

MEDIA RELEASE

ERIE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY



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NEA Big Read-Erie activities begin at Erie County Public Library

Erie, PA – Erie County Public Library launches its 9-month slate of National Endowment for the Arts Big Read programs exploring “An American Sunrise” by United States Poet Laureate Joy Harjo on Tuesday, Oct. 12. An opening ceremony taking place at 6 p.m. in the H.O. Hirt Auditorium at Raymond M. Blasco Memorial Library, 160 E. Front St. will introduce the book to participants.

The library [previously announced](#) its award of the competitive and prestigious NEA Big Read grant that aims to broaden our understanding of our world, our communities, and ourselves through the joy of sharing a good book. The grant will culminate in a virtual author visit with Poet Laureate Joy Harjo.

The opening ceremony on Monday will welcome [Ms. Elizabeth Fogle](#), associate teaching professor of English at Penn State Behrend. Professor Fogle will discuss the featured book of NEA Big Read-Erie, expanding on how the piece fits within Harjo's poetic body-of-works and its timely importance.

Participants may also receive a complimentary copy of the book at the ceremony to keep and enjoy through the grant timeline and beyond. No advance registration is required.

The opening ceremony and additional NEA Big Read-Erie events will be published to the library's website at events.erialibrary.org.

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NEA Big Read is a program of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest.