

# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## YOUNG AUDITORIUM'S 2021 NEA BIG READ PROJECT – CLOSING EVENT

### Immigrant Story with Old World Wisconsin

***FREE Virtual Event – Saturday, May 1st | 10:00 a.m.***

April 21, 2021—Young Auditorium's 2021 Big Read project comes to a close with an important immigration-themed presentation courtesy of Old World Wisconsin. Especially fitting for this year's Big Read literary selection, *The Latehomecomer* by Kao Kalia Yang, let the team at Old World Wisconsin teach you and your family about the local immigration experiences... both past and present. Register today for a free presentation of 'Immigrant Story', Saturday, May 1<sup>st</sup> at 10:00a.m.

Why do people leave everything they know with only a few possessions to start a new life in Wisconsin? Historical and contemporary immigration stories help unpack this question as you explore immigration through an immigrant trunk, folk art, and firsthand accounts.

This program is being presented virtually in conjunction with Young Auditorium's 2021 NEA BIG READ. An Arts initiative in partnership with Arts Midwest, the NEA BIG READ seeks to broaden our understanding of our world, our communities, and ourselves through the joy of sharing a good book. This year's BIG READ novel, *The Latehomecomer* by Kao Kalia Yang, pays tribute to thousands of Hmong families made the journey from the war-torn jungles of Laos to the overcrowded refugee camps of Thailand and onward to America.

#### **TO REGISTER FOR THIS FREE VIRTUAL EVENT:**

Online registration forms for all BIG READ 2021 events can be found at <https://youngauditorium.wordpress.com/>. All registrants will receive an exclusive link to access the virtual presentation.

#### **A major thank you to our Big Read Event partners:**

<b>Hoard Historical Museum</b>	<b>The Book Teller</b>	<b>Rotary Botanical Gardens</b>	<b>Old World Wisconsin</b>
<b>Fairhaven Lecture Series</b>	<b>UW-Whitewater Children's Center</b>	<b>American Association of University Women</b>	<b>UW-Whitewater Philanthropy &amp; Alumni</b>

For information on all Young Auditorium BIG READ 2021 events, including details about the author and book selection, and a complete listing of community and library partners, please visit: [www.youngauditorium.wordpress.com](http://www.youngauditorium.wordpress.com).

*Established by Congress in 1965, the National Endowment for the Arts is the independent federal agency whose funding and support gives Americans the opportunity to participate in the arts, exercise their imaginations, and develop their creative capacities. Through partnerships with state arts agencies, local leaders, other federal agencies, and the philanthropic sector, the Arts Endowment supports arts learning, affirms and celebrates America's rich and diverse cultural heritage, and extends its work to promote equal access to the arts in every community across America. Visit [arts.gov](https://www.arts.gov) to learn more.*

*Arts Midwest promotes creativity, nurtures cultural leadership, and engages people in meaningful arts experiences, bringing vitality to Midwest communities and enriching people's lives. Based in Minneapolis, Arts Midwest connects the arts to audiences throughout the nine-state region of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin. One of six non-profit regional arts organizations in the United States, Arts Midwest's history spans more than 35 years. For more information, please visit [artsmidwest.org](https://www.artsmidwest.org).*

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