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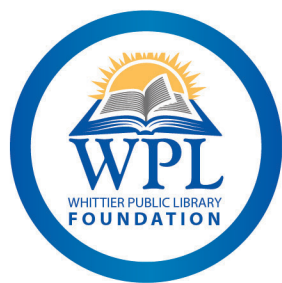
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## WHITTIER PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION

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# News

Winter 2024

whittierplf.org

## Thank You for Making Booktoberfest a Success!

**Dear WPL Foundation Members, Attendees and Sponsors,**  
Thank you for joining us at the 10th Annual Booktoberfest celebration at the Whittier Central Library! Your support, generosity and enthusiasm made this event truly special.

A heartfelt thanks to Susanne Mendoza and the Booktoberfest planning committee for their incredible efforts in selecting the craft breweries, restaurant vendors and German dancers that enhanced our celebration. Also, the committee worked tirelessly on securing silent auction items and producing those fabulous gift card trees. Their hard work ensured a delightful experience for everyone.

We also want to recognize Paymaneh and the library staff for their outstanding contributions in setting up, decorating, managing registration, and warmly welcoming our guests. Your dedication is greatly appreciated!

We are excited to announce our next event: the Eileen Bigelow Speaker Series featuring **Melissa Villaseñor!** Join us at the Central Library on **Thursday, November 14 at 7:00 pm** for an engaging evening with this talented author, actor, and comedienne.

As a special treat, foundation members will receive an invitation to a wine and appetizer reception before the talk, starting at **5:30 pm** in the Community Room. This is a wonderful opportunity to connect with fellow members and enjoy some refreshments.

Melissa is the author of the book, **“Whoops, I’m Awesome!”** and we anticipate a fun, interesting, and uplifting evening with this, dare I say it, awesome author.

We hope to see you there!

As we approach the final quarter of the year, we want to remind you that membership renewal letters will soon be sent out. We encourage you to consider sending in your tax-deductible donation before the year ends.

By renewing your membership, you’ll continue to enjoy special ticket pricing for foundation events, receive an invitation to our annual Member Appreciation Dinner, and gain access to the Eileen Bigelow Speaker Series and reception, along with notifications for Whittier Reads and Booktoberfest.

Thank you for your continued support of our mission. We’re excited about the opportunities and events we have planned for 2025, and we look forward to sharing them with you!

See you at the library,  
Mary McCarthy  
President, Whittier Public Library Foundation





# Remembering Myra Weiss, WPL Foundation Board Member

Myra Weiss was a dedicated board member whose contributions to the WPL Foundation were truly invaluable. As the chair of Whittier Reads, she played a pivotal role in promoting literacy and fostering a love of reading within the community. Her passion for books was evident not only in her leadership but also in her active participation in two book clubs, where she shared her insights and enthusiasm for literature.

Myra was always looking for ways to give back and make a difference, and her interesting perspectives brought depth to discussions. Her great sense of humor made meetings enjoyable, and her warm personality left a lasting impression on everyone she encountered.

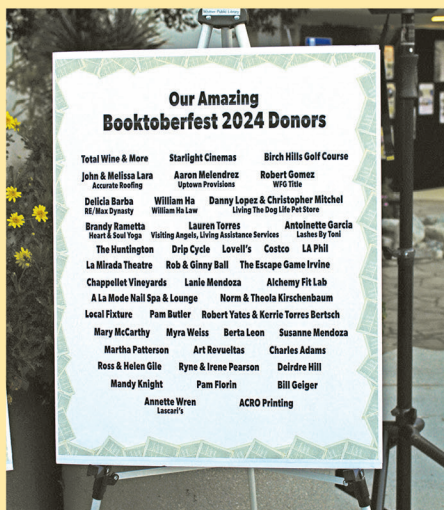
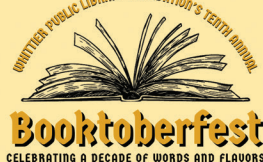
Myra will be remembered not just for her achievements but for the kindness and joy she brought to those around her. She truly embodied the spirit of community and service, and will be greatly missed.



## Booktoberfest

On October 10th, the Whittier Public Library Foundation celebrated its 10th Anniversary Booktoberfest Fundraising Event. Foundation members, Business leaders and community Residents joined us for an evening celebrating a decade of words, brews and bites. 10 of Whittier's greatest Chefs, Bakers, and Brewmasters treated all to samplings of their best dishes and brews. German dancers engaged a lively crowd; and guests took part in a fun lively auction and drawings. Booktoberfest has become one of Whittier's most beloved events as we all cheerfully raise funds for the Whittier Public Library. Also, we continue to raise awareness for the need to make literacy and program services available to all our community members.

*Susanne Mendoza, Chair  
Booktoberfest Committee*





# In Conversation with Melissa Villaseñor

Author of “Whoops... I’m Awesome!”

**Thursday, November 14**

**7:00PM**

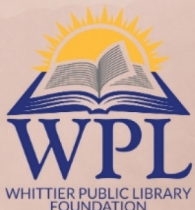
**Whittier Central Library**



Melissa Villaseñor broke barriers by becoming the first-ever Latina cast member of Saturday Night Live. A comedic impressions expert, she got her start as a semifinalist on America’s Got Talent. Some of Melissa’s most memorable SNL impressions include Owen Wilson, Lady Gaga, and Dolly Parton.

An accomplished voice actor, she has voiced characters on several television shows including Nickelodeon’s OK K.O.! and Rock, Paper, Scissors, and in films Toy Story 4 and Wreck It Ralph 2: Ralph Breaks the Internet, for which she received a Golden Globe nomination. Melissa was a guest on Jerry Seinfeld’s Comedians in Cars Getting Coffee, and can be seen in Barry, Crashing, and Awkwafina is Nora From Queens, to name a few.

**Free tickets Available at Whittier Central Library and Whittwood Branch Library**



**Part of the Eileen Bigelow Speaker Series**

This program is sponsored by the Whittier Public Library Foundation



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