



Last Saturday, we had a blast at our 4th Annual *Boogie for Books* raising more than **\$22,000** in support of United Way *Summer Smarts*, a 47% increase over last year! Donations may be made through May 10th via [crowdraise.com/boogieforbooks2019](https://www.crowdraise.com/boogieforbooks2019).

Team **Boogie Monsters**, consisting of five college students, is reppin' the next generation of philanthropic leaders as the event's **top fundraising team** by raising more than **\$1,000** through **30 donations**!

View event photos in the [Boogie for Books 2019](#) album on our [Facebook page](#). Our amazing photographers, Alex Syphers and Jessica Prout, captured all the memorable

moments. [Share](#) and [tag](#) yourself and friends. Additional photos and videos will be uploaded shortly.

If you attended the event, please take our 3-minute survey [here](#).

Our incredible [Emcee, David Robinson](#) and [DJ Paul](#) Pino kept the energy and music fresh all night on the dance floor at the Chrysalis Center. [Holly Labbadia](#) led us in a high-energy, interactive Zumba experience followed by a performance by [Krishna Parekh](#) who then engaged guests in a couple of group Bollywood numbers.

Reaching new levels of awesomeness, our annual [dance battle](#) did not disappoint! Check out photos of returning rocks stars and new faces who raised the bar with their skills, creativity, and energy that captivated the crowd.

Thanks to our host, the [Chrysalis Center](#) and food and beverage sponsors, [Red Rock Tavern](#) and [Wine Cellars 4](#).

We wouldn't be successful without our sponsors, all the local businesses who contribute to our drawing and silent auction, our 24-hour Social Media Blitz match donors, volunteers, and the many friends, family, and colleagues who contribute, participate, and spread the word!

Last but not least, this was our best year ever because of the planning and creativity of a dynamic *Boogie for Books* committee and the tremendous leadership of this year's Chair, [Kathryn O'Neil](#). This team of passionate ELS volunteers began meeting in October to make sure *Boogie for Books* was a success.

Event proceeds will support United Way *Summer Smarts* providing local children with access to summer learning and nutrition programs. Without quality summer learning experiences, students may fall behind three grade levels by 5th grade! With revenue from *Boogie for Books*, United Way is supporting more than 20 local programs serving over 3,000 children in 2019! We loved hearing from [McKinley Albert](#), CEO of Hartford's Camp Courant, who made it personal by sharing the impact Summer Smarts has had on the children served through Camp Courant.

STAY CONNECTED

- **May 10, 4:45-6:00 p.m. - Volunteer** at *Beyond the Bell*. Learn more and register [here](#).
- **May 10, 6:00-8:00 p.m. - Meet up** at [Hanging Hills Brewery](#). Hanging Hills is donating a portion of proceeds from 6:00-9:00 p.m. to *Boogie for Books*! Register [here](#) or just show up!

- **May 17, 12:00-1:30 p.m. - Leadership Development** – *Lunch with a Leader* with **Patti MacRae**, Executive Director, Aetna Foundation and 2019 *Power of the Purse* Co-Chair, (*ELS members only*) – learn more and register [here](#).
- **May 30, 12:00-1:30 p.m. - Leadership Development** – *Lunch with a Leader* with **Karen Hinds**, Author; Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Workplace Success Group and 2019 *Power of the Purse* Co-Chair (*ELS members only*) – learn more and register [here](#).

To learn more about ELS membership or to join, click [here](#).

SPECIAL THANKS

Boogie for Books Committee: Kathryn O’Neil (Chair), Helena Allen, Kelli Byrd, Erin Cassidy, Greg Calnen, Jenny Chere, La-Keya Daniels, Holly Labbadia, Christina Lumbreras, Krishna Parekh, Jessica Prout, Natalie Rudakevych, Randi Saboski, Luis Valdez-Jimenez.

Match Donors: Vicky Pace, Liz Gagne, Bobby Nims, Kel Ndu, Ashley Sanyal, Kathryn O’Neil, Randi Saboski, Mark Kritzman, Scott Regina, Luis Valdez-Jimenez.

Sponsors:

- *Elite:* Travelers, Aetna, Jack Soos/ Pratt & Whitney, Hartford Steam Boiler, Jessica Prout Photography.
- *Premier:* Mitchell Auto Group, New England Financial Group, Arbor Light Studio, Zag Interactive, Anytime Fitness, Wolff Financial Group, ConnectiCare, 360 Federal Credit Union, Silver Fern Healthcare, Fathom, Grant Thornton, Red Rock Tavern, Nutmeg State Financial Credit Union.
- *Supporting:* Keating Agency Insurance, Saybrus Partners, United Bank Foundation, Connecticut Public, Marc Glass Agency, People’s Bank, Exquisite Events by Meeka.

Drawing and Silent Auction Donors: Dream Dinners, Kathryn O’Neil, The Cook & The Bear, Harry’s Pizza, Hartford Wolf Pack Hockey, Leadership Greater Hartford, Cafe Sofia, Huntington Theatre Company – Boston, Boston Crawling, Muse Paint Bar, Sweet Frog, Connecticut Science Center, Pepe’s Pizza, Anytime Fitness, Starbucks, United Korean Martial Arts, Jessica Prout, Lutz Children Museum, Oriental Trading, Boston Beer Company, Greg Calnen, Wadsworth Museum, J. Gilberts GC, Hartford Flavor Company, XL Center, Boston Celtics Shamrock Foundation, Hartford Yard Goats,

American Clock & Watch Museum, The Fire Place, Elbow Room, Fathom/Brent Robertson, Hill-Stead Museum, The Fire Place, Labyrinth Brewing Company, Daswani, SPoT Coffee, Spaces, Randi Saboski, Lisa Cretella, Erin Cassidy, Dear Beauty by Aida at Vieira Salon, Christina Lumbreras, Stephanie Berman.

