



FVRLibraries
FORT VANCOUVER REGIONAL LIBRARIES

Serving Clark, Skamania and Klickitat Counties, and
Woodland and Yale Precinct in Cowlitz County

February 6, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Library bringing Ijeoma Oluo to Vancouver in April as part of annual reading series

VANCOUVER, Wash. – Fort Vancouver Regional Libraries is bringing Ijeoma Oluo, author of *So You Want to Talk About Race*, winner of a 2019 Washington State Book Award and New York Times bestseller, for this year's Revolutionary Reads.

Praising the book for the 2019 Washington State Book Award, Washington State Center for the Book calls *So You Want to Talk About Race* "an important work that powerfully illustrates the need to honestly face the lasting, living damage of racism in the United States. With great clarity and empathy, Oluo includes autobiographical and historical scenarios to illustrate cause, effect, and how to move forward. While both young and old need to have the conversation, readers also learn how such conversations can harm people of color when misused for denial or self-justification."

Oluo will speak on Tuesday, April 7 at the Kiggins Theatre in Vancouver. Doors will open at 6 pm and the event begins at 7 pm. After the speech, Vintage Books will be selling copies and Oluo will sign. This event is free, but tickets are required and will be available in March.

In anticipation of Oluo's event, a limited supply of free copies of the book will be available to pick up at FVRLibrary branches in mid-February, with discussion groups scheduled throughout

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Library locations: Battle Ground, Cascade Park, Goldendale, La Center, North Bonneville, Ridgefield, Stevenson, Three Creeks, Vancouver, Vancouver Mall, Washougal, White Salmon Valley, Woodland, Yacolt, Yale



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the library district in March.

Revolutionary Reads is made possible through the generous support of Fort Vancouver Regional Library Foundation and branches' Friends of the Library groups. The annual community reading and event series from FVRLibraries seeks to engage readers, spark dialogue, and inspire ideas that just might change the world. For information about Revolutionary Reads, and for ticket information when it's available in March, visit <https://www.fvrl.org/revolutionary-reads>.

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About Fort Vancouver Regional Libraries

Established in 1950, Fort Vancouver Regional Libraries (FVRLibraries) provides a vast range of information and cultural services to almost 490,000 Southwest and South Central Washington citizens in Clark, Skamania and Klickitat Counties, and the city of Woodland and Yale Valley Library District in Cowlitz County. FVRLibraries provides a collection of more than 650,000 items, online library services at www.fvrl.org, two bookmobiles, telephone information services, 24/7 online help, outreach programs, and 15 public library locations: Community Libraries in Battle Ground, Cascade Park, Goldendale, La Center, North Bonneville, Ridgefield, Stevenson, Three Creeks, Vancouver, Vancouver Mall, Washougal, White Salmon Valley, and Woodland; and Library Express facilities in Yacolt and Yale.

About Ijeoma Oluo

Ijeoma Oluo is a Seattle-based Writer, Speaker and Internet Yeller. Her work on social issues such as race and gender has been published in *The Guardian*, *The Stranger*, *Washington Post*, *ELLE* magazine, NBC News and more. Her NYT bestselling first book, *So You Want to Talk About Race*, was released January 2018 with Seal Press. Ijeoma was named one of the Most Influential People in Seattle by *Seattle Magazine*, one of the 50 Most Influential Women in Seattle by *Seattle Met*, one of The Root's 100 Most Influential Americans in 2017 & 2018, and is the recipient of the Feminist Humanist Award 2018 by the American Humanist Association, the Media Justice Award by the Gender Justice League, and the 2018 Aubrey Davis Visionary Leadership Award by the Equal Opportunity Institute.

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