



Contact: Jessica Emonds
jemonds@hplct.org
(C) 860-559-4873
August 25th, 2023

**HARTFORD'S L.I.T. ANNOUNCES FIFTH ANNUAL HARTFORD BOOK FESTIVAL IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
HARTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY**

The three-day event kicks off on September 22nd, 2023

(Hartford, CT) – Hartford Public Library (HPL) is partnering with Hartford's Literary Integrated Trailblazers (Hartford's L.I.T / H.L.I.T) to co-host the Fifth Annual Hartford Book Festival as a three-day event from Friday, Sept. 22 to Sunday, Sept. 25 2022, virtually and in person at Classical Magnet School, 88 Woodland Street, Hartford and Free Center at 460 New Britain Ave, Hartford.

Hartford's L.I.T. is a group of local authors, artists, and entrepreneurs. Their mission is to establish presence and awareness of Greater Hartford's local authors, diverse artists and entrepreneurs. As well as, to revitalize literary arts and communication. H.L.I.T. focuses on literacy, literary productions, entrepreneurial building and networking within our communities, including the underserved and non-traditional communities.

Hartford's L.I.T., along with local artists, business owners and residents of Greater Hartford and neighboring states have come together for the last four years to celebrate local authors in the area with a book festival for the city. The Hartford Book Festival mission is to build community using literary art, serving all people of the Greater Hartford Area. The theme for the 5th Annual Hartford Book Festival 2023 is *Literary Badassery! Bold Voices. Strong Words*. Families and book lovers can expect the festival to be packed with local and special authors, artists, book stores, workshops, panels, live stage performances, youth activities, open mic, literary highlights, publishers, a multicultural celebration of literature and so much more. Attendees will also have exclusive access to purchase limited copies of the Hartford's L.I.T. 's second writing prompt and journal titled; *Writing Literary Badassery; Writing Prompts & Journal*. The 3-day event will take place virtually on Friday and in two separate locations Saturday and Sunday.

HPL is honored to support and partner with H.L.I.T., for the last five years, and a tremendous thank you to the Cornelia T. Bailey Foundation for supporting H.L.I.T.

Day One: Writers Gotta Write!!!

Writer's Workshops Only

Friday, September 22, 11:00 am – 2:30 pm virtual, live workshops

Writing does not always happen smoothly or immediately. There are times when writers find they need to learn a new way, method, or approach that allows their imaginations to be as free as they need to. A great place to begin the process is a festival. Nothing is more inspirational than being among other writers and finding you are not as alone as you think you are in this journey of creativity. This year Hartford's L.I.T. presents workshops to assist in your approach to your writing while also providing



resources to help build out a writer's stories. Join us as we kick off the Fifth Annual Book Festival Weekend with an opportunity to expand our writing gifts while celebrating our love of the written word!

11:15 am – 12:15 pm

A LIT Symposium; with Bestselling Author Barbara McClane & Nzima Sherylle Hutchings (Literary Art Wellness Coach, Content Editor & Production Mgr.)

Participants will learn what a Bestselling Author's process is before publishing a book when working through revisiting trauma, sobriety, self-discipline and having limitations. Participants will be walked through the steps that show how a LAWC and Production Manager conquered vicarious trauma, embraced self-care and managed to be part of literary success.

Nzima Sherylle Hutchings (Enfield Poet Laureate, Visionary & Founder of Every Kinda LLC) and Barbara McClane, (Bestselling author, Artist Advocate and founder of Barkel McClane Photography) sit down together and discuss takeaways, the inner workings of their success stories, as well as how to gain literary triumphs. Listen as they outline positive mentor and mentee relationships after pushing through trials, building resilience and accomplishing goals to become a bestselling author. Be a part of the discussion that will show you how to level up your skills. *For a mature audience, 17+*

Register here –

<https://hplct-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwrceusqjwsGtMNXNHPQdg8cjGLrduWnqI0#/registration>

12:15 pm – 1:15 pm

Melanated Tales in Prose & Poetry: T'challa Williams (Author, Poet, Artist Advocate & Community Leader)

This workshop is designed to look at the themes of Black films and how they use the voice of characters to address societal issues. Participants will be able to craft their own pieces using prompts during the workshop. There will be a discussion about the difference between poetry and prose and participants will also have the opportunity to share their work.

Workshop core objectives: participants will review the themes of two films from the late 70's, early 80's [Claudine (1974), The Last Dragon (1985)]; understand the importance of stories about the pedestrian aspects of human life; create pieces based on prompts pulled from the films. *Ages 16+*

Register here –

<https://hplct-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAqfuuurD8tH9UDDEd8EiWpGobo5qYXjXkn#/registration>

1:15 pm – 2:15 pm

Every Kinda Lady and Her Sisters' Pages Anthology Showcase & Talk Back

Join the women of the Every Kinda Lady Poetry Anthology and its editor Enfield Poet Laureate, Nzima Hutchings as they share poetic pieces that have been published from an anthology soon to hit shelves; titled *Every Kinda Lady and Her Sisters' Pages; Poetic Purges, Interludes and Baggage*. The ladies will discuss why they wrote their piece and how it came to be. A beautiful walk through poetry and prose from writers of the Greater Hartford area and beyond.

Register here –

<https://hplct-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEsfuygqTMvE9TnqelH6UJF7KWwoty1gI9U#/registration>



Day Two: The 5th Annual Hartford Book Festival

Saturday, September 23, 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

Classical Magnet School, 88 Woodland Street, Hartford, CT

Book lovers, families and friends can expect the festival to be full with local and special authors, artists, vendors, book stores, including Key Books, River Bend Book, workshops, panels, live stage performances, youth activities, open mic, literary highlights, publishers, a multicultural celebration of literature and so much more.

HPL is excited to host the author of *Homegoing*, Yaa Gyasi in partnership with the NEA Big Read Grant for an author talk, Q&A, and book signing. Yaa Gyasi won the National Book Critics Circle's John Leonard Prize for Best First Book for *Homegoing*. The novel boasts other honors including the American Book Award, the PEN/Hemingway Award for Debut Novel, and the Vilcek Prize for Creative Promise in Literature.

11:00 am – 1:00 pm

A Talk with Yaa Gyasi

There will be a 45-minute discussion with the author and a 15-minute Q&A at 11:00 a.m., a book signing immediately following at 12:00 pm. Space is limited.

Register here - <https://programs.hplct.org/event/9066569>

12:30 – 1:15 pm

The Makings of an Essay; Your Voice Creatively Speaking

Facilitated by, T'challa Williams (Author, Poet, Community Leader & GHAC Board Member) this workshop will look at the basics of an essay as well as ways to identify essay themes. Creative non-fiction is a strong way to have your voice heard on various topics, issues and subjects within your community. Participants will review essays by Zadie Smith, Roxanne Gaye and Hanif Abdurraqib.

Register here - <https://programs.hplct.org/event/9078650>

12:30 – 1:15 pm

The Plan

facilitated by, Alphonso McGriff, III, a workshop to offer you an opportunity to help yourself remove anger about a particular situation. The objective: to continue with Life without anger for this particular situation. The result: A plan developed by you to help you eliminate the anger associated with a particular situation. *Ages 17+*

Register here - <https://programs.hplct.org/event/9078610>

3:00 – 3:45 pm

My Literary Badass; Whole-Self Portraits, Prose & Poetic Profiles

Facilitated by, Nzima Sherylle Hutchings (Enfield Poet Laureate, Literary Art Advocate, Wellness Coach, Author). Core objectives: Participants will crack open creative self-narratives and poetic profiles, fashion space for encouraging badassery. Artfully create whole-person acceptance and stories. In addition, participants will receive an overview of Nzima's (AAA) teachings of Acquiring an Alchemist Attitude.



Prose or poetry and painting visual art will be produced and speak to the benefits of reintroducing and owning one's authentic self boldly. *Ages 16+*

Register here - <https://programs.hplct.org/event/9078689>

3:00 – 3:45 pm

The Bones & Successes of Storytelling

Facilitated by, Andre Keitt, the GreatHeart Griot, this workshop will offer an amazing mini performance, as well as, tips, secrets, and the bones on how to become a great and successful griot storyteller.

Register here - <https://programs.hplct.org/event/9078702>

To register in advance for some of the Hartford Book Festival festivities, please head to the HPL website below.

<https://programs.hplct.org/event/9066348>

Day Three: An Evening of Poetical Musings

Open Mic, poetic activities, homage to great poets dramatic reading, Love Jones poetry, with special guest poets of New England

Sunday, September 24, 3:00 – 8:30 pm

The Free Center, 460 New Britain Avenue, Hartford, CT

Discover aspects of poetry with various activities centered on creating poetry utilizing different forms while also discovering poets. Unique vendors and light refreshments from Bros Pizza will be available. Enjoy featured poets while also celebrating classic poets with readings and writing activities both guided and self-guided. Then get ready to turn up the heat with an evening celebrating jazz and jonesing, with Hartford's L.I.T., Love Jones edition featuring special guests and some sultry poetics.

No registration required.

Special Guests and Facilitators of the Hartford Book Festival:

Nzima Hutchings - Nzima Hutchings is the Enfield Poet Laureate, artist advocate, and literary art wellness coach. In addition, she is a newly appointed commissioner of the Enfield Culture Arts Commission. She is the Visionary, Founder, and CEO, of Hartford's L.I.T., and the annual Hartford Book Festival. Nzima is the Cultural Literary Arts Advisor of the nonprofit organization, Ujima African American Alliance in Enfield, CT. She is an active member of the National Association for Poetry Therapy. In addition, she is the founder and visionary of Every Kinda Lady LLC., helping women to use writing as a healing tool from trauma or self-care, as well as, helping women to write and publish their stories. In addition, she is the curator, editor, and author of two bestselling poetry anthologies. (Every Kinda Lady and Her Sisters Pages 2020 and 2022). Thus, publishing women's unedited truths. As a literary artist, advocate, and teaching artist Nzima facilitates workshops at Mount Holyoke College, Toivo Wellness Center, Advocacy Unlimited, and Connecticut Alliances. Nzima curates an annual women's literary art wellness weekend retreat. Other published work, New York Writers Coalition, Freshwater Literary



Journal, Poets for Haiti, Black Muslim Authors, When Women Speaks, No Nota Bean, and the 2023 national and international Goddess Anthology”, and will be published by New Generation Beat Publications. Everykindalady@gmail.com Instagram: @everykindalady Business number: 860-800-LADY

T’challa Williams - T’challa Williams is an award-winning creative advocate born and raised in Hartford, Connecticut. T’challa is a Poet, Actress, Bestselling Author, Teaching Artist, New York Writers Coalition Workshop Facilitator, New Owner of her own publishing company Wright Ink Productions, LLC, Executive Co-Founding member of the literary organization Hartford’s L.I.T., which is celebrating its fifth year hosting the Hartford Book Festival. T’challa knows no limits, her fearless voice and impactful words explain exactly why this creative is known as the Lover & the Revolutionary.

Alphonso McGriff, III - Alphonso McGriff III is a, Public Intellectual, Author, Inventor with a Patent, a Licensed Cosmetologist, and Speaker. He proposes that when Divine Universal Humans Becoming . . . improve the quality of their consciousness, they will also improve the quality of their decisions, their actions, who they are, their reality, and their lives. He has found his present LIFE purpose in sharing *McGriff’s Unique Approach to Harmonious and Productive Communication*.

Yaa Gyasi - The author of the highly acclaimed debut novel Homegoing and a recipient of the National Book Foundation’s 2016 “5 Under 35” Award. Gyasi was born in Ghana and raised in Huntsville, Alabama. She holds a BA in English from Stanford University and an MFA from the Iowa Writers’ Workshop, where she held a Dean’s Graduate Research Fellowship. Her second novel, Transcendent Kingdom, was published in September 2020. She lives in New York City

June Archer - June is a staunch advocate in the fight against HIV/AIDS, as well as the race to find a cure for Breast Cancer. Each year he produces the annual “June Archer’s Celebration of Life” charity event, the proceeds of which benefit various organizations involved in these two worthy causes such as Concerned Citizens for Humanity since 1995. The event also recognizes community champions in the areas of education, arts, sports and entertainment. In addition, since 2013, June has created and produced a state-wide event, the “100 Men of Color” Black Tie Gala & Awards as well as the “100 Women of Color” Gala & Awards, honoring men and women from Stamford to Springfield in business, entrepreneurship, education, government, entertainment, sports and public service and for the impact they have on the lives of people in their communities.

Ngoma Hill (Poet Feature and highlight) - Ngoma Hill is a performance poet, multi-instrumentalist, singer/songwriter and paradigm shifter, who for over 40 years has used culture as a tool to raise sociopolitical and spiritual consciousness through work that encourages critical thought. A former member of the SPIRIT HOUSE MOVERS AND PLAYERS with Amiri Baraka and the Contemporary Freedom Song Duo, SERIOUS BUSINESS, Ngoma weaves poetry and song that raises contradictions and searches for a solution for a just and peaceful world. Ngoma was the Prop Slam winner of the 1997 National Poetry Slam Competition in Middletown, CT. He was featured in the PBS Spoken Word Documentary, “The Apro-Poets” with Allen Ginsberg, and was recently initiated as a Priest of Ifa in Ibadan, Nigeria. He is also a Reiki 2 Practitioner trained at Yale University School of Nursing. His newest CD “Lessons from the Book of Osayemi” is available on CDBaby.com, iTunes, Amazon, and Bandcamp. He is a member of the Canvas of Words Poetry Tour <https://www.wendynguloproducts.com/featured-artists/ngoma-hill/>



Iyabo Mandingo (Puppet Show, performance for all ages including adults, Poet presentation) - Iyaba Ibo Mandingo is a painter, sculptor, poet, playwright, actor, singer, and work in progress. He has performed in venues in the U.S. and abroad. His recently released collection of poetry titled “Fu You Tongue Heavy Lakka ‘56” is available on Amazon and is currently on a Northeast American tour. Iyaba’s one-man play “unFRAMED” enjoyed a sold out, six week off-Broadway in 2017, after touring South Africa and Nigeria. His newest performance piece AFRIKA360, which made its debut in November 2017, began touring in the Fall of 2018.

Andre Keitt - Greatheart Griot felt a strong connection to the cultural arts from an early age and says that storytelling is “in his blood”. His beloved grandmother Martha Greatheart Thompson, “Mama Thompson,” told him stories that he uses today in his tale telling. Mr. Keitt received a Bachelor’s of Arts in English from South Carolina State University and worked doing outreach, marketing, writing, teaching, and performance arts for places such as the Hartford Public Library, the Dallas Public Library, the Greater Hartford Arts Council, the Bushnell Memorial Performance Hall, the Hartford Stage Company, and the Hartford Symphony Orchestra. Serving as the Artistic Director for Journey Writers, Inc., Andre also facilitates discussions and performs storytelling for The Connecticut Humanities Council’s kid program, Book Voyagers, where he opens the doors of art and culture, to diverse people and places near and far. Andre created his virtual Kamp Kitt, Kwanzaa, and Celebration of Light programs for kids and families, stuck at home during the pandemic. He facilitates storytelling workshops for adults, children, and the community alike! Currently, Andre is serving as the Program and Education Consultant with the Farmington Historical Society.

Abdul-Rahmaan I. Muhammad - Abdul-Rahmaan I. Muhammad is the Executive Director and Founder of My People Clinical Services. Founded on March 5, 2005, My People Clinical Services offers a wide array of both therapeutic and non-therapeutic, supports, services and programs. The driving philosophy of My People Clinical Services is derived from the agencies mission statement, “To enable My People to help Your People so that Our People will succeed”. Muhammad also leads the non-profit arm of the agency, My People Community Services. Muhammad is a skilled speaker, program developer, and trainer. He currently serves as one of the Tri-Chairs for the Statewide Fatherhood Engagement Leadership Team and has been providing fatherhood engagement, inclusion and equity training statewide for DCF. Over the past couple years, Muhammad developed The Manhood Tree Program, which is comprised of initiatives that focus on the six “hoods”; neighborhood, boyhood, young adulthood, brotherhood, fatherhood and manhood. Muhammad also founded The Dream Support Network which is best known for its signature event, Ice Cream for a Dream. The Dream Support Network provides workshops, motivational speaking and a curriculum that teaches participants the logistics to making their dreams reality. Muhammad received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from Tougaloo College and his Master of Social Work degree from Clark-Atlanta University. He is a brother of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated, and member of The National Association of Black Social Workers.

Wallace Reid (Feature Poet) - Wallace “The Elder” Reid is a Spoken Word Artist, Poet, Orator and an Actor. Born and raised in Hartford, CT, Wallace has been active in the performing arts since elementary school, participating in stage plays in school productions and church drama ministries. Wallace has extensive experience as a public speaker, activist and an ordained Reverend. Wallace is an accomplished



poet and spoken word artist with a submission published in Hartford's L.I.T. Anthology: 2020 Visions and Reflections. Wallace's topics range from self-reflective to political. Bringing light to the ills of the world and speaking truth to power is a hallmark of his work. The Elder is a founding member of The Small House of Poetry (S.H.o.P) as well as The Lost Tribe of Poets. Wallace is a Facilities Maintenance Manager residing in Bloomfield, CT, with his wife and daughter.

DJ King Prince - will be spinning the festival soundtrack that keeps us excited about all the literary goodness being offered.

Awards and Spotlights:

Trailblazer Spotlights

June Archer for building community and giving opportunities for young talented youth artists to learn and grow in the music industry. June is sharing his keys to success with the world in his debut book, "Yes! Every Day Can Be a Good Day (The Keys to Success That Lead To An Amazing Life)". This debut was recognized by the NAACP Awards in 2014 for "Best New Author", consideration and then extending to the younger generation with "Yes! You Can" (A Children's Book Of Inspiration). With June's combined musical talents, experience in the entertainment industry and commitment to community, he is reaching for the stars and encouraging others to join him.

The Jamilah T. Muhammad Honeywata Award

The annual award in honor of Jamilah T. Muhammad, known on the stage as "HoneyWata", will be given to an artist within the New England Region that most potently exemplifies Honeywata's confident poetic energy, spiciness, and drive as a multi-talented creative artist.

Jamilah was a devoted poet and performer for over 30 years, developing her ear for simile from poets like her father Abdul Rahmaan Muhammad, Maya Angelou, Nikki Giovanni and Saul Williams. Raised in a family with 10 children in White Plains, New York, Jamilah drew from her past, to place it into your present. She performed in her "Sensu-serious" style in venues along the east coast and served as the MC/featured artist during her time in Mississippi hosting a weekly Open Mic called, Expressyosoul. As a resident of Connecticut, the mother of two shared her talents in various local venues, allowing them a swig of her HoneyWata words, one sip at a time. She was a multifaceted artist, author, poet, spoken word performer, singer, actress, visual artist, and jewelry maker. She was confident and competent in all that she did. As an Open Mic host, she knew how to take charge of the audience with her presence, poise and speech. Honeywata was an active executive founding member of Hartford's L.I.T., and she was a staple and volunteer at the Annual Indie Soul Festival in Massachusetts. Jamilah was the epitome of a modern-day Renaissance woman with deep roots in her community. Her presence is one that you will never forget, and her energy irreplaceable. Through our grief and with much love, we are able to celebrate and acknowledge all the beauty of Honeywata and honor her memory with the Jamilah T. Muhammad 'Honeywata' Award.

Congratulations to the 2023 Honoree Narelle Thomas. She is a writer, performance poet, actress, creative cookie baker, holistic wellness advocate/healing artist, visual artist and a model. She served 5 years as a wellness/self-care advocate through Enganjyani with Laconia Yarde. She continues to offer



mindfulness sessions that people can book and do pop up guided meditations. She gives her time to others in the community whenever she can.

HoneyWata showcased her talent and service to her community and beyond. She was a leader, and founding member of Hartford's L.I.T. We are honored to uphold her legacy as an artistic creative and highlight those that exemplify her artistry, and contributions to the community as a whole.

Hartford's L.I.T. is a group of local authors, artists, and entrepreneurs

Hartford's L.I.T. (Literary Integrated Trailblazers) Team, Executive Board Members & Founder

- Nzima Sherylle Hutchings - *Visionary / Founder, Curator and CEO*
- T'challa Williams Executive - *Co-Founding member*
- Alphonso McGriff, III - *Founding Member*
- Lashawn Henderson Middleton - *Founding Member*
- Barbara McClane - *Committee Member*
- Miosotys Santiago - *Committee Member*

Nzima Hutchings, the Visionary, Founder and CEO, had the idea to create a Hartford Book Festival in 2016. She states her passion and love for all things literary art since winning a storytelling contest at Lewis Fox Middle School in Hartford. Being awarded with new books, and a special trip to see the classic Shakespeare play Macbeth, left an impressionable mark about how words on pages can be considered art and powerful. She enjoys engaging, supporting, learning, and building community around literature.

"I started a book club called Cafe Sisterhood 4 Girls with my late daughter, Knia Hutchings in 2010, an Ice-cream Social Writer's Club. Then a year later a Literary art and wellness business, Every Kinda Lady LLC. All of this drove me to want to create a book festival." Said Nzima, Founder and CEO of H.L.I.T.. "As I moved my dreams, from notebooks to reality I knew I needed a team and community support. I called upon friends, old professors, and artists. I didn't know exactly how to start with a zero budget."

In 2017, Nzima formed a literary group The Traveling Poets, hosted literary events, and traveled to see literary giants. This would not be The Traveling Poets' final form; the concept was building.

In 2018, in search to expand and build the Hartford Book Festival, she inquired using her network on social media and received some responses. "One day, while sitting at a book fair with T'challa Williams, sharing my plans in place, desires, and dreams, T'challa joined. She was the perfect addition to the H.L.I.T. story and I don't know what I would have done without her" Nzima said. The Traveling Poets became Hartford's L.I.T., and they began to gain volunteers who would become dedicated members committed to the vision of a middle school girl.

"Hartford's L.I.T., and the Hartford Book Festival is not just another book festival or literary organization, it is the making of history, the building of community and space for creatives and storytellers can thrive." Remarked Nzima.



Alphonso McGriff III

After attending the Harlem Book Festival for several years and participating in bringing the Harlem Book Festival to Hartford, CT, it was only natural for him to be excited about being a part of Hartford's L.I.T. Book Festival. "I have learned a lot and will continue learning and participating in any way I can. This is our 5th year, and I look forward to Hartford's L.I.T., Book Festival continues to get bigger and better!" said Alphonso.

Barbara McClane

Barbara became involved with Hartford's L.I.T. for diverse reasons. They honored local artists to showcase their crafts. Each member has a strong presence in the communities in which they serve. "The founder, Nzima, helped build my literary life, with that I became a bestselling author under her guidance." Said Barbara.

T'challa Williams

"From Elementary to birthdays, it was written in the stars that I would work with my sister and here we are five years later building our vision and loving literary arts." Remarked T'challa. "From desiring to be a part of something great to creating something great. It was our heart to provide the community with an event that would make them value what was in Hartford instead of thinking you had to go to another state for literary greatness. No, Hartford has it and we set out to prove exactly that. We haven't even tipped the iceberg but we celebrate all that the creatives have to offer here and we shine a light on them always. That's what it means to keep the focus LIT!"

LaShawn Henderson

A founding member and supporter of Hartford's L.I.T., and when it was growing from the Traveling Poets. She states, "I joined Hartford's L.I.T. because I felt like this would be a great experience for our community and a positive way to give back".

Lorraine Nahabedian

A dedicated Red Shirt Hartford's L.I.T., volunteer since the beginning. "I'm a lover of books and an avid reader and supporter of the Hartford Book Festival. The festival brings a multitude of authors, spoken word artists, and literary artists that offer a wealth of talent, literature, and interactive workshops. This book festival is always an exciting opportunity for everyone to attend" said Lorraine.

Miosotys Santiago

"My invitation to join Hartford's L.I.T. as a new author was nothing but a blessing. I've learned so much from the founder, such innovative ideas, and the space that she creates for the public and those involved is magical." Remarked Miosotys. "A true learning experience of artistic, unique, flowery, and poetry of a one-of-a-kind experience, and I'm so honored, humbled, and grateful to be a part of such an impactful organization for the City of Hartford."

How to support H.L.I.T.:

Hartford's L.I.T. is accepting donations of new Children's and Young Adult books and composition notebooks. They are accepting monetary donations to support their continued efforts. Hartford's L.I.T. is



a Grassroots Literary Organization offering opportunities for free community literary art events, vending for local authors and literary workshops, as well as, providing professional literary art education, productions and publications of community anthologies and journals. Those interested in volunteering to assist with the festival may contact them at the email below.

Contact info:

hartfordslit@gmail.com

Hartfordslitfestival@gmail.com

Hartford Public Library boasts seven locations throughout the city, the library provides education, intellectual enrichment and cultural development for thousands of children, youth and adults every year. Hartford Public Library has also gained local and national recognition for its wide range of new initiatives and partnerships designed to meet the needs of a diverse and dynamic city and region, including immigration services, employment assistance and youth leadership training. www.hplct.org

Hartford's L.I.T. is a group of local authors, artists, and entrepreneurs. Their mission is to establish presence and awareness of Greater Hartford's local authors, diverse artists and entrepreneurs. As well as, to revitalize literary arts and communication. H.L.I.T. focuses on literacy, literary productions, entrepreneurial building and networking within our communities, including the underserved and non-traditional communities. <https://www.hartfordslit.com/>

###