  
Arts Council of Greater New Haven  
Arts Midwest  
Artspace  
Artsucation Academy Network  
Atwater Senior Center  
Beaver Hills Community Management Team  
Believe In Me  
Bereavement Care  
Black Student Union at Yale  
Blockwatch 303  
Boys & Girls Club  
Bradley Street Bike Co-op  
Candid  
CDS Music  
Census 2020 New Haven Complete Count  
Chapel Haven  
Chatham Square Neighborhood Association  
Christian Community Action Inc.  
CitySeed  
Citywide Youth Coalition  
Clifford Beers Clinic  
Collab  
Columbus House  
Comcast Internet Essentials  
Community Action Agency  
Community Economic Development Fund  
Community Foundation for Greater New Haven  
Concepts for Adaptive Learning  
ConnCAT  
ConnCORP  
Connecticut Association for Human Services (CAHS)  
Connecticut Bar Association (Legal Advice Clinics)  
Connecticut Children's Museum  
Connecticut Department of Housing  
Connecticut Library Consortium  
Connecticut Mental Health Center Foundation  
Connecticut Public Radio  
Connecticut State Library  
Cornell Scott-Hill Health Center  
Creative Arts Workshop  
CT Humanities  
CT Murals / Rise Up Group  
CTNext  
Daily Nutmeg  
DataHaven  
David Geffen School of Drama at Yale University  
DEFA Film Library-UMass Amherst  
Design Brigade  
District Arts and Education  
Divine Creations  
Dixwell Community Management Team  
Downtown/Wooster Square Community Management Team  
Dwight Hall  
East Rock Community Management Team  
Economic Development Corporation of New Haven/  
Regional Economic Xcelleration (REX)  
Development  
Elephant in the Room  
Elm Community Insight

Ely Center  
Fair Haven Community Health Care  
Fair Haven Community Management Team  
Freddy Fixer Parade Committee  
Garden Club of New Haven  
Gateway Community College  
Gather New Haven  
Girls Who Code  
GLSEN  
Greater New Haven Chamber of Commerce  
Greater New Haven Peace Council  
Greater New Haven Youth Engagement Team Initiative  
Greater New Haven LGBTQ Youth Taskforce  
Green Elm Construction  
Griffin Hospital  
Harris and Tucker Daycare  
Highville Charter  
Hill North Community Management Team  
Hill South Community Management Team  
Hood Hula  
HomeHaven  
Hopkins School  
Integrated Refugee & Immigrant Services (IRIS)  
International Festival of Arts & Ideas  
JUNTA for Progressive Action  
Kehler Liddell Gallery  
KNOWN Coworking  
Krativ  
Leadership, Education, & Athletics in Partnership (LEAP)  
Liberty Community Services  
Literacy Coalition of Greater New Haven  
Literacy Volunteers of Greater New Haven  
Livable City Initiative  
Long Wharf Theatre  
LULAC Head Start  
MakeHaven  
Marrakech  
Mary Wade Home  
Midwest Tapes  
Millennials Making Boss Moves  
Morse Summer Music Academy, Yale School of Music  
Music Haven  
National Endowment for the Arts  
Neighborhood Music School  
New Haven Adult Education  
New Haven Board of Alders  
New Haven Board of Alders Black and Hispanic Caucus  
New Haven County Bar Association  
New Haven Documentary Film Festival  
New Haven Early Childhood Council  
New Haven Ecology Project/Common Ground  
New Haven Family Alliance  
New Haven Fire Department  
New Haven Food Policy Council  
New Haven Health Department  
New Haven Healthy Start  
New Haven Home Ownership Center  
New Haven Innovation Collaborative  
New Haven LGBTQ Youth Task Force  
New Haven Museum  
New Haven Peace Commission

New Haven Peoples Center  
New Haven Police Department  
New Haven Pride Center  
New Haven Promise  
New Haven Public Schools  
New Haven Reads  
New Haven Rising  
New Haven Symphony Orchestra  
New Haven Youth and Recreation  
New Haven Works  
New Hytes  
Newhallville Community Management Team  
Newhallville Learning Corridor  
NXTHVN  
People Get Ready Bookstore  
Pequeñas Ligas  
Planned Parenthood of Southern New England Inc.  
Project Longevity  
Project MORE Reentry Welcome Center  
Public Humanities at Yale  
Push To Start  
S.P.O.R.T. Academy  
Save the Sound  
SCORE New Haven  
Showing Up For Racial Justice (SURJ)  
Shubert Theatre  
Solar Youth  
Southern Connecticut State University  
Southern Connecticut State University Hilton C.  
Buley Library  
Spanish American Merchants Association  
Taproot Foundation  
TLC Daycare  
Town Green Special Services District  
Travelers on a Mission  
University of New Haven  
Urban Grants 4 Us  
Urban League of Southern Connecticut  
Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)  
Westville Village Renaissance Alliance  
Westville/ West Hills Community Management Team  
Windham-Campbell Literature Prizes  
Women of the Village  
Women's Business Development Council  
WYBC Radio-Yale Broadcasting  
Yale Affinity Groups  
Yale Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library  
Yale Center for British Art  
Yale-China Association  
Yale New Haven Health  
Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History  
Yale Police Department  
Yale Program for Recovery and Community Health  
Yale Repertory Theatre  
Yale School of Art  
Yale School of Medicine  
Yale School of Nursing  
Yale Schwartzman Center  
Yale Department of Music  
Yale Summer Cabaret  
Yale University Art Gallery  
Yale University Press  
Youth at Work  
Youth Continuum



## A MESSAGE FROM THE NHFPL FOUNDATION BOARD PRESIDENT

As you consider the public library’s achievements in a most challenging year, remember: libraries do not merely exist in nature and endure on their own. Libraries are created by people. Libraries are used by people. Libraries are sustained by people.

Your New Haven Free Public Library is no exception. In fact, it is a shining example of the power of collective action and a community that champions investment in the public good.

This support takes many forms, from the generosity of donors detailed in the following pages to the tireless dedication of library volunteers; from library users who show how important the library is with every book they borrow and each program they attend to the passionate advocates who share the value the NHFPL brings to their lives.

New Haven residents rallied for the public library this spring against the threat of budget cuts that would have closed the Mitchell Branch Library. Board of Alders Majority Leader Richard Furlow remarked during the public budget hearings that “every budget season we have tons of people come out in support of the library,” and the outpouring of support for the library was heard loud and clear in impassioned testimony about the impact the library has on families, communities, and neighborhoods. Your written messages of support sent to alders, shared on social media, and chalked on the library sidewalk made a difference.

Thank you for showing up for your public library and demonstrating through words, actions, and donations how the library is a vital center for our city and its neighborhoods.

Gratefully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Morand". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael J. Morand  
NHFPL Foundation Board President

### NHFPL FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*President*  
Michael J. Morand

*Vice-President*  
Mary Ellen Savage

*Treasurer*  
Sean C. Koehler

Patricia F. Brett, Ed.D.

Elsie B. Chapman

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Keith Bradoc Gallant

Lindy Lee Gold

Edward C. Harris

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Caroline Tanbee Smith

Tina C. Weiner

Tiana Williams

*Executive Director*  
John Jessen

### Terms concluded in 2020:

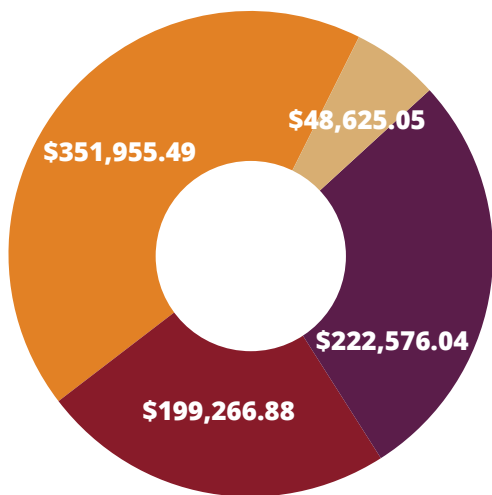
Michelle M. Stronz

# ANNUAL CAMPAIGN



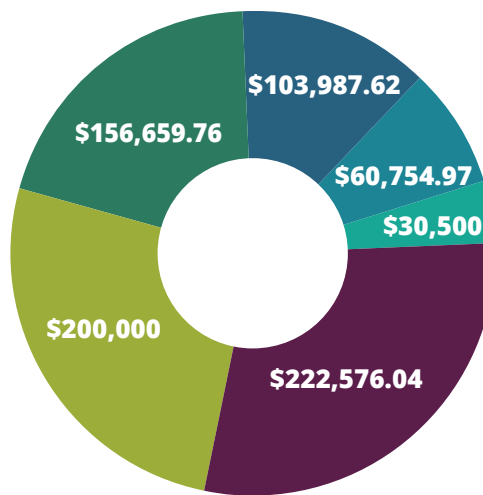
The New Haven Free Public Library Foundation raises funds to support the mission of the New Haven Free Public Library and builds awareness of the Library’s community impact. Gifts to the New Haven Free Public Library Foundation supplement the City’s commitment to operational expenses, helping grow the 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



- Grants & Corporate Support • 43%
- Stetson Capital Campaign • 27%
- Individual Giving • 24%
- Events • 6%

## SUPPORT FOR LIBRARY SYSTEM



- Stetson Capital Campaign • 29%
- Unrestricted Support • 26%
- Federal and State COVID Relief Funds • 20%
- CTNext Funding for Ives Squared Programming • 13%
- Grant Funding for Adult Programms and Services • 8%
- Grant Funding for Young Minds and Family Learning Programming • 4%

## MARDI GRAS GOES VIRTUAL



The **New Haven Free Public Library Foundation’s annual Mardi Gras fundraiser went virtual** last year with a program that celebrated Black poetry, honored Elsie B. Chapman with the Noah Webster Award, and announced the successful completion of the \$2M *Stetson Library: The Next Chapter* capital campaign, plus guest appearances and musical performances. With hundreds of people tuning in live on Facebook and YouTube or watching the recording, it was the biggest Mardi Gras audience we’ve ever had. And thanks to the generosity of library supporters, local businesses, community members, and bibliophiles near and far, **we raised \$50,000** for the New Haven Free Public Library!



# OUR DONORS & SUPPORTERS

**Thank you to our generous donors that support the New Haven Free Public Library Foundation.**

## **\$10,000+**

Joanne and David Goldblum  
William Graustein  
Anonymous (2)

## **\$5,000+**

Elsie B. Chapman  
Robert and Priscilla Dannies  
Anonymous

## **\$2,500+**

David Pollard  
Mary Ellen Savage  
Anonymous

## **\$1,000+**

Laura and Victor Altshul  
Meredith Gavrin and Greg Baldwin  
Fran DeToro  
Elizabeth Lerner and John Donatich  
Andrew Drabkin and Brian Hughes  
Bernard Hulin and Laura Berry  
Ruby Melton and Gail McAvay  
Jerome Meyer and Roslyn Milstein Meyer  
Michael Morand and Wm. Frank Mitchell  
Susan Bryson and Larry Nadel  
New Haven Festivals  
Mark Oppenheimer  
Julie Parr and William Becker  
The Ethel & Abe Lapidés Foundation  
William Curran  
Anonymous (2)

## **\$500+**

Bill Aseltyne and Jeff Stryker  
Carolyn Belt  
Maxine Bleiweis  
Martha and James Brogan  
Anne and Guido Calabresi  
Marianne Carolla  
Phyllis and Joe Crowley  
Elm Community Insight  
Richard and Barbara Feldman  
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Howard K. Hill  
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Richard Larson  
Deborah Freedman and Ben Ledbetter, Jr.  
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Rick Mayer and Melanie Barocas-Mayer  
Mary Miller and Edward Kamens  
New Haven Friends Meeting  
Pelli Clarke Pelli Architects  
E. Anthony Petrelli  
Marion Sachdeva  
William and Wilma Summers  
Tina C. Weiner  
Susan Whetstone  
George Zdru

## **\$250+**

Ian and Rachel Alderman  
Melissa Barton  
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Cynthia W. Cross  
Moore Crossey

John Cullen  
Pat Dillon and Jack Hughes  
Amy Duda  
Suzanne and Michael Eisner  
Ilona and Michael Emmert  
Jeanine Esposito and Frederic Chiu  
Susan and Harvey Feinberg  
Teresa Freeman  
Barbara and Gerald Gaab  
Toni Dorfman and John Gaddis  
Karyn Gilvarg and Eric Epstein  
Ann Greene  
Stephen Hamm  
Thomas and Sharon Haskell  
Paul and Susan Hawkshaw  
Susan Holahan  
Francie Irvine  
Helen Kauder and Barry Nalebuff  
Bill Kux  
Linda Lager  
Susan Laity  
Roland Lemar and Anika Singh Lemar  
Sid Levine  
Henry D. Lord  
Marianne Mazan  
Molly Meyer  
Holly and Bill Nardini  
Sara Ohly  
Cynthia Parker  
Patricia Pierce  
Charles Pillsbury and Allie Perry  
Celia Ponvert  
D. Ellen Shuman and Douglas Rae  
Jock Reynolds and Suzanne Hellmuth  
Lynn Street and Donald Margulies  
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R. Weiner  
Ethan Whitener  
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Virginia Wilkinson  
Rachel and Stephen Wizner  
Anonymous (3)

## **\$100+**

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Lauren Anderson and Chris Barnard  
Judith Andrews and Tony Falcone  
Lynn Aubin  
Henry Auer  
Victoria Baena  
Rachel Bashevkin  
Nancy Berliner and Alan Plattus  
Susan and Victor Bers  
Tim Bertaccini  
Janis Bisio  
Lauren Bisio and Philip Boulanger  
Jeanne Bloom  
William Bloss  
Lynne Bonnett  
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Linda Mason Briggs  
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Jenya Weinreb and Anton Bures  
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Claire Cody

Ellen Cohen and Steven Fraade  
Bettye Fletcher and Jim Comer  
Rebecca and James Cramer  
Catherine and John Crawford  
Claire's Corner Copia  
Lee Cruz and Sarah Miller  
Dixwell Avenue Congregational United Church of Christ  
Elizabeth Donius  
Jackie Downing  
Robert Eagan and Susan Boulanger  
Ronald Ebrecht  
Walter and Sharyn Esdaile  
Christine Condon and Susan Fair  
Lisa Fernandez  
Maira Fitzgerald  
Dave Forman and Gilda Outremont  
Catherine and John Forrest  
John and Emily Forrest  
Oi Fortin  
Carolyn Friedman  
Keith Bradoc Gallant and Joanna Waley-Cohen  
John Gambell and Ms. Martha Murray  
Ifemichelle Gardin  
Thomas Geoffino  
Toddie and Chris Getman  
Jo-Anne Giammattei  
Jeff and Mindy Glickman  
Bonita Grubbs  
Shannon Callaway and Philip Haile  
Doug Hausladen  
Kim A. Healey and John A. McCreight  
Trish Helm  
Hella Heydorn  
Kay Hill  
Jane Hindenlang  
Willie Hoffman and Lucy O'Connell  
Donald Holevoet and Elaine Piraino-Holevoet  
Emily Horning and David Zukowski  
Carla and Robert Horwitz  
Geoffrey Hotz  
Ken Hudson  
Joan Huggins-Banbury  
Alexander Janke  
Sheila Stiles Jewell  
Michele Johnson  
Robert King  
Amy Justice and Joe King  
Gretchen Kingsley  
Meghan and George Knight  
Stephen V. Kobasa  
Harold Koh and Mary-Christy Fisher  
Karin Krochmal and Richard Hayden  
Barbara Lamb  
Philip Langdon  
Constance LaPalombara  
Kathrin Lassila  
Susan Lincoln  
Mimi Lines  
Sharon and Bennett Lovett-Graff  
Patricia Loving  
Reeva Lynes  
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David Margolis  
Alice Mattison  
Reggie and Patsy Mayo  
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Kathleen McIntosh and James Curry  
Pedro Mendia-Landa  
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Stephen and Amy Mims  
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Darby Mowell  
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David Newton  
Frederick O'Brien  
Maryann Ott  
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Jim Pettinelli

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Arthur Volanth  
Janna Wagner  
Jonathan Weinberg  
Ellen and Andrew Wormser  
Michelle Zacks  
Jovana Zagorac  
Eve and Joshua Zelinsky  
Christopher Zurcher and Rachel Heerema  
Anonymous (12)

### Up to \$100

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Edie Abraham-Macht  
Susan Abramson  
Jean-Christophe Agnew and Rita Rack  
Wendy Allister Ford  
Charlotte Anastasio  
Ronald Angoff  
Debby Applegate and Bruce Talgen  
Robin Arenberg  
Diane Ariker  
Catharine Arnold  
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Tom Breen  
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Helena Brett-Smith and Jan Cunningham  
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Khalilah Brown-Dean  
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Susan Fox  
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Giulia Gambale  
Dolores Garcia-Blocker  
Jennifer Gargiulo  
Nathan and Patricia Garland  
Edward Gerber  
Andrew Giering  
Fran Giffin  
Robert and Jane Gillis  
Susan Godshall  
Lindy Lee Gold  
Georgia Goldberg  
Fran Goldberg-Cohen  
John Goldin  
Brauna Gorin  
Alva Greenberg  
Sarah B. Greenblatt  
Julie Greenwood  
Millie Grenough  
Mallory Grimste  
Carol Gruba  
Judith S. Hahn

Cindy Haiken  
Wendeline Hardenberg  
Kathleen Hayes  
Alix Hunter  
Annie Imbornoni  
Matthew Jacobs  
Cary and Dick Jacobs  
Holly Jermyn  
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Beth Klingher and Reid Lifset  
Sean Koehler and Laura McGowan  
Connie Konya  
Virginia Kozlowski  
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Mara Lavitt and Hayne Bayless  
Mary Lee  
Shannon Leslie  
Lawrence Levenson, MD  
Suzanne Levine  
Robin and Barbara Levine-Ritterman  
Martha Lewis  
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State Senator Martin M. Looney  
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Polly Kipp and David Loiterstein  
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Adam Marchand and Ellen Doon  
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Rory Martorana  
Lynne Maser  
Cynthia McCraven  
Sue McDonald and Corey Stone  
Mandy McGuire-Schwartz  
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Alex Merchen  
Charles Meyers  
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Laura Morrison  
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Amy Myers  
Shannon Mykins  
Elizabeth Nearing  
Alina Nevins  
David and Annie Norman-Schiff  
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# STETSON CAMPAIGN: THE NEXT CHAPTER



**\$2,109,275 RAISED!**



## STETSON CAMPAIGN EXCEEDS \$2M GOAL!

Thanks to the generosity of donors, neighborhood organizations, local churches, school groups, and community members, the dream of a new Stetson Branch Library is becoming a reality! This community-wide campaign raised \$2.1M to move the Stetson Branch into a new home at the Q House with an expanded collection, improved community services, new furnishings, and state-of-the-art equipment and technology.

With construction almost complete, we are eager to open the new library in 2021. The new Stetson Branch will include the resources needed to meet the demands of 21st century learning and promote multiple literacies: reading, digital, financial and cultural. The library will contain new and upgraded technology, equipment for DIY maker projects, an expanded collection of books and materials, and spaces to work, play, explore and collaborate. Stetson will build on its reputation as a community hub for the Dixwell and Newhallville neighborhoods and a center of discovery and exploration for residents from all across New Haven.

With a 60% increase in space, investments in cutting-edge technology, and new resources for everyone—children, families, teens and adults—the new Stetson Library will be better-equipped to meet the evolving needs of the New Haven community and serve as a new center to learn, collaborate, and celebrate our heritage. Thank you to the following donors for making this possible!

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## IVES MAIN LIBRARY

**133 Elm Street | (203) 946-8130**

Monday - Tuesday | 10 am-5:30 pm  
Wednesday - Thursday | 10 am-8 pm  
Friday - Saturday | 10 am-5 pm  
Sunday | Closed

## FAIR HAVEN BRANCH

**182 Grand Avenue | (203) 946-8115**

Monday - Wednesday | 10 am-6 pm  
Thursday | 12-8 pm  
Friday | Closed  
Saturday | 10 am-5 pm  
Sunday | Closed

## MITCHELL BRANCH

**37 Harrison Street | (203) 946-8117**

Monday | 12-8 pm  
Tuesday - Thursday | 10 am-6 pm  
Friday | Closed  
Saturday | 10 am-5 pm  
Sunday | Closed

## STETSON BRANCH

**200 Dixwell Avenue | (203) 946-8119**

Monday - Tuesday | 10 am-6 pm  
Wednesday | 12-8 pm  
Thursday | 10 am-6 pm  
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## WILSON BRANCH

**303 Washington Avenue | (203) 946-2228**

Monday | 10 am-6 pm  
Tuesday | 12-8 pm  
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Friday | Closed  
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