



**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 Minutes  
November 10, 2022

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Roz White called meeting to order at 7:05 PM

**ROLL CALL:**

**PRESENT:** Amanda Ackley, Joan Coates, Glynis McKenzie, Sara Morgan, Emilio Estrella, Thomas Lumpkin, Michael MacDonald, Lakisher K. Hurst, Prescille Yamamoto and Rosamond White

**ABSENT**

**EXCUSED:** Tamara Bryan-Chuchro, Lisa Gold, and Susan Tukey

**ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:** October 13, 2022

Motion by P. Yamamoto to approve minutes of October 12, 2022, with the following corrections.

Add Mike MacDonald and Thomas Lumpkin to roll call as present.

Correct spelling of Goh to Gogh. Correct spelling of Newys to Newsies. Suggestion of giving Pianist an extra \$100 to Chair suggests an honorary gift of \$100.

Motion approved, all in favor.

An update that the concert “Home for the Holidays in East Hartford” has a time change –

Concert will now be 2-4 pm on 12/3/22.

Chair asks G. McKenzie to send press release to Mayor’s office to advertise the new time

**CHAIR’S REPORT:**

Went to see the show “In the Heights”, was fantastic. Looking for other activities for adults.

Town doesn’t have facilities, will have to go out of town again. Looking at Hartford Stage, Theater Works to buy tickets at \$20 and sell them for \$10. Asks members to start thinking about what events, where and what your target audience would be.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** NONE

## COMMITTEE REPORTS:

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

- Ticket distribution brought in a different crowd of people who would not normally visit. Couple of bumps with distribution, need to rethink the set up for next time
- Tammy Denease performed to 20 people
- E. H. Works, Adult Education here all day
- Health CT also here
- Vita Tax staff here to assist people with their taxes

It's been very busy October at the Library

- Wickham Library still not ready. Soft opening for the weekend of Holiday Fest, Bell Ringer will be playing. Full opening to be planned for mid-January.
- Amanda asks about the Hockanum Library. Sara Morgan states that is no longer part of the Library portfolio. The tobacco and farming artifacts; Raymond Library will be in charge of finding a museum to display them. The Mayor's ARCO funds have identified the Hockanum Library and Brewer house and have placed the Historical Society in charge.
- Veteran's Day Wreath laying is set for 10:30AM
- Next Thursday, the 17<sup>th</sup>, Threads of Assumption will be doing a workshop, 6-7:30 They collect stories about gender bias and put them into weavings and music.
- Friday morning with small business at 10:30
- Dan O'Brien Concert series – 2 winter concerts; 12/1 at Raymond Library and 1/19/23 at Cultural Center- Dan O'Brien's Ban of Disfunction and Jazz from high school band
- Holiday Festival Program has list of events held at the library

**EHSYF** - Joan Coates reports changed name of show to "Soul of Christmas"; it is about the Shoemaker's elves, smaller cast, approximately 20 minutes in length. The kids play the elves

**FILM SERIES** - Glynis McKenzie reports 4 films purchased. Received an invoice for one film.

"Bread Winner" at the Cultural Center, 12/30 at 6pm

**MUSIC** - Bell Ringers at Cultural Center to perform 12/4 and Paul Bisaccia 12/4 with time change at First Church

**ARTS** - Emilio Estrella suggests an activity for special needs kids- Night Fall, Director Anne

Cubbery; hold a yearly event in Hartford. Check out their Facebook page-Night Fall. Life-size puppets. Their off season ties into education. Their program "Dance in Movement". Spring is a dead time for them. Maybe do a program during April vacation, they work with any type of children. They also have a lantern making workshop, materials are recyclables. Emilio will get in touch and make plans. April vacation 8th-16th

## POETRY/DANCE

- Tamara Chuchro submitted written update to Chair.
  - Black History Month Poetry Night- Live on stage, up to 3 judges, possible refreshments. Target ages group 12-17 and 18 and older. Date TBA. Suggestions are to hold a Poetry Contest to celebrate Black History Month in February or a poetry contest that could be hosted by CCFA once or twice a year
  - Select location, possible library, or cultural center
  - Suggested themes: Liberate my soul, democracy united, We are Different by Equal, The Intersectionality of Me. What true societal equilibrium looks like?
  - The contestants could be asked to create a poem that includes the following words stolen, identity, captives, ignorance, resilience, healing, trauma, DNA ancestors, soul's pain, libation, equality, equilibrium, connection, and expression.
  - Prizes-gift certificate to Barnes and Noble-1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place
- Discussion held on refreshments and gift cards. No decisions made

## IMMIGRATION EVENTS

- Japan week set for April, presenter will in town and will tour Library on Monday

## MINI GRANTS

- Prescille Yamamoto has received 5 mini grants

<b>School</b>	<b>Program</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Pitkin School	CT first Mariachi band. Performing Traditional folk & popular music of Mexico Pitkin has a large Hispanic population, the students will experience culture of their backgrounds	\$500
EHHS Ceramic/II AP 3D	Professional ceramic artist Jamie Fitzgerald. Insight into the World of Art, Inspiration for students and further their Skills and insight into modern artistic entrepreneurship, to bridge the gap between academia and the art world.	\$500
Inter-El	Program-composer & fiddle player Daniel Fecteau-working with students on alternative styles of string playing. 50-60 5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> grade string students throughout the district.	\$500
EHHS	teacher wants to transport students to Boston to hear the Boston Symphony – more information needed	
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Prescille proposes to agree to the first 3 grants and hold on 4 & 5  
 Motion made my Emilio to award the first 3 mini grants; seconded by Amanda.  
 All in favor, motion carries.  
 Amanda moves to table mini grants 4 & 5; seconded by Emilio.  
 All in favor, motion carries.

Chair asks if anyone has any further programs - none

Sara Morgan proposes to add another intersection concert series to Black History Month.  
February 11, 2023 – Jocelyn Pleasant, Drummer & Educator at 7PM, place TBD cost is \$1000  
Prescille makes a motion to sponsor Black History Concert for \$1000; Thomas seconded.  
All in favor, motion carries.

Chair Roz suggests “Christmas on the Rocks” for the adult program at Theater Works and to use the monies from the Van Gogh to purchase tickets for \$20 and sell them for \$10

Glynis motions to approve purchase of 26 tickets for \$20 each for Christmas on the Rocks,  
Prescille seconded. All in favor, motion carries.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS:**

Motion by Prescille to pay clerk \$100

Seconded by Emilio

All in favor, motion carries

Motion by Prescille to pay film reimbursement \$113.71 to Glynis

All in favor, motion carries

Suggestion by Glynis to pay John Bacon by movie shown

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion to adjourn by Prescille; seconded by Emilio

Adjourned at 8:25PM

Next meeting will be December 8, 2022