



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

## San Diego Public Library

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **CENTRAL LIBRARY HOSTS PRESENTATION ON FILIPINO NURSES**

*Filipino Nurses Make Vital Contributions to U.S. Healthcare*

**San Diego, CA...** The San Diego Public Library and the Philippine Nurses Association of San Diego (PNASD), in conjunction with the annual *One Book, One San Diego* county-wide reading campaign, present *So Very Many Swing Shifts: Filipina Nursing Migration & My Mother* by Professor Jason Magabo Perez on Tuesday, November 18 at 6:30 p.m. in the Shiley Special Events Suite at the San Diego Central Library @ Joan A Irwin Jacobs Common, located at 330 Park Blvd in downtown San Diego. *Monstress*, the 2014 *One Book* selection by rising literary star Lysley Tenorio, is a book of vibrant Filipino-American life and quirky short stories set amongst Filipino American communities in California and the Philippines.

In this compelling presentation, Professor Perez reflects on the life of his mother, Leonora M. Perez, a Filipina migrant nurse who in 1976, along with another Filipina nurse, was wrongly accused by the FBI of murder. Part history lecture on the Filipino nurse in America, part multimedia storytelling, this talk explores themes of colonialism, violence and the Filipino American family. Filipino American nurses make vital contributions and have become an integral part of the U.S. healthcare system. In California where the Filipino population is about 6 percent of the population, 20 percent of all registered nurses are Filipino or Filipino Americans.

The Philippine Nurses Association of San Diego is a non-profit organization that promotes the professional and personal growth of its members, facilitates the interpretation of nursing standards and practices, collaborates with other organizations and community leaders on health related issues. PNASD strives to maintain Filipino nurses' image of excellence and performance by actively participating in activities and programs that promote and enhance professionalism amongst its members and in the nursing profession as a whole. Visit them at: <http://pnasd.org/>.

Professor Perez is a writer, performer, and educator. A recipient of a Challenge America Grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, Perez has performed at the National Asian American Theater Festival, the International Conference of the Philippines, and at various venues including the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, Asian Art Museum and La Jolla Playhouse. He has taught writing, performance, and ethnic studies at various colleges in San Diego. Currently, Perez is the

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Teaching-Artist-in-Residence at the Center for Awareness, Service and Action at the University of San Diego, where he is developing collaborative, community-based archival and curricular project.

*One Book, One San Diego* is an eight-year-old partnership between KPBS, San Diego Public Library, and San Diego County Library designed to bring the community together through a shared experience of reading and discussing the same book. *One Book* is made possible by the Linden Root Dickinson Foundation, Lloyd Pest Control, the Cubic Corporation, the Henry Fox Foundation, and the San Diego Public Library Foundation.

Learn about *One Book, One San Diego* and other programs at the San Diego Public Library's Central Library and 35 branches, find links to numerous additional resources, or search for materials in the Library's catalog online at [www.sandiegolibrary.org](http://www.sandiegolibrary.org).

*Inspiring lifelong learning through connections to knowledge and each other*

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