Sac State announces 2012 One Book selection

Divakaruni is author of ‘One Amazing Thing’

Nine people from diverse backgrounds reveal One Amazing Thing about their lives in Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni’s novel, the 2012-13 selection for Sacramento State’s One Book program.

The program encompasses all disciplines, class levels and campus community members. It includes a campus visit from the author on Thursday, Oct. 25, during which she will meet with students throughout the day, take part in a panel discussion and question-and-answer session, and give a free community lecture at 7 p.m. followed by a book signing at 8.

One Amazing Thing weaves the personal stories of nine people together in one novel. When an earthquake traps the nine in an Indian visa office in the United States, they turn to each other for survival through storytelling. Tales of romance, political upheaval and self-discovery unfold from characters that include a teenager, an upper-class white couple, a young Muslim-American, an African-American former soldier and a Chinese immigrant grandmother.

The novel has won praise from many authors and reviewers. Ha Jin, author of Waiting, calls it “ingeniously conceived and intelligently written. … The book is a fun read from the first page to the last.”

Divakaruni is the winner of an American Book Award, a Light of India Award, an Allen Ginsberg poetry prize, and many other honors.

More One Book events will be developed over the next few months. Past events have included film series, outdoor readings and music performances.

The One Book program was established in 2008 with funds donated by the Wells Fargo Foundation and Sacramento's California Lectures.

For more information, visit www.csus.edu/onebook/ or email Hellen Lee-Keller at leekeller@csus.edu. For media assistance, call Sacramento State’s Public Affairs office at (916) 278-6156.

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