



COUNTY OF MENDOCINO

Executive Office

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January 23, 2018

NEA Big Read Review Panel
National Endowment of the Arts
Arts Midwest
2908 Hennepin Ave., Ste. 200
Minneapolis, MN 55408

Re: National Endowment for the Arts Big Read Grant

Dear NEA Big Read Review Panel:

It is my pleasure and honor to include this letter of support with the Mendocino County Library's application for a National Endowment for the Arts Big Read Grant.

Receiving a Big Read grant this year will help Mendocino County broaden our understanding and connection with our community through shared interaction of reading the same book. The grant will allow the Library to purchase the selected title for people throughout our County to read as well as invite authors to speak at our local Library branches. Further, the grant will enable Library staff to focus on programs over a course of selected weeks that tie into the Big Read through community partners. An example of this type of programming will be a partnership with the Arts Council of Mendocino that will help create a County-wide art showcase with a theme of the selected book. A second idea is to do a walk-through of the Pygmy Forest on our local Mendocino Coast with an expert leading the walk as a fantasy forest, which is the setting of one of the stories in the selected book. Any funding awarded to us will be used for the purchase of books and fees for speakers to join us.

Further, if awarded this grant, the Library will request the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors proclaim October, 2018, as "Mendocino County Big Read Month."

I am very appreciative of the Mendocino County Library for its commitment to providing county-wide programs to our residents. Receiving the National Endowment for the Arts Big Read Grant will only help connect our community through the shared joy of reading.

Sincerely,

Carmel J. Angelo, Chief Executive Officer
County of Mendocino