EVERYBODY READS 2022
A community reading project of Multnomah County Library
Made possible by The Library Foundation

Celebrate our 20th annual Everybody Reads with Mira Jacob’s Good Talk: A Memoir in Conversations. Join us as we explore the power of books to create a stronger community.

WRAP

WELCOME TO THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF EVERYBODY READS! I HOPE YOU ENJOY READING THIS YEAR’S SELECTION, GOOD TALK, AND JOIN US AT AN EVENT TO CONNECT, DISCUSS, AND BE INSPIRED.

GET INVOLVED

Read.
Pick up a copy of Good Talk: A Memoir in Conversations from your neighborhood library (while supplies last). Check out a readily available copy of the e-book or downloadable audio-book.
Made possible by The Library Foundation.

ABOUT THE BOOK

Good Talk is the first-ever graphic memoir selected for Everybody Reads. Graphic memoir uses illustration to tell the author’s story. Against the backdrop of the 2016 presidential election, Jacob shares how her interracial family grappled with the changing political and social landscape of America after September 11, 2001. Both funny and revealing, Jacob explores what it means to be a parent, a partner, a child and a friend in an America divided by race and politics.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Mira Jacob is a novelist, memoirist, illustrator, and cultural critic. Good Talk: A Memoir in Conversations was shortlisted for the National Book Critics Circle Award, and named a New York Times Notable Book.

Her novel The Sleepwalker’s Guide to Dancing was named one of the best books of 2014 by Kirkus Reviews and Goodreads, among others. Her work has appeared in The New York Times, Book Review, Tin House, Literary Hub, Vogue and the Telegraph.

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Thanks to Third Eye Books, Broadway Books, Powell’s Books and Portland area Barnes & Noble stores, where you can purchase a discounted copy of the book.

Multnomah County Library

Celebrating 20 years of Everybody Reads
How to Read a Comic
Thu., Jan. 6, 6–7:30 pm
Have you ever looked at a comic book or graphic novel and thought, “where do I start?”
Join Jason Levitan of Floating World Comics along with librarians Alicia Tate and Laural Winter for a crash course in getting the most out of comic books, graphic novels and graphic memoir. You’ll come away with a new appreciation for the form along with suggestions for new titles to explore.

Drawing Conversations: A Workshop with Mira Jacob
Thu., Jan. 20, 6–7:30 pm
Many of us are feeling the impact of political and ideological division, within our families, within our communities, within our nation. How can creativity help us to understand ourselves and others?
Mira Jacob was inspired to draw the memoir, Jacob’s young son is obsessed with Michael Jackson. If you’d like to learn some new moves, join DJ Prashant and Brittany in a dance mashup of Thriller, Bollywood-style. This class will be held online, so there’s no need to be shy about your dancing abilities.

Learn to Dance Thriller — Bollywood-style
Sat., Jan. 22, 2–3:30 pm
In the memoir, Jacob’s young son is obsessed with Michael Jackson. If you’d like to learn some new moves, join DJ Prashant and Brittany in a dance mashup of Thriller, Bollywood-style. This class will be held online, so there’s no need to be shy about your dancing abilities.

Discuss Good Talk: A Memoir in Conversations
Wed., Jan. 26, 7–8 pm
Join us for a facilitated conversation around Mira Jacob’s Good Talk: A Memoir in Conversations. Gatherings will involve a short reading followed by discussion.

Can We Get Along? Examining Our Personal Experiences of Connection and Community, with Chisao Hata
Tue., Feb. 1, 6–7:30 pm
Even after decades of social justice movements, Rodney King’s iconic question still resonates. In a society so divided, how can we connect to one another? How do our personal experiences contribute to barriers, or have the potential to break them down? We’ll examine individual questions of race and cultural values to understand what separates us and what brings us together.

I Am an American: Stories of Exclusion and Belonging
Thu., Feb. 10, 6:30–7:30 pm
Oregon is home to a vibrant, multicultural Asian community with more than 40 ethnic and cultural identities in Portland alone. At a time when America is grappling with racial and ethnic inequities, it’s more important than ever to hear the untold stories of our community and look beyond what meets the eye.
Sankar Raman, the founder of The Immigrant Story, believes that we can build empathy for one another through storytelling, leading to a society where everyone is valued and included, no matter where we are from. Join us for an evening of stories and images of remarkable Oregonians, the places they built and what it meant to belong in their hometown.

Pick up a do-it-yourself Drawing Conversations zine at your local library in early February.

Jai Ho Dance Party — at your place!
Wed., Mar. 2, 6–7:30 pm
Dust off your dancing shoes for this joyful celebration of movement and dance led by the dynamic DJ Prashant. All abilities are welcome.

Multnomah County Library and Literary Arts present
AN EVENING WITH MIRA JACOB
Thursday, March 10 • 7:30–9 pm
Tickets and event information: literary-arts.org