FERGUSON LIBRARY HIRES NEW ENTREPRENEURS-IN-RESIDENCE

STAMFORD, March 25, 2019 - The Ferguson Library has hired two business innovators to continue the library’s Entrepreneur-in-Residence program, which provides support to entrepreneurs as they navigate the process of forming and growing their ventures. Services focus on helping entrepreneurs flesh out ideas and get them validated, as well as team formation and advice on resources such as legal and bookkeeping. The program is funded by CTNext through Innovate Stamford.

Douglas Campbell III is the CEO of The Success Coach, which works with business owners to accelerate growth, build strong management teams, and plan for a business exit or succession. Doug has started five businesses, and served as marketing director for a Fortune 100 with 23 locations nationwide. He has also served as a judge for business plan competitions through Connecticut Innovations, is a member of The Business Council of Fairfield County’s Growth Council, and a board member of the Entrepreneurship Foundation.

Doug is also a Small Business Expert for Wells Fargo Bank and a member of the Brain Trust for Jim Blasingame’s Small Business National Radio Network and has been recognized in the Top 30 Global Gurus 3 years in the Coach category. He speaks fluent Spanish.

Steven L. Semaya is an entrepreneur, executive and business consultant with extensive experience in strategy, operations, and business development, functions he has led for several
start-ups, as well as small and large businesses. He also developed the concepts, strategy, business plans, designs and financing for two businesses that he owned and managed for ten years. As a small-business owner and general manager, Steven led a staff of 50 employees, managed budgets, administration, contract negotiations, infrastructure, and day-to-day operations.

A resident of Weston, Steven is the founder and principal consultant at Optimum Partners, LLC, a management consulting firm focused on helping start-ups, growth companies and other small businesses and non-profits to grow efficiently, effectively and profitably.

“The Entrepreneur-in-Residence program at the library is the natural outgrowth of the small business focused programming we have been doing,” said Alice Knapp, President of The Ferguson Library. “We are excited about both Doug and Steven, with their strong backgrounds in the innovation and entrepreneurial world as we look to move the program forward.”

For more information about the Entrepreneur-in-Residence program or to schedule an appointment, please contact Elizabeth Joseph at 203-351-8224, ejoseph@fergusonlibrary.org.

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, engage and enrich the Stamford community.