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Attention Writers! Come Pitch your Book

Hartford, Connecticut (February 19, 2013)—Hartford Public Library is proud to present Pitchapalooza, known as the American Idol for books (only kinder & gentler), Saturday, March 2, at 1:00 p.m. at Downtown Library's Center for Contemporary Culture. Twenty writers will be selected at random to pitch their book. Each writer gets one minute—and only one minute! Many writers have gone from talented amateurs to professionally published authors as a result of participating in Pitchapalooza.

Anyone who wants to pitch their book needs to sign at pitch@hplct.org. Twenty people will be randomly selected at the event.

Arielle Eckstut and David Henry Sterry are co-founders of *The Book Doctors*, a company dedicated to helping authors get their books published. They are also co-authors of *The Essential Guide to Getting Your Book Published: How To Write It, Sell It, and Market It Successfully* (Workman, 2010). Arielle Eckstut has been a literary agent for 18 years at The Levine Greenberg Literary Agency. She is also the author of seven books and the co-founder of the iconic brand, LittleMissMatched.

David Henry Sterry is the best-selling author of 13 books, on a wide variety of subject including memoir, sports, YA fiction and reference. They have taught their workshop on how to get published everywhere from Stanford University to Smith College. They have appeared everywhere from The New York Times to NPR's Morning Edition to USA Today. Plus special high-powered literary guests! "Hartford has a reputation for being the home to lots of great writers, we're looking forward to hearing some amazing pitches. We have a feeling our next Pitchapalooza publishing success story is going to come from Hartford," said David Steery.

At Pitchapalooza, judges will help you improve your pitch, not tell you how bad it is. Judges critique everything from idea to style to potential in the marketplace and much, much more. Local judges will include author and poet Bessy Reyna, and Colin McEnroe, host of WNPR's The Colin McEnroe Show.

Authors come away with concrete advice as well as a greater understanding of the ins and outs of the publishing industry. Whether potential authors pitch themselves, or simply listen to

trained professionals critique each presentation, Pitchapalooza is educational and entertaining for one and all. From Miami to Portland, from LA to NYC, and many stops along the way, Pitchapaloozas have consistently drawn standing-room-only crowds, press and blog coverage, and the kind of bookstore buzz reserved for celebrity authors.

At the end of Pitchapalooza, the judges will pick a winner. The winner receives an introduction to an agent or publisher appropriate for his/her book. We have hooked up Pitchapalooza winners and participants with numerous agents and publishers, and now many of them have book deals!

Price of admission is free. To learn more visit <http://center.hplct.org/>.

About Hartford Public Library

The Hartford Public Library traces its roots to 1774. It operates 10 locations in the City of Hartford. The Library receives more than 865,000 visits per year. Services include access to a large collection of materials for reading and research, as well as music and video. Programs provide education, information and enrichment to the people of Hartford in such areas as citizenship training, literacy, business skills and cultural awareness. The mission of Hartford Public Library is to provide free resources that inspire reading, guide learning, and encourage individual exploration. www.hplct.org.