

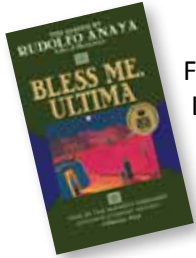
THE BIG
READ

FRESNO COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY PRESENTS

Bless Me, Ultima



APRIL 24-JUNE 2



Fresno County Public Library events featuring themes from *Bless Me, Ultima* by Rudolfo Anaya

“Around me the moonlight glittered on the pebbles of the llano, and in the night sky a million stars sparkled. Across the river I could see the twinkling lights of the town. In a week I would be returning to school, and as always I would be running up the goat path and crossing the bridge to go to church. Sometime in the future I would have to build my own dream out of those things that were so much a part of my childhood.”

SPECIAL EVENTS at Arte Américas

1630 Van Ness Avenue in Downtown Fresno

Read-a-thon

Local celebrities and elected officials will read *Bless Me, Ultima* aloud at Arte Américas Casa de Cultura.

April 24 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Día de los Niños

Día de los Niños event will feature Mariachis, folklorico, storytelling, crafts and activities.

April 27 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Photography Exhibit

Rituales de la Tierra y Espíritu - Rituals of the Land and Spirit photographs by Miguel Gandart

April – May



Jazz Inspired by *Bless Me, Ultima*

Jazz Fresno presents a musical performance by Les Nunes. Inspired by the novel.

Woodward Park Library April 16 at 7 p.m.

Dramatic Reading

Merlinda Espinosa, of Teatro de la Terra will do a dramatic reading from excerpts of *Bless Me, Ultima*. Live music will also be performed.

Fowler Library May 23 at 6:30 p.m.

Woodward Park Library May 5 at 2 p.m.

Chicano Poetry: Past and Future

The Chicano Writers and Artists Association's journal, *Flies, Cockroaches, and Poets* features many Valley writers. Three of these writers, Erin Alvarez, Steven Sanchez and Mia Barraza Martinez, will discuss the tradition, history and future of Chicano poetry and poets.

Gillis Library May 25 at 2 p.m.

Bless Me, Ultima Live Theater Performance

The California Public Theater Company brings the novel to life. Tickets are free from any Library branch.

Severance Theater May 3 & 4, 10 & 11 at 8 p.m.; May 5 & 12 at 2 p.m.

Día de los Niños Celebrations

Fun for the whole family with crafts, music, games and prizes.

Firebaugh Library May 18 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Selma Library May 25 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Tranquillity Library June 1 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Cooking Demonstration

Learn how to make homemade tortillas and salsa from Elsa Norris, owner of La Torta Restaurant.

Gillis Library May 4 1 p.m.

Sunnyside Library May 11 2 p.m.

Cinco de Mayo Celebration

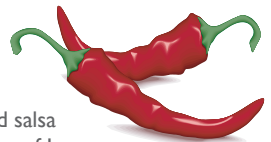
Celebrate with live music, a tortilla making demonstration, games, crafts and music.

Gillis Library May 4 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Tracing Your Spanish Roots

Tips and tricks about where to find information on searching for Spanish ancestry.

Central Library May 19 at 2 p.m.



Book Cover Display

Fresno State students reinterpret the novel's cover. All submissions are from the illustration class of local artist, illustrator, and Fresno State professor Doug Hansen.

Woodward Park Library April – June

The Life and Works of Rudolfo Anaya

University of California, Merced professor Manuel M. Martin-Rodriguez will discuss the life and works of the *Bless Me, Ultima* author.

Woodward Park Library April 26 at 6:30 p.m.

The Curandero and Holistic Health

Curanderos (traditional healers) discuss their approach to herbal medicines and holistic health.

Woodward Park Library May 11 at 2 p.m.

Garden of the Sun

Edible gardening tour.

1750 N. Winery

May 12 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.



UN SENTIDO DE LUGAR

CONNECTIONS WITH THE LANDSCAPE

“We walked together in the llano and along the river banks to gather herbs and roots for her medicines. She taught me the names of plants and flowers, of trees and bushes, of birds and animals; but most important, I learned from her that there was a beauty in the time of day and in the time of night, and that there was peace in the river and in the hills. She taught me to listen to the mystery of the groaning earth and to feel complete in the fulfillment of its time. My soul grew under her careful guidance.”

MORE PROGRAMS CONTINUED ON BACK



Los Angeles BUSTRIP • JUNE 2

Olvera Street is in the oldest part of Downtown Los Angeles, California, and is part of the El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historic Monument. Join us as we explore Olvera St. and the other culturally diverse neighborhoods nearby.

Register by May 15 by calling 600-6227; cost per person is \$35; no refunds after May 25. Departs from the Central Library at 7:30 a.m. Arrive in LA at 12 p.m. and depart at 5 p.m. Lunch on your own; snacks provided on the bus.

The Portrayal of Mexican Americans in Film

Retired Reedley College professor Paul Kaser leads the discussion.

Clovis Library May 19 at 2:30 p.m.

Owl Pellet Exploration

Curiosity isn't just for kids! Adults can dissect pellets to investigate the eating habits of owls. Many more kids-only owl pellet programs listed below.

Registration required; limit 30. Gloves and tweezers provided. Three people per pellet.

Fig Garden Library May 1 at 7 p.m.

Hike at Fine Gold Creek

Fine Gold Creek is spectacular in the spring! The Ben Ewell Family invites you to come and enjoy the wonder of this beautiful preserve on Open Preserve Day. Hike the new trail through shaded groves of oak that travels along the creek. Bring a picnic lunch or just sit and enjoy the sounds of the rippling water. Limited parking will be available near the creek; additional parking at the top and hike 1.5 miles down to the water.

Austin and Mary Ewell Preserve at Fine Gold Creek April 27 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Edible Plant Hike

Join the River Parkway Trust and nature walk guide John Pryor for a 2 mile round trip walk to Owl Hollow, learning about the medicinal, edible plants found along the San Joaquin River.

To register call 559-248-8480 ext.

101 or visit www.riverparkway.org.

San Joaquin River Parkway April 14 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.



Fishing on the Fly

Fishing expert and adventure guide Fred Ramirez shares tales of fly fishing the rivers of the Central Valley and New Mexico.

Fig Garden Library May 15 at 6:30 p.m.

Reedley Library May 22 at 5:30 p.m.

Clovis Botanical Garden Tour

Inspired by desert landscapes, the tour will focus on plant adaptations that use little water yet still thrive. For more information:

www.clovisbotanicalgarden.com.

Clovis Botanical Garden April 28 at 1 p.m.

Fresno Wildlife Rescue

Learn about Fresno Wildlife Rescue's resources and how they care for injured wildlife in this engaging talk that includes a visit from live animals.

Woodward Park Library May 19 at 1 p.m.

Book Discussions

Share your thoughts on *Bless Me, Ultima* with others who have read the book.

Kingsburg Library March 28 at 6:30 p.m.

Woodward Library April 18 at 7 p.m.

Orange Cove Library April 20 at 11 a.m.

Fig Garden Library April 21 at 2:30 p.m.

Reedley Library April 30 at 6 p.m.

Clovis Library May 1 at 7 p.m.

Fowler Library May 10 at 1 p.m.

Parlier Library May 11 at 11:30 a.m.

Auberry Library May 14 at 6:30 p.m.

Gillis Library May 15 at 2 p.m.

Politi Library May 24 at 9:30 a.m.

Just for Kids!

"When I was a child, I was taught my life's work by a wise old man. He gave me the owl and he said that the owl was my spirit, my bond to the time and harmony of the universe. My work was to do good. I was to heal the sick and show them the path of goodness."

Owl Pellet Exploration

Dissect owl pellets and see what they've been eating.

Registration required; limit 30.

Gloves and tweezers provided.

Three people per pellet.

Firebaugh Library May 4 at 12 p.m.

Sunnyside Library May 4 at 3 p.m.

Tranquillity Library May 7 at 3:30 p.m.

Pinedale Library May 9 at 3 p.m.

Mosqueda Library May 11 at 1 p.m.

Cedar Clinton Library May 11 at 2 p.m.

Woodward Park Library May 12 at 1 p.m.

Selma Library May 16 at 4 p.m.

Central Library May 21 at 3:30 p.m.



Living Things Presentation

Learn about our animal friends from Chaffee Zoo experts. Space is limited; first come, first served.

Sunnyside Library May 1 at 3:30 p.m.

Orange Cove Library May 4 at 11 a.m.

Gillis Library May 6 at 3:30 p.m.

West Fresno Library May 8 at 4 p.m.

Auberry Library May 9 at 3:30 p.m.

Caruthers Library May 13 at 3:30 p.m.

Firebaugh Library May 15 at 2:30 p.m.

Sanger Library May 23 at 3:30 p.m.

Owl pellets, living things, and paper flower programs are for kids grades K-6; Bilingual storytimes for 3-5 year olds.

Mexican Paper Flower

Create a beautiful flower from tissue paper.

Pinedale Library April 24 at 3 p.m.

Auberry Library April 25 at 4 p.m.

Sunnyside Library May 2 at 3:30 p.m.

Bear Mountain Library May 1 at 5 p.m.

Selma Library May 2 at 3:30 p.m.

Orange Cove Library May 8 at 4 p.m.

Gillis Library May 21 at 3:30 p.m.

Cedar Clinton Library May 9 at 3 p.m.

Bilingual Storytimes

Auberry Library April 24 at 10:30 a.m.

Central Library April 29, May 4, May 13, May 18 at 1 p.m.

Bear Mountain Library May 1 at 10 a.m.

Selma Library May 9 at 10:30 a.m.

West Fresno Library May 11 at 1 p.m.

NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE ARTS



THE BIG
READ



FRESNO COUNTY PUBLIC
LIBRARY

559-600-6227
www.fresnolibrary.org

The Big Read is an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Service and Arts Midwest.

THANK YOU TO OUR BIG READ SPONSORS
Arte Americas, Jazz Fresno, KYNO 1300, Univision 21, Vida en el Valle, Arne Nixon Center & Henry Madden Library at CSUF, California Public Theater, Fresno Chaffee Zoo, Fresno Unified School District, Radio Bilingue, Roxie Varadian Trust, San Joaquin River Parkway, Sierra Foothill Conservancy.

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