

# STAMFORD DOWNTOWN

## MONTHLY E-NEWSLETTER



### LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

#### STAMFORD DOWNTOWN'S HOSPITALITY AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

Stamford Downtown's Hospitality Ambassador Program is a core element of the organization's mission. Our Hospitality Ambassadors help provide a warm smile and a helping hand to visitors, residents and business owners. In recent months, Stamford Downtown has redesigned this program to better support the rising number of corporate travelers to Stamford. Our redesigned program was on display in early May when the Courtyard and Residence Inn hosted an annual gathering of more than one-hundred representatives from Charter Communications. Stamford Downtown supported the Charter Communications event by producing Downtown themed welcome bags that included items from multiple Downtown restaurants including, but not limited to, custom t-shirts from [Hey Stamford!](#), a complementary coffee from [Winfield Street Coffee](#) and a taco from [Bar Taco](#). Our Hospitality Ambassadors also assisted with the boarding and off-loading of meeting attendees from their shuttles at the hotels.

Stamford Downtown made this effort to ensure Charter Communications, and its employees enjoyed an elite experience. It is our hope to expand this service to accommodate other major events hosted at Downtown settings such as when the NBC Sports Group hosts its production staff in Stamford for the 2026 Winter Olympics or to assist families and students during move-in day at UConn-Stamford. Stamford Downtown's Hospitality Ambassador Program is an example of the organization's commitment to ensuring our city center is a leading business destination.



## RETAIL RESILIENCE



**U&I Deco Fine Arts & Framing** has reopened at 96 Bedford Street following a fire at its previous location on 33 Spring Street. The newly renovated, elegant two-level space now features a new gallery dedicated to local and emerging artists, alongside its renowned custom framing and fine art restoration services. For over 22 years, Ana Maria and Alain Bars have earned the trust of Stamford's art community through their expertise and personalized service. As trusted members of Stamford's vibrant art scene, Ana Maria and Alain Bars continue to provide the artistry and care that define U&I Deco. Their new Bedford Street location offers Fairfield County clients convenient access to a downtown destination for art, design, and inspiration. Visitors are invited to experience the revitalized space and discover why U&I Deco remains a cornerstone of Stamford's arts community. Go to [uandideco.com](http://uandideco.com).



A second retail relocation is **Verde Galerie**, which recently opened on Valentine's Day at 105 Broad Street from their former 79 Atlantic Street location. This new expansion provides ample room for a six-seat coffee & smoothie bar, a sun-filled 45-seat dining area, and a 16-seat patio area. Two beautifully designed relaxation lounge areas give this attractive Brazilian café a relaxed atmosphere right off busy Broad Street. Owner Iris and his family operate a full-scale flower shop within the restaurant space, serving and delivering to customers throughout Fairfield County. Go to [verdeflowersstamford.com](http://verdeflowersstamford.com)



## STAMFORD DOWNTOWN WELCOMES BACK THE SOUNDS OF GIULIANO'S SCHOOL OF MUSIC



Stamford Downtown proudly welcomes back **Giuliano's School of Music**, now located at 441 Summer Street. Established in 1975 by Giuliano Balestra as a White Plains vintage guitar shop and expanded to Stamford in 1996 under his son and current owner, Bobby Balestra, the school has served lower Fairfield County for over 40 years. Giuliano's offers comprehensive music education, quality instrument rentals, and renowned guitar repair services.

For those interested in learning piano, oboe, cello, French horn, tenor saxophone, or other instruments, Giuliano's provides both private and group lessons for all ages and skill levels. Their flexible, year-round programs cater to everyone from students in school music programs to adults picking up an instrument for the first time. Currently, they are offering open enrollment for their popular "Summer of Rock" Camp 2025, a two-week musical expression program for children aged 7-14 interested in guitar, voice, bass, keyboard, drums, or woodwinds. Participants will compose original songs and perform as bands at the end of the session.

Giuliano's also offers affordable instrument rentals for back-to-school needs, and adults can explore a wide selection of instruments and accessories in their on-site music store. The school's legendary guitar repair services, honed by Bobby Balestra's apprenticeship with Carlo Greco, have attracted a prestigious clientele of international artists, including Eric Clapton, BB King, and Peter Frampton, solidifying their reputation in the music world.

Visit their website for complete details: [giulianosmusiccenter.com/guitar-repair](http://giulianosmusiccenter.com/guitar-repair)



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Organization  
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## STAMFORD DOWNTOWN ART IN PUBLIC PLACES

### 26 Pigs on a Whimsical Walkabout!

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WHY SHOP LOCAL?

- Unique, independent shops bring personalized service to Stamford Downtown.
- Local businesses invest in vibrant, well-kept storefronts.
- A thriving Downtown attracts more visitors and investment.
- When you shop local, you strengthen your community.

STAMFORD  
DOWNTOWN

STAMFORD-DOWNTOWN.COM

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## The City of Stamford 2025 Citizen of the Year Award and Scholarship Presentation Dinner

Honoring

### Scholarship Recipients

Nina Edwards, Stamford HS  
Owen Herz, Stamford HS  
Hayden Katz, Stamford HS  
Tejasvi Rawat, AITE  
Alex Rico, Westhill HS

### 2025 Citizen of the Year

*Harry Day*

### Stamford Veterans

Cheryll Duerk, US Army  
Richard Fisher, US Army  
Philip Alan Gerard, US Army  
Donald Hartman, US Navy  
Richard "Cookie" Thomas, US Navy

*Wednesday, June 4, 2025 • 5:30–8:30 pm*

Italian Center of Stamford

Your Support Helps Fund \$7,500 Scholarships for Stamford's High School Seniors

Join Us and Purchase Tickets, Ads & Sponsorships at [stamfordcoty.org](http://stamfordcoty.org)

*20th Year!*  
of awarding scholarships  
& honoring veterans

