

YOUR WEEKLY READER

Rescuing Reading Project

Thomas Nelson Community College
February 2, 2007

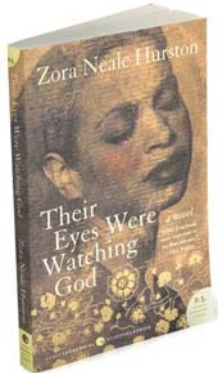
TNCC Spring 2007 Book Circles

Thomas Nelson Community College invites students to participate in the Spring 2007 Book Circles, which features three works of fiction: Zora Neale Hurston's *Their Eyes Were Watching God*; *Une si longue lettre* by North African writer Mariama Bâ (selected by Prof. Gloria Smith for advanced students in French); and a collection of short stories in Spanish by Costa Rican author Uriel Quesada (selected by Prof. Ellis Long and Prof. Alicia Lowery for advanced students in Spanish).

Book Circles' participants reading Hurston's ground-breaking novel will be joining dozens of reading groups throughout the Virginia Peninsula in The Big Read, funded in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Uriel Quesada's short stories will also be used by the college's students in a first-ever study-abroad course that will bring them to Costa Rica in March.

Plans are underway for Uriel Quesada to visit the college on the day of the **Book Circles, Friday, April 13, 2007, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., Wythe Hall Library Gallery.**



Web Watch

[NPR's Book Club of the Air for February 17, 2000 discussed Hurston's *Their Eyes Were Watching God*.](#) This national call-in featured Prof. **Mary Helen Washington** of the University of Maryland.

Alice Walker, whose writing about Hurston was partly responsible for readers' rediscovery of the novelist, was [interviewed by Vertamae Grosvenor for *Morning Edition's* "Intersections" in April 2004, discussing Hurston's "Spiritual Food."](#)

[Lucy Ann Hurston was interviewed by Liane Hansen for *Weekend Edition Sunday* in November 2004, discussing her biography of her aunt, *Speak, So You Can Speak Again*.](#)

Prof. Lucy Hurston will be the guest of the **Virginia Peninsula Literary Consortium's The Big Read events on June 2, 3:00 pm at the Bailey Library, Newport News, and on June 3, 1:30 at the Hampton Public Library.**

These programs are available in live streaming audio.

Book Lust/Big Read

Librarian and author of *Book Lust* and *More Book Lust* **Nancy Pearl** is coming to the Virginia Peninsula, on May 8, at 7:00 pm at the Fountain Plaza, City Center, Newport News. [Her recommendations for armchair travelers were recently featured on NPR's *Morning Edition*.](#) Pearl's visit is one of several local events for The Big Read.



What They're Reading

The Future of Human Nature by Jurgen Habermas. A look at the ethics of human genetic engineering and its impact on future persons by a noted philosopher. I'm very interested in the subject but am not always sure I understand his very heavy analysis. The future is here and we—somebody--has to figure out what to do about this stuff. We are very quickly entering the Brave New World *The Fermi Solution* by Hans Christian von Baeyer. A collection of excellent non-technical essays on science. Von Baeyer is the Chancellor Professor of Physics at The College of William and Mary." --**James A. DellaValle, Ph.D., Professor of Physics**

Off the Shelf

A new acquisition in TNCC's library is *Reading for Understanding: A Guide to Improving Reading in Middle and High School Classrooms* by Ruth Schoenbach, Cynthia Greenleaf, Christine Cziko, and Lori Hurwitz (Jossey-Bass, 1999), purchased as a resource for the college's new Associate of Arts Degree in Liberal Arts with a Specialization in English Education.

The authors describe a "reading apprenticeship" approach based on their classroom experiences as teacher researchers. They acknowledge the social and cognitive complexities of reading, which educators must take into account for students to succeed as readers. They also describe a variety of classroom activities, including reading across the curricula.