

CITY OF OCEANSIDE
NEWS RELEASE



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OCEANSIDE PUBLIC LIBRARY

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**VILLASEÑOR KICKS OFF GRANT PROGRAM "LATINO AMERICANS:
500 YEARS OF HISTORY" AT OCEANSIDE LIBRARY**

Please join the Oceanside Public Library in welcoming Victor Villaseñor to celebrate a special grant program kickoff on Thursday, March 31, at 6:00 p.m. in the Civic Center Library Community Rooms, 330 N. Coast Highway. Villaseñor is author of *Rain of Gold*—a beautifully told, true story featuring three generations of Villaseñor's family, tracing the migration that ultimately brings them from Mexico to Oceanside. The celebrated author will speak about his family's experience, why he wrote *Rain of Gold*, and the importance of being connected to one's own story.

The Oceanside Public Library has been selected to receive a competitive "Latino Americans: 500 Years of History" grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the American Library Association (ALA). Programming for the grant, which begins with Villaseñor's visit, explores the Latino American culture and experience and is inspired by the NEH-supported documentary film *Latino Americans*, created for PBS in 2013 by public TV station WETA. Other planned programs include a film and lecture series, a history harvest workshops, and a community-wide read. For a full schedule of events and more information, visit www.oceansidepubliclibrary.org or contact (760) 435-5600.

The "Latino Americans: 500 Years of History" grantees represent 42 states and the District of Columbia, and include 78 public libraries, 68 college/university libraries and organizations, 19 community college libraries, 10 state humanities councils, 12 museums and a range of other nonprofit organizations. "Latino Americans: 500 Years of History" is part of an NEH initiative, "The Common Good: The Humanities in the Public Square."

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