

Read the book and join in! All programs are FREE and open to the public.

Book Discussions

For ages high school and up.

Feb. 7	1:00 p.m.	Adult Book Club, MBL
Feb. 8	3:30 p.m.	Teen Book Club, CCL
Feb. 10	3:30 p.m.	Teen Book Club, MBL
Feb. 23	1:00 p.m.	Senior Center Book Club, 455 Country Club Lane
Feb. 28	6:00 p.m.	Adult Book Club, CCL



Little Read

For ages up to middle school.

Zora Hurston and the Chinaberry Tree by William Miller. Also available in Spanish.

Feb. 1	2:00 p.m.	Wacky Wednesday, MBL
Feb. 3	11:00 a.m.	Bilingual Storytime, MBL
Feb. 8	2:00 p.m.	Wacky Wednesday, CCL
Feb. 16	3:30 p.m.	Storytime, Camp Pendleton Library
Feb. 17	6:00 p.m.	Pajama-Rama Storytime and Book Fair at Barnes & Noble*
Feb. 21	10:30 a.m.	Storytime, CCL
Feb. 22	10:30 a.m.	Spanish Storytime, CCL
Feb. 29	3:00 p.m.	Bilingual Storytime on the Bookmobile, John Landes Park, 2855 Cedar Road

Tween Programs

Feb. 22	4:00 p.m.	Quilting, CCL
Feb. 28	4:00 p.m.	Quilting, MBL

Teen Programs

Feb. 8	3:30 p.m.	Book Club, CCL
Feb. 10	3:30 p.m.	Book Club, MBL
Feb. 20	2:00 p.m.	Art Project, MBL
Feb. 23	2:00 p.m.	Art Project, CCL

CCL = Civic Center Library • MBL = Mission Branch Library

For more information on times, locations, and additional events, please visit [www.oceansidepubliclibrary.org](http://www.oceansidepubliclibrary.org) or [www.neabigread.com](http://www.neabigread.com), call us at (760) 435-5600, or stop by any Oceanside Public Library location.

\*Participating Barnes & Noble at El Camino North Shopping Center, 2615 Vista Way, Oceanside, (760) 529-0106



[www.oceansidepubliclibrary.org](http://www.oceansidepubliclibrary.org)  
(760) 435-5600

Civic Center Library  
330 North Coast Highway  
Oceanside, CA 92054

Mission Branch Library  
3861-B Mission Avenue  
Oceanside, CA 92058

The Big Read is an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts designed to restore reading to the center of American culture. The NEA presents The Big Read in cooperation with Arts Midwest.

The Big Read in Oceanside is funded through a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, with contributions from the Friends of the Oceanside Public Library and the Oceanside Public Library Foundation.

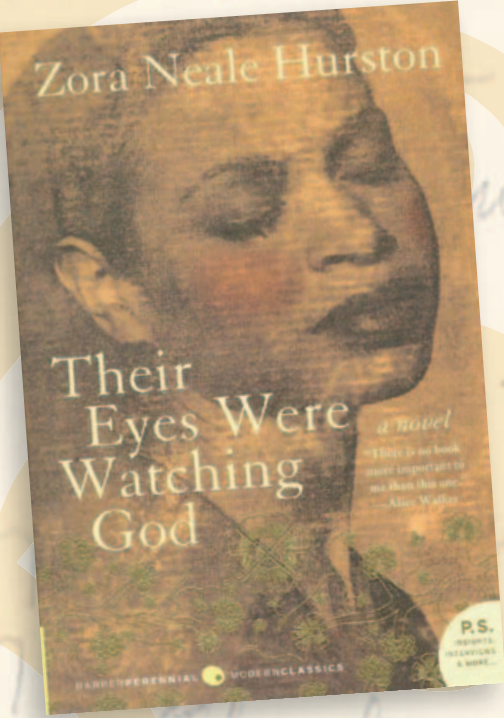
Thank you to these Big Read partners for their generous support.



presents in recognition of Black History Month

The Big Read

February 1-25, 2012



A community-wide free series of special programs and events based on

Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neale Hurston



Photograph of Zora Neale Hurston by Carl Van Vechten, April 3, 1935. Used with permission of the Van Vechten Trust. Yale Collection of American Literature, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

Black Women in American History and Culture

The 2012 Annual Black History Theme

From the American Revolution to the present, African American women have played a myriad of critical roles in the making of our nation. Their labor and leadership, their motherhood and patriotism, and their intellect and artistic expression have all enriched both the African American community and the nation at large. In slavery and freedom, their struggles have been at the heart of the human experience, and their triumphs over racism and sexism are a testament to our common human spirit.

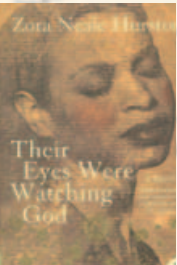
One of the greatest contributors to African American literature was Zora Neale Hurston. Hurston (1891-1960) was an American folklorist, anthropologist, and author during the time of the Harlem Renaissance, and her fictional and factual accounts of black heritage remain unparalleled. Of Hurston's four novels and more than 50 published short stories, plays, and essays, she is best known for her 1937 novel *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, which presents Janie Mae Crawford's growth from a voiceless teenage girl into a woman who takes charge of her own destiny.

A special thank you to the North County African American Women's Association for their support of The Big Read.



All programs are FREE and open to the public.

Special Events



February 1: Wednesday at 5:00 p.m.  
Mayoral Proclamation  
of The Big Read  
in Oceanside

City Council Chambers  
Presentation of The Big Read program and acknowledgement of community partners by Mayor Jim Wood. Announcement and promotion of special events and book discussions.

February 2: Thursday at 5:30 p.m.  
Kick-off Event

Celebrating Zora Neale Hurston and the Harlem Renaissance

Sunshine Brooks Theatre, 217 North Coast Highway  
An introduction to The Big Read project, book giveaways, readings from *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, and live music from the Harlem Renaissance provided by radio station KSDS Jazz 88.3, with performances from the Black Storytellers of San Diego.



Photograph of Zora Neale Hurston by Prentiss Taylor, 1935. Yale Collection of American Literature, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

Background image: *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, holograph manuscript page 5. Yale Collection of American Literature, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

February 4: Saturday at 11:00 a.m.  
Art Reception  
Signs and Symbols: African American Quilts from the Collection of Maude Southwell Wahlman

Oceanside Museum of Art, 704 Pier View Way  
This stunning display features ten quilts from the collection of Dr. Maude Southwell Wahlman. The nation’s strongest tradition of African-American quilting survives today in the Southern United States, practiced by women who have pursued their art in the face of difficult economic, social, and political odds. The exhibition honors 20th century African American quilt artists, some of whom were contemporaries of Hurston, and also celebrates a living art form still practiced today.

February 9: Thursday at 10:00 a.m.  
Live Performance  
The American Place Theatre presents *Zora*

Truax Theatre, 400 Rancho Del Oro Drive  
In this dramatic biography, Zora invites the audience into her exemplary life, rich with folklore, intimate portraits of her contemporaries, and excerpts from her significant body of literary work. Incorporating music from the era and some of Ms. Hurston’s southern folklore, the story focuses on Zora’s battle to preserve her people’s culture and to live an authentic life against all odds.

February 11: Saturday at 10:30 a.m.  
Living History Presentation  
“Every Tongue Got to Confess: Voices from the South”

Civic Center Library Community Rooms  
Prominent Oceanside luminaries share oral histories and personal narratives at the Civic Center Library. This program is presented in partnership with the Oceanside Historical Society. Following the presentation, the Library will accept a donation of Civil Rights Era papers and memorabilia from Ms. E. Marie Swan, who marched on Washington, D.C., with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

February 12: Sunday at 2:00 p.m.  
African American Genealogy

Mission Branch Library  
Felix Green, President of the San Diego African American Genealogy Research Group, will discuss his own family history as well as the challenges and joys of African American ancestral research.



Photograph of Zora Neale Hurston by Carl Van Vechten, November 9, 1934. Used with permission of the Van Vechten Trust. Yale Collection of American Literature, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

February 18: Saturday at 3:00 p.m.  
Lucy Hurston Speaking Engagement  
Speak, So You Can Speak Again

MiraCosta College, Little Theatre  
1 Barnard Drive, Bldg. 3601  
This program is co-sponsored by the North County African American Women’s Association and MiraCosta College.

Author Lucy Hurston discusses the life and cultural significance of her late aunt, Zora Neale Hurston.

February 21: Tuesday at 6:00 p.m.  
Scholarly Panel Discussion  
“I Don’t Understand It from de Way You Tellin’ It”: Understanding the Words and Works of Zora Neale Hurston

City Council Chambers  
A panel discussion moderated by Dr. Sharon Elise, Professor of Sociology at California State University San Marcos.

February 25: Saturday at 1:00 p.m.  
Finale Event  
Eatonville Comes to Oceanside  
Civic Center Library Community Rooms and Plaza  
Don your favorite hat and bring your family to a Southern “Hat Stroll” honoring Zora Neale Hurston’s love of Southern culture, tradition and folklore. Refreshments provided by the Friends of the Oceanside Public Library and music from the era provided by Oceanside’s Interfaith Community.

Films

February 6: Monday at 3:30 p.m.  
The Color Purple  
Mission Branch Library

Based on Alice Walker’s Pulitzer Prize winning story about the life and trials of an African American woman in the early 1900s. (Rated PG-13; run time 154 minutes.)

February 7: Tuesday at 6:00 p.m.  
The Help  
Civic Center Library Community Rooms  
The Help is an inspirational, courageous and empowering story about very different, extraordinary women in the 1960s South who build an unlikely friendship around a secret writing project. (Rated PG-13; run time 146 minutes.)

February 27: Monday at 3:30 p.m.  
Their Eyes Were Watching God  
Mission Branch Library  
See the movie adaptation of the book, featuring Oscar-winning actress Halle Berry as Janie Starks. (Not Rated; run time 113 minutes.)

Art Exhibit



Just A Minute © 1999  
Medium: Bronze with wood base  
Dimensions: 15” x 14-1/2” x 6”  
  
One more window to wash – in just a minute  
A knock at the door – wait just a minute  
A child yells – please, just a minute  
A pot boils – ok, ok, just a minute  
Time to rest – for just a minute  
Time to think – only for just a minute



Verity 1 © 2007  
Medium: Bronze  
Dimensions: 11-1/2” x 3” x 3”  
  
Coy Innocent  
Cautiously investigating  
The truth of youth

February  
Manuelita Brown  
Civic Center Library  
Mission Branch Library  
Sculptures by world-renowned local artist Manuelita Brown will be on display at both Oceanside Library locations. Ms. Brown’s artwork has been featured in juried shows and exhibitions nationwide including the African American National Arts Festival, the National Black Fine Arts Show, and Artexpo New York.