Famed author will attend reception, speak at CSUB

A
cclaimed author Victor Villaseñor will meet with invited guests during a reception in Stiern Library prior to his speaking engagement in the Icardo Center on Tuesday, November 9. All Stiern Associates are invited to join him in the December Reading Room from 3:30 to 5.

Villaseñor is the author of the best-selling memoir, Burro Genius, this year’s CSUB Runner Reader and the selection for the Kern County Library’s One Book/One Kern program. It is the first time that CSUB’s First-Year Experience Program and One Book/One Kern program have partnered together on a book. The Runner Reader allows all incoming freshmen to read and share a book as part of an initial learning experience, while the Kern County program focuses attention countywide on a particular work through programs and discussions.

A number of events have been planned to support the programs and generate interest in the book, including art exhibits, a history forum, panel discussions, dramatic readings, and a symposium of Latino writers. The events will take place in the two months prior to the author’s arrival. Many of the events will coincide with Hispanic Heritage Month (September 15-October 15).

Villaseñor endured over 200 rejections before his first novel, Macho!, was published to critical acclaim in 1973. One critic compared his writing to that of John Steinbeck. He has produced a body of bestselling fiction and nonfiction, including Rain of Gold and Wild Steps of Heaven. He also wrote the screenplay for the 1982 film, The Ballad of Gregorio Cortez, starring Edward James Olmos, which dramatized a famous border corrido, Burro Genius, which was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize and is a memoir about the difficulties the author faced growing up in rural Southern California. After the reception, “An Evening with Victor Villaseñor” will be held at 7 p.m. in the Icardo Center, where the author will speak, answer questions, and sign books. “An Evening with Victor Villaseñor” is open to the public, and is co-sponsored by the Roadrunner Rush-A Program, Associated Students, the English Department and Sigma Tau Delta.
**FLICS offers legacy gift in late librarian's name**

David Kosakowski’s friends at the local foreign-language film society wanted to do something to remember the longtime librarian, who died of cancer in March.

His fellow board members at the FLICS film society donated $2,500 to the library to fund foreign film purchases and books about film, connecting David’s legacy and love of film to a gift to the library.

“There is no better way to remember a person than to share the things they care about,” said Library Dean Rod Hersberger. “David cared about film and the library and FLICS offered a lasting gift in his name that honored both.”

Legacy gifts offer friends and family members a means of leaving a lasting tribute that can be shared by the CSUB community for years to come.

“Think about the way even a relatively small cash gift in someone’s memory can make a positive impact on the students here. That donation is shared time and time again, each time a student picks up the book or watches the film,” the Dean commented.

Legacy gifts come one of two ways: either as bequests or as donations in someone’s memory. When a person gives a legacy gift to the library, the books purchased in their name can have a memorial gift plate inserted inside. The honoree’s name is also added to the database record, so that the person is recognized each time the book is retrieved in a search.

Memorials are practical tributes. “As collection development coordinator, David recognized the importance of legacy gifts so it’s fitting that his friends chose to remember him this way,” the Dean said.

**Why We Read**

To be truly educated, a person must be able to read, comprehend and interpret complex texts.

Have you ever thought about what others are reading, why they read, when or where they read? What about how they purchase their reading materials? If you are a Stiern Library Associate, then you have probably considered these things. Perhaps that is why you have given to the library in the past and why you continue to give on a regular basis.

Stiern Library provides CSUB students with the academic literature they need but it also offers them magazines and books for leisure reading, a place to study, and, for many, their only access to computers, printers and other technology. Without gifts from our Stiern Library Associates, we would not be able to supply our students with the materials they need to succeed. Information is not free and Google doesn’t have it all.

But our focus in the library goes beyond that of just supplying resources. We also educate students in what librarians call “information literacy,” about how to access academic books are available in an electronic format and alternative technology for pleasure reading, but few academic books are available in an electronic format and they will not be for years to come. The printed book is still the mainstay of academia.

Our students depend on you, Stiern Library Associates. We thank you for your support and we appreciate all that you do. If you are currently an Associate, please consider increasing your annual contribution. If you have not joined in awhile, consider membership once again. We truly need your support.

**Visit us on Snap Shot Day**

Drop by the Stiern Library on October 5 for Snapshot Day, a California Library Association initiative to document a day in the life of California libraries. Tours and database update sessions will be provided. Call Sandra Bozarth at 654-3235 for more information.

**The Walter W. Stiern Library Associates • Individual Membership Response Form**

Please complete the form. Make checks payable to the Cal State Bakersfield Foundation and return with the completed form. Contributions are tax-deductible as provided by law. Membership covers one year from the date of contribution.

**Individual Membership**

- Associate – $100
- Sustaining – $1,000
- Contributing – $250
- Benefactor – $2,500
- Sponsor – $500
- Patron – $5,000

Membership categories are recognized in various Library publications and with commemorative bookplates placed in Library materials. If you do not want your name, membership category, and/or contribution amount made public in this fashion, please check this space.

**Please use the form of your name as you wish it to appear on bookplates, Library publications, and the Community Access Card. Only the named card holder will be able to use the card. The Community Access Card is not available to anyone under 18 years of age.**

**Please send completed form to:**

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