

**Hartford Public Library
Programs for Children, Teens, and Families
December 2014**

**Downtown Library
500 Main Street
Hartford, CT 06103**

For information on Downtown Library Youth Services programs, call 860.695.6330

Teens

Gingerbread Build-Off: Arts & Entertainment (Downtown)

Ages 12 and up. Join a team and compete in our gingerbread build-off competition. Build a house, a car, or anything else you can dream up. But you only have 90 minutes to sculpt your creation.

Downtown Library – Children's Library, Monday, December 8, 4:00 p.m.

Students

Homework Club: Education (Downtown)

Ages 5 and up. Fall back into great homework habits with a trip to the library. Drop in after school for homework help and fun activities to get you started. Homework supplies provided.

Downtown – Children's Library, Mondays-Thursdays, December 1-23, 3:00-3:30 p.m.

African Animal Safari: Education (Downtown)

Ages 5 and up. Leap, stalk, roam and gallop! Travel to Africa as we explore the animals of the land. Create a cool animal print jewelry piece to remind you of your travels.

Downtown – Children's Library, Monday, December 1, 4:30 p.m.

Travel to Africa: Education (Downtown)

Ages 5 and up. Research and celebrate African culture. Explore one of the more than 50 nations, and prepare a presentation to share at HPL's upcoming Kwanzaa Festival.

Downtown – Children's Library, Wednesday, December 10, 4:30 p.m.

First Fruits: Education (Downtown)

Ages 5 and up. Food plays such an important role in the celebration of Kwanzaa. Communities honor crops and laborers. Share a special harvest treat as we create a papier mache bowl together to hold the Mazao, or fresh fruits and vegetables.

Downtown – Children's Library, Friday, December 12, 3:30 p.m.

Readers' Theatre: Education (Downtown)

Ages 5-12. Join us for a dramatic reading of the classic fairy tale Goldilocks and the Three Bears.

Downtown – Children's Library, Monday, December 15, 4:30 p.m.

Polar Express: Education (Downtown)

Ages 7 and up. Find out why the boy and his sister can hear the bell while their parents can't. Make a Christmas ornament to take home.

Downtown Library – Children's Library, Wednesday, December 17, 4:30 p.m.

Get Money Wise @ Your Library and Be Your Own Boss: Education (Downtown)

Ages 8 and up. Try out a cool online game, geared towards developing and running your own business. Receive a start up "loan" to "buy" supplies for your business. Enjoy creating product and the entire small business process.

Downtown – Children's Library, Thursday, December 18, 4:30 p.m.

Illustrated Books: Education (Downtown)

Ages 5 and up. Warm up with a cup of hot cocoa and enjoy Jan Brett's illustrated tale *The Little Gingerbread Boy* and other great picture books found in the Library!

Downtown Library – Children's Library, Saturday, December 20, 2:30 p.m.

Get Money Wise @ Your Library Gingerbread Relay: Education (Downtown)

Ages 6 and up. Youth will compete in a Get Money Wise relay competition. Work in small groups to solve holiday money math problems. As you advance, earn different materials to create festive gingerbread houses.

Downtown – Children's Library, Monday, December 22, 4:30 p.m.

Holiday Ornaments: Arts & Entertainment (Downtown)

Ages 7 and up. Make and take a festive ornament to decorate your house for the holidays!

Downtown – Children's Library, Tuesday, December 23, 3:30 p.m.

Children and Families

First Friends Play Group: Early Literacy (Downtown)

Ages birth–5, with adult friends. Our play and picture book areas are reserved for you! Share toys, books and music while your child meets other children.

Downtown – Children's Library, Mondays, December 1 and 15, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Snowflakes Story Times: Early Literacy (Downtown)

Ages 3-5, with a parent/caregiver. Enjoy seasonal rhymes, songs, finger plays, book-based activities, and - as always - the best in children's books! Individuals welcome without registration; groups, please register in advance by calling 860-695-6330.

Downtown – Children's Library, Tuesdays, December 2, 9, 16, and 23, 10:00 a.m.

Hide and Seek: Early Literacy (Downtown)

Ages 18 months-5 with adults. Come find Frosty, Rudolph and the Jingle Bells hiding at the Downtown Library. We will sing, dance and play instruments to get the holiday wiggles out after our hide and seek games.

Downtown – Children's Library, Thursday, December 4 and 18, 10:45 -11:15 a.m.

Every Child Ready to Read Family Story Time: Early Literacy (Downtown)

Ages birth-5, with adult friends. An interactive program based on the five practices of the Every Child Ready To Read Initiative – Talking, Singing, Reading, Writing, and Playing. Listen to stories, learn finger plays, sing songs, play games and make a craft to take home!

Downtown – Children's Library, Fridays, December 6 and 13, 10:30 a.m.

Winter Wonderland Story Time: Early Literacy (Downtown)

Ages 3-5 with an adult care provider. Enjoy winter stories, rhymes, and finger plays.

Downtown – Children's Library, Mondays, December 8, and 22, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Itty Bitty Babies: Early Literacy (Downtown)

Ages: Newborn – 12 months with adults. Join us for nursery rhymes, songs, cuddles and books appropriate for the youngest of the young. Learn how to introduce your child to words and language by incorporating songs into all your routines such as bath time, diaper changes, getting into the car seat and nap time!

NOTE: Please bring a small blanket to lay your child on.

Downtown – Children's Library, Wednesday, December 10, January 7, and February 11, 11:30am -12:00 pm.

Family Holiday Musical Concert: Arts & Entertainment (Downtown)

Ages 3 and up, with adult friends. Join Sam Pasco and his band for a musical celebration of the holiday season.

Downtown Library – Atrium, Wednesday, December 10, 10:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

School Choice Dinner: Education (Blue Hills)

All ages. Bring the whole family to enjoy a tasty dinner, ask the School Choice specialists any questions you have about the lottery, and complete your 2015-2016 application.

Downtown- Children's Library, Tuesday, December 16, 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Family Story Time: Early Literacy (Downtown)

Ages 3-8, with adult friends. Bring your family to the library on Saturday to hear stories from the best in children's illustrated books, sing songs, share rhymes, and make a craft!

Downtown – Children's Library, Saturday, December 20, 11:30 a.m.

Kwanzaa Festival: Heritage (Downtown)

All children and adults. Kwanzaa is a week-long celebration honoring our African-American culture. Join us as we celebrate through stories, music, art, dance, and craft.

Downtown Library – Children's Library, Saturday, December 27, 11:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Albany Branch
1250 Albany Avenue
Hartford, CT 06112
For information on Albany Branch programs,
call 860.695.7380

DECEMBER

Drop-in Craft: Arts & Entertainment (Albany)

Ages 4 and up. We provide the supplies. You and your child supply the creativity.

Albany Branch, Saturdays, December 6, 20, and 27, 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Homework Help: Education (Albany)

Grades K and up. Stop by after school to get help with your homework. Children under eight years old must be accompanied by an adult.

Albany Branch, Mondays-Thursdays, December 1 – 19, 4:00-5:00 p.m.

Reading Hour: Education (Albany)

Ages 7 and up. Stop by for brownies while we take turns reading from the book of the month.

Albany Branch, Monday, December 1, 5:00 p.m.

Gingerbread Man is on the Loose: Early Literacy (Albany)

Ages 4-9. Compare and contrast two popular versions of this classic folktale and enjoy a tasty gingerbread treat.

Albany Branch, Tuesday, December 2, 5:00 p.m.

Reader's Theater: Education (Albany)

Ages 5 and up. Join us for a dramatic reading of the classic fairy tale, Goldilocks and the 3 Bears.

Albany Branch, Wednesday, December 3, 5:00 p.m.

Teen Book Club: Education (Albany)

Ages 13-18. Bring your favorite book to discuss, and help us pick a title to discuss next month.

Albany Branch, Thursday, December 4, 5:00 p.m.

Movie Matinee: Arts & Entertainment (Albany)

Ages 8 and up. Come watch a movie and enjoy a snack with your family and friends.

Albany Branch, Friday, December 5, 3:30 p.m.

Kindle Club: Education (Albany)

Ages 7 and up. Stop in for our Kindle Book Club. Take turns reading from our e-book of the month and discuss the plot and characters.

Albany Branch, Monday, December 8, 5:00 p.m.

African Animal Safari: Education (Albany)

Ages 5 and up. Leap, stalk, roam and gallop! Travel to Africa as we explore the animals of the land. Create a cool animal print jewelry piece to remind you of your travels.

Albany Branch, Tuesday, December 9, 5:00 p.m.

Get Crafty Around the Holidays: Life Skills (Albany)

Ages 5 and up. Get ideas for cheap or free gifts to make for loved ones. Learn to make a yarn vase and tissue paper flowers to give as a special gift.

Albany Branch, Wednesday, December 10, 2:00 p.m.

Ribbon Candy Holiday Ornaments: Arts & Entertainment (Albany)

Ages 7 and up. Design a cute ribbon candy ornament, and practice your sewing skills. The best part is you don't have to eat it when you're done!

Albany Branch, Thursday, December 11, 5:00 p.m.

Movie Matinee: Arts & Entertainment (Albany)

Ages 8 and up. Come watch a movie and enjoy a snack with your family and friends.

Albany Branch, Friday, December 12, 3:30 p.m.

Itty Bitty Babies: Early Literacy (Albany)

Birht-24 months with caregivers. Join us for nursery rhymes, songs, cuddles and books appropriate for the youngest of the young. Learn how to introduce your child to words and language by incorporating songs into all your routines such as bath time, diaper changes, getting into the car seat and nap time! NOTE: Please bring a small blanket to lay your child on.

Albany Branch, Saturday, December 13, 2:00 p.m.

Game Day: Arts & Entertainment (Albany)

All ages. Play board games with others your age, including Jenga, Monopoly, Telestrations, and Disney Scene It?

Albany Branch, Monday, December 15, 5:00 p.m.

First Fruits: Education (Albany)

Ages 5 and Up. Food plays such an important role in the celebration of Kwanzaa. Communities honor crops and laborers. Share a special harvest treat as we create a paper mache bowl together to hold the Mazao, or fresh fruits and vegetables.

Albany Branch, Tuesday, December 16, 5:00 p.m.

Polar Express Storytime: Early Literacy (Albany)

Ages 4 and up. Listen to this classic holiday tale, drink hot cocoa, and take home one of Rudolph's jingle bells.

Albany Branch, Wednesday, December 17, 5:00 p.m.

Get Money Wise @ Your Library Gingerbread House Relay: Life Skills (Albany)

Ages 6 and up. Youth will compete in a Get Money Wise relay competition. Work in small groups to solve holiday money math problems. As you advance, earn different materials to create festive gingerbread houses.

Albany Branch, Thursday, December 18, 5:00 p.m.

Movie Matinee: Arts & Entertainment (Albany)

Ages 8 and up. Come watch a movie and enjoy a snack with your family and friends.
Albany Branch, Friday, December 19, 3:30 p.m.

M&M Math: Education (Albany)

Ages 5 and up. Brush up on your math by using these tasty candies!
Albany Branch, Monday, December 22, 5:00 p.m.

Jewelry Hour: Arts & Entertainment (Albany)

Ages 5 and up. Make a bracelet or necklace to keep or give to a friend.
Albany Branch, Tuesday, December 23, 5:00 p.m.

Movie Matinee: Arts & Entertainment (Albany)

All ages. Come watch a movie and enjoy a snack with your family.
Albany Branch, Friday, December 26, 2:00 p.m.

Play-Doh Creations: Early Literacy (Albany)

Ages 3 and up. Use your imagination to build a Play-Doh masterpiece.
Albany Branch, Monday, December 29, 2:00 p.m.

Lego Mania: Arts & Entertainment (Albany)

Ages 5 and up. Design, build, and explore with Legos. See what you can build with our Lego sets.
Albany Branch, Tuesday, December 30, 2:00 p.m.

Early Reader's Book Club: Education (Albany)

Ages 4-9. Join us while we read a classic early reader story and make a fun craft. Light refreshments will be served.
Albany Branch, Wednesday, December 31, 2:00 p.m.

**Barbour Branch
259 Barbour Street
Hartford, CT 06120**

For information on Barbour Branch programs, call 860.695.7400.

Homework Help: Education (Barbour)

Ages 5 and up. Enjoy a snack and complete your homework assignment with us.

Barbour Branch, Mondays-Thursdays, December 1-22, 3:00-4:00 p.m.

Seasonal Delight: Art (Barbour)

Ages 6 and up. Create your own sense of style with the craft of the day using styrofoam trays.

Barbour Branch Monday, Dec. 1, 4:00 p.m.

African Animal Safari: Education (Barbour)

Ages 5 and up. Leap, stalk, roam and gallop! Travel to Africa as we explore the animals of the land. Create a cool animal print jewelry piece to remind you of your travels.

Barbour Branch, Tuesday, Dec. 2, 4:00 p.m.

No Bake Festive Treats: Life Skills (Barbour)

All ages. Make No-Bake White Chocolate Pumpkin Fudge and Key Lime Coconut Snowballs in this series of two programs. Put together a cute little box to bring them home.

Barbour Branch, Wednesdays, December 3 and 10, 4:00 p.m.

Get Money Wise @ Your Library and Be Your Own Boss: Education (Barbour)

Ages 8 and up. Try out a cool online game, geared towards developing and running your own business. Receive a start up "loan" to "buy" supplies for your business. Enjoy creating product and the entire small business process.

Barbour Branch, Thursday, December 4, 4:00 p.m.

Let's Get Crafty Around the Holidays: Life Skills (Barbour)

Ages 5 and up. Learn about different gifts you can make for the holidays without spending lots of money. Make a Yarn Vase and tissue flowers to give to someone special around your community.

Barbour Branch, Mon. Dec. 8 & Friday, Dec. 12, 4:00 p.m.

Get Money Wise @ Your Library Gingerbread Relay: Education (Barbour)

Ages 6 and up. Youth will compete in a Get Money Wise relay competition. Work in small groups to solve holiday money math problems. As you advance, earn different materials to create festive gingerbread houses.

Barbour Branch, Thursday, December 11, 4:00 p.m.

Ribbon Candy Holiday Ornaments: Arts & Entertainment (Barbour)

Ages 7 and up. Design a cute ribbon candy ornament to decorate your house for the holidays, and practice your sewing skills. The best part is, you don't have to eat it when you're done!

Barbour Branch, Monday, Dec. 15, 4:00 p.m.

Polar Express Book Conversation : Education (Barbour)

Ages 5 and up; Join us to find out why can the boy and his sister still here the bell while their parent cannot.
Lot of goodies in store, Ages 7 and up

Barbour Branch, Tuesday, December 16. 4:00 p.m.

Hour Of Code: Education (Barbour)

Ages 7 and up. Join a global movement called *Hour of Code* to learn how computers work and think. BYOD (Bring your own device: smartphone, tablet, laptop) or share what we have and learn computer code with Angry Birds, Scratch or Popcorn! Let's get techie!

Barbour Branch, Wednesday, December 17, 4:00 p.m.

Ornament: Entertainment /Arts (Barbour)

Ages 5 and up. Make a cool ornament inspired by your favorite winter picture books, just in time for the holidays.

Barbour Branch, Thursday, December 18, 4:30 p.m.

**Blue Hills Branch
649 Blue Hills Avenue
Hartford, CT 06112**

For information on Blue Hills Branch programs, call 860.695.7420

Homework Club: Education (Blue Hills)

Ages 5 and up. Sit back and relax as you work on school projects and nightly assignments. Don't have anything to do? Engage in a variety of literacy-based challenges sure to boggle and bend your academic brain!

Blue Hills Branch, Mondays-Thursdays, December 1-18, 3:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.

Paper Adornments: Arts & Entertainment (Blue Hills)

Ages 12 and up. Craft intricate paper ornaments to add cheer to your holiday celebrations.

Blue Hills Branch, Mondays, December 1, 8 and 15, 4:00 p.m.

School Choice Dinner: Education (Blue Hills)

All ages. Bring the whole family to enjoy a tasty dinner, ask the School Choice specialists any questions you have about the lottery, and complete your 2015-2016 application.

Blue Hills Branch, Tuesday, December 2, 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

ToddlerTime – Creative Play Center: Early Literacy (Blue Hills)

Ages 13 - 24 months with caregivers. Join us in our Creative Play Center to explore the components of Every Child Ready to Read® (ECRR). Share special books, educational toys, finger games and music. Families will leave with take home activities designed to engage children based on the components of the ECRR program: Reading, Writing, Talking, Singing/Rhyming, and Playing. Groups and individuals please register in advance.

Blue Hills Branch, Tuesdays, December 2 and 9 and Thursdays, December 4 and 11, 1:00 p.m.

Get Money Wise @ Your Library and Be Your Own Boss: Education

Ages 8 and up. Try out a cool online game, geared towards developing and running your own business. Receive a startup "loan" to "buy" supplies for your business. Enjoy creating product and the entire small business process.

Blue Hills Branch, Wednesday, December 3, 1:00 p.m

Get Money Wise @ Your Library Gingerbread Relay: Education

Ages 6 and up. Youth will compete in a Get Money Wise relay competition. Work in small groups to solve holiday money math problems. As you advance, earn different materials to create festive gingerbread houses.

Blue Hills Branch, Tuesday, December 9, 5:00 p.m.

African Animal Safari: Education (Blue Hills)

Ages 5 and up. Leap, stalk, roam and gallop! Travel to Africa as we explore the animals of the land. Create a cool animal print jewelry piece to remind you of your travels.

Blue Hills Branch, Wednesday, December 10, 1:00 p.m.

First Fruits: Education (Blue Hills)

Ages 5 and up. Food plays such an important role in the celebration of Kwanzaa. Communities honor crops and laborers. Share a special harvest treat as we create a papier mache bowl together to hold the Mazao, or fresh fruits and vegetables.

Blue Hills Branch, Wednesday, December 10, 2:15 p.m.

Travel to Africa: Education (Blue Hills)

Ages 5 and up. Research and celebrate African culture. Explore one of the more than 50 nations, and prepare a presentation to share at HPL's upcoming Kwanzaa Festival.

Blue Hills Branch, Friday, December 12, 1:00 p.m.

Design Your Own Comic: Arts & Entertainment (Blue Hills)

Ages 7 and up. Learn how to create characters, panels and a story arc for your own comic.

Blue Hills Branch, Tuesday, December 16, 5:30 p.m.

Miracle of the Poinsettia: Arts & Entertainment (Blue Hills)

Ages 5 and up. Share a legend of a miraculous transformation. Create beautiful tissue paper poinsettia flowers after to give as gifts.

Blue Hills Branch, Wednesday, December 17, 4:00 p.m.

Illustrated Books: Education (Blue Hills)

Ages 5-8. Warm up with a cup of hot cocoa, and enjoy some of the best picture books found in the Library!

Blue Hills Branch, Thursday, December 18, 4:00 p.m.

Polar Express: Education (Blue Hills)

Ages 7 and up. Find out why the boy and his sister can hear the bell while their parents can't. Make a Christmas ornament to take home.

Blue Hills Branch, Friday, December 19, 1:00 p.m.

**Camp Field Branch
30 Campfield Avenue
Hartford, CT 06114**

For information on Camp Field Branch programs, call 860.695.7440

HIDE and SEEK: Early Literacy (Camp Field)

Ages 18 months-5 with adults. Come find Frosty, Rudolph and the Jingle Bells hiding at the Camp Field Library. We will sing, dance and play instruments to get the holiday wiggles out after our hide and seek games.

Camp Field Branch, Mondays, December 8 and 15, 10:30 a.m.

National Cookie Day: Early Literacy (Camp Field)

Ages 3 and up, with adult friends. Celebrate National cookie day with us! Read [If You Give a Mouse a Cookie](#) by Laura Numeroff. Play games, make a craft, and don't forget your sweet tooth!

Camp Field Branch, Wednesday, December 10, 17, 10:30 a.m.

Homework club (Camp Field)

Ages 5 and up. Fall back into great homework habits with a great trip to the library. Drop in after school for homework help and fun activities to get you started. Homework supplies provided.

Camp Field Branch, Monday-Thursday, December 3-30, 5:00 p.m.

Polar Express Book Conversation: Education (Camp Field)

Ages 5 and up; Join us to find out why can the boy and his sister still here the bell while their parent cannot. Lot of goodies in store, Ages 7 and up

Camp Field Branch Library, Thursday, December 11. 5:00 p.m.

Let's Get Crafty Around the Holidays: Life Skills (Camp Field)

Ages 5 and up. Learn about different gifts you can make for the holidays without spending lots of money. Make a Yarn Vase and tissue flowers to give to someone special around your community.

Camp Field Branch, Tuesday, December, 9, 16, 4:00 p.m.

Seasonal Delight: Art (Camp Field)

Ages 6 and up. Create your own sense of style with the craft of the day using styrofoam trays.

Camp Field Branch Tues., Dec. 9, 4:00 p.m.

Ribbon Candy Holiday Ornaments: Arts & Entertainment (Camp Field)

Ages 7 and up. Design a cute ribbon candy ornament to decorate your house for the holidays, and practice your sewing skills. The best part is you don't have to eat it when you're done!

Camp Field Branch, Thursday, December 18, 5:00 p.m.

Spy: Science (Camp Field)

Ages 5 and up. Come and join us with the game of giving clues about the size, shape, position and color of an object, but did you know it is also a science investigation?

Camp Field Branch, Monday, December 29, 3:30 p.m.

**Goodwin Branch
460 New Britain Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106**

For information on Goodwin Branch programs, call 860.695.7480

Let's Get Crafty Around the Holidays: Life Skills (Goodwin)

Ages 5 and up. Learn about different gifts you can make for the holidays without spending lots of money. Make a Yarn Vase and tissue flowers to give to someone special around your community.

Goodwin Branch Library, Monday, December 1 – Thursday, December 5, 2014, 4:00 pm.

No Bake Festive Treats: Life Skills (Goodwin)

All ages. Make No-Bake White Chocolate Pumpkin Fudge and Key Lime Coconut Snowballs in this series of two programs. Put together a cute little box to bring them home.

Goodwin Branch Library, Wednesdays, December 3 and 10, 4:00 pm

HIDE and SEEK: Early Literacy (Goodwin)

Ages 18 months-5 with adults. Come find Frosty, Rudolph and the Jingle Bells hiding at the Goodwin Library. We will sing, dance and play instruments to get the holiday wiggles out after our hide and seek games.

Goodwin Branch Library, Thursday, December 4 and 18, 12:45 -1:30 pm

African Animal Safari: Education (Goodwin)

Ages 5 and up. Leap, stalk, roam and gallop! Travel to Africa as we explore the animals of the land. Create a cool animal print jewelry piece to remind you of your travels.

Goodwin Branch Library: Saturday, December 06, 2:30 p.m.

Itty Bitty Babies: Early Literacy (Goodwin)

Ages: Newborn – 12 months with adults. Join us for nursery rhymes, songs, cuddles and books appropriate for the youngest of the young. Learn how to introduce your child to words and language by incorporating songs into all your routines such as bath time, diaper changes, getting into the car seat and nap time!

NOTE: Please bring a small blanket to lay your child on.

Goodwin Branch Library, Wednesday, December 10, 11, 12:30am -1:15 pm.

Ornament Making: Entertainment /Arts (Goodwin)

Ages 5 and up. Make a cool ornament inspired by your favorite winter picture books, just in time for the holidays.

Goodwin Branch Library, Thursday, December 11, 4:00 pm

Ribbon Candy Holiday Ornaments: Arts & Entertainment (Goodwin)

Ages 7 and up. Design a cute ribbon candy ornament to decorate your house for the holidays, and practice your sewing skills.

Goodwin Branch Library, Thursday, December 11, 5:00 p.m.

Readers' Theatre: Education (Goodwin)

Ages 5-12. Join us for a dramatic reading of the classic fairy tale Goldilocks and the Three Bears.

Goodwin Branch Library, Monday, December 15, 4:30 pm

Get Money Wise @ Your Library Gingerbread Relay: Education (Goodwin)

Ages 6 and up. Youth will compete in a Get Money Wise relay competition. Work in small groups to solve holiday money math problems. As you advance, earn different materials to create festive gingerbread houses.

Goodwin Branch Library: Thursday, December 16, 4:00 p.m.

First Fruits: Education (Goodwin)

Ages 5 and up. Food plays such an important role in the celebration of Kwanzaa. Communities honor crops and laborers. Share a special harvest treat as we create a papier mache bowl together to hold the Mazao, or fresh fruits and vegetables.

Goodwin Branch Library: Friday, December 19, 2:30 pm

Polar Express Book Conversation: Education (Goodwin)

Ages 5 and up; Join us to find out why can the boy and his sister still here the bell while their parent cannot. Lot of goodies in store, Ages 7 and up

Goodwin Branch Library: Tuesday, December 23. 4:00 p.m.

**Mark Twain Branch
55 Forest Street
Hartford, CT 06105**

For information on Mark Twain Branch programs, call 860.695.7540

Upcycled Holiday: Arts & Entertainment (Mark Twain)

Ages 7 and up. Join us each week as we create unique holiday decorations and gifts with repurposed materials. Gift wrap included!

Mark Twain Branch, Wednesdays, December 3, 10, 17, 4:00 p.m.

Hartford Otaku Manga Club: Literacy (Mark Twain)

Ages 14 and up. Calling all manga fans! Choose a manga name and join us for dramatic readings, conversation and fun activities while exploring Asian languages and cultures. Follow us on Instagram at @Hartford Otaku.

Mark Twain Branch, Thursdays, December 4, 11, 18, 3:00 p.m.

Voices: Literacy (Mark Twain)

Ages 14 and up. Join our teen book club to share favorite books and connect with other book lovers. Check out our teen book club tumblr, <http://www.tumblr.com/blog/whatdoesthebooksay> and recommend books to add.

Mark Twain Branch, Friday, December 5, 3:00 p.m.

School Choice Dinner (Mark Twain)

All ages. Bring the whole family to enjoy a tasty dinner, ask the School Choice specialists any questions you have about the lottery, and complete your 2015-2016 application.

Mark Twain Branch, Monday, December 8, 5:30 p.m.

Hour of Code: Education (Mark Twain)

Ages 7 and up. Join a global movement called *Hour of Code* to learn how computers work and think. BYOD (Bring your own device: smartphone, tablet, laptop) or share what we have and learn computer code with Angry Birds, Scratch or Popcorn! Let's get techie!

Mark Twain Branch, Tuesday, December 9, 3:00 p.m.

WordPlay: Early Literacy (Mark Twain)

Ages 2-5 with parent/care provider. Innovative story time program that mixes vocabulary, cultural literacy, and creativity to improve school readiness skills and increase adult /child engagement for Dual-Language Learners.

Mark Twain Branch, Mondays, December 15, 22, 29, 5:30 p.m.

Get Money Wise @ Your Library Gingerbread Relay: Education (Mark Twain)

Ages 6 and up. Youth will compete in a Get Money Wise relay competition. Work in small groups to solve holiday money math problems. As you advance, earn different materials to create festive gingerbread houses.

Mark Twain Branch, Tuesday, December 16, 4:00 p.m.

No Bake Festive Treats: Life Skills (Mark Twain)

All ages. Make No-Bake White Chocolate Pumpkin Fudge and Key Lime Coconut Snowballs in this program. Put together a cute little box to bring these home.

Mark Twain Branch, Friday, December 19, 3:00 p.m.

African Animal Safari: Education (Mark Twain)

Ages 5 and up. Leap, stalk, roam and gallop! Travel to Africa as we explore the animals of the land. Create a cool animal print jewelry piece to remind you of your travels.

Mark Twain Branch, Tuesday, December 23, 4:00 p.m.

First Fruits: Education (Mark Twain)

Ages 5 and up. Food plays such an important role in the celebration of Kwanzaa. Communities honor crops and laborers. Share a special harvest treat as we create a papier mache bowl together to hold the Mazao, or fresh fruits and vegetables.

Mark Twain Branch, Friday, December 26, 2:00 p.m.

Get Money Wise @ Your Library and Be Your Own Boss: Education (Mark Twain)

Ages 8 and up. Try out a cool online game, geared towards developing and running your own business. Receive a start up "loan" to "buy" supplies for your business. Enjoy creating product and the entire small business process.

Mark Twain Branch, Tuesday, December 30, 2:00 p.m.

Hartford Public Library
Park Branch
744 Park Street
Hartford CT 06106

For information on Park Branch programs, call 860-695.7500

Homework Help: Education (Park)

Ages 5 and up. Winter winds can't keep you from great homework habits and a great trip to the library! Drop in after school for homework help and fun activities for the holidays. Homework supplies provided.
Park Branch, Monday-Friday, December 1- 23, 3:00 p.m.

Seasonal Activity Sheets: Education (Park)

Ages 5 and up. Enjoy doing activity sheets about back to school, Hispanic Heritage day, and Fall.
Park Branch, Monday, December 1, 8, 15, 3:45 p.m.

African Animal Safari: Education (Park)

Ages 5 and up. Leap, stalk, roam and gallop! Travel to Africa as we explore the animals of the land. Create a cool animal print jewelry piece to remind you of your travels.
Park Branch, Monday, December 1, 4:30 p.m.

Get Money Wise @ Your Library: Life Skills (Park)

Ages 8 and up. Join us for fun financial literacy activities sure to make you money wise!
Park Branch, Tuesday, December 2, Wednesday, December 10, Friday, December 12 and Thursday, December 18, 4:00 p.m.

Get Money Wise @ Your Library and Be Your Own Boss: Life Skills (Park)

Ages 8 and up. Try out a cool online game, geared towards developing and running your own business. Receive a startup "loan" to "buy" supplies for your business. Enjoy creating product and the entire small business process.
Park Branch, Wednesday, December 3, 2:30 p.m.

Game Day: Arts & Entertainment (Park)

Ages 7 and up. Have fun playing Jenga, Sorry, Trouble, and other board games.
Park Branch, Friday, December 5, 12, 19, 3:30 p.m.

Travel to Africa: Education (Park)

Ages 5 and up. Research and celebrate African culture. Explore one of the more than 50 nations, and prepare a presentation to share at HPL's upcoming Kwanzaa Festival.
Park Branch, Monday, December 8, 4:30 p.m.

"WordPlay": Early Literacy (Park)

Ages 2 to 5, with Parents/Childcare Providers. Innovative story time program that mixes vocabulary, word play, cultural literacy, and creative play to improve school readiness skills and increase parent/caregiver engagement of English Language Learners (ELLs).

Park Branch, Tuesday, December 9, 16, 10:00 a.m.

Seasonal Delight: Arts & Entertainment (Park)

Ages 6 and up. Create your own sense of style with the craft of the day using styrofoam trays.

Park Branch Tuesday, December 9, 4:00 p.m.

Babytime, Toddlertime, Preschooltime: Early Literacy (Park)

Ages. Infant- 5. Story & Creative Play - Join us in our Creative Play Center to explore the components of Every Child Ready to Read® (ECRR). Share special books, educational toys, finger games, music and take home activities to support early literacy skills.

Park Branch, Wednesday, December 10, Thursday, December 18, 10:00 a.m.

School Choice Family Dinner – Education (Park)

All ages. Bring the whole family to enjoy a tasty dinner, ask the School Choice specialists any questions you have about the lottery, and complete your 2015-2016 application.

Park Branch, Thursday, December 11, 4:30 – 7:30 p.m.

First Fruits: Education (Park)

Ages 5 and up. Food plays such an important role in the celebration of Kwanzaa. Communities honor crops and laborers. Share a special harvest treat as we create a papier mache bowl together to hold the Mazao, or fresh fruits and vegetables.

Park Branch, Monday, December 15, 4:30 p.m.

Get Money Wise @ Your Library Gingerbread Relay: Education (Park)

Ages 6 and up. Youth will compete in a Get Money Wise relay competition. Work in small groups to solve holiday money math problems. As you advance, earn different materials to create festive gingerbread houses.

Park Branch, Wednesday, December 17, 2:30 p.m.

**Ropkins Branch
1750 Main Street
Hartford, CT 06120**

For information on Ropkins Branch programs, call 860.695.7520

Baby Time – Creative Play Center: Early Literacy (Ropkins)

Ages newborn to 13 months, with caregivers. Join us in our Creative Play Center to explore the components of Every Child Ready to Read® (ECRR). Share special books, educational toys, finger games and music. Families will leave with take home activities designed to engage children based on the components of the ECRR program: Reading, Writing, Talking, Singing/Rhyming, and Playing.

Ropkins Branch, Mondays, December 1, 8, 15 and 22, 10:00 a.m.

Ornament: Entertainment /Arts (Ropkins)

Ages 5 and up. Make a cool ornament inspired by your favorite winter picture books, just in time for the holidays.

Ropkins Branch, Tuesday, December 2, 4:00 p.m.

Hide and Seek: Early Literacy (Ropkins)

Ages 3-5 with adults. Come find Frosty, Rudolph and the Jingle Bells hiding at the Downtown Library. We will sing, dance and play instruments to get the holiday wiggles out after our hide and seek games.

Ropkins Branch, Tuesdays, December 2, 9, and 16, 10:00 a.m.

First Fruits: Education (Ropkins)

Ages 5 and up. Food plays such an important role in the celebration of Kwanzaa. Communities honor crops and laborers. Share a special harvest treat as we create a paper mache bowl together to hold the Mazao, or fresh fruits and vegetables.

Ropkins Branch, Wednesday, December 3 and Friday, December 5, 4:00 p.m.

Travel to Africa: Education (Ropkins)

Ages 5 and up. Research and celebrate African culture. Explore one of the more than 50 nations, and prepare a presentation to share at HPL's upcoming Kwanzaa Festival.

Ropkins Branch, Thursday, December 4, 4:00 p.m.

Let's Get Crafty Around the Holidays: Life Skills (Ropkins)

Ages 5 and up. Learn about different gifts you can make for the holidays without spending lots of money. Make a Yarn Vase and tissue flowers to give to someone special around your community.

Ropkins Branch, Monday, December 1 to Friday, December 5, 2014, 4:00 p.m.

No Bake Festive Treats: Life Skills (Ropkins)

All ages. Make No-Bake White Chocolate Pumpkin Fudge and Key Lime Coconut Snowballs in this series of two programs. Put together a cute little box to bring them home.

Ropkins Branch, Monday, December 8 and Tuesday, December 9, 4:00 p.m.

Ribbon Candy Holiday Ornaments: Arts & Entertainment (Ropkins)

Ages 7 and up. Design a cute ribbon candy ornament to decorate your house for the holidays, and practice your sewing skills. The best part is, you don't have to eat it when you're done!

Ropkins Branch, Wednesday, December 10, 1:00 p.m.

African Animal Safari: Education (Ropkins)

Ages 5 and up. Leap, stalk, roam and gallop! Travel to Africa as we explore the animals of the land. Create a cool animal print jewelry piece to remind you of your travels.

Ropkins Branch, Thursday, December 11, 4:00 p.m.

Get Money Wise @ Your Library and Be Your Own Boss: Education (Ropkins)

Ages 8 and up. Try out a cool online game, geared towards developing and running your own business. Receive a start up "loan" to "buy" supplies for your business. Enjoy creating product and the entire small business process.

Ropkins Branch, Monday, December 15, 4:00 p.m.

Readers' Theatre: Education (Ropkins)

Ages 5-12. Join us for a dramatic reading of the classic fairy tale Goldilocks and the Three Bears.

Ropkins Branch, Wednesday, December 17, 4:00 p.m.

Get Money Wise @ Your Library Gingerbread Relay: Education (Ropkins)

Ages 6 and up. Youth will compete in a Get Money Wise relay competition. Work in small groups to solve holiday money math problems. As you advance, earn different materials to create festive gingerbread houses.

Ropkins Branch, Thursday, December 18, 4:00 p.m.