



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO
MAYOR JERRY SANDERS

San Diego Public Library

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Award Winning Author, Tracy Kidder to Speak at Central Library

SAN DIEGO – The San Diego Public Library and KPBS in conjunction with San Diego State University's (SDSU) Common Experience and the *One Book, One San Diego* reading campaign will present a lecture and book signing by Tracy Kidder at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 11 in the 3rd floor auditorium of the Central Library, located at 820 E Street in downtown San Diego. This event is free to the Public.

Tracy Kidder is the author of *Mountains Beyond Mountains*, the book chosen by SDSU's Common Experience for its summer reading program. Kidder published *Mountains Beyond Mountains: The Quest of Dr Paul Farmer, A Man Who Would Cure The World* after a chance encounter with Paul Farmer. This powerful and inspiring book shows how one person can make a difference, as Kidder tells the true story of a gifted man who is in love with the world and has set out to do all he can to cure it.

At the center of *Mountains Beyond Mountains* stands Paul Farmer. Doctor, Harvard professor, renowned infectious-disease specialist, anthropologist, and recipient of a MacArthur "genius" grant. While he was in medical school, Farmer found his life's calling: to diagnose and cure infectious diseases and to bring the lifesaving tools of modern medicine to those who need them most. *Mountains Beyond Mountains* shows how radical change can be fostered in situations that seem insurmountable, and it also shows how a meaningful life can be created.

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Mountains Beyond Mountains takes us from Harvard to Haiti, Peru, Cuba, and Russia as Farmer changes minds and practices through his dedication to the philosophy that "the only real nation is humanity" - a philosophy that is embodied in the small public charity he founded, Partners In Health. He enlists the help of the Gates Foundation, George Soros, the U.N.'s World Health Organization, and others in his quest to cure the world. At the heart of this book is the example of a life based on hope, and on an understanding of the truth of the Haitian proverb "Beyond mountains there are mountains." As you solve one problem, another problem presents itself, and so you go on and try to solve that one too.

A primary, overarching goal of the San Diego State University Common Experience and the KPBS / San Diego Public Library One Book, One San Diego initiative is to promote sustained, multiple conversations on a common theme, both in and out of the classroom, in such a manner as to connect students, faculty, staff, and the broader community. This lecture is part of the conversation.

Learn about other events 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.

The City of San Diego Public Library – Your Link to the Past and Gateway to the Future

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