



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

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CONTACT: Lynn Whitehouse
(619) 236-5821

“Canicula: Snapshots of a Girlhood En La Frontera” By Norma Elia Cantu to be Discussed in Bilingual Book Series

Contemporary Latino Literature Reveals the Diverse Mexican American Experience

SAN DIEGO –Norma Elia Cantu’s novel “Canícula: Imágenes de una Niñez Fronteriza” (“Canicula: Snapshots of a Girlhood en la Frontera”), which chronicles of the coming of age of a Chicana in the U.S.-Mexico border towns of Laredo and Nuevo Laredo in the 1940s-60s and mixes actual snapshots with recreated memories, will be discussed as part of the “Historias! – Mexican/Mexican-American Literature” bilingual book series.

Readers will participate in a provocative discussion facilitated by Marta Gonzales, a Ph.D candidate in the Literature Department at the University of California, San Diego, at the session, which will take place on Monday, June 20 at 6:30 p.m. at the Linda Vista Branch Library, located at 2160 Ulric St.

This is the final installment of the four book discussion series, which explores the Mexican-American experience through the prism of contemporary Latino literature and invites the public to use literature as a catalyst for greater cross cultural understanding. The program is hosted by the City of San Diego Public Library and the Media Arts Center San Diego.

Participants who need copies of the books, available in either English or Spanish, may pick them up at the Linda Vista Branch, or call to have a copy sent to another City library.

The books selected in the series are evocative of events in an historical continuum that will give readers insight into how Latino writers have built off of each other stylistically. Previously discussed titles included “Peregrinos de Aztlán” (“Pilgrims in Aztlán”) by Miguel Mendez, “Dia de la Luna” (“Day of the Moon”) by Graciela Limón, and “El Camino a Tamazunchale” (“The Road to Tamazunchale”) by Ron Arias.

“Historias!” is a partnership between the San Diego Public Library and the Media Arts Center San Diego’s San Diego Latino Film Festival. This ongoing partnership consists of year-round book discussions, film screenings and youth digital story workshops in celebration of the Latino Experience.

“Historias!” is made possible by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act, administered in California by the state librarian.

For more information, call the Linda Vista Branch Library at (858) 573-1399 or visit the San Diego Public Library on the City’s Web site at <http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library/>.

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