FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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“Tell Us Your Story” Stamford History Digitization Project Receives NEH Common Heritage Grant

STAMFORD, December 15, 2016 - The Ferguson Library is pleased to announce its receipt of a $12,000 National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Common Heritage Grant, to support the “Tell Us Your Story” project, a year-long project aimed at documenting Stamford’s history through the lives of its residents. The project, part of Stamford’s 375th anniversary celebration, is part of a community-wide undertaking to celebrate the cultural heritage of Stamford through the stories, photographs and memorabilia of the people who have made the city what it is today.

“Stamford is a diverse city with a rich, varied history. It is important to record the stories of the people who are still with us in order to understand and illuminate our past,” said Alice Knapp, President of The Ferguson Library. “Individuals are witnesses to the events of their times, and with this project, we hope to preserve a slice of our city’s history from the unique viewpoint of our citizens.”

Over the course of the year, The Ferguson Library will conduct interviews with Stamford residents about their lives and experiences in Stamford, and will scan and digitize photographs, letters and other relevant memorabilia. The Library will also hold a series of programs focusing on specific groups, including African-American residents, women in Stamford, European immigrant stories, Hispanic/Latin Americans stories and veterans. The project will conclude in December with a panel discussion.

Contributors will receive a digitized copy of their content, and the project will be shared with the CT Digital Archive, CT State Library, and the Digital Public Library of America, making the project accessible and available to all users.

The Ferguson Library is Stamford’s public library system, consisting of the Main Library, DiMattia Building; the Harry Bennett Branch; the Weed Memorial & Hollander Branch; the South End Branch and a traveling Bookmobile. It provides free and equal access to information, ideas, books and technology to educate and enrich the Stamford community. Additional information is available at www.fergusonlibrary.org.
About the National Endowment For The Humanities: Created in 1965 as an independent federal agency, the National Endowment for the Humanities supports research and learning in history, literature, philosophy, and other areas of the humanities by funding selected, peer-reviewed proposals from around the nation. Additional information about the National Endowment for the Humanities and its grant programs is available at: www.neh.gov.