“One of the most memorable things I hear is when someone tells me that my books got a reluctant reader to read.”
―Suzanne Collins, author of The Hunger Games, Catching Fire and Mockingjay

It was a busy fall for Connecticut Center for the Book! We coordinated with eight Hartford-based organizations to pull together Book/Mark This!, an initiative that highlighted literary activities in the area in September and October, dedicated two Literary Landmarks, developed a Literary Trail for ConnTours and, best of all, held the 2019 Connecticut Book Awards on October 20, 2019 at the Hartford Public Library with keynote speaker Philip Caputo and emcee Ann Nyberg.

These awards are given annually for the best books of the previous calendar year that are about Connecticut or by authors and illustrators from Connecticut. Categories include: Poetry, Books for Young Readers (broken into three subcategories: Picture Books, Fiction, and Nonfiction), Nonfiction, and Fiction. Starting this year, the Connecticut Book Awards included the Bruce Fraser “Spirit of Connecticut” award. This special award is in memory of longtime Connecticut Humanities director Bruce Fraser and celebrates Connecticut’s sense of place. For the list of this year's winning books, visit CTBook.org.

Submissions for books published in 2019 will open on January 8, 2020. If you would like a reminder, please email ctbook@cthumanities.org and we’ll add you to our list.

Sincerely,

Lisa Comstock, Director, CT Center for the Book
Civic activity is not only about elections. It's community involvement that lasts year round. In collaboration with Everyday Democracy, the 2019 CT Civic Ambassadors Summit takes place on Saturday, Nov. 23 from 11:30am - 4:30pm at the Hartford Public Library.

CT Humanities provided funding for Scott Warren, author and CEO, Generation Citizen, to join as the keynote speaker.

Warren's book, *Generation Citizen: The Power of Youth in our Politics*, has been described as a "reminder of the positive power of politics, and an inspiring, actionable guide" for civic participation.

Warren will address how youth civic leadership has evolved, what youth civic leadership could look like and what kinds of leadership building and engagement opportunities and models are needed to bring about the next generation of diverse young civic leaders.

The day will also feature a panel of outstanding young civic leaders.

The summit and keynote are free and lunch is provided. Registration is required. For more information, click here.

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**Upcoming Events**

The Suffrage Series launch event at the Avon Free Public Library takes place on Saturday, Nov. 16 from 3:00 - 4:30pm with a lecture from feminist biographer, Susan Ware, author of *Why They Marched: Untold Stories of the Women Who Fought for the Right to Vote*. Ware tells her story through the lives of nineteen activists, most of whom have long been overlooked.

For more information and to register, click here.

Teacher, scholar and public historian, David Blight, will discuss his Pulitzer Prize-winning book, *Frederick Douglass: Prophet of Freedom* on Thursday, Nov. 21 from 6:00 - 8:00PM at Immanuel Congregational Church in Hartford.

Blight has drawn on new information held in a private collection that few other historians have consulted, as well as recently discovered issues of Douglass's newspapers.

The event includes a Q&A and book signing. For information and to register, visit Harriet Beecher Stowe Center.

Both events are funded by CT Humanities.

Visit our website for more event listings and info on including your events.

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**Book Voyagers**

Book Voyagers is CT Humanities literature enrichment program for families and children.

Programs are designed to share the joy of reading, help parents better support their child's education and provide books to foster literature-rich home environments. They include four-part series, storytelling, theater/puppet performances, writing and drawing workshops, cultural events and more!

Many thanks to our generous funders: The Stocker Foundation, an anonymous family foundation, an anonymous donor, the State of CT, NEH, and individual donors like you!

**Upcoming Programs:**

- November 7 @ 4:00pm – Manchester Public Library, Picture This Cuento / How Do You Hug a Porcupine
- November 14 @ 6:00pm – Rockville Public Library, Vernon, Native Americans in Early CT w/ CHS
- November 16 @ 1:00pm – Hartford Public Library, Diwali Celebration w/ Sarada Nori
- November 21 @ 4:00pm – Manchester Public Library, Picture This Cuento / The Dog Who Loved Tortillas

Visit our website or contact Susan Muro for more information.
Coffee with CLHO and CT Humanities

Meet CLHO’s new executive director, Dr. Amrys O. Williams, and hear the latest about what’s happening at the League. Amrys will be joined by CT Humanities staff Gregg Mangan, Manager of Digital Humanities, and Scott Wands, Manager of Grants and Programs, who will discuss current initiatives, including the ConnTours mobile app, and upcoming grant opportunities.

Gather for coffee and light refreshments, presentations, and a chance to learn, socialize, ask questions, and share your ideas and feedback with CLHO and CT Humanities.

We hope you’ll join us for this great regional networking opportunity!

Coffee with CLHO and CT Humanities: Litchfield
Tuesday, Dec. 3, 2019, 2:00 - 3:30pm

Coffee with CLHO and CT Humanities: Old Saybrook
Friday, Dec. 13, 9:30 - 11:00am

The events are free with your RSVP. Visit CLHO.org to register and for more information on these and other events.

Upcoming Grants Deadlines

An upcoming Quick Grants deadline is December 6, 2019.

The next deadline for Project Planning, Project Implementation, and Capacity Building Grants is April 3, 2020.

Visit CTHumanities.org for more information.

Connecticut Humanities encourages curiosity, understanding and critical thinking, providing leadership through grants, partnerships and collaborative programs.

Our vision is an engaged, informed Connecticut.

CT Humanities is a non-profit, 501(c)3 organization. Each year we receive hundreds of grant applications from Connecticut museums, cultural organizations, historical societies, and libraries for exhibits, programs and capacity building initiatives. Unfortunately, we receive 50% more in requested funds than we can award.

Your financial support can help CT Humanities strengthen Connecticut’s history and heritage venues, build civic engagement, and provide access to Connecticut-based
content through our online portals, connecticuthistory.org, teachit.org, and todayinchnistory.com. To learn more, visit CTHumanities.org.

Thank you for your continued support.

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