

For Immediate Release
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***One Book, One Peninsula* Presents Natalie Baszile,
Author of *Queen Sugar***

When: Saturday, February 4, 2017, at 2:00 p.m.

Where: South Coast Botanic Garden, 26300 Crenshaw Blvd, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90274.

The Palos Verdes Library District and our partners the Palos Verdes Peninsula Friends of the Library, South Coast Botanic Garden, Marymount California University, Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy, Palos Verdes Art Center, Sustainable Palos Verdes Schools, and Palos Verdes High School will present the 8th annual *One Book, One Peninsula* event featuring author Natalie Baszile as she discusses her book, *Queen Sugar*.

About the author: Ms. Baszile has a M.A. in Afro-American Studies from UCLA, and is a graduate of Warren Wilson College's MFA Program for Writers where she was a Holden Minority Scholar. An early version of *Queen Sugar* won the Hurston Wright College Writer's Award, was a co-runner up in the Faulkner Pirate's Alley Novel-in-Progress competition, and excerpts were published in *Cairn* and *ZYZZYVA*. She has had residencies at the Ragdale Foundation where she was awarded the Sylvia Clare Brown fellowship, Virginia Center for the Arts, and Hedgebrook. *Queen Sugar* has been adapted for television by writer/director Ava DuVernay of "Selma" fame, and co-produced by Oprah Winfrey for OWN, Oprah's television network. Ms. Baszile grew up on the Palos Verdes Peninsula and lives in San Francisco with her family.

Palos Verdes Library District Director Kathy Gould commented, "We are very excited about the selection of *Queen Sugar* for *One Book, One Peninsula 2017*, and look forward to welcoming Natalie Baszile back to the community where she grew up. The book's themes are both timeless and very much of the moment, and I think Ms. Baszile will be an inspiration to the many aspiring writers on the Peninsula."

The goal of *One Book, One Peninsula* is to engage our community by encouraging as many people as possible to read and discuss the same book. The *One Book, One Peninsula* partner organizations are planning a number of book-related events and activities leading up to Ms. Baszile's presentation on February 4. The author's appearance will be free and open to the public. Seating is limited and will be on a first-come basis. For more information, call 310.377.9584 X601, or visit pvld.org/onebook.

"Smart and heartfelt and highly recommended." —Karen Joy Fowler, author of *The Jane Austen Book Club*

The Palos Verdes Library District is a nationally recognized, award-winning library system serving all four cities on the beautiful Palos Verdes Peninsula. We collaborate with our community to create environments for learning and inspiration, and to share the unique history of the Peninsula. PVLD is an independent special district governed by a publicly elected Board of Trustees.

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