In Discussion: Latino Literature and Into the Beautiful North
Tuesday, April 29 at 7:00pm / Main Library*
Marissa López, author of Chicano Nations, moderates a panel discussion on the history of Latino literature and its contemporary incarnations. Panelists include authors Daniel Olivas (The Book of Want); Reyna Grande (The Distance Between Us); and Verónica Reyes (Chopper! Chopper! Poetry from Bordered Lives).

Inocente: Documentary Screening and Discussion
Saturday, May 3 at 3:00pm / Main Library*
Be inspired by this Oscar-winning documentary about a young Mexican immigrant who found her way out of homelessness with the help of an after-school arts program. A discussion with representatives from a similar local program focused on at-risk youth follows the screening. [Film run time: 40 min.]

The Latin Experience Movie Series
A Better Life (2011) 98 min.
Thursday, April 3 at 3:00pm / Main Library*
Under the Same Moon (2007) 106 min.
Thursday, April 3 at 6:00pm / Ocean Park Branch*
Sin Nombre (2009) 96 min.
Friday, April 11 at 2:30pm / Fairview Branch*
Quinceañera (2006) 90 min.
Tuesday, April 15 at 6:30pm / Montana Avenue Branch*
Magnificent Seven (1960) 128 min.
Saturday, April 19 at 12:30pm / Main Library*

For free public book discussion groups, special events and workshops, check THE BIG READ event page at smpl.org/Urrea2014.aspx or call 310-458-8600.

Thanks to these businesses for supporting Book Discussions and Programs:
AMF Bay Shore Lanes
Barnes and Noble
El Cholo Restaurant

The Big Read is a program of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest.
Welcome to THE BIG READ and the 12th year of citywide reading in Santa Monica! THE BIG READ is a community reading initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) in partnership with Arts Midwest, designed to celebrate literature by encouraging people to read and discuss the same book at the same time throughout their community.

This year’s book is *Into the Beautiful North* by Luis Alberto Urrea. A contemporary novel set in the U.S. and Mexico, *Into the Beautiful North* features strong character and universal themes that are sure to promote quality group discussion and enjoyable events. New this year is the opportunity to explore the book’s themes in artistic workshops offered in partnership with the Santa Monica Museum of Art.

*Into the Beautiful North* is available from local bookstore wonderful editions. Spanish-language copies are available at the Library. We encourage you to attend one of the many free, public events being held around the city from March 29 through May 4.

### About the Book

Nineteen-year-old Nayeli lives in Tres Camarones, a Mexican town nearly empty of men, including Nayeli’s father, after most have gone to the U.S. to seek work. Inspired by the classic film, *The Magnificent Seven*, Nayeli and her three closest friends are commissioned by the new village president, Nayeli’s Aunt Irma, to travel north into the U.S. to bring back men to protect their town from encroaching drug dealers. In this classic quest tale, Urrea uses humor and compassion to address issues of cultural differences and depict the many borders in life that both divide and connect.

### About the Author

Luis Alberto Urrea is the author of fourteen books including poetry, short stories, novels, non-fiction and memoirs. He is the recipient of a 1999 American Book Award (Nobody’s Son), a finalist for the 2005 Pulitzer Prize (The Devil’s Highway) and a member of the Latino Literature Hall of Fame. Raised in both Tijuana and San Diego by his Mexican father and American mother, Luis is a graduate of the University of California, San Diego, and the University of Colorado Boulder. He is currently a professor of creative writing at the University of Illinois at Chicago and resides in Naperville, Illinois.

More information about the novel, the author, related works and discussion questions can be found in the NEA Reader’s Guide for *Into the Beautiful North* available at all Santa Monica Public Library locations.

### Special Events

#### The Big Read Kick-off Celebration

**Saturday, March 29 at 12:30pm / Main Library**

Alfredo López, leader of the Mexican musical group Quetzalcóatl, and special guests take us on an exciting musical tour of Mexico in an outdoor concert highlighting the richness and variety of traditional Latin Music. Pick up a copy of *Into the Beautiful North*, enjoy some refreshments and start reading!

#### Into the Beautiful North Filmmaking Workshop Series

**PART 1: Saturday, March 29, 2:00-5:00pm**

**PART 2: Wednesday, April 2, 7:00-9:00pm**

**Santa Monica Museum of Art 2525 Michigan Avenue**

The Echo Park Film Center leads a cinematic exploration of borders in this 2-day workshop of short film making. Films will premiere during a public screening at the Main Library on April 26. Ages 13 and up. Space is limited. You must attend both sessions. Registration required: contact education@smmoa.org or 310-586-6488, ext.118.

#### Food and Fiction at the Pico Farmers Market

**Saturday, April 5 at 11:00am**

**Pico Farmers Market, 2200 Virginia Avenue**

Celebrate the flavor of *Into the Beautiful North* at this outdoor concert highlighting the richness and variety of traditional Latin Music. Pick up a copy of *Into the Beautiful North*, enjoy some refreshments and start reading!

**All programs are subject to change without notice.**
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Food and Fiction at the Santa Monica Farmers Market Saturday, April 5 at 11:00am
Pico Farmers Market, 2200 Virginia Avenue
Celebrate the flavors of Into the Beautiful North with local author Amelia Saltsman (The Santa Monica Farmers Market Cookbook) who demonstrates cooking with seasonal flavors and serves small bites.

Into the Beautiful North Toy Theatre Workshop Saturday, April 5, 2:00-5:00pm
Santa Monica Museum of Art
2525 Michigan Avenue
In this hands-on workshop, puppeteer and filmmaker Yulya Dukhovney shares cutting, collage, and assemblage techniques to create miniature scenes from Into the Beautiful North. Ages 13 and up. Space is limited. Registration is required: call 310-586-6488, ext.118 or contact education@smmoa.org.

Orchestra Santa Monica: North and South of the Border Saturday, April 12 at 3:30pm / Main Library*
Join us for a concert by the OSM Strings and guitarist Ricardo Escobar. The musicians, who are active on both sides of the U.S-Mexico border, also discuss the cultural influences that inform their music.

An Evening with Gustavo Arellano Thursday, April 17 at 7:00pm / Main Library*
Award-winning author Gustavo Arellano presents a talk on his popular nationally syndicated column, and books ¿Ask a Mexican! and Taco USA: How Mexican Food Conquered America.

Conversation with Luis Alberto Urrea Monday, April 21 at 3:00pm / Main Library*
Luis Alberto Urrea, joins us for a virtual author talk via a web link from his home state of Illinois. Learn more about our acclaimed Big Read author and hear the story behind Into the Beautiful North.

Echo Park Film Center Filmmobile @ SMPL Saturday, April 26 at 1:00pm / Main Library*
Visit the EPC Filmmobile to view the short films created during the Santa Monica Museum of Art workshops inspired by the themes of Into the Beautiful North.

An Afternoon with Rubén Martínez and Friends Saturday, April 26 at 3:00pm / Main Library*
Writer, musician and Emmy-award winning journalist Rubén Martínez and guests present a special program of spoken word and music exploring the theme of immigration. Author of Crossing Over and Desert America, Martínez has spent over two decades giving voice to those who imagine a new life for themselves.

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EVENT GUIDE

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Thursday, April 10 at 6:00pm
Ocean Park Branch*

Sin Nombre (2009) 96 min.
Friday, April 11 at 2:30pm
Fairview Branch*

Quinceañera (2006) 90 min.
Tuesday, April 9 at 6:30pm
AMF Bay Shores Lanes, 234 Pico Blvd.
Discussion is followed by bowling, first-come, first-served.

The Big Read is a program of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest.

Book Discussions

Trained volunteer facilitators lead these free public discussions. No registration required.

Tuesday, April 1 at 7:00pm
Barnes & Noble, 1201 Third Street Promenade

Thursday, April 3 at 7:00pm / Ocean Park Branch*

Wednesday, April 9 at 6:30pm
AMF Bay Shores Lanes, 234 Pico Blvd.

Thursday, April 10 at 4:00pm
Ken Edwards Center*, 1527 4th Street

Wednesday, April 16 at 7:00pm
Montana Avenue Branch*

Saturday, April 18 at 10:00am
Santa Monica Museum of Art, 2525 Michigan Ave.

Tuesday, April 22 at 2:00pm
El Cholo Restaurant, 1025 Wilshire Blvd.

Wednesday, April 23 at 7:00pm
Spanish Language Discussion / Patio Room*
Virginia Avenue Park, 2200 Virginia Avenue

Saturday, April 26 at 11:00am / Main Library*

Wednesday, April 30 at 7:00pm / Patio Room*
Virginia Avenue Park, 2200 Virginia Avenue

Saturday, May 3 at 11:00am / Fairview Branch*

Santa Monica Main Library and Branches

Santa Monica Main Library
601 Santa Monica Boulevard
Fairview Branch Library
2101 Ocean Park Boulevard
Montana Avenue Branch Library
1704 Montana Avenue
Ocean Park Branch Library
2601 Main Street
Pico Branch Library
2201 Pico Boulevard

*City of Santa Monica facilities are wheelchair accessible. For special disabled services, call Library Admin. 310-458-8606 at least one week prior to event.

Thanks to these organizations for their support of The Big Read event:
Santa Monica Museum of Art / Santa Monica College
Echo Park Film Center / Olympic High School

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MARCH 29 THROUGH MAY 4, 2014

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SPONSORS

SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY

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