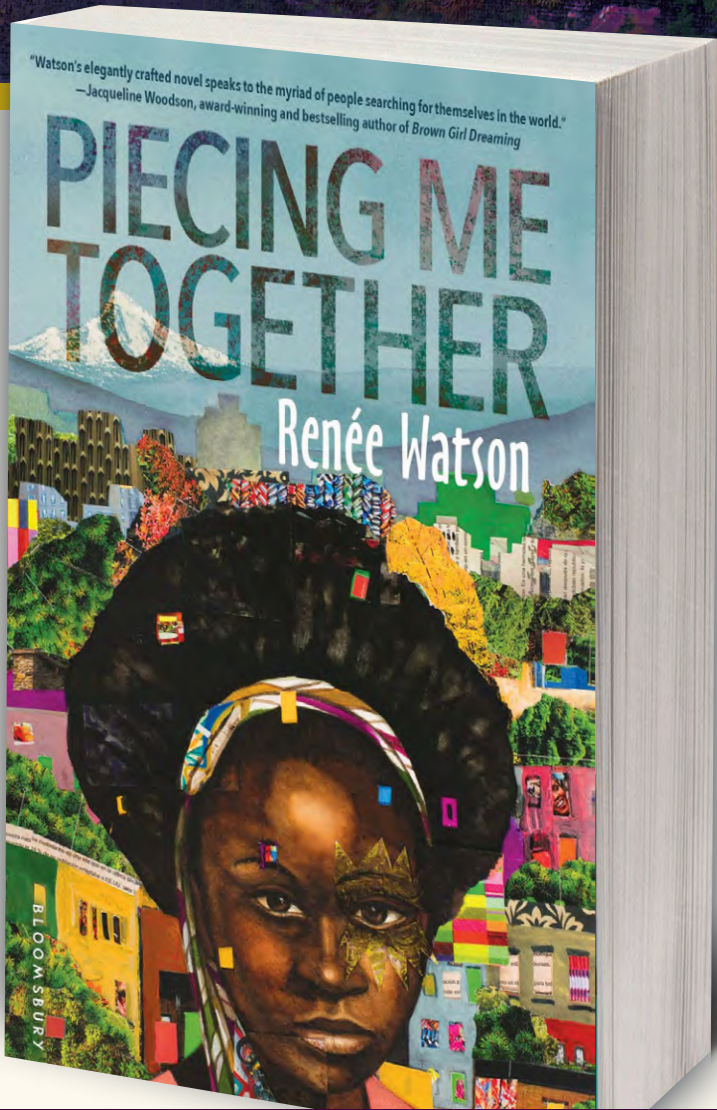


SALEM PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION *presents*

# SALEM READS:

ONE BOOK,  ONE COMMUNITY



Salem Reads fourth season features:

***Piecing Me Together*** by Renée Watson

**Read the Book. Discuss the Topics. Enjoy the Programs.**

Jade needs to take advantage of every opportunity to get out of her poor neighborhood, like accepting a scholarship to a mostly-white private school. But some opportunities feel more demeaning than helpful. She is tired of being singled out as someone who needs to be fixed. This compelling and thoughtful novel, set in Portland, explores issues of friendships, race, privilege, and identity.

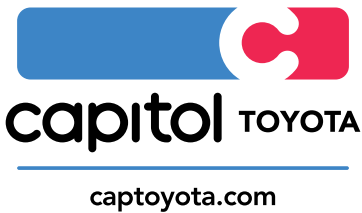


2018 Newberry  
Honor and  
Coretta Scott King  
Author Awards

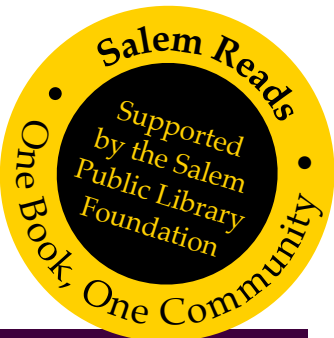


Renée Watson, Author

Sponsored by:



SALEM LIBRARY  
Advisory Board





# UPCOMING EVENTS

» **Tuesday, December 10** **Y**  
3-5pm | West Salem Branch Library  
6-8pm | Main Salem Public Library

## *Piecing Me Together* Book Give Away

Salem Reads chosen title, *Piecing Me Together*, will be given away—400 free books, one to each library cardholder. Don't have a library card? Don't worry. Just bring your picture ID and proof of address, and we'll get you a free card. If you miss the give away, we have 120 library copies in circulation. The book can also be purchased at Friends Book Store, Salem Book Bin, and Reader's Guide. We hope you will join us for the fourth season of Salem Reads in February 2020.

[www.reneewatson.net](http://www.reneewatson.net), [www.artistsinaction.org](http://www.artistsinaction.org),  
[www.splfoundation.org](http://www.splfoundation.org)

» **Friday, January 24 | 9am**

## KMUZ 100.7 Radio Show, Talking About Art

Host Joel Zak will present an interview with *Piecing Me Together* author Renée Watson and speak with local artists participating in the Salem Reads Art Exhibit on display at the Elsinore Fine Art Gallery February 5-26.

[www.kmuz.org](http://www.kmuz.org)

» **Thursday, January 30 | 8am** **Y**

## KMUZ 100.7 Radio Show, Willamette Wakeup

Host Melanie Zerner will present an interview with *Piecing Me Together* author Renée Watson on how she approaches challenging social issues for teens in her writing.

[www.kmuz.org](http://www.kmuz.org)

» **Wednesday, February 5 | 5-8pm** **Y**  
Elsinore Fine Art Gallery, 444 Ferry Street SE

## Opening Night Art Reception

Light refreshments will be served.

## *Piecing Me Together* inspired Art Exhibit

Meet local professional artists who created work inspired by reading the book, *Piecing Me Together*. Exhibit on display until February 26.

[www.elsinoregallery.com](http://www.elsinoregallery.com)



» **Thursday, February 6 | 7-9pm** **Y**  
Historic Grand Theater, 187 High Street NE

## *Piecing Me Together* author Renée Watson speaks



Renée Watson will speak about her book, a novel set in North Portland, followed by a book signing.

No ticket necessary. Doors open at 6pm, lecture at 7pm with book signing afterward.  
[www.salemshg.com](http://www.salemshg.com)

**Y** = Youth (ages 10-18) High Appeal Event

» **Friday, February 7**

## Exploring Narrative Writing workshops

The workshop is free. Space is limited. Sign up online beginning January 1, 2020 at [www.salemlibrary.org](http://www.salemlibrary.org).

**Adult Session | Writers 18+: 10am-12pm**  
Pringle Hall, Small Meeting Room, 606 Church St. SE

**Teen Session | Writers 11-18: 4-6pm** **Y**  
McKay High School Media Center, 2440 Lancaster Dr. NE

Linda Christensen is currently the Director of the Oregon Writing Project at Lewis & Clark College and was the high school English teacher who inspired Renée Watson to find her voice as an author. (Read more at <http://bit.ly/WatsonEssay>) In this two-hour workshop, she will focus on discovering your narrative voice, exploring ways to connect readers with your unique stories.

» **Friday, February 7 | 11:30am-1pm**  
Willamette Heritage Center, 1313 Mill St. SE

## Salem City Club presents *Racing to Change: Oregon's Civil Rights Years*



Oregon Black Pioneers (OBP), founded in Salem in 1993, is dedicated to preserving and sharing African-Americans' contributions to Oregon history. Willie Richardson and Gwen Carr of OBP will discuss *Racing to Change: Oregon's Civil Rights Years*, a special exhibit created by OBP in partnership with the Oregon Historical Society. Join us to learn how the Civil Rights Movement shaped Oregon and the unceasing efforts of the Black community to overcome obstacles of racist attitudes and policies of exclusion.

Member program only—free. Member program & lunch—\$17.

Non-member program only—\$10. Non-member program and lunch—\$27

Lunch begins at 11:30am; program at 12pm. Registration required at [www.salemcityclub.com](http://www.salemcityclub.com) or by calling 503-370-2808 by 12pm Wednesday, February 5.

[www.oregonblackpioneers.org](http://www.oregonblackpioneers.org), [www.mnch.uoregon.edu](http://www.mnch.uoregon.edu)



» **Now through May 17, 2020** **Y**  
Museum of Natural and Cultural History,  
1680 East 15th Avenue, Eugene

## *Racing to Change: Oregon's Civil Rights Years*

This exhibit chronicles the civil rights movement in Eugene, Oregon, during the 1960s and 1970s—a time of great upheaval, conflict, and celebration as new voices clashed with traditional organizations of power. Co-developed by the Museum of Natural and Cultural History and Oregon Black Pioneers, the exhibit illuminates legacies of racism and the unceasing efforts of Oregon's Black communities to bring about change.

[www.oregonblackpioneers.org](http://www.oregonblackpioneers.org), [www.mnch.uoregon.edu](http://www.mnch.uoregon.edu)

» **Tuesday, February 11 | 7pm** **Y**  
The Space, 1128 Edgewater St. NW

## Open Mic Night: Tell Your Truth, Part 1

Take inspiration from *Piecing Me Together* and tell your truth. Come share a poem, song, story, skit, jam, joke, or just listen and appreciate. Everyone is invited to be a part of this open mic partnership between The Space and Salem Reads, celebrating the book's themes of identity, strength, taking action, and artistic expression.

All events are free, except where noted, at venues around Salem

» **Wednesday, February 12 | 7-9pm** **Y**  
Salem Art Association Annex,  
600 Mission St. SE



Jason Graham

## *What We Risk: Creativity, Vulnerability and Art: Oregon Humanities Conversation Project*

What do we risk when we lay ourselves open through music, painting or any other art form? Join artist and educator Jason Graham, a slam poetry champion and speaker who performs hip hop as MOSLEY WOTTA, for a conversation

exploring the relationship between self-expression and vulnerability.  
[www.oregonhumanities.org](http://www.oregonhumanities.org), [www.salemart.org](http://www.salemart.org)

» **Tuesday, February 18 | 4-5pm** **Y**  
Governor' Cup, 471 Court St. NE

## Beyond the Book: Teen Book Discussion

Readers of middle and high school age are invited to a casual, fun discussion of *Piecing Me Together*. Beyond the Book is a monthly book discussion group for teen readers, meeting for snacks and conversation on the 3rd Tuesday of each month.

» **Wednesday, February 19 | 7-8pm**  
Salem Ale Works, 2315 25th St. SE

## Book and a Beer: Adult Book Discussion

Pass a pleasant evening enjoying a beverage and sharing your thoughts about the story and themes of *Piecing Me Together*. We'll provide some finger food and pitchers of non-alcoholic drinks. Bar selections are no-host.

» **Thursday, February 20 | 12-1pm**  
HomeSmart Realty, 3240 Commercial St. SE

## Brown Bag All-Ages Book Discussion

Bring a lunch or just yourself to spend the hour sharing your thoughts about the story and themes of *Piecing Me Together*. We'll provide a snack and some conversation starters!

» **Thursday, February 20 | 7-9pm** **Y**  
Chemeketa Community College, Bldg 2, Student Center, 4000 Lancaster Dr. NE

## African-Americans in Oregon: A Unique Legacy

From early exclusion policies to a member of the Ku Klux Klan running for governor in the 1920s and beyond, Oregon has a troubling early history of hostility toward African-American residents. Professor Dr. Julius McGee from Portland State University will explore the policies and decisions and examine how this legacy continues to impact Oregon today. Our speaker will be introduced by Pastor Marilyn Williams, director of the African-American Youth Leadership Conference Salem-Keizer.

» **Saturday, February 22 |** **Y**  
**9:30am-1:30pm**  
Chemeketa Community College, Bldg 20, Rm 121,  
4000 Lancaster Dr. NE



## AAUW Speech Contest for girls in grades 10 and 11

Register by February 1 at [www.salem-or.aauw.net](http://www.salem-or.aauw.net).

American Association of University Women, Salem will host a

speech contest which asks 10th and 11th grade girls to read *Piecing Me Together* and write a six-minute speech on racism, equality or opportunity for girls and women in the United States. Compete with other girls to win prizes of \$500, \$300, or \$200.

» **Tuesday, February 25 | 7-9pm** **Y**  
Historic Grand Theater, 187 High St. NE

## Salem Progressive Film series



## *Priced Out* Documentary Film

Salem Progressive Film Series presents a film exploring the complexities of gentrification. *Priced Out* (2017) is a heartbreaking documentary of the history of housing discrimination in Portland and the personal impact it has on residents. There will be a moderated discussion following the film.

[www.salemprogressivefilms.net](http://www.salemprogressivefilms.net), [www.pricedoutmovie.com](http://www.pricedoutmovie.com)

» **Wednesday, February 26 | 6:30-8pm**  
Bush Elementary School Gymnasium, 410 14th St. SE



Verónica Nuñez

## *Bias and Kids: How Do Our Prejudices Affect Our Children?: Oregon Humanities Conversation Project*

Verónica Nuñez and Kyrié Kellett lead a bilingual Spanish conversation



Kyrié Kellett

As parents, family members, teachers, neighbors and voters—how do our biases influence how we interact with the children in our lives and communities? We will reflect on how our biases—conscious and unconscious—shape everything from our subtle interactions with the kids we care for to the way we make political decisions that influence children in our society.

[www.oregonhumanities.org](http://www.oregonhumanities.org)

» **Tuesday, February 27 | 7pm** **Y**  
Taproot Lounge & Café, 356 State St

## Open Mic Night: Tell Your Truth, Part 2

Take inspiration from *Piecing Me Together* and tell your truth. Come share a poem, song, story, skit, jam, joke, or just listen and appreciate. Everyone is invited to be a part of this open mic partnership between Taproot Lounge and Salem Reads, celebrating the book's themes of identity, strength, taking action, and artistic expression.



## » About the Author

Renée Watson is a New York Times bestselling author, educator, and activist. She has given readings and lectures at many renown places including the United Nations, the Library of Congress, and the U.S. Embassy in Japan. The New York Times calls Renée's writing, "charming and evocative." Her poetry and fiction often centers around the lived experiences of black girls and women, and explores themes of home, identity, and the intersections of race, class, and gender. Renée grew up in Portland, Oregon and currently lives in New York City.

## » Salem Reads

Salem Reads is a community reads project that invites everyone in Salem to read the same book, take part in discussions, and enjoy related programs throughout the month of February 2020. The Salem Public Library Foundation sees Salem Reads as an opportunity to increase the Library's visibility, and act as a catalyst to bring the community together for discussions relevant to our time. Our selection of *Piecing Me Together*, allows broad community engagement as we offer programs on topics of importance to our city.

Salem Reads chosen title, *Piecing Me Together*, will be given away Tuesday, December 10 (details inside)—400 free books, one to each library cardholder. Don't have a library card? Don't worry. Just bring your picture ID and proof of address, and we'll get you a free card. If you miss the give away, we have 120 library copies in circulation.



## FEBRUARY 2020

*Piecing Me Together* by Renée Watson

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

All events are free, except where noted, at venues around Salem

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	LIBRARY CLOSED	28	29	30	31	1 <i>Deadline for AAUW speech contest registration</i>
	3	4	5 <i>Art Exhibit Opens</i> 444 Ferry St SE 5-8pm	6 <i>Renée Watson, Author Talk</i> 187 High St NE, Grand Theater 7-9 pm	7 <i>Salem City Club: Racing to Change Oregon Black Pioneers</i> Willamette Heritage Center   11:30am-1pm	8
9	10	11 <i>Open Mic</i> The Space, 1128 Edgewater St. NW 7pm	12 <i>Oregon Humanities Conversation Project: What We Risk</i> Salem Art Association Annex, 600 Mission St SE   7-9pm	13	14	
16	17 PRESIDENT'S DAY	18 <i>Beyond the Book: Teen Book Talk</i> Governor's Cup, 471 Court St. NE   4-5pm	19 <i>Book and a Beer</i> SAW, 2315 25th St 7-8pm	20 <i>Brown Bag Book Talk HomeSmart</i> , 3240 Commercial St SE   12-1 pm <i>African-Americans in Oregon</i> , CCC, 4000 Lancaster Dr NE   7-9pm	21	22 <i>AAUW Speech Contest for Girls</i> CCC 4000 Lancaster Dr NE   9:30am to 1:30pm
	24	25 <i>Salem Progressive Film Series: Priced Out</i> Grand Theater, 187 High St NE   7-9pm	26 <i>Oregon Humanities Conversation Project: Bias and Kids</i> Bush Elementary School, 410 14th St SE 6:30 to 8pm	27 <i>Open Mic</i> Taproot, 356 State St. 7pm	Like Salem (OR) Public Library on Facebook and get Salem Reads updates	

## » Sponsors and Partners

Salem Reads is possible because of the amazing generosity of our sponsors and partners. Thank you for funding, programs, and in-kind services to support our goal of bringing the community together through reading and the Library. Heartfelt thanks to all who contributed to the success of the fourth season of Salem Reads.

Find out more information at  
splfoundation.org or  
Facebook.com/spl.oregon/

