

## **ENGAGEMENT - ACADEMIC YEAR 2022-2023**

### **Post-Pandemic Rebound**

Our enrollment as of Fall 2022 was 2,400, and attendance by members of Capital Community College for the academic year at Hartford museums and performance art venues stands at 1,615. In pre-pandemic years, with a population of 3,000-3,500, the HHP typically recorded 2,100-2,500 individual visits annually. These numbers indicate a strong rebound in academic year 2022-2023, with the ratio of attendance numbers to student population reaching the levels achieved prior to the pandemic.

Engagement at these levels does not happen on its own. Credit must go to the faculty of Capital Community College who adopt place-based teaching methods and put in the extra effort needed to make these kinds of experiences a part of their classes; to the staff, administration, and CCC Foundation who support HHP programs and attend events; and to the HHP's partner institutions who open their doors to our classes and make our students feel welcome and included. We also credit grant funding from the NEH and CT Humanities as keys to our success.

### **Enrollment Snapshot of CCC (as of Fall 2022)**

- The headcount credit enrollment for Fall 2022 is **2,402**.
- Approximately, 74 percent of the total enrollment comes from the primary service area of Hartford, Bloomfield, East Hartford, New Britain, Newington, Manchester, West Hartford, Wethersfield, and Windsor.
- Capital is one of the most ethnically diverse campuses in New England; the student body includes 37% Black or African American, 33% Hispanic, and 20% Caucasian, 5% Asian and 5% others. Capital is a federally designated Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI).
- The average age for all students is 28; the average age for full-time students is 23 years and for part-time students is 29 years.

## ***1,615 individual visits over 14 partner institutions***

### **Amistad Center for Art & Culture – 27**

Includes two group visits to the Merik Goma, 11 and 16 students. One was with Merik Goma himself in May.

The Amistad Center is a partner in planning and implementing the Pennington Lecture.

### **Auerbach Library (at the Wadsworth) -- 33**

The Auerbach Art Library hosted 3 research visits by Capital Community College professors; 3 classes (2 Art classes and one English class);

CCC student Andy Droney became a weekly volunteer helping merge and organize the Auerbach Art Library year files with year files from the Museum Archives.

### **Connecticut Historical Society – 6**

The CHS hosted a visit by the Liberal Arts Capstone class for a visit to the Bicycle Exhibition.



The CHS also participated in the Liberal Arts Action Lab by submitting a proposal to help them define and plan for a more inclusive museum. Students worked with members of CHS throughout the fall 2022 semester to complete the project.

#### **Connecticut Science Center – 8**

Art class visits the Science Center. In the next academic year, faculty will have the opportunity to bring students to the Science Center with tickets they can reserve from the campus library.

#### **CT Landmarks (Isham Terry House and Butler McCook House) – 103**



After a three-year hiatus, we re-introduced workshops at the Isham-Terry House for first-year nursing students. Students rotate through four stations, each designed to introduce them to Dr. Isham's practice as a doctor in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries and healthcare history in Hartford. The program served 79 students and ten faculty. The evaluations were very positive. The Liberal Arts Capstone class toured both houses in the spring semester.

### Harriet Beecher Stowe Center – 6

The HBC hosted a three-hour visit by the Liberal Arts Capstone class for tours of the Day House, Stowe House, and Nook Farm neighborhood.



Our deep engagement typically happens with our onsite English class each fall, but the class was cancelled due to low enrollment. We are hopeful to restart this experience in fall 2023. Former CCC student Nachum Levitan continues to work there as a museum interpreter.

### Hartbeat Ensemble – 53

The cast and director of Hartbeat Ensemble's production of *My Children, My Africa* by Athol Fugard performed scenes at Capital and engaged students in recommending direction choices. Attended by 45 students, including some faculty. A number of students, staff, and faculty attended the play at the Carriage House Theater (approximately 8).

### Hartford History Center (Hartford Public Library)

The Hartford History Center has been an important partner of the HHP since the program began in 2011. We have held class sessions there, workshops for faculty, and student research sessions. The HHC was our partner in proposing and conducting the Black Heritage Project at the Liberal Arts Action Lab. Unfortunately, due to severe water damage that has closed the downtown library site this year, we have had no specific interactions this year. We anticipate growing our engagement when the center returns to the downtown location in the coming Academic year, particularly with our new Herencias Latinas project.

### Hartford Stage – 440 total visits (69% increase)

One Play for fall 2022: *The Mousetrap* – 172 attendees  
One Play for spring 2023: *The Winter's Tale* – 159 attendees  
*It's A Wonderful Life* (40), *Espejos: Clean* (66), *Art of Burning* (3) = 109  
Total = 331, a **27% increase** over last year's 260 attendees

One Play also includes campus visits by actors from each production for Meet the Actors session on campus. Approximately 60 students attended these sessions. With *The Winter's Tale*, we invited Hartford Stage Teaching Artists to come to classes for one-hour workshops. Five classes – approximately 100 students – benefitted from these workshops.

Our first launch event for Herencias Latinas was a reduce-priced performance of *Espejos: Clean*, attended by about 40 students, staff, faculty, and Foundation members, which included a pre-play reception at Capital.



#### **Hartford Symphony Orchestra – 46 visits**

This program with the HSO is modelled after One Play, with a particular program chosen each semester as our musical focal point. The total of 46 is comparable to pre-pandemic levels. Many of our students have not experienced an orchestral concert and are glad for the opportunity, as noted by a student who attended for extra credit in an English class: “It was a pleasure going to the orchestra for the first time and I am very grateful for this experience.”



**Mark Twain House & Museum – 38** The MTHM hosted several class visits in support of literature instruction. Our deep engagement typically happens with our onsite English class each fall, but the class was cancelled due to low enrollment. We are hopeful to restart this experience in fall 2023.

## Old State House – 72 visits (700% increase)

Through May 9, there were 25 walk-in students, 1 walk-in staff, plus 42 students and 4 staff from group tours, totaling 72 visits.

Total 72, a **700% increase** over last year's 9 visits



CCC students Michael Sawyer and Joy Lee have been working with at the OSH since November 2022 and January 2023, respectively, as Museum Interpreters. They also do school programs for elementary students on field trips focused on civic education (3 branches of government and voting rights in Connecticut). They were key in planning the Beyond Black History Month event held back in February. It was all Michael's idea. They've also been helping conduct research for the CT Freedom Trail with Tammy Denease.

### ***Hartford History Lecture Series at the OSH***

Three lectures in the 7-part Hartford History Lecture series were hosted by the OSH. To date, a total of **862 people** have accessed these lectures. Here's the breakdown:

- Bill Hosley on Evangelical Empire: **429 Total**  
[15 (in person) + 20 (online) + 65 YouTube viewings and 3 likes and 329 Facebook viewings as of May 2023]
- Stacey Close on Rev. James Pennington: **180 Total**  
[28 (in person) + 30 (online) + 122 YouTube viewings and 6 likes and 61 Facebook viewings as of May 2023]
- Antoinette Brim-Bell on Ann Plato: **253 Total**  
[7 (in person) + 20 (online) = 174 YouTube viewings and 4 likes and 52 Facebook viewings as of May 2023]

## SeaTea Improv -- 75

Sea Tea hired a CCC student from last year's improv class to work in the box office (the student is doing "fantastic" and was promoted to house manager).

**TheaterWorks Hartford – 180 play attendance (386% increase), 26 tour**



**180 CCC people** went to plays at TheaterWorks this year. TheaterWorks hosted two CCC@TWH events, including one of the launch events for Herencias Latinas under the HHP. This includes Zoey's Perfect Wedding, Fun Home, Queen of Basel. Total 180, a **386% increase** over last year's 37 visits. On the final day of class, design, students and painting students took two separate trips to TheatreWorks Hartford, and viewed the gallery exhibit rift on Rembrandt, a show in conjunction with the play The Rembrandt at TheatreWorks, and the larger exhibition, finding Rembrandt at the Wadsworth. 25 students and one faculty.

**Wadsworth Atheneum – 502 visits (123% increase)**

438 CCC students & faculty visiting for tours and professor-guided visits.  
64 people from CCC visit as individuals for general admission over the course of the year.



Total = 502 individuals, a **123% increase**

over last year's 225 visits

CCC Museum-Embedded course: Art 100 Art Appreciation taught by Liz Calvi with 11 students  
CCC's nursing program's Critical Observation workshops for 130 senior nursing students has been implemented every spring semester for the past nine years and is the only place-based program in the HHP that continued through the pandemic. This remarkable program engages nursing students in critical observation exercises with art that is translatable to their experience with patients.

The Wadsworth is a partner in planning, implementing, and hosting the Pennington Lecture.