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CITY OF DOWNEY



PRESS RELEASE

Downey City Library Receives California Reads Grant Award from Cal Humanities

Downey, CA, March 19, 2014: Cal Humanities has recently announced the 2014 California Reads grant awardees. The Downey City Library has been awarded \$5,000 for its "Veteran's Project." California Reads is a new program of the Cal Humanities developed in partnership with the California Center for the Book and the California State Library. It invites Californians from all walks of life throughout the State to participate in reading and discussion programs, and related activities hosted by Libraries. This year's theme is *War Comes Home*.

In 2014, the Downey City Library will be reaching out to Veterans and current service members, the civilian population, and children enrolled in local schools in order to provide opportunities to build intergenerational connections between Veterans and the wider public. Activities will include a veteran-led reading for 4th and 5th grade students, followed by a student letter-writing and art project, a panel discussion on the experience of coming home from war, and a campaign in collaboration with local service organizations to provide books for deployed soldiers and veterans. Partners will include local VA representatives and local service clubs.

"This grant from Cal Humanities will provide a wonderful opportunity for our Library visitors to engage with our local Veterans and show appreciation for their service to our country. Thank you to our Downey City Library staff for their work in securing this grant and for helping promote and enhance our Library's reading programs," said Mayor Fernando Vasquez.

For more information on the upcoming activities, please call Claudia Dailey at (562) 904-7360, ext. 123. The Downey City Library is located at 11121 Brookshire Avenue.

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