

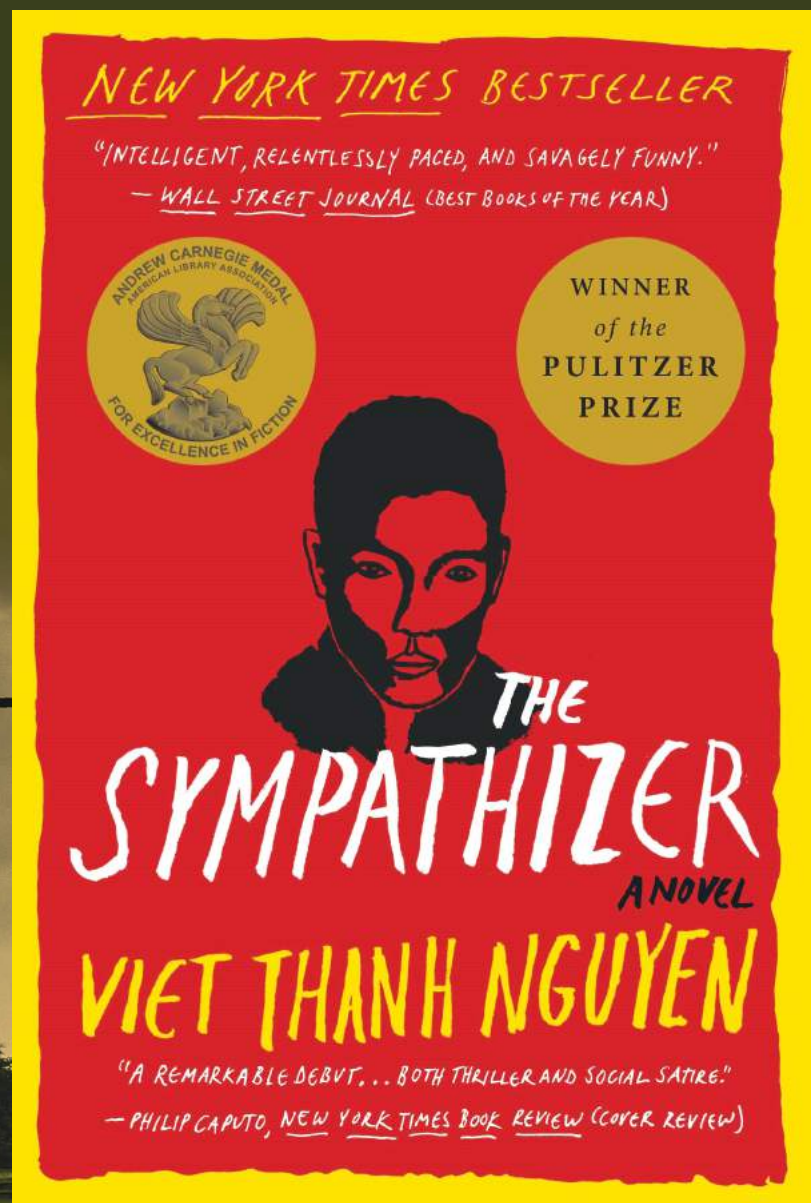


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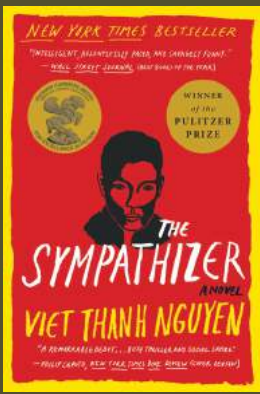
# ONE CITY, ONE STORY

**March 2017**

Pasadena Public Library is pleased to introduce its 2017 One City, One Story selection, *The Sympathizer*, by author Viet Thanh Nguyen. Now in its 15th year, One City, One Story is designed to broaden and deepen an appreciation of reading and literature by recommending a compelling book that links the community in a common conversation on important issues.



[www.onecityonestory.com](http://www.onecityonestory.com)



## About the Book

Chosen from a field of thought-provoking nominees, the book selection for Pasadena's 15th One City, One Story community reading celebration is *The Sympathizer*, by author Viet Thanh Nguyen.

The winner of the 2016 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction, as well as five other awards, *The Sympathizer* is the breakthrough novel of the year. With the pace and suspense of a thriller and prose that has been compared to Graham Greene and Saul Bellow, *The Sympathizer* is a sweeping story of love and betrayal. The narrator, a communist double agent, is a "man of two minds," a half-French, half-Vietnamese army captain who arranges to come to

America after the Fall of Saigon. While building a new life with other Vietnamese refugees in Los Angeles, he is secretly reporting back to his communist superiors in Vietnam. *The Sympathizer* is a blistering exploration of identity and America, a gripping espionage novel, and a powerful story of love and friendship.



## About the Author

Viet Thanh Nguyen was born in Vietnam and raised in America. His stories have appeared in *Best New American Voice*, *TriQuarterly*, *Narrative* and the *Chicago Tribune*, and he is the author of the academic book *Race and Resistance* and the nonfiction book *Nothing Ever Dies: Vietnam and the Memory of War* and his new book, *The Refugees*, published Feb. 7, 2017. Nguyen teaches English and American Studies at the University of Southern California and lives in Los Angeles.



## A Message from the Mayor

"One City, One Story has become an enduring tradition in Pasadena because it speaks to several aspects of our community character; love of the written word and the desire to discuss varied points of view.

Congratulations to those who have worked so hard to continue this tradition and I hope that many of our residents will continue to participate."

~ Mayor Terry Tornek



## A Message from the Library Director

"This year celebrates the 15th anniversary of One City, One Story with a fascinating novel, *The Sympathizer* by Viet Thanh Nguyen. He provides a new perspective on the Vietnam War, one in sharp contrast to that portrayed by Hollywood. We hope that you will enjoy *The Sympathizer* and plan on attending the Conversation with the Author on March 2 at All Saints Church."

~ Michelle Perera, Pasadena Public Library Director



All of the following One City, One Story events are open to the public and free of charge.

Nguyen's novel is available for check-out in book, large type and eBook format at all Pasadena Public Libraries, and for sale at local bookstores.

# Conversation with Author Viet Thanh Nguyen

Nguyen will join Pasadena Public Library Director Michelle Perera to discuss his experiences writing *The Sympathizer*. A question and answer session with the audience will immediately follow. Nguyen's books will be available for sale and signing following the program.

**Thursday, March 2 • 7 p.m.**  
All Saints Church, Sanctuary  
132 N. Euclid Ave. • Pasadena

Event parking is available in surrounding facilities. All parking is fee-based.

## Exhibits

**Central Library • 285 E. Walnut St.**

**An Artist's Vietnamese American Journey**  
Presented by artist Trinh Mai, Artist-in-Residence for the University of California, Irvine's Vietnamese American Oral History Project.  
North Entry

## The Sympathizer Community Book Discussions

Take part in one or all of these community discussions centered on our One City, One Story book selection.

**Pasadena Readers Book Club**  
Saturday, March 4 • 3:30 p.m.  
Central Library/Studio on 4th • 285 E. Walnut St.

**Book Chit Chat**  
Tuesday, March 7 • 6:30 p.m.  
Hastings Branch Library • 3325 E. Orange Grove Blvd.

**Allendale Book Discussion Group**  
Saturday, March 11 • 10:30 a.m.  
Allendale Branch Library • 1130 S. Marengo Ave.

**Hill Avenue Book Discussion Group**  
Saturday, March 11 • 10:30 a.m.  
Hill Avenue Branch Library • 55 S. Hill Ave.

**La Pintesca Branch Library**  
Saturday, March 18 • 10 a.m. • 1355 N. Raymond Ave.

**West Pasadena Book Discussion Group**  
*The Pasadena Area Liberal Arts Center (PALAC) will be joining in the discussion as well.*  
Saturday, March 25 • 11 a.m.  
San Rafael Branch Library • 1281 Bryant St.

**Great Literature & Discussion Group**  
Monday, March 27 • 11 a.m.  
Lamanda Park Branch Library • 140 S. Altadena Dr.

# Film Series

## March Films

This month's film selections complement and expand on the themes of the 2017 One City, One Story selection, *The Sympathizer*.

Central Library/Donald Wright Auditorium • 285 E. Walnut St.

## WEDNESDAYS

Presented by The Friends of The Pasadena Public Library

### March 1 • 1:30 p.m. • *The Scent of Green Papaya* (1993) NR

Little things mean a lot in the world of 10-year-old Mui, a girl who's trained to be a house servant in 1950s Vietnam. As Mui grows up in pre-war Saigon and finds quiet love with a family friend, this film celebrates the senses, as the young girl discovers the world around her and marvels at every new sight, sound and scent she experiences while going about her workday life.

### March 8 • 1 p.m. • *Good Morning, Vietnam* (1987) R

When his manic radio show proves a huge morale-booster, Armed Forces Radio disc jockey Adrian Cronauer gets sent to Vietnam, where his monkey-shines -- lampooning any and all sacred cows -- tickle the troops but land him in trouble with his superiors.

### March 15 • 1 p.m. • *The Children of An Lac* (1980) NR

In April 1975, as American forces prepare to withdraw from Saigon, three women come together to rescue orphaned Vietnamese children and fly them to the United States before communist forces take over the city. While convincing the government to let them use a military plane to carry children, they race against time as chaos overtakes the city.

### March 22 • 1 p.m. • *A Healing, A Journey Back to Vietnam* (1997) NR

Chronicles the 1995 visit to Vietnam of a group of 100 American women who served there during the Vietnam War, including former military nurses and civilian aid, charity and relief workers. As they tour Hanoi, Saigon and former American bases, the film records the women's reminiscences about the war, their service, and their reactions to the Vietnam of today.

### March 29 • 1 p.m. • *Owl and the Sparrow* (2007) PG

After angering her stern uncle, 10-year-old Thuy runs away and lands on the tough streets of Saigon. There, she befriends shy zookeeper Hai and flight attendant Lan. Dreaming of a new family, Thuy plays matchmaker to bring the two together. Meanwhile, Thuy's furious uncle tracks her through the city.

## THURSDAYS

### March 16 • 6:30 pm • *Last Days in Vietnam* (2014) NR

This documentary recounts the Vietnam War's final days, when unexpected roadblocks threatened the evacuation of America's South Vietnamese allies. Witnesses and rare footage reveal the heroism and sacrifice that played out amid the chaos.

### March 23 • 7 p.m. • *Remembering Vietnam: The Wall at 25* (2007) NR

This documentary chronicles the controversy surrounding the Vietnam Memorial's construction and touches on the history of the polarizing war that inspired it. Fueled by the vision of Vietnam veteran Jan Scruggs and brought to life by designer Maya Lin, the memorial would become the nation's most visited monument. But its success was a hard-fought victory.

### March 30 • 6:30 p.m. • *REUNIFICATION* (2015) NR

This deeply personal film by filmmaker Alvin Tsang gives an insider view on the contemporary Asian-American immigrant experience, divorce and family psychology. Part of the film was shot in Monterey Park. (English and Chinese subtitles)

## One City, One Story Art & Writing Contests

For students grades 3 – 12.

Inspired by the 2017 One City, One Story selection, *The Sympathizer* by Viet Thanh Nguyen.

Entry forms can be picked up at any Pasadena Public Library or printed at:  
<http://www5.cityofpasadena.net/library/kids-info/> or  
<http://www5.cityofpasadena.net/library/teens/>

# Events

## Author Experiences

Viet Thanh Nguyen will share his experiences as an author with college students, followed by a question and answer session. Nguyen's books will be available for sale and signing following the program.

**Thursday, March 2 • 11 a.m.** • Pasadena City College, Creveling Lounge (Campus Center), 1570 East Colorado Blvd.

## Write Your Own One City, One Story Workshop

Discover techniques for writing your own One City, One Story with Laurie Richards, a lawyer and current writing instructor for the Extended Learning Institute at the California State University, San Marcos, who turned her analytical skills to the craft of writing. She has served as a director of the San Diego Writers and Editors Guild and judge of the San Diego Book Awards.

**Saturday, March 4 • 1 p.m.** • Central Library/Studio on 4th • 285 E. Walnut St.

## COMMUNITY PANEL

### An American War Comes Home: Wars' Impact On Communities

The Vietnam War known as the Second Indochina War and in Vietnam as the Resistance War Against America or simply the American War took place from Nov. 1, 1955 to the fall of Saigon on April 30, 1975. Its impacts were felt not only throughout Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia but also in the U.S.

Join us for a panel discussion of the wars' impact on America moderated by **Larry Wilson**, Columnist and Editorial Writer for *Pasadena Star-News*. Featuring panelists: **Daniel D. Lee, Ph.D.**, Director of Asian American Center and Adjunct Assistant Professor of Asian American Ministry, Fuller Theological Seminary; **Fiorante Peter Ibanez**, Adjunct Professor of Asian Pacific American Studies at Loyola Marymount University and Pasadena City College; **Tomas Summers Sandoval**, author and Associate Professor, Chicana/o-Latina/o Histories, Pomona College; and **Jervey Tervalon**, author, Executive Director of Literature for Life/Locavore Lit, and fiction writing at the College of Creative Studies at UC Santa Barbara.

**Thursday, March 9 • 7 p.m.** • Central Library/Donald Wright Auditorium  
285 E. Walnut St.

## My City, My Story

A photo-montage/collage workshop incorporating images and words that describe personal interests, views, experiences, contributions, concerns, etc. that relate to One City, One Story.

**Thursday, March 9 • 7 p.m.** • Hastings Branch Library • 3325 E. Orange Grove Blvd.

## One City, One Story Cultural Afternoon

**Saturday, March 18 • 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m.** • Central Library • 285 E. Walnut St.

### Donald Wright Auditorium

11 a.m. • Trinh Mai: An Artist's Vietnamese American Journey  
Mai's work is driven by innovative narratives of storytelling. She uses visual arts language to tell the stories of Vietnamese Americans.

12:45 p.m. • Announcement of the 2017 One City, One Story Art & Writing Contest winners

1 p.m. • Ane Thanh Lion Dance

1:30–2:15 p.m. • Vietnamese Folktales  
Storyteller Barbara Wong enthralled you with legends and folklore from Vietnamese culture and traditions.

### 2:30-3:30 p.m. • *Communion: A Culinary Journey Through Vietnam*

Author Kim Fay takes you on a journey from North to South Vietnam as she shares her traveling adventures and culinary discoveries. Books will be available for sale and signing following the program.

3:45–4:30 p.m. • Jonathan Gold's 7 Picks for Vietnamese Cuisine  
LA Times Food Editor Jonathan Gold shares his list of favorite Vietnamese eateries.

### Great Hall

2:30–4 p.m. • Family Crafts

Make a dragon and create a Year of the Rooster keepsake.

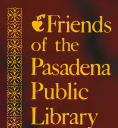
### A Basket Full of Stories

Flights of Fantasy storytellers Lorrie Oshatz and Theresa Amy bring folktales from Vietnam to life using a variety of engaging props and costumes. This unique interactive storytelling experience is sure to captivate any audience from kindergartners to grandparents. So bring the family! Join the fun and share the laughter!

**Thursday, March 23 • 3:30 p.m.** • Santa Catalina Branch Library  
999 E. Washington Blvd.

# ONE CITY, ONE STORY Events March 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26	27	28	<b>1 1:30 p.m.</b> <i>The Scent of Green Papaya</i> Central Library/ Donald Wright Auditorium	<b>2 11 a.m.</b> Author Experiences Pasadena City College, Creveling Lounge  <b>7 p.m.</b> Conversation with author Viet Thanh Nguyen All Saints Church, Sanctuary	3	<b>4 1 p.m.</b> Write Your Own One City, One Story Workshop Central Library/Studio on 4th  <b>3:30 p.m.</b> Book Discussion Central Library/Studio on 4th
5	6	<b>7 6:30 p.m.</b> Book Discussion Hastings Branch Library	<b>8 1 p.m.</b> <i>Good Morning, Vietnam</i> Central Library/ Donald Wright Auditorium	<b>9 7 p.m.</b> Community Panel: An American War Comes Home: Wars' Impact on Communities Central Library/ Donald Wright Auditorium  My City, My Story Hastings Branch Library	10	<b>11 10:30 a.m.</b> Book Discussion Allendale Branch Library  Book Discussion Hill Avenue Branch Library
12	13	14	<b>15 1 p.m.</b> <i>The Children of An Lac</i> Central Library/ Donald Wright Auditorium	<b>16 6:30 p.m.</b> <i>Last Days in Vietnam</i> Central Library/ Donald Wright Auditorium	17	<b>18 10 a.m.</b> Book Discussion La Pintoresca Branch Library  <b>11 a.m.-4:30 p.m.</b> One City, One Story Cultural Afternoon Central Library/ Donald Wright Auditorium
19	20	21	<b>22 1 p.m.</b> <i>A Healing, A Journey Back to Vietnam</i> Central Library/ Donald Wright Auditorium	<b>23 3:30 p.m.</b> Vietnamese Story Hour Santa Catalina Branch Library  <b>7 p.m.</b> <i>Remembering Vietnam: The Wall at 25</i> Central Library/ Donald Wright Auditorium	24	<b>25 10 a.m.</b> Book Discussion San Rafael Branch Library
26	<b>27 11 a.m.</b> Book Discussion Lamanda Park Branch Library	28	<b>29 1 p.m.</b> <i>Owl and the Sparrow</i> Central Library/ Donald Wright Auditorium	<b>30 6:30 p.m.</b> REUNIFICATION Central Library/ Donald Wright Auditorium	31	



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