

# SPANISH LITERARY CLUB

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*“Before some books, one wonders: Who will read them? And before some men: What will they read? In the end, books and people shall meet”*

André Gide

SPANISH LITERARY CLUB at Highland Park Public Library

Facilitated by Gabriela Leyva.

Gabriela Leyva is a Cum Laude, Human Development postgraduate from Universidad Iberoamericana in Mexico City, which later would host her as faculty of the Psychology Department. She has diverse psychological specializations that range from Gestalt to Positive Psychology. A trained counselor and family therapist, she has been invited to lecture internationally at diverse institutions. Her love for the arts started early on, as she enjoyed a fruitful career as a classically trained ballet dancer, and continues today with her love for painting and literature. She has been involved with the Highland Park Community as a member of the Community Strategic Planning Committee, School District 112 and as a volunteer at Oak Terrace Elementary School and Highland Park High School.

“I believe that parents teach by example. To have an opinion and develop criteria in the face of a vast life experience, we need to teach our children to read. So I read. And I want to share my readings with the community. I am convinced that through the books of Hispanic authors like Gabriel García Márquez, Isabel Allende, Roberto Bolaño and more, we will be able to connect to other cultures and other generations, bringing our understanding one step up, and ultimately, creating a strong bond with the Hispanic component of our city, and Latino culture as a whole.”

In the group we will assign books for reading, also review biographies, as well as social and cultural contexts for each of these works of art. It will not be all sophisticated artistic readings; we will also have fun, contemporary expressions that will stir our emotions. After that, I hope to engage in a relaxed conversation, it could be in English, but I hope we could comment in Spanish as well. I believe that we need flexibility to start forming those bridges, and I want to keep the group malleable enough to attract more participation. Even though the books are in Spanish, I am certain that the emotions will translate universally.

**Join us every Friday morning from 11:30 to 1:00 at Highland Park Public Library.**

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