

Author Mark Salzman on Campus

Mark Salzman, the *One Book, One College* author for 2008-2009, will be speaking in the Campus Theatre, Building 1300, on April 22nd. J-Train, the Fullerton College vocal jazz group, will perform at 6:30 p.m. followed by Mark Salzman at 7:00 p.m. Mark Salzman is an award-winning novelist and nonfiction author of Iron and Silk, The Laughing Sutra, Pulitzer Prize-nominated The Soloist, Lost in Place: Growing Up Absurd in Suburbia, Lying Awake, and True Notebooks. Entrance is free and open to the general public, but no reserved seating—first-come, first-served.



The *One Book, One College* program is a campus-wide reading program centered on a common book to encourage reading, critical thinking and discussion. A number of classes have been using the selected book, True Notebooks, which recounts Salzman's experiences teaching a writing workshop for "high-risk" juvenile offenders at the Los Angeles County Central Juvenile Hall. The book has generated activities including a panel discussion entitled, "What Counts as Writing? : Rap & the Politics of Poetics" with guest panelist, Mel Donalson, California State University at Los Angeles Associate Professor, poet, fiction writer, essayist, screenwriter and author of Hip Hop in American Cinema. The panel also featured poet, Eric Morago. True Notebooks was also the starting point for an open mic event with Fullerton College students reading poetry and exhibiting photographs inspired by the book. The next event will take place on March 19th from 2:00-4:00 pm in the College Center, rms. 224-226. There will be a panel discussion with Sean Whitely, an Orange County expert on gangs and Kelly Robertson, a former Los Angeles Police Department detective.

Friends Best Sellers Find Avid Readers

The collection of McNaughton best sellers have already found a group of avid readers among the students, faculty and staff of Fullerton College. The McNaughton collection, which allows libraries to lease popular bestsellers and then return them when enthusiasm fades, was funded by the Friends and began last fall.



Books such as Last Lecture by Randy Pausch, John Grisham's latest novel The Associate and Dewey: The Small Town Cat Who Touched the World are all at the top of the current best seller lists and available in the Library's Best Seller Collection.



There are over 250 books located on the first floor of the Library behind the staircase. The bookcases that hold them were also purchased by the Friends.

FC Librarian Erica Bennett's "El Primer Día de Clases", a short play for students based on the landmark California desegregation case of Mendez v. City of Westminster, has just been included as a teaching tool in the new California 4th and 11th grade curriculum.

You can see it onstage with student performers from the Mendez Project on March 21 at 8:00pm at the Wilshire Auditorium in Fullerton (reception at 7:00pm, show at 8:00). Tickets are \$3.00 each (suggested donation) and will presently be sold through the Fullerton College Box Office. Proceeds go to the Fullerton College Mendez Project to fund future touring productions of the play, and to fund a textbook scholarship.

The History Behind the Library's Japanese Doll Collection

As Friends of the Library, you have probably noticed the Japanese dolls in the display case on the first floor. What you may not know is the story behind the dolls. The dolls originally



belonged to Anita Shepardson or as she was affectionately known, "Ma Shep". Ms. Shepardson was born on March 30, 1888 and taught mathematics at Fullerton Union High School from 1913 to 1945. During a time in Orange County when Japanese and Japanese Americans were sometimes faced with anti-Japanese sentiments and segregation, Ms. Shepardson strove to promote cultural

understanding and friendship between students. She organized and sponsored the Japanese Club for Japanese students at Fullerton Union High School and Fullerton Junior College. As part of their activities, the club presented Fullerton Junior College with a landscaped Japanese garden complete with a pond. Ms. Shepardson also took the Japanese students on field trips to the Huntington Library, Red Rock Canyon and other areas of educational and cultural interest. Ms. Shepardson would display the Japanese dolls, or "Ohinasama" dolls, on March 3rd to celebrate the Japanese Girl's Day festival or "hinamatsuri" (Doll Festival) which promotes girls' health and prosperity.

Besides her activities on campus, Ms. Shepardson was active in the International Relations Club of Fullerton and the Japan-America Society of Los Angeles. Due to her many contacts in the Japanese community and her appreciation of Japanese arts, Ms. Shepardson organized numerous on-campus cultural events to familiarize students with the Japanese culture. Japanese flower arranging demonstrations as well as traditional dance and folk song were some of the activities she



brought to Fullerton. In recognition of her contributions to the Japanese community, she was invited to go to Japan in 1938 with a touring group sponsored by the Japanese consulate and the Orange County Japanese community who donated the cost of her trip.

During World War II, Ms. Shepardson continued to be a friend and supporter of the Japanese community. She made many trips to the Poston camp near Parker, Arizona where most of the approximately 2,000 people of Japanese ancestry from Orange County were incarcerated. After Ms. Shepardson's death in 1945, her family donated the doll collection now on display to Fullerton College.

-Jane Ishibashi

got books?

The "Library Store" is in need of donations of books, magazines, videos, etc. to stock the store and satisfy the demands of our (hopefully) burgeoning group of clientele.

Donations may be dropped off at the Library Circulation Desk. Call ahead (714-992-7039) if you need assistance with parking or transport from your car.

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Mail to: Friends of the Fullerton College Library - 321 East Chapman Ave. - Fullerton CA 92832