



MONROE COUNTY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

enriching lives

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Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

28 EVENTS SET FOR ‘ONE BOOK, ONE COMMUNITY’

MONROE, Mich. – Throughout March and April, 28 community events will be held in conjunction with One Book, One Community of Monroe County.

Modeled after a program developed by the American Library Association, One Book, One Community promotes the value of reading by recommending a compelling book that links community members in a common conversation through readings, group discussions, programs and other events.

The book selection for this year’s One Book, One Community is “One Amazing Thing” by Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni. “One Amazing Thing” tells the story of nine people struggling to survive together after being trapped by an earthquake. Faced with the very real possibility of death, one of them suggests that they share “One Amazing Thing” about their lives. The book brings together people from all walks of life to tell a story about the power of human expression.

The community-wide reading program officially kicks off on March 18 at the MCCC La-Z-Boy Center with a celebration featuring Henna painting, an Indian dance performance, yoga and meditation presentation, interactive storyboard activity entitled “Degrees of Separation—Have We Crossed Paths?”, and a chance for attendees to view the amazing stories of Monroe County residents, as well as record

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their own. The full slate of more than 20 One Book, One Community events runs from March 5 through April 16.

Below is the One Book, One Community calendar of events. All events are free and open to the public unless otherwise indicated.

March 5

Book Discussion: "One Amazing Thing"
Dundee Branch Library
6:30 p.m.

March 9

Survivor Stories
Ellis Library and Reference Center
1:30-3 p.m.

The community is invited to test survival skills and share amazing stories. Children ages 8 and up are welcome to attend. Participants must register by calling (734) 241-5277 or by going online.

March 11

Book Discussion: "One Amazing Thing"
Erie Branch Library
6:30 p.m.

March 13

Book Discussion: "One Amazing Thing"
Bedford Branch Library
7 p.m.

March 18

Kick-off
Monroe County Community College
La-Z-Boy Center Atrium
6-8 p.m.

Kick-off festivities will include Henna painting, an Indian dance performance, yoga and meditation presentation, interactive storyboard activity entitled "Degrees of Separation-Have We Crossed Paths?", and a chance for attendees to view the amazing stories of Monroe County residents, as well as record their own.

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March 19

Storytime: "Grandpa Green"

Dorsch Memorial Library

11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

This program is based on the book "Grandpa Green" by Lane Green, this year's One Book, One Community of Monroe County companion read.

Lecture and Discussion: The Power of the Narrative Story

Monroe County Community College

La-Z-Boy Center, Room 259

7-9 p.m.

Learn about how to tell stories and recognize the power of the narrative with Dan Shaw, assistant professor of humanities and journalism at MCCC.

March 20

Women Storytellers History Fair

Monroe County Community College

Campbell Learning Resources Center, Library Lobby

11:30-1:30 p.m.

In celebration of National Women's History Month, the MCCC Diversity Committee is sponsoring this fair, which will feature information on women authors, playwrights, screenwriters, artists, poets and directors.

Film Screening and Discussion: "Crash"

Ellis Library and Reference Center

6 p.m.

Issues of race and gender cause a group of strangers in Los Angeles to physically and emotionally collide in this drama from director and screenwriter Paul Haggis. Tim Dillon, associate professor of English and Writing Across the Curriculum Coordinator at MCCC, will moderate the screening.

March 21

Brown Bag Discussion: "One Amazing Thing"

12:30 p.m.

Monroe County Community College

La-Z-Boy Center Atrium

March 25

Film Screening and Discussion: "Monsoon Wedding"

Bedford Branch Library

6 p.m.

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Mira Nair directed this family drama about a very chaotic Indian wedding. Dr. Paul Hedeem, dean of the Humanities/Social Sciences Division at MCCC, will moderate the screening.

March 26

Cultural Night and Book Discussion: "One Amazing Thing"

Meadow Montessori School

6:30-8 p.m.

March 27

Meet the Author: Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni

Monroe County Community College

La-Z-Boy Center, Meyer Theater

7 p.m.

Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni will elaborate on the themes that inspired "One Amazing Thing." She will also share excerpts from her newest novel, "Oleander Girl." A book signing will follow. A limited number of Divakaruni's books will be available for purchase.

March 28

Brown Bag Discussion: "One Amazing Thing"

Whitman Center Atrium

Noon -1 p.m.

April 2

Storytelling Performance: Yvonne Healy

Monroe County Community College

La-Z-Boy Center, Rooms 271-272

11 a.m.

Using simple voice, story and gesture, storyteller Yvonne Healy invites us into the theater of our own imagination. In this program geared for teens and adults, Healy will share both folktales and true stories. For more information, visit www.yhealy.com. Funded in part by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and the Michigan Humanities Council.

Storytelling Workshop: Yvonne Healy

Monroe County Community College

La-Z-Boy Center, Rooms 271-272

3 p.m.

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At this workshop, performer and educator Yvonne Healy will teach storytelling and performing skills to teens and adults through a combination of theatre games and interactive exercises. For more information, visit www.YHealy.com. Funded in part by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and the Michigan Humanities Council.

Storytelling: A Panel Discussion with Media Experts

La-Z-Boy Center Atrium

7 p.m.

Join story tellers from television, novels, newspapers, blogs and more for a discussion on how to tell stories that make a difference. Moderated by Dan Shaw, assistant professor of humanities and journalism at MCCC and hosted by the college's student newspaper, The Agora.

April 3

Survivor Stories

Navarre Branch Library

The community is invited to test survival skills and share amazing stories. Children ages 8 and up are welcome to attend. Participants must register by calling (734) 241-5577 or going online.

Film Screening and Discussion: "Magnolia"

6 p.m.

Ellis Library and Reference Center

In a single day in Los Angeles, a number of interconnected lives are changed forever as past deeds are lamented and strange forces loom in the air. Bill Reiser, Ellis Library branch manager, Monroe County Library System will moderate the viewing of this 1999 drama.

Film Screening and Discussion: "Islamic Art: Mirror of the Invisible World"

La-Z-Boy Center, Meyer Theater

7-9 p.m.

This 2012 documentary film takes audiences on an epic journey across nine countries and through 1,400 years of history. Narrated by Academy Award winning performer Susan Sarandon, this dazzling documentary reveals the variety and diversity of Islamic art. The Bridging Cultures Muslim Journeys is a project of the National Endowment for the Humanities, conducted in cooperation with the American Library Association. Support was provided by a grant from Carnegie Corporation of New York. Additional support for the arts and media components was provided by the Doris Duke Foundation for Islamic Art.

April 4

Book Discussion: "One Amazing Thing"

Bedford Branch Library

10:30 a.m.

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Survivor Stories

Dundee Branch Library

1 p.m.

The community is invited to test survival skills and share amazing stories. Children ages 8 and up are welcome to attend. Participants must register by calling (734) 529-3310 or by going online.

April 5

Share Your Story: Bring Your One Amazing Artifact

1-4 p.m.

Monroe County Historical Museum

The Monroe County Historical Museum and Edmund La Clair, assistant professor of history at MCCC invites you to bring an object of importance to you, your family or community. Museum staff will help you write a description of your “One Amazing Thing” and put it on display at the museum.

April 9

Poetry and Storytelling Night

7 p.m.

Monroe County Community College

Campbell Learning Resources Center, Room 8

Join the Monroe County community College Writing Fellows and share your favorite poem or tell your favorite story. Prizes will be awarded to the best readers and storytellers.

April 10

Film Screening and Discussion: “A Passage to India”

6 p.m.

Ellis Library and Reference Center

“A Passage to India,” director David Lean's final film, is set in colonial India in 1924. It won Academy Awards in 1985 for Best Supporting Actress (Peggy Ashcroft) and Best Original Score (Maurice Jarre). Dr. Bill McCloskey, professor of English at MCCC, will moderate the screening.

April 11

Book Discussion: “One Amazing Thing”

6:30 p.m.

Ida Branch Library

April 12

Closing Event: Indian / Asian Buffet

5 p.m.

Monroe County Community College

Warrick Student Services/Administration Building, Dining Room

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The MCCC Culinary Arts students will prepare a lavish buffet of authentic Indian/Asian dishes. Tickets are \$20 and are available at the MCCC Cashier's Office or by calling 734-384-4231.

April 16

Book Discussion: "One Amazing Thing"

6:30 p.m.

Rasey Memorial Library in Luna Pier

"One Amazing Thing" is available locally at any Monroe County Library System branch location in print, audio and e-book formats. It is available for purchase at Book Nook, Books-A-Million and the MCCC Bookstore.

Founding partners of One Book, One Community of Monroe County include Monroe County Community College, The Foundation at Monroe County Community College, Monroe County Library System and Monroe Publishing Company - Monroe Evening News.

Major sponsors for One Book, One Community 2013 are Community Foundation of Southeast Michigan, Education Plus Credit Union, Books-A-Million, Eastern Michigan University and Siena Heights University.

Supporters include The Agora, The Book Nook, Dr. Dave and Judy Nixon, Dr. and Mrs. Mark Naber, Diversity Committee of Monroe County Community College, Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, Michigan Humanities Council, Monroe County Community College Student Government and Monroe County Historical Museum.

Educational partners include Airport High School, Meadow Montessori School, Monroe High School, Monroe County Middle College, St. Mary Catholic Central High School.

For more information on One Book One Community, visit www.monroeccc.edu/onebook.

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