



CSUCI To Host Poet Gary Soto Feb. 7

Camarillo, Calif., Jan. 18, 2008-California State University Channel Islands will host a reading from poet Gary Soto at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 7. The event will be held in Malibu Hall 100 on the CSUCI campus. The event is free of charge and open to the public.

Limited parking is available on campus and is \$6 for a daily permit. Free parking is available at the Camarillo Metrolink Station/Lewis Road parking lot in Camarillo with shuttle service to and from the campus until 10 p.m. Riders should board the CSUCI Vista bus. There will be way-finding signage on campus directing attendees to parking and the event.

Soto is a Fresno-based poet as well as a well-known writer for young adults. He is an award-winning author of more than 10 books of poetry. Among his books of poetry are: "A Simple Plan" (Chronicle Books, 2007); "One Kind of Faith" (2003); and "Junior College" (1997). His novels include "Amnesia in a Republican County" (University of New Mexico, 2003); "Poetry Lover" (2001) and "Nickel and Dime" (2000).

Soto has received the Andrew Carnegie Medal; the United States Award of the International Poetry Forum; the Discovery/The Nation Prize; the California Library Association's John and Patricia Award, which he received twice; a Recognition of Merit from the Claremont Graduate School; the Silver Medal from the Commonwealth Club of California; and the Tomas Rivera Prize. In 1997, for his work with young people, he was NBC Person of the Week. Soto was honored in 1999 with the Human and Civil Rights Award from the American Education Association; the Literature Award from the Hispanic Heritage Foundation; and the PEN Center West Book Award for his young-adult short story collection "Petty Crimes." In all, his books have sold three million copies.

Soto attended Fresno City College and California State University Fresno while working toward an undergraduate degree, and later studied poetry at the University of California, Irvine, where he earned his master of fine arts degree in 1976.

This event is sponsored by CSUCI Instructionally Related Activities; English, Education, and Liberal Studies programs; Center for Multicultural Learning and Engagement; and Center for Integrative Studies.

For media inquiries about Soto's poetry reading event contact Ceal Potts, Communications Specialist at CSUCI, 805-437-8940 or cecilia.potts@csuci.edu.