

COUNTY OF YOLO

Office of the County Administrator

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Author Ruth Behar Visits Davis and Winters Libraries

(Woodland, CA) – Join the Yolo County Library for two special visits by author Ruth Behar as she discusses her coming-of-age novel *Lucky Broken Girl* based on her own childhood in New York as a young Cuban-Jewish immigrant.

All are welcome to attend the following author visits by Ruth Behar:

- July 31 at 7:00 p.m. Mary L. Stephens Davis Branch Library, 315 E. 14th Street in Davis
- August 1 at 6:00 p.m. Winters Community Library, 708 Railroad Avenue in Winters

Ruth Behar was born in Havana, Cuba and came to live in Queens, New York with her family when she was five. At almost ten years old, Behar was in a car accident and became bedridden in a cast for a year. That experience changed her. She grew inward and began to immerse herself in books and to write poems and stories. Her imagination set her free.

"During that year I couldn't leave my bed," recalls Behar, "I dreamed of being well enough to travel to distant places."

Fulfilling that dream, and her desire to embrace her cultural heritage, Behar became an anthropologist focusing on Spanish-speaking countries. Over the last 35 years, she has gone back and forth to Spain, Mexico, and her native Cuba, writing about her experiences in books and stories.

Behar also dreamed of being a fiction writer, and eventually the story of the young Ruth, bedridden in a cast for a year, was realized. *Lucky Broken Girl* is a semi-autobiographical story but it conveys a broader message about loss and coming of age.

"I've written *Lucky Broken Girl* to honor that time when I felt so fragile and to give permission to all young readers to open up about their own losses."

The conversation with Ruth Behar will be especially relevant to tweens and teens and their families.

The Yolo County Library promotes enriching and diverse programming and values the diversity in Yolo County and the country. For more information contact Patty Valdovinos: patty.valdovinos@yolocounty.org. For more information on the Yolo County Library, visit:

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