

LA Harbor International Film Festival (LAHIFF)

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To create a cinematic bridge between the people of the region and the people of the world

For Immediate Release

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8th annual LA Harbor International Film Festival

presents

“The Big Read” featuring *The Joy Luck Club*

Friday April 15 at 7:30 p.m.

Warner Grand Theatre in historic downtown San Pedro

Through a National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) initiative, “The Big Read”, the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) has joined cities across the nation to encourage the revitalization of reading to American popular culture by bringing communities together to read, discuss and celebrate books and writers from American and world literature.

The 2011 selection acknowledges the work of author Amy Tan, and her world renowned novel, *The Joy Luck Club* (Penguin Books; 1989). Over 2000 free copies of the novel are being distributed throughout the City of Los Angeles with free screenings of the film version of the novel (Disney, 1993; 135 min. directed by Wayne Wang) from April through June.

The LAHIFF presents the first of those screenings during the 8th annual film festival on Friday April 15 at 7:30 p.m. at the Warner Grand Theatre (WGT), 478 W. 6th Street, in historic downtown San Pedro – the Port of Los Angeles. The WGT is a facility of the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs, celebrating its 80th anniversary.

The screening is free to the public. Books are available through the Friends of San Pedro Library (FSPL) at (310) 548-7779 or Cecelia Moore FSPL newsletter editor the LAHIFF.

The other screenings are April 7 at Santee Education Complex, April 29 at the Chinatown Central Plaza, and April 30 at the Vision Theater in Leimert Park.

Endorsed by Mayor Villaraigosa, the DCA has collaborated with the Partnership for Los Angeles Schools, LAUSD, Hollywood Entertainment Museum, California Institute for the Arts, the Warner Grand Theatre, the LA Harbor International Film Festival (LAHIFF), Los Angeles Conservancy, and Penguin Books.

When it was published in 1989, by an unknown first-time writer, *The Joy Luck Club* became an international bestseller. The novel is a remarkable saga that tells the story of four women who survived and prevailed against all odds in China and became part of the new wave of immigrants who have changed and enriched America.

For more about “The Big Read” see website at neabigread.org

