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Bookworks March Highlights: Jimmy Santiago Baca, *The Millennial Millionaire*, *60 Hikes Within 60 Miles*, James Anderson & Bruce Berger Desert Tour, *Cryptids for Kids*

ALBUQUERQUE—Bookworks hosts events for readers of all ages in March, ranging in topic from poetry, to hiking, to strange creatures.

Jimmy Santiago Baca opens the month with a reading from his new book-length persona poem, *When I Walk Through That Door I Am*, on March 2. The new book “immerses the reader in an epic narrative poem, imagining the experience of motherhood in the context of immigration, family separation, and ICE raids on the Southern border” (Beacon Press).

Poetry abounds the rest of March, as well: on March 3rd, *Swimming With Elephants Publications* hosts a group reading of poets published in its new anthology, *Light as a Feather*, work on the theme of eating disorders. On March 6, Kelly Yenser presents his new UNM Press Mary Burritt Christensen collection, *The News As Usual*. On March 7, visiting poets Charlie Bondhus and Terri Klein read.

For desert lovers, on March 19, renowned Southwestern writer Bruce Berger visits Bookworks on tour with his longtime friend and fellow author, James Anderson. Berger is touring for his new collection, *A Desert Harvest: New and Selected Essays*. Hikers can come get a copy of the new *60 Hikes within Sixty Miles Albuquerque* edition on March 30 when contributor David Ryan signs books.

Into history? On March 9, the creators of the book, *Saints and Sinners*, Melanie Lamb Faithful & Sally Nelson Kruse, talk about their project to remember a beloved Espanola institution. On March 22, UNM history professor, Nick Estes, talks about his book, *Our History Is the Future*, a book on Standing Rock and the Dakota Access Pipeline and resistance.

On March 24, the financially motivated can come learn a thing or two about finance from Grant Sabatier, the *Millennial Millionaire* and author of the new book *Financial Freedom*. Learn how to change your mindset about wealth and see the limitlessness of money.

On the kids side, Lija Fisher visits on March 28 at 6 pm with her book, *Cryptid Catchers*. Kids love cryptids! This one is about Chupacabra, and in the fall she’ll publish a second book in the series. Bookworks continues to host its free weekly award-winning story time for kids on Thursdays at 10:30 am.

Book club meetings this month include the Bookworks Book Club on March 13, and the free, monthly writing group, *Wingbeats Poetry Workshop*, is March 12. All events at Bookworks are free and open to the public. Teen Book Club meets March 16 at 3 pm to discuss Lillian Clark’s novel *Immoral Code*.

For information on all Bookworks events and to preorder books, please visit [bkwrks.com/](http://bkwrks.com/) event.

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MEDIA NOTE: If you are interested in interviewing an author or covering an event, please contact Amanda Sutton, Bookworks Events & Marketing at 505-344-8139 or [events@bkwrks.com](mailto:events@bkwrks.com).

## ALL MARCH EVENTS

March 2, 3 pm: Jimmy Santiago Baca, *When I Walk Through That Door I Am*. Poet-activist Jimmy Baca immerses the reader in an epic narrative poem, imagining the experience of motherhood in the context of immigration, family separation, and ICE raids on the Southern border. Baca sends us on a journey with Sophia, an El Salvadorian mother facing a mountain of obstacles, carrying with her the burden of all that has come before: her husband's murder, a wrenching separation from her young son at the border, then rape and abuse at the hands of ICE, yet persevering: "I keep walking/carrying you in my thoughts," she repeats, as she wills her boy to know she is on a quest to find him.

March 3, 3 pm: Swimming With Elephants Publications *Light as a Feather* anthology reading. A celebration of Swimming With Elephants new publication. Please join Courtney Butler and Kat Crespín for a reading and discussion of the new release *Light as a Feather: an anthology of resilience*. The event, held during National Eating Disorder Awareness Week, will feature the sharing of selections from the publication by local contributors, followed by a discussion on the role of eating disorders and body image in today's society. A question and answer session will be held as well as resources provided for those who need to continue the conversation. The publication will be sold for the special pricing of \$10 for this event only (regular \$15).

March 5, 6 pm: Harriet Tyce, *Blood Orange*. A young lawyer's outwardly perfect life spirals out of control as she takes on her first murder case in this dark and twisty debut thriller for readers of Paula Hawkins, A.J. Finn, or Shari Lapena. Alison has it all. A doting husband, adorable daughter, and a career on the rise--she's just been given her first murder case to defend. But all is never as it seems...

March 6, 6 pm: Kelly Yenser, *The News as Usual*. *The News as Usual* showcases the work of a gifted poet who employs language at its richest. Yenser captures lyrics and blues, ballads and villanelles, and even a crown of sonnets. Sonically rich and filled with detail, these poems link mortality with fishing, nature with protoplasm--constantly finding ways to explore the inner and outer worlds in ways at once understated and wise.

March 7, 10:30 am: Story Time! Our award-winning, free weekly storytime with books, songs, and an occasional snack.

March 7, 6 pm: Charles Bondhus, *Divining Bones*, with Terri Klein, poetry. Visiting poets Charlie Bondhus reads from *Divining Bones* and Terri Klein reads from *Birdsong* and the *Fixed & Free* anthologies.

March 8, 6 pm: Paula Carter, *No Relation*. When Paula first met James, she was 26, in graduate school, and not ready to be any kind of mother to his two young sons. But, years later, after caring for them and watching them grow, she finds herself unsure of what to do when her relationship with their father ends. In a collection of striking flash essays, Paula reveals the complexity of loving children who are not her own and attempts to put language to something we have no language to describe. *No Relation* is a deeply personal, beautifully rendered account of a seldom-remarked on kind of love and loss.

March 9, 3 pm: Melanie Lamb *Faithful* & Sally Nelson Kruse, *Saints & Sinners*. Sentimental and sarcastic, serious and silly, with beautiful full-color photography and art, accompanied by accessible poetry reflecting a sense of place. New Mexico centric, but with appeal beyond

state borders. Perfect for gift giving or for anyone with an interest in multi-cultural perspectives. Topics cover every subject, but focuses include environmental issues, feminist issues, experiences of faith and observations on aging.

March 10, 3 pm: Sage and Jared's Happy Gland Band. Sage Harrington and Jared Putnam, AKA The Happy Gland Band, play a free set at Bookworks. Come enjoy their fun and quirky music in our relaxed environment. Donations welcome. Follow the Happy Gland Band and their music on Facebook at [facebook.com/SageAndJaredsHappyGlandBand](https://facebook.com/SageAndJaredsHappyGlandBand).

March 12, 6 pm: Wingbeats Poetry Workshop. Dos Gatos Press presents a free poetry workshop open to all interested writers. Each month features a writing prompt from the Wingbeats Anthology. This month's exercise is Alison Cimino's "Hand and Divination" from Wingbeats 1, presented by Scott Wiggerman.

March 13, 6:30 pm: Bookworks Book Club. This month's book club selection is *Becoming* by Michelle Obama. Bookworks Book Club is free and open to all members. The reading list can be found at the book club's page at [bkwrks.com/bookworks-book-club](https://bkwrks.com/bookworks-book-club)

March 14, 10:30 am: Story Time! Our award-winning, free weekly storytime with books, songs, and an occasional snack.

March 16, 3 pm: Teen Book Club. Join Mia Worley for Albuquerque's bi-monthly Teen Book Club at Bookworks! Free and open to all readers.

March 17, 3 pm: Paul Skenazy, *Temper*. Joy Temper grew up wandering the woods of Temper, CA, a Gold Rush town her family helped establish in the 1840s. When she returns to Temper for her grandfather's funeral, she discovers that the stories she's long traded on about her hippie upbringing have little to do with reality. Her struggles to face who she once was, and what she now desires, force her to confront family secrets and long-suppressed memories in a novella both familial and romantic, contemporary and historical.

March 19, 6 pm: Bruce Berger, *A Desert Harvest*, with James Anderson. Award-winning Nonfiction writer Bruce Berger *A Desert Harvest: New and Selected Essays* and James Anderson, critically-acclaimed author of *The Never-Open Desert Diner* and *Lullaby Road* join together to read and discuss their writing and fondness for the American desert. Friends for three decades, Berger and Anderson will explore the ways Berger's nonfiction and Anderson's fiction connect, often in surprising ways.

March 20, 6 pm: Charles Benjamin Schudson, *Independence Corrupted: How America's Judges Make Their Decisions*. With experience as both a trial and appellate judge, Charles Benjamin Schudson knows the burdens on judges. With engaging candor, he takes readers behind the bench to probe judicial minds analyzing actual trials and sentencings--of abortion protesters, murderers, sex predators, white supremacists, and others. He takes us into chambers to hear judges forging appellate decisions about life and death, multimillion-dollar damages, and priceless civil rights. And, most significantly, he exposes the financial, political, personal, and professional pressures that threaten judicial ethics and independence.

March 21, 10:30 am: Story Time! Our award-winning, free weekly storytime with books, songs, and an occasional snack.

March 21, 6 pm: Belle Brett, *Gina in the Floating World*. A bank internship in Japan's booming 1981 economy is supposed to be twenty-three-year-old Dorothy Falwell's ticket into a prestigious international MBA program. But the internship is unpaid--so, to make ends meet, she accepts an evening job as a hostess in a rundown suburban bar, a far cry from the

sensuous woodblock prints she's seen of old Tokyo's "floating world." Like her namesake, Dorothy hasn't planned on the detours she encounters in her own twisted version of Oz. Renamed Gina by her boss, she struggles with nightly indignities from customers and confusing advice from new friends. Then her internship crumbles and the suave but mysterious Mr. Tambuki offers help. How can she resist? With patience and the utmost respect for her opinions, Mr. Tambuki lures her into his exotic world of unorthodox Zen instruction, erotic art, and high-octane sex. Soon, bizarre sexual escapades with monks, salarymen, and gangsters begin to feel normal until one of her clients goes too far, and Dorothy realizes she's in over her head. But can she find her way back from this point of no return?

March 22, 6 pm: Nick Estes, *Our History is Our Future*. In *Our History Is the Future*, Nick Estes traces traditions of Indigenous resistance that led to the #NoDAPL movement. *Our History Is the Future* is at once a work of history, a manifesto, and an intergenerational story of resistance.

March 23, 3 pm: Kathy Barco, *Storytime and Beyond: Having Fun with Early Literacy*. Literacy is a popular topic of discussion among librarians. Especially important is "early literacy," what children know about reading and writing before they can actually read and write. In this book, experienced librarians Kathy Barco and Melanie Borski-Howard share hands-on techniques that they have used to successfully promote early literacy and encourage family involvement.

March 24, 3 pm: Grant Sabatier, *Financial Freedom*. *Financial Freedom* is a step-by-step path to make more money in less time, so you have more time for the things you love, from "Millennial Millionaire" Grant Sabatier. It challenges the accepted narrative of spending decades working a traditional 9 to 5 job, pinching pennies, and finally earning the right to retirement at age 65, and instead offers readers an alternative: forget everything you've ever learned about money so that you can actually live the life you want.

March 26, 6 pm: Murderinos Book Club. Free book club to discuss true crime reads. More info: email Mia Worley, Book Club Coordinator, [mia@bkwrks.com](mailto:mia@bkwrks.com).

March 28, 10:30 am: Story Time! Our award-winning, free weekly storytime with books, songs, and an occasional snack.

March 28, 6 pm: Lija Fisher, *Cryptid Keeper*. Clivo and the Myth Blasters are back on the trail of the immortal cryptid in this conclusion to a monstrously funny middle-grade duology by Lija Fisher.

March 30, 3 pm: David Ryan, *60 Hikes Within 60 Miles Albuquerque*. Whether you're a local looking for new places to explore or a visitor to the area, *60 Hikes Within 60 Miles: Albuquerque* provides plenty of options for a couple hours or a full day of adventure, all within about an hour from Albuquerque and the surrounding communities.

March 31, 3 pm: Shelli Rottschafer & Daniel Combs, *La Diáspora de un Aztlán norteño: Michicanidad Creativity as Witnessed in Bilingual Ethno-Poetry and Photography*.

#### APRIL PREVIEW

April 4, 6 pm: Jennifer Gihvan, *Rosa's Einstein*.

April 13, 3 pm: Kali Fajardo Anstine, *Sabrina and Corina*.

April 14, 3 pm: Mike Coltrin, *Sandia Hiking Guide*.

April 17, 7 pm: Kwame Alexander. Venue and ticketing to come.

April 25, 6 pm: Graham Hancock, *America Before*.

April 27: Independent Bookstore Day.

April 27, 3 pm: Jessica Helen Lopez, Provocateur.