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Press Statement

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Library Kicks Off Another Big Read for 2014.

The Fresno County Public Library is pleased to announce the start of the 2014 Big Read. This year's book is F. Scott Fitzgerald's classic novel "The Great Gatsby", which has become a classic story of unrequited love, ambition, and offers a unique window into life in the 1920's.

The Big Read kicks off with a read-a-thon, music, and festivities at Cuvee' (1140 N. Van Ness Ave), March 5 from 4 pm to 8 pm. Additional activities for the 2014 Big Read include:

- The Great Gatsby Live Performance at The Grand (1401 Fulton St.), March 20-23, 2014.
- The Harlem Renaissance in the Roaring Twenties, March 28 at The Museum of African American History.
- The Great Gatsby Speakeasy, March 29 at the Fresno City College Library.
- Flappers, Debs or Dolls? Art and Women of the 1920's, March 5-28 at Arte Americas.
- Gargoyles, Chevrons, and Zigzags...Oh My! March 25, 2014 at the Fig Garden Library.
- Bus Trip to Hearst Castle, April 5, 11 am-11 pm. Cost per person is \$55.

A complete schedule of events is available at local branch libraries and online at www.fresnolibrary.org.

The Library was awarded a \$15,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) for The Great Gatsby. The Big Read gives communities the opportunity to come together to read, discuss, and celebrate one of 34 selected books from U.S. and world

literature. The NEA presents The Big Read in partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services and in cooperation with Arts Midwest. National support for The Big Read is provided by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, the Paul G. Allen Family Foundation, the Boeing Company, the Poetry Foundation, and the Ford Motor Company.

Local Big Read sponsors include The Fresno Bee, ABC 30, K-Jewel 99.3 FM, Valley Public Radio.

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