



NASHVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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LIBRARY ANNOUNCES “DREAMERS” FOR NASHVILLE READS 2020

Events Include Author Talk, Community Art Projects, and More

- Nashville Reads begins March 23 and culminates with author talk May 7.
- The book is available to check out now in both English and in Spanish as “Soñadores” at the library.
- The library’s online events calendar has details for all Nashville Reads events.

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – What does your library mean to you?

For author and illustrator Yuyi Morales, her library, the Western Addition Branch of San Francisco Public Library, was a gateway to a new way of life. This experience of being an immigrant to the United States, and how her library helped her assimilate, form the basis for her illustrated children’s book, “Dreamers.”

Beginning March 23, Nashville Public Library and its partners encourage the Nashville community to read “Dreamers” for Nashville Reads, an annual citywide reading campaign that brings the city together to explore great books and great ideas.

“At Nashville Public Library, we take great pride in helping our newest residents find happiness in their new home through free ESL classes, the Pathways for New Americans program, bilingual story times, and other initiatives,” said Kent Oliver, the library’s director. “That’s why I can’t think of a better choice for this year’s Nashville Reads than ‘Dreamers.’”

The celebration culminates with an author talk with Morales as part of the library's Salon@615 series at the Main Library, 615 Church St., on May 7. The event is free and open to the public.

The library is also sponsoring two community art projects related to themes found in "Dreamers."

The first is a butterfly wall made from paper butterflies that Nashvillians decorate to represent unity and diversity in the city.

The paper butterflies will be available for decoration at all 21 library locations March 1. Library staff and volunteers will then sew the butterflies into a mosaic, which will be on display at the Main Library on May 7.

In "Dreamers," Morales uses monarch butterflies to symbolize the changes that immigrants experience and the hope for a better future in a new home.

The second project is the making of quipus, or family ropes, with local artist Jairo Prado. Quipus are collections of fiber strings, wrapped over rope, that the ancient Inca people used to record information. Nashvillians will wrap their thread of yarn around a rope, joining with others' threads to form a single quipu.

The library is hosting seven quipu events at six locations beginning March 11. The Main Library is hosting two events, while five other locations are hosting one event each throughout the month.

Other Nashville Reads events include story time readings of "Dreamers," bilingual story times, readings and discussions led by library and community facilitators around the city, and film screenings that chronicle the experiences of immigration and discovery in the U.S.

The library's online events calendar has details, locations and schedules for all Nashville Reads events.

"Dreamers," and the Spanish language version, "Soñadores," are available at the library now. Visit <http://nashvillepubliclibrary.org/nashvillereads/> to reserve your copy and discover Nashville Reads at your preferred library location today.

About Nashville Reads

Nashville Reads is a way of bringing the entire city together to read great literature, in an attempt to broaden the literary horizons of the city and open up a forum for discussion. Previous selections include "Hidden Figures" by Margot

Lee Shetterly, "The Potlikker Papers" by John T. Edge, "March: Book One" by John Lewis, and others.

Nashville Public Library would like to thank its partners Lipscomb University, Parnassus Books, Humanities Tennessee, the Nashville Public Library Foundation, and the Office of the Mayor for their generous support in making Nashville Reads possible.

About Yuyi Morales

Born in Xalapa, Mexico, where she currently resides, Yuyi Morales lived for many years in the San Francisco Bay Area, where she still maintains close relations with booksellers and librarians.

Professional storyteller, dancer, choreographer, puppeteer, and artist, she has won the prestigious Pura Belpré Award for Illustration five times, for "Just a Minute: A Trickster Tale and Counting Book," "Los Gatos Black on Halloween," "Just in Case: A Trickster Tale and Spanish Alphabet Book," "Niño Wrestles the World," and "Viva Frida," also a Caldecott Honor Book.



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