

## JOIN US IN THE BIG READ...A COMMUNITY READING EVENT

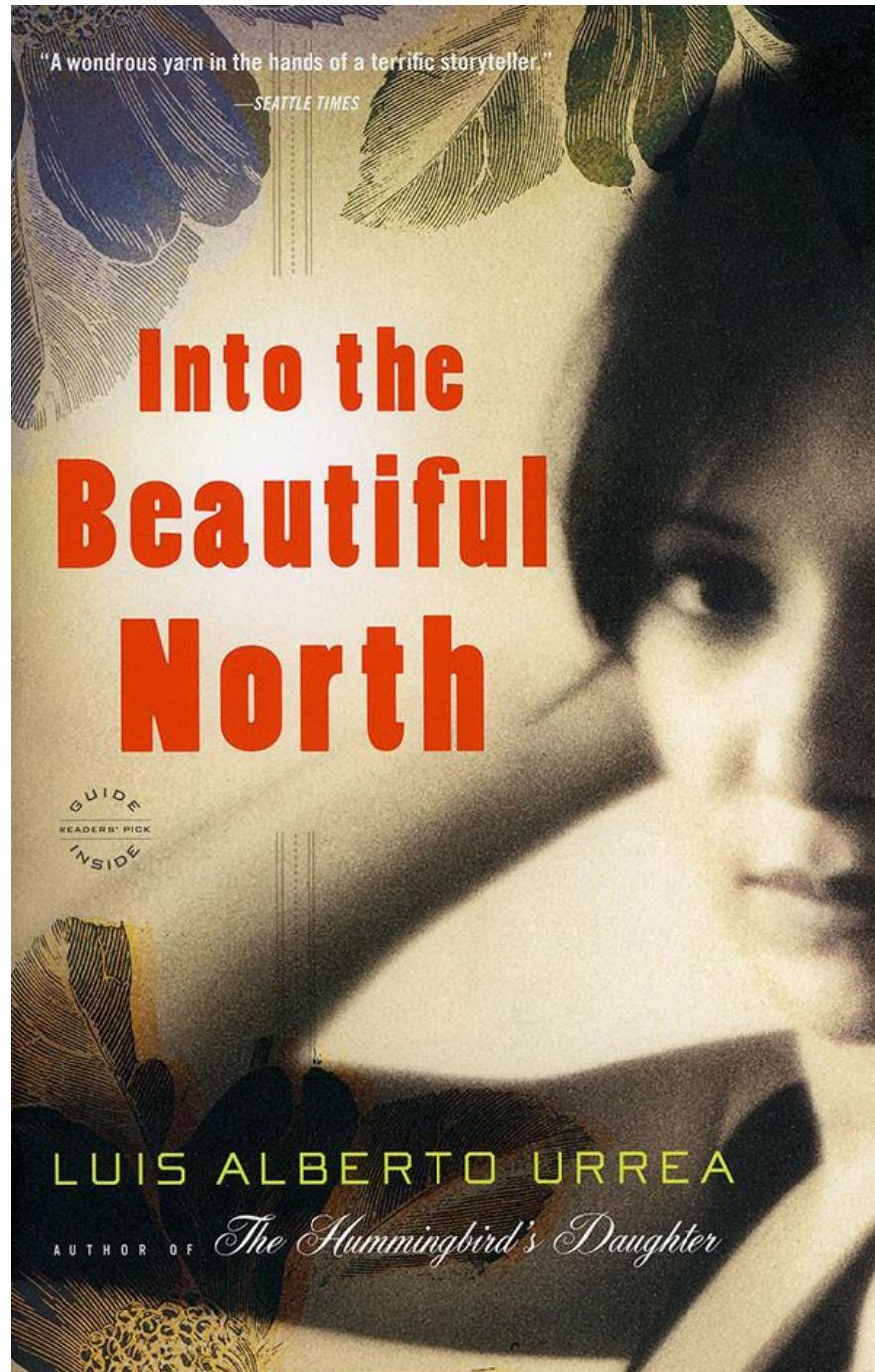
The Oceanside Public Library is the proud recipient of its 6th Big Read grant from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). The Big Read broadens our understanding of our world, our communities, and ourselves through the joy of sharing a good book. Through book discussions and book related programming, the Oceanside Public Library and the NEA Big Read aim to inspire conversation and discovery.

The Book selected for the 2020 Big Read is *Into the Beautiful North* by Luis Alberto Urrea. In the novel, an idealistic 19-year-old woman is inspired by the film *The Magnificent Seven* to travel from her home in Mexico to the United States to enlist seven men who've left her town to return and help protect it from drug-dealing banditos. Critics have called it a "wonderful comic satire," and said that "No great adventure is told without great characters, and Urrea certainly knows how to create them.... That Urrea has turned a usually disturbing subject into a book that keeps a smile on your face is a tribute to his storytelling."

From **March 1 to March 29**, the Oceanside community is invited to read and celebrate *Into the Beautiful North* with a full calendar of free, special events including a special Kickoff event at Oceanside Museum of Art, an evening with the author; book discussions; a panel discussion titled Heroic Journeys, the Immigrant experience at MiraCosta College; a theatrical reading of selections from the novel by Amigos Del Rep and much more. The Big Read finale at Oceanside Surf Bowl will celebrate bowling as it's featured in the book.

The Little Read, a companion to the Big Read geared for teens and children, will feature the book *The First Rule of Punk* by Celia C. Pérez.

NEA Big Read is a program of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest.



For more information on the Big Read in Oceanside, or any Oceanside Public Library programs, call 760-435-5600 or visit [www.oceansidepubliclibrary.org](http://www.oceansidepubliclibrary.org).