

## **COUNTY OF YOLO**

Office of the County Administrator

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*Gerardo Pinedo* County Administrator

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 27, 2023 Contact: Beth Gabor Email: Beth.Gabor@YoloCounty.org

## En Las Sombras (In the Shadows) Performance at Davis Library April 15

(Woodland, CA) – In partnership with the Davis Repertory Theatre, Yolo County Library will present a staged reading of En Las Sombras (In the Shadows), written by Jordan Ramirez Puckett, on Saturday, April 15 at 1:00 p.m. in the Blanchard Room of the Stephens-Davis Branch Library, located at 315 E. 14th Street in Davis.

This is the second performance in the Yolo County Library-Davis Repertory Theatre Saturday Series. All library programs are free and open to the public. The play is performed in English and may be appropriate for children ages ten and up. American Sign Language interpretation will be provided for the deaf and hard of hearing.

Inspired by the separation of families at the southern U.S. border, En Las Sombras received multiple awards at the 2021 Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, including the Darrell Ayers National Playwriting Award, the Latinx Playwriting Award and an award for Distinguished Achievement. The play has been read in theaters throughout the nation, including Orlando Shakes (Orlando, FL), Keegan Theatre (Washington DC), Parity Productions (New York, NY) and Central Washington University (Ellensburg, WA).

En Las Sombras is an adventurous parable that follows Xenia and Luz, two children traveling with their mother to God's Gate. On the other side is the promise of safety and a life free from hunger and suffering, but when Xenia and Luz are separated from their mother, it becomes clear that the gods may not be quite ready to share the riches that lie beyond. This myth asks us to consider why we've allowed our gods to become so powerful and what we can do to stop them.

Of the play's dynamic tone, Ramirez Puckett says, "the story incorporates a tremendous amount of childlike wonder and play while incorporating some Mayan mythological traditions. But there is also a real terror and horror vibrating underneath everything that is happening."

For more information about Yolo County Library and Archives programs and resources, residents can visit their local library or the Library's website at <u>https://yolocountylibrary.org/</u> or connect with Yolo County Library on Facebook at <u>www.facebook.com/yolocountylibrary.org</u> and Instagram at @yolocountylibrary. For more information about Davis Repertory Theatre and the program, e-mail: davisrepertory@gmail.com or visit. <u>www.davisrep.org</u>.