



City of Arts & Innovation

# News Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**Contact:**

Phil Pitchford

Public Information Officer

951-826-5975

[ppitchford@riversideca.gov](mailto:ppitchford@riversideca.gov)

## **Riverside Reads Features Free Book, Conversation with Author**

RIVERSIDE, Calif. – *Dreamland: The True Tale of America’s Opiate Epidemic* by Sam Quinones has been selected as the title for Riverside Reads 2020. Free copies of the book are available at most city libraries, and a virtual conversation with the author has been scheduled for later this month.

*Dreamland* is a fascinating read that uses historical information to describe how opioid addiction in the United States came to be. It traces the epidemic from small towns in Mexico to the Main Streets of cities across the country and to boardrooms of some of the giant pharmaceutical companies.

The New York Times said Quinones “looks at two phenomena — the over prescription of pain medication in the 1990s and the influx of black-tar heroin from Mexico to the United States — to explain how opiate addiction has come to plague hundreds of towns across the country.”

Free copies of the book are available at all library locations offering Library-to-Go services. If you are interested in a copy of this book, please call your local library or email [RPLLibrary@riversideca.gov](mailto:RPLLibrary@riversideca.gov) to schedule pick-up of a copy.

Quinones will join Riverside residents virtually to take part in a discussion about his book on Aug. 26 at 6 p.m. To obtain more information on this event or to participate, please call 951.826.2217 or email [RPLLibrary@riversideca.gov](mailto:RPLLibrary@riversideca.gov).

Book discussions will be hosted via Microsoft Teams. Additional information can be found for all programs related to Riverside Reads on the Riverside Public Library social media accounts.

Riverside Reads is part of the Book to Action program sponsored by the California Center for the Book, a program from the California Library Association. The idea of the program is for participating libraries to select a book that a community will read and afterwards take action.

For the latest information and resources regarding COVID-19 -- [www.RiversideCA.gov/COVID-19](http://www.RiversideCA.gov/COVID-19)