



**Town of East Hartford  
Commission on Culture and Fine Arts  
740 Main St.  
East Hartford, CT 06108-3114**

East Hartford Raymond Library  
840 Main Street  
East Hartford, CT 06108  
Meeting  
October 13, 2022

**ROLL CALL:**

**PRESENT:** Joan Coates-Secretary, Lisa Gold-Vice Chair, Tamara Bryan-Chuchro, Lakisher Hurst, Glynis McKenzie, Sarah Morgan, Susan Tukey, Prescille Yamamoto and Rosamond White-Chair.

**EXCUSED:** Emilio Estrella

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Roz White called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm

**ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:** September 8, 2022

Motion made by P. Yamamoto to approve minutes of September 8, 2022; seconded by J. Coates  
All in favor, motion passed.

**CHAIR'S REPORT:**

New member, Amanda Ackley, not sworn in as yet. Praise to Glynis regarding the Van Gogh tickets. There was a waiting line at the library, tickets gone in half an hour. Recycle the \$ from Van Gogh-would like to brain storm for another event; ie-Hartford Stage/Theater Works

In the Heights tickets – 10 tickets to seniors tickets will be available Friday the 21<sup>st</sup>. First come first served, tickets are free, for Sunday matinee- 11/6/22. Vicky at Senior Center to email Sarah names of seniors; tickets will be available at Library during open hours at the circulation desk. Proof of residency.

We have a guest-Tyler Allen.

Need think of a show with Christmas/Holiday theme.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** NONE

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

• **Children Library Programs and Library Director's Report:**

The following are Commission funded endeavors-

- Hartford Steele Symphony- 75 people in attendance, out of 2022 budget
- Music at Farmers Market was amazing
- Frame for Purchase award art will have by next meeting
- Liberty Belles show-small audience-2022 budget
- Writing Workshop- Melissa Sue John-well received- would like to do more

- Upcoming show Eastern Medicine Singers, 3pm Sunday afternoon 10/16, funded by Town Council for Indigenous People Day
  - Library cannot do programs on Indigenous People Day as it is a town holiday and library is closed; difficult to get performers on that day as well.
  - Concert organized by teacher Dan O'Brien at EHMS, dates confirmed, will email the dates.
  - Received \$850 from Commission for Art & Jazz Program – budget 2022
  - **UPDATE-** Wickham Library furniture to be delivered Friday the 14<sup>th</sup>. Staff to move in end of October early November, will have an open house.
  - Stats for library attendance climbing back up to #'s before COVID, program #'s above pre-COVID
  - Art partnership with schools-scheduled with each school to have a showing at the library
  - Japan Week- April 21-28, 2023-hope to have 2 events at both Wickham and Raymond libraries, and the Senior Center. Also will be an event at University of Saint Joseph in West Hartford - \$2500
  - Immigrant Contributions – pick a different ethnic group every year suggestion from Chair
- Motion by P. Yamamoto to appropriate \$2500 for Japan Week, seconded by S. Tukey. All in favor, motion carried.*
- Black History proposal- Dan O'Brien (EHMS) collaborate with Jocelyn Pleasant - Dan doesn't have a February concert scheduled and perform on 2/16/2023 -at cost of \$1500 at Raymond Library – on hold for now
  - Tammy Denease will play the role of Elizabeth Keckly in upcoming library program to be held on Sunday, October 23 @ 2PM-rescheduled from Juneteenth.

- **EHSYF** – J. Coates reports looking at play-Christmas Chaos- need cast of 13-will be at Cultural Center during the Holiday Fest-backup show is Community Pot Play selection committee also came up with musical shows-Legally Blonde, Newsy, Alice in Wonderland, Cinderella (based on Fairy Godmother). Membership will vote on top 3

- **Film Series:** Picked 4 movies @ cost of \$1323.82 requested \$1400-series will be every 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday during months of January/February/March/April, need to purchase rights to show. Movies are: Compartment #6, Made in Bangladesh, Lost Tree, and Lunana: A Yak in the Classroom.

Looking at children's film "The Bread Winner"; takes place in Afghanistan. Show on a Saturday afternoon possibly during Christmas break. Place TBD- rate for screening at Cultural center is \$350

- **Music:** Bell Ringers at cultural Center 12/4. Commissioner Yamamoto reports Paul Bisaccia playing "Home for the Holidays in East Hartford" - 12/3 performance at First Congregational Church-Holiday Fest. Cost is \$850 with a caveat of a free Spring Concert. Prescille would suggest giving him an extra \$100.

*Motion by P. Yamamoto to sponsor concert on 12/3at 3pm for \$850 and additional \$100 in the Spring; seconded by J. Coates. Piano tuning for \$175 budgeted.*

- **ARTS:** activity for Special Needs-G. McKenzie suggest anything musical, dance related, drum circle. Sarah Morgan stated Dennis Cotton did drum circle with the

special needs camp; very well received-inexpensive. Also, library has a staff member, Rolande Duprey is a puppeteer, would be free. Volunteers would be needed.

- **POETRY/DANCE** -suggestion of having young people pick out their favorite poem-have a poetry contest-Tamarra to work on this. “Spoken word” work on cultivating young people. M. MacDonald suggestion of dance schools. Coordinate with new member Amanda. Dates/place to TBD. Try for January/February suggest afternoon on Saturday or Sunday

**OLD BUSINESS:** Silent Film -2 people came, very disappointing. Next year would be a Friday night, maybe attendance would be better.

Sarah Morgan would like to pursue the 1/16/23 concert for Black History Month by Jocelyn Pleasant. Chair says to explore.

Chair asks Prescille regarding mini grants- yes in the works

**Member’s concerns:**

Glynis brought up “Poetry in the Parks”- a program that Glastonbury does.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS:**

Motion by P. Yamamoto

\$850 for Paul Bisaccia

\$175 for piano tuning

Pay clerk \$100

**Adjournment: Motioned by:** P. Yamamoto

**Seconded by:** S. Tukey

**All in Favor:** Motion carried

Meeting adjourned at 8:28 PM

The next meeting of the Commission on Culture and Fine Arts will be held at 7:00 pm on Thursday, 10, 2022 at the East Hartford Raymond Library Classroom 1, 840 Main St., East Hartford, CT.

Respectfully submitted,

Sana Hart, Clerk