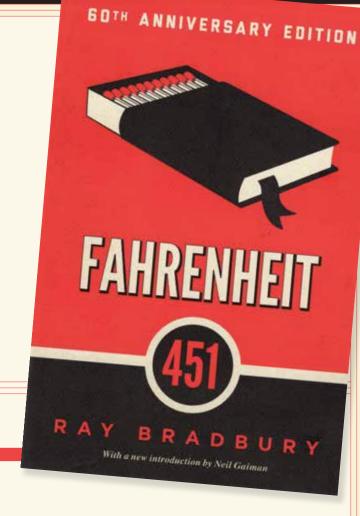
2016 BIG READ PROGRAM IN LOS ANGELES



LOS ANGELES POET LAUREATE LUIS RODRIGUEZ

The Big Read Program in Los Angeles celebrates the written word with Los Angeles Poet Laureate, Luis Rodriguez.

Luis Rodriguez was chosen to be Poet Laureate by Mayor Eric Garcetti in 2014. His poetry book, *My Nature is Hunger*, won the 2005 Paterson Book Award. His 1993 memoir *Always Running, La Vida Loca, Gang Days in L.A.*, with close to half a million copies sold, became one of L.A.'s most checked out in libraries—and one of the most stolen. He has a dozen other books in poetry, children's literature, fiction, and nonfiction. He is also founding editor of the small press, Tia Chucha Press, now in its 25th year, and co-founder of Tia Chucha's Centro Cultural and Bookstore in the San Fernando Valley. His latest book, *It Calls You Back: An Odyssey Through Love, Addiction, Revolutions, and Healing*, is a finalist for the 2012 National Book Critics Circle Award.

This spring, Rodriguez introduces a new Tia Chucha Press anthology, *Coiled Serpent: Poets Arising from the Cultural Quakes & Shifts of Los Angeles. Coiled Serpent*, a highly anticipated anthology featuring well-known Los Angeles poets.

PEOPLE'S SONNET NUMBER 5

Luis Rodriguez

I mean pissed off and ardently expressed,
poems delirious as midnight rambling.
Bebop, Hip Hop, a decima or slam,
metered lyrics, free shaped texts... no matter,
bring out the fire, the punch, a resounding jam.
Let it ring far, a magnificent chatter.
Naming the nameless, voicing the unheard,
questioning the questions, swimming, splashing.
No expert strokes but damn if not expert word;
every line bleeding, grieving, pleading, slashing.
The power of poetry is its stance,

page or stage, electrifying or trance.

Let us dare haunting verse of the oppressed,

THE BIG READ PROGRAM IN LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION PARTNERS

The 2016 *Big Read Program in LA* consists of a *diverse and dynamic array of free events and activities* for young people and adults, and is presented by the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) in conjunction with our community and cultural organization partners:

Beyond Baroque

Boyle Heights Arts Conservatory

California Institute of the Arts Community Arts Partnership (CAP)

Chinese American Museum

Central Estatal de las Artes - Ensenada / Centro Estatal de las Artes - Tecate (CEART) / Instituto de Cultura de Baja California

Craft and Folk Art Museum

Culinary Historians of Southern California

Debra Disman, Artist

Department of Cultural Affairs Neighborhood Arts and

Cultural Centers:

Canoga Park Youth Arts Center
Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery, Barnsdall Park
Sun Valley Youth Arts Center (Stone House)

Warner Grand Theatre

William Grant Still Arts Center

Diesel Bookstore in Brentwood
El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument

Families In Schools

Grand Park / The Music Center

LA Fire Museum, Hollywood

LA Harbor International Film Festival

Leimert Park Book Festival

Libros Schmibros Lending Library

Los Angeles County Museum of Art

Los Angeles Public Library and the Following Branches:

Arroyo Seco
Brentwood

Cahuenga Central Library Durant

El Sereno Granada Hills Malabar

Memorial
Mid-Valley
North Hollywood
Northridge

Palisades

e Following Branches
Palms-Rancho
Platt
Playa Vista

Silverlake
Studio City
Sunland-Tujunga
Sylmar
Valley Plaza

Washington Irving
Watts
West Valley
Westwood

Vernon

Los Angeles Times Festival of Books

Los Angeles Unified School District:

Abraham Lincoln High School Belvedere Middle School

East Valley High School

Hollywood High School

James Monroe High School

Los Angeles Senior High School RFK Community Schools at the Ambassador

Ramon C. Cortines School of Visual and Performing Arts

Reseda High School

Verdugo Hills High School

West Adams Preparatory Senior High Westchester High School

Louise Marler, Artist

Luis Rodriguez, City of Los Angeles Poet Laureate

Mexican Cultural Institute of Los Angeles

Rancho Cordillera del Norte

Sam Weller, Author and Authorized Bradbury Biographer

Self Help Graphics and Art

Sony Pictures Media Arts Program at:

DCA's Banning's Landing Community Cultural Center

DCA's Center for the Arts, Eagle Rock

DCA's Watts Towers Arts Center / Charles Mingus Youth Arts

DCA's William Reagh Los Angeles Photography Center

The Museum of the San Fernando Valley

The Music Center of Los Angeles County

Steve Soboroff, Private Collector

LICLA Devial Library

UCLA Powell Library



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