

NEWS



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SUNNYVALE READS THE *MUSLIM NEXT DOOR*

SUNNYVALE, Calif. – Silicon Valley’s diverse religions and cultures have been celebrated each year by reading choices from Silicon Valley Reads, which continues to select provocative topics relevant to Santa Clara County. The theme for Silicon Valley Reads 2012 is “Muslim and American.” Sunnyvale Public Library participates in the Silicon Valley Reads program which is coordinated by the San Jose Public Library Foundation, the Santa Clara County Library and the Santa Clara County Office of Education. Sunnyvale residents are encouraged to read Sumbul Ali-Karamali’s *The Muslim Next Door: the Qur’an, the Media, and that Veil Thing* for a better understanding of growing up Muslim in American.

The Muslim Next Door will be discussed by the Library’s monthly book group Wednesday, February 15, at 7 p.m. On Monday, February 27, beginning at 6 p.m., two films will be shown at the Library. *Talking through Walls* takes viewers to the rural town of Voorhees, New Jersey, and documents the story of building a mosque in the community with a multi-religious coalition. *Allah Made Me Funny – Live in Concert* follows acclaimed comedians Mo Amer, Azhar Usmand and Preacher Moss on stage and off as they tell humorous stories of what it is like to be Muslim in America.

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Sumbul Ali-Karamali will appear in person at the Library Saturday, March 17, at 3 p.m., co-sponsored by the Friends of the Sunnyvale Library, to talk about her book and her life as a Muslim in the West.

For young children and families, Todd Parr, author and illustrator of *It's OK to Be Different*, will talk and draw at the Library on Sunday, February 26, at 3:30 p.m. FIRST FIVE Santa Clara County will distribute a limited number of free copies of *It's OK to Be Different* at this event.

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