May 28, 2014

Alexie’s Blasphemy is the next One Book

Sherman Alexie’s Blasphemy, a collection of new and selected stories, is Sacramento State’s One Book selection for 2014-15. The author will visit campus on Author Day in October to talk about his work.

“We are excited to bring such a talented and acclaimed author to our campus and our region,” says Hellen Lee, faculty coordinator of the One Book Program. “A dynamic and engaging speaker, Alexie will certainly delight and move all who attend the lectures and readings.”

Alexie writes poetry, short stories and novels, and he loves to perform. He is the winner of the PEN/Faulkner Award for Fiction, the PEN/Malamud Award for Short Fiction, the PEN/Hemingway Citation for Best First Fiction and the National Book Award for Young People’s Literature. He has published 24 books, including the poetry collection What I’ve Stolen, What I’ve Earned and the young adult novel The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian. The 20th anniversary edition of his classic collection of short stories, The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven, was published in 2013.

He also has film credits: He wrote and co-produced Smoke Signals, which won the Audience Award and Filmmakers Trophy at the 1998 Sundance Film Festival.

Alexie is a Spokane/Coeur d’Alene Indian who grew up on the Spokane Indian reservation in Wellpinit, Wash. He now lives in Seattle as what he calls “an urban Indian.” The New York Times book critic Jess Row says Alexie’s writings “begin and nearly always end by reaffirming the brokenness, the dissonance and alienation of contemporary Native American life, usually delivered in withering punchlines.”

Alexie is scheduled to give two lectures, at 1 and 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 16, in the University Union Ballroom. He also will sign copies of his books for fans. Both lectures are free and open to the public.

Author Day is hosted by Sacramento State’s One Book Program and co-sponsored by the Hornet Bookstore, UNIQUE Programs, Academic Affairs and University Enterprises Inc.
Sacramento State is making a difference in California’s Capital Region and beyond. We offer a life-changing opportunity for our 28,000 students, preparing them to be leaders in their professions and communities. Our professors are known for their dedication to great teaching. And our location in the capital of the nation’s most populous state allows students to pursue unique internships and research.

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