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JAMAICA PLAIN

JP Reads group picks 'Drown' by Junot Díaz as book choice for 2013

Posted by Matt Rocheleau July 5, 2013 02:04 PM

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By Matt Rocheleau, Town Correspondent

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A community-based reading group in Jamaica Plain has selected “Drown” by Junot Díaz as its book choice for 2013.

JP Reads announced it will hold a series of free, public events around Díaz’s debut book of short stories this fall, including a talk by the Pulitzer Prize-winning author at The Footlight Club on Friday, Oct. 25.

“Bringing this acclaimed Dominican-American author to Jamaica Plain will inspire a month of programming around the themes of immigration, racial identity, coming-of-age, Dominican and Caribbean culture, and the art of short story writing,” the group said in a statement.

The Boston Public Library branches in JP will have available about 160 copies of “Drown,” which was released in 1996, the group said.

A list of events related to the book are being planned and will be announced on the group’s website, www.jpreads.org, in early September.

The events will include: library discussion groups in English and Spanish at the Connolly and Jamaica Plain branches of the Boston Public Library; a “Flash Fiction” contest for teens and adults; an Eliot School-sponsored art workshop

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given by Amy Hitchcock, Dey Hernandez and Roberto Chao at the JP branch library; and a special Family Day event at the Loring-Greenough House.

Supporting organizations and business include the Jamaica Plain Tuesday Club (JPTC), Loring-Greenough House, Boston Public Library, The Footlight Club, the Eliot School of Applied and Fine Arts, Urbano Project, Tres Gatos, Ellen & Janis Real Estate at Coldwell Banker, and Centre/South Main Street's First Thursday.

JP Reads launched [last fall](#) and aims each year to engage the neighborhood to read a single, selected book and to present an author reading, discussions and thematic events for each book that is chosen.

For more information, visit www.facebook.com/JPReads or email info@jpreads.org.

E-mail Matt Rocheleau at mjrochele@gmail.com.

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