



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ACCLAIMED AUTHOR REYNA GRANDE TO PRESENT AT ALL HENRICO READS 2018

Henrico County Public Library, Henrico County Public Schools, and the Friends of Henrico County Public Library will host award-winning author and motivational speaker Reyna Grande for the 2018 All Henrico Reads author event, to be held April 11, 2018 at 7pm at Glen Allen High School. All Henrico Reads is an annual reading program that encourages the Henrico community to read the same book, then discuss it together—whether at Henrico Library book discussion groups, or on their own—and join us to hear the author speak at a public event. By bringing people together over a common topic, All Henrico Reads aims to encourage a sense of community, promote literacy, and foster a love for the connecting power of literature.

Grande's memoir *The Distance Between Us* is this year's featured title, and will be available for sale from BBGB booksellers at the event. *The Distance Between Us* "captivates and inspires" (*Publisher's Weekly*) with an unflinching look at the author's difficult youth, before and after she immigrated to the United States from Mexico.

The Distance Between Us recounts Grande's childhood growing up in extreme poverty in Mexico. After her parents leave to pursue opportunities in the U.S., Reyna and her siblings are left with an uncaring family member. At age nine, she enters the U.S. as an undocumented immigrant, joining her father. She soon realizes that her new life in America will be far harder than she imagined, as she navigates challenging family relationships, pursues higher education, and attains U.S. citizenship.

The memoir has received widespread critical acclaim, and was a finalist for the prestigious 2012 National Book Critics Circle Award. Grande has also received the Luis Leal Award for Distinction in Chicano/Latino Literature, the 2010 International Latino Book Award, the American Book Award, and El Premio Aztlán Literary Award, among many others, in her distinguished career.

The Distance Between Us is a difficult but ultimately inspiring read, "a book that deserves to be

celebrated for its candor and for the courage of the woman who overcame so many obstacles to write it." (*Los Angeles Times*) The author event promises to be an engaging and thought-provoking experience for the Henrico community.

Praise for *The Distance Between Us*

"...the *Angela's Ashes* of the modern Mexican immigrant experience." – *Los Angeles Times*

"An important piece of America's immigrant history." – *BookPage*

"Accomplishes one of the great things books can do: make an abstract idea real." – *Christian Science Monitor*

"A deeply personal coming-of-age story that extols the power of self-reliance and the love of books." – *Los Angeles Review of Books*

"A standout immigrant coming-of-age story." – *Kirkus Reviews*

For more information about this topic, please visit henricolibrary.org/ahr

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