



What is One Book, One Community?

Each year, the *One Book, One Community (OBOC) of Monroe County* selection committee chooses a readily available and discussable book written by a major author. Monroe County residents are invited to read the same book and discuss it through a series of free programs every spring.

OBOC events feature book discussions and free, county-wide community activities related to the themes raised by provocative and inspiring stories. This year's program will take place March 17–April 11, 2014.

Author Visit March 26, 2014

Grande will visit the Monroe County Community College (MCCC) Campus on March 26, 2014. She will be meeting with students during the day. Afternoon and evening events include a VIP reception hosted by the OBOC committee and a public book signing and author presentation to be held in the MCCC La-Z-Boy Meyer Theater. The discussion and book signing are free and open to the public.

Who is Reyna Grande?

Reyna Grande is the author of two critically acclaimed novels, *Across a Hundred Mountains* (2006) and *Dancing with Butterflies* (2009). In her most recent work, *The Distance Between Us* (2012) Grande reveals her troubled and triumphant story about life as an illegal immigrant in a heartfelt memoir.

Grande was the recipient of the 2006 El Premio Aztlán Literary Award, 2007 American Book Award, and a 2010 International Latino Book Award. She holds a B.A. and an M.F.A. in creative writing. An active promoter of Latino literature, Grande has worked as program coordinator for book festivals, has served as a judge for literary awards, and has been teaching creative writing workshops in the Los Angeles area. She lives in Whittier, CA with her husband, son, and daughter



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Book and Author Selection for 2014

The Distance Between Us is a memoir by Reyna Grande. Born in Mexico, Grande was raised by her grandparents when her parents left to find work in the U.S. At nine years old, Grande entered the U.S. as an undocumented immigrant.

Filled with hope, she quickly realized that life in America was far from perfect. Failed dreams, her father's alcoholism, and his violent altercations pushed Reyna to find refuge in books and writing. Grande became the first person in her family to earn a college degree.

Donor/Sponsor Requests

The *One Book, One Community* project is looking for sponsors and reading partners for 2014. Sponsors will help offset costs associated with programming, school book purchases, and travel for our author visit. Reading partners would host book discussions within their group, business, church, or school.

Contact Eric Slough,
Coordinator of Grants and
Major Gifts, 734.384.4111
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