

# Young Auditorium receives grant to host NEA Big Read

WHITEWATER — University of Wisconsin-Whitewater's Young Auditorium is a recipient of a \$13,500 grant to host the NEA Big Read in Whitewater and neighboring communities.

An initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts, in partnership with Arts Midwest, the NEA Big Read broadens our understanding of our world, our communities and ourselves

through the joy of sharing a good book. Young Auditorium is one of 75 nonprofit organizations to receive an NEA Big Read grant to host a community reading program between September 2017 and June 2018.

This NEA Big Read will focus on *The Round House* by Louise Erdrich. Activities will take place March 22 to May 6.

Shannon Dozoryst, assistant director and director of Education and Outreach for Young Auditorium, states that the organization is thrilled that it has been awarded this grant for the eighth time.

"We have been able to connect and engage with community members, libraries and other organizations in a genuine and meaningful way

through the NEA Big Read program over the years," said Dozoryst. "We look forward to planning a program that will include thought-provoking discussion, hands-on arts experiences, lectures, and family events."

In addition to the featured title, Young Auditorium also selects a companion novel to involve youth in the program. The featured youth title will be *The Birchbark House*, also by Louise Erdrich.

Young Auditorium is enthusiastic about working with multiple campus and community partners, including: UW-Whitewater's Office of Continuing Education, UW-Whitewater's Office of Diversity, Student Engagement and Success, UW-Whitewater's Andersen Library, Old World Wisconsin, the Hoard Historical Museum, Irvin L. Young Memorial Library, Lake Geneva Public Library, American Association of University Women (AAUW) Geneva Lakes Branch, the School District of Janesville and the Whitewater Unified School District, among others. "Through the NEA Big Read we are bringing contemporary works to communities across the country, helping us better understand the diverse voices and perspectives that come with it," said NEA Chairman Jane Chu. "These 75 organizations have developed unique plans to celebrate these works, including numerous opportunities for exploration and conversation."

The NEA Big Read showcases a diverse range of contemporary titles that reflect many different voices and perspectives, aiming to inspire conversation and discovery. The main feature of the initiative is a grants program, which annually supports approximately 75 dynamic community reading programs, each designed around a single NEA Big Read selection.

Since 2006, the National Endowment for the Arts has funded more than 1,400 NEA Big Read programs, providing more than \$19 million in grants to organizations nationwide. In addition, Big Read activities have reached every Congressional district in the country.

Over the past 11 years, grantees have leveraged more than \$42 million in local funding to support their NEA Big Read programs. More than 4.8 million Americans have attended an NEA Big Read event, approximately 79,000 volunteers have participated at the local level, and 37,000 community organizations have partnered to make NEA Big Read activities possible.

Last summer, the NEA announced a new focus for the NEA Big Read Library on contemporary authors and books written since the NEA was founded 50 years ago. For more information about the NEA Big Read, please visit [neabigread.org](http://neabigread.org).

Community libraries, businesses and organizations interested in partnering with Young

Auditorium for The Big Read should contact Shannon Dozoryst at (262) 472-1432 or [dozoryst@uww.edu](mailto:dozoryst@uww.edu) for more information.

## Fall mountain biking club set

CAMBRIDGE — If you have a child entering grades 6-12 this fall who would be interested in joining a fall mountain biking club, email Kathy Mock at [Kathy@wisconsinmtb.org](mailto:Kathy@wisconsinmtb.org)

The team is open to girls and boys. There are no try-outs, and no one sits the bench.

Practices will begin July 13 at the Cam-Rock Park trail system in Cambridge.

There will be two practices per week that will take place Wednesdays from 6 to 6:30 p.m., and Saturday mornings from 9 to 11.

Coaches and the program are certified through the National Interscholastic Cycling Association (NICA).

There are five races scheduled for September and October. Student athletes are not required to race.

Persons should attend the informational meeting on Monday, June 12, at 6:30 p.m. at the CamRock Café in Cambridge.

For more information on the Wisconsin League, visit [www.wisconsinmtb.org](http://www.wisconsinmtb.org).

For more information on the National Organization, visit <http://www.nationalmtb.org>

## Whitewater Middle School announces honor students

WHITEWATER — Whitewater Middle School has announced its fourth quarter honor roll students for the 2016-17 school year.

Students earning a 3.0 and above grade point average achieved the honor roll status. Students with an asterisk after their name earned a 4.0 GPA for the quarter.

Congratulations to the following honor students!

### Grade 6

Brenda Aguilar-Valadez\*, Jesus Alcala, Cambell Alexander\*, Sierrah Allan, Allison Alvarado, Wyatt Anderson, Tyler Arnett, Hector Arnodo, Jason Briese, Keith Cameron, Caelyn Caputo\*, Dayna Carlson, Jazmin Cederberg, Afton Clapper\*, Emma Clarksen\*, Alejandra Diaz-Gallegos\*, Isabelle Dieter, Madelynn Donnelly\*, Brigitte Duvall, Miguel Espana-Villanueva, Molly Fader, Collin Falconbury, Julia Feit\*, Daniel Fero, Grace Foucault\*, Richard

Natalie Amos, Giovanni Anello, Tyler Apgar, Mariana Aranda\*, Jesus Aranda, Jonathan Aron, Calvin Baker, Allyson Barcels, Daniela Barragan, Vivian Behm, Makaylyn Benes, Madisen Benson, Reese Brantmeier\*, Isaac Brunner, Carson Bueschel, Emily Calvillo, Anthony Cano, Lucas Castro-Huempfer\*, Celeste Cervantes, Jonathan Chan\*, Olive Coburn\*, Kate Coburn, Marcos Contreras, Arno Crowley, Brandon Damhorst, Anisa Dauti, Mason DePorter, Marcus DePorter, Colin Dugan\*, Alisandra Edmonds\*, Anna Ejnik.

Veronica Falcon, Vanessa Falcon, Christian Fera, Brennan Fox-Simes, Carter Friend\*, Camden Frye, Alizaya Gainey\*, Adriel Gonzalez, Desiree Gonzalez, Elijah Grall\*, Brock Grosinske, Donavan Guerrero, Emmi Hagedorn, Emma Hageli, Lindsey Haight, Cooper Hammond\*, Morgan Hartwell\*, Nikita Hartzheim\*, Rylee Hi-

Hughes, Denver Isbell\*, Maggie Jay, Elizabeth Katzman, Ian Killoran\*, Kiyla Kopecky, Bailee Korf, Amber Krebs, Alexander Lee, Young Liang\*, Cora Linos\*, Rachel Luckett, Jonathan Magana, Jovany Manriquez, Jake Martin, Caroline Nelson, Savanna Nisen, Hannah O'Brien\*, Yasmin Palomec-Garcia, Adolfo Perez, Jacqueline Perez, Hunter Peters, Jazmine Peterson.

Emmanuel Rodriguez, Yonatan Rodriguez, Evan Schepp, Emily Scherer\*, Catherine Skindingsrude\*, Ella Smith, Brianna Staebler, Gage Sukowski, Kaden Tourdot, Diego Tovar\*, Amanda Tovar, Ethan Uhlmann, Julianna Verduzco, Brianna Vidales, Kelly Villarreal, Wendy Villegas, Carter Waelchli, Abigail Weeden, Abigail Wildenberg\*, Donavan Winn, Nathan Wood, Trenton Zahn\* and Peter Zimdars.