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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Portland Public Library offers “Let’s Talk About It” Book Group, “Crossing Over: Works by Contemporary American Indian Writers”**

The Portland Public Library (Maine) was selected by the Maine Humanities Council for the second year to offer *Let’s Talk About It*, a free reading and discussion group with copies of books available through the Library. This program is provided by the Maine Humanities Council’s Harriet P. Henry Center for the Book in cooperation with the Maine State Library.

The series, “Crossing Over: Works by Contemporary American Indian Writers,” begins at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 5 in room #316 at the Main Library, 5 Monument Square in Portland. The series continues for five sessions meeting also on September 19, October 3, October 17 and November 7.

The *Let’s Talk About It* program is an in-depth exploration of five books on the same theme. A scholar-facilitator helps to add depth and breadth to the conversation, creating a good atmosphere for discussion and making sure everyone feels free to share their ideas and questions with one another. Jean Sanborn, Professor Emerita at Colby College, will facilitate the program. Sanborn taught English and founded and directed the Farnham Writers’ Center.

Books to be read and discussed in this series include *Ceremony* by Leslie Marmon Silko, *Tracks* by Louise Erdrich, *Fools Crow* by James Welch, *The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven* by Sherman Alexie, and *Song of Rita Joe: Autobiography of a Mi’kmaq Poet* by Rita Joe, Lynn Henry.

“We are very excited that we can offer this program to our patrons again this year and thankful to the Maine Humanities Council for offering it,” said Suzanne Sullivan, Reference Librarian and program organizer at the Portland Public Library. Sullivan noted, “Everyone is welcome at this free program--even if you aren’t knowledgeable about American Indian writing. It should be a wonderful learning experience.”

Books for the program are available for loan at the Library. Please call the Reference Department at 207-871-1725 or visit the Main Library to register and pick up the first book of the series. The Library is open Monday/Wednesday/Friday 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m., Tuesday/Thursday 12:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m., and Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

For more information about *Let’s Talk About It* and the work of the Maine Humanities Council see [www.mainehumanities.org](http://www.mainehumanities.org) or call the office in Portland at 207-773-5051.

For more information about the Portland Public Library and their *Let’s Talk About It* series entitled “Crossing Over: Works by Contemporary American Indian Writers”, visit [www.portlandlibrary.com](http://www.portlandlibrary.com) or call 207-871-1725.

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