

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
February 1, 2010

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
Sara Pillet, 562/628-2441

**LONG BEACH READS ONE BOOK**  
***The Soloist, By Steve Lopez***  
***Wednesday, March 3 – Sunday, March 14, 2010***

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

All events are free and open to the public except where noted.

\* Indicates book collection site. For more details see Ongoing Events:

**SENDING A BOOK ON A JOURNEY.**

\* OPENING PUBLIC EVENT: An Evening With Steve Lopez

**Wednesday, March 3**

**7:00 PM**

First Congregational Church  
3<sup>rd</sup> Street and Cedar Avenue

Tickets: \$30.00 plus \$1.99 processing fee. Tickets limited, no assigned seating.

To purchase tickets: 1/800/838-3006 or on line at [www.brownpapertickets.com/event/93181](http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/93181)

Steve Lopez, author of *The Soloist*, will talk with *Press-Telegram* Executive Editor, Rich Archbold about the significant issues his book raises: music, mental health, homelessness, journalism and the power of friendship. Enjoy a special Beethoven-inspired musical performance by the Long Beach Polytechnic High School Chamber Orchestra, under the direction of Andy Osman. Also hear special guest Nancy Foster, Long Beach First Lady and mental health advocate. Mr. Lopez will sign books after the program.

**The Future of Journalism in the Community**

**Wednesday, March 3**

**10:00 AM**

Jordan High School, 6500 Atlantic Avenue, Long Beach

***This event is not open to general public – media are encouraged to attend.***

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Author Steve Lopez and Dr. Raul Reis, Chair CSULB's Journalism Department, will hold a seminar with LBUSD journalism students. Special guest: Long Beach First Lady, Nancy Foster.

**Film Showing**

**Wednesday, March 3**

**11:00 AM and 2:00 PM**

Main Library Auditorium  
101 Pacific Avenue

The Library will have two free showings of the recent film *The Soloist* based on Mr. Lopez's book. Information: Main Library, 562/570-7500.

Brown Bag Lunch and Discussion with Steve Lopez

**Wednesday, March 3**

**11:30 AM**

California State University, Long Beach

College students planning careers in journalism, community service and related disciplines will talk with author Steve Lopez in an informal campus setting. **(MEDIA: Karl W.E. Anatol Center, adjacent to the campus library. For parking passes, please call Sharon Olson at 562/985-5585 at least 24 hours in advance.)**

***This event is not open to general public – media are encouraged to attend.***

**Videotape interview with Steve Lopez**

**Wednesday, March 3**

**1:15 PM – 2:45 PM**

LBUSD Office of Multimedia Services

Student participation in videotaping an interview with Steve Lopez for the television show "The Message," a televised conversation featuring artists and communicators for Renaissance High School students. ***This event is not open to general public or the media.***

**\* "On Friendship and Mental Health" A fund-raiser to benefit the Long Beach Public Library Foundation and MHA Village**

**Wednesday, March 3**

**3:00 PM – 5:00 PM**

MHA Village  
456 Elm Avenue  
Cost: \$100.00

Author Steve Lopez will participate in a panel discussion with psychiatrist, Mark Ragins, M.D.; Nancy Foster, Long Beach First Lady and mental health advocate; and MHA Village Executive Director, Paul Barry. Attendees will receive as a gift a signed copy of *The Soloist*. Call 562/628-2441 for an invitation.

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Stories about The Road to Recovery****Thursday, March 4****7:00 PM – 8:30 PM**

Barnes & Noble at Marina Pacifica  
6326 E. Pacific Coast Highway

Mark Ragins, M.D., medical director of the Long Beach MHA Village, will share his stories and insights as a “recovery psychiatrist” and the steps to helping people recover and find fulfilling lives. Dr. Ragins advised Steve Lopez during the early days of his relationship with Nathaniel Ayers. Information: Julia Scalise, 562/285-1330, X225.

*CSULB Orchestra Concert***Friday, March 5****8:00 PM**

Carpenter Performing Arts Center, 6200 Atherton Street

Cost: \$15 General Admission/\$10 Students

University student orchestra in concert, featuring the winner of the instrumental concerto competition and a performance of Beethoven’s Symphony No.5. This is a ticketed event. Tickets may be purchased at the box office or online [www.carpenterarts.org](http://www.carpenterarts.org). Information: 562/985-7000.

*Book Discussion***Saturday, March 6****3:00 PM**

North Neighborhood Library, 5571 Orange Avenue

Attendees will have the opportunity to discuss *The Soloist* and the major issues it raises about homelessness, mental illness, music and the role of the journalist. Information: 562/570-1047.

**\*  
Tales from the Long Beach Trenches****Sunday, March 7****12:30 PM**

St. Luke’s Episcopal Church, 525 E. Seventh Street

Volunteers in the St. Luke’s homeless ministries (Shower Program, Manna Meals, Food Pantry) recount their experiences serving the homeless in Long Beach; dramatic readings from *The Soloist* and George Orwell’s *Down and Out In London and Paris*. Hot meal (requested donation: one package new adult men’s socks), cello music, tours and art show. Information: 562/436-4047 or [office@stlukealb.org](mailto:office@stlukealb.org)

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\* **All Day Read in Bixby Knolls****Sunday, March 7****9:00 AM 0 2:00 PM**

Long Beach Sunday Farmers Market  
 Longfellow Elementary School, 3800 Olive Avenue

Enjoy listening to a reading of *The Soloist* in the family friendly setting of the farmer's market, on the Longfellow playground. Student cellists will also perform throughout the day. Sign up to be a reader online or at the market on Sundays. Information: Kelli Johnson, LBSM@mac.com or [www.LongBeachSundayMarket.com](http://www.LongBeachSundayMarket.com).

\* **A Father and Son's Stories About Mental Illness****Monday, March 8****7:00 PM – 8:30 PM**

Community Hospital of Long Beach Auditorium  
 1720 Termino Avenue

Fred and Jeffrey Magenheimer, father and son, talk frankly to help others understand how mental health needs affect a family and how to gain knowledge and support. Information: Martha Long, 562/285-1330, x236.

*Story Time for Tots***Tuesday, March 9****10:30 AM**

Barnes & Noble at Marina Pacifica, 6326 E. Pacific Coast Highway

A special story time with age-appropriate books relating to the theme of this year's selection, *The Soloist*. Information: Stefanie Dries, 562/431-2253

*Stay at Home Solo with a Good Book and Music!***Tuesday, March 9****7:00 PM – 10:00 PM**

In the Comfort of Your Home

Celebrate **Long Beach Reads One Book** by participating in this annual "non-event" fundraiser. Curl up at home with a good book and your favorite music and donate the money you would have spent on a night out to the Long Beach Public Library Foundation. Information: 562/628-2441 OR [sara@lbpfoundation.org](mailto:sara@lbpfoundation.org).

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*Musical Storytelling***Wednesday, March 10****5:30 PM – 6:30 PM**

North Neighborhood Library  
5571 Orange Avenue

Music and stories both have the power to bring people together. Join us for this special hour program of musical storytelling. For all ages. Information: 562/570-1047.

*A Day of Cello Performances**Presented by The Found Theatre and The LJ GROUP***Thursday, March 11**

The Found Theatre  
599 Long Beach Boulevard

Bring a lunch and enjoy a concert with members of the Arts & Services for the Disabled Orchestra. **12 noon to 1 PM**

An evening of solo performances by Long Beach cellists. **7:30 PM**

Information: Lindsay Shields, 562/810-8418 or lindsayljgroup@gmail.com.

*The Rest of the Story About Mental Illness***Thursday, March 11****7:00 PM**

Barnes & Noble at Marina Pacifica, 6326 E. Pacific Coast Highway

Recovery is the “rest of the story” about mental illness today. There is hope. A panel of individuals, including Nancy Foster, Long Beach’s First Lady and mental health advocate, will share their remarkable and hopeful experiences. Moderated by Straight Talk TV host Art Levine. Information: Stefanie Dries, 562/431-2253.

*Homelessness in Long Beach***Saturday, March 13****11:00 AM**

Los Altos Neighborhood Library, 5614 Britton Drive

A panel of community people will discuss various aspects of homelessness in Long Beach. Panelists are: Martha Long, MHA Village Director Emeritus; Harry Saltzgaver, Editor, Gazette Newspapers; Stanley Poe, Long Beach historian and Patti LaPlace, Mental Health Coordinator, City of Long Beach. Information: Clifford Phillips, 562/570-1045.

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### \* **Book Club Extravaganza – Music Therapy & The Soloist**

**Saturday, March 13** **1:00 PM – 3:00 PM**  
Dana Branch Library, 3680 Atlantic Avenue

All book clubs are invited to join in one great “extravaganza” discussion and exploration around *The Soloist*. Special guest: Lisa Jackert, MA, MT-BC (music therapist-board certified). Information: Mary Barton, 562/433-0074.

*Movie Presentation – A Wayfarer’s Journey: Listening to Mahler*

**Saturday, March 13** **2:00 PM**  
North Neighborhood Library. 5571 Orange Avenue

An exploration of the relationship of music to healing and survival centered on the music of composer Gustav Mahler. Information: 562/570-1047.

## ONGOING EVENTS

The Long Beach Public Library will celebrate **Long Beach Reads One Book** with musical performances, book clubs and other programs in the various neighborhood libraries. Check with your local branch or visit [www.lbpl.org](http://www.lbpl.org) for a complete listing.

### \* **Sending a Book on a Journey**

Everyone in the community is invited to donate new or gently-read books for homeless and mentally ill people. Bring your book donation to any Long Beach library or to various **Long Beach Reads One Book** events, as indicated, from March 3 to 14. Books will be donated to form libraries at the Mental Health America Village and Wellness Center. Information: [elizabethbuf@earthlink.net](mailto:elizabethbuf@earthlink.net).

### **Shop at Barnes & Noble** **Help the Library**

From March 3 to 14 when you shop at the Marina Pacifica Barnes & Noble just say “Library Foundation” at checkout and a portion of the sales will be donated to help support the literacy programs of the Long Beach Public Library Foundation.

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### RELATED FUTURE EVENTS

*Long Beach Symphony Classics*

*Concert featuring Beethoven, Gershwin and Barber*

**Saturday March 27**

**8:00 PM**

Terrace Theater, 300 E. Ocean Boulevard

Information: 562/436-3636 or [www.lbso.org](http://www.lbso.org).

*Live Your Life Day*

**Wednesday, April 7**

**10:00 AM – 4:00 PM**

California State University Long Beach Friendship Walk. Part of CSULB's Project OCEAN, a day centered around mental and physical wellness, de-stigmatizing disabilities and encouraging help-seeking. Includes resource fair, demonstrations, a keynote speaker and live band during lunch.

**Healthy Mind/Healthy Body**

**Saturday, May 8**

**10:00 AM – 2:00 PM**

Recreation Park (at the Band Shell)

4900 E. 7<sup>th</sup> Street

Citywide outreach and advocacy mental health event to promote mental and physical health services. Information: Patti LaPlace at [patti.laplace@longbeach.gov](mailto:patti.laplace@longbeach.gov).

### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

**Read *The Soloist* Online**

<http://cetl.edtech.csulb.edu/soloist>

Read the first chapter of the book online as an interactive multimedia e-book developed by the Technology Enhanced Literacy Project at Cal State Long Beach, with support from Verizon's "Check into Literacy" fund.

**Main Library Information Center for People with Disabilities**

Visit this advanced technology center and reading area serving people of all disabilities, located at Main Library. Please call 562/570-5709 to schedule an individual or group tour.

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### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES (continued)

**Mental Health America:** [www.mhala.org](http://www.mhala.org)

Pick up your free bookmark available at all libraries and **Long Beach Reads One Book** events. Bookmarks include mental health/homeless information, tips on caring for one's own mental health, resource phone numbers and how to get involved with local organizations. Information: Julia Scalise at 562/285-1330, x225.

### **Personal Stories of Depression and Triumph**

Nancy Foster, Honorary Chair and First Lady of Long Beach. shares her own story of mental illness and healing. Read it and other stories of hope at [http://www.presstelegram.com/ci\\_7551478](http://www.presstelegram.com/ci_7551478) OR <http://yourtotalhealth.ivillage.com/my-bipolar-disorder-has-been-gift.html>.

Calendar and Other Events

Taken from Official **LONG BEACH  
READS ONE BOOK** brochure.

Prepared by: KBE/pr  
562/477-1646