

For Immediate Release

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Contact

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Reading Together Offers Discussion Leader Training for *The Things They Carried*

Reading Together, the fourth annual community-wide reading program led by the Kalamazoo Public Library, will offer two free discussion leader training sessions for this year's book. The sessions will be held on Thursday, February 2, from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m., at the Central Library, 315 S Rose St, and on Saturday, February 4, from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m., at the Washington Square Branch Library, 1244 Portage St.

The training sessions are open to anyone who would like to lead a group discussion of Tim O'Brien's *The Things They Carried*. These free training sessions will provide background information on the issues raised by *The Things They Carried* as well as on the historical context and literary merit of the book. The sessions will also offer tips from experienced leaders on guiding book discussions, suggestions for mediating difficult interactions, and exercises for building relationships between discussion group members. Lists of related resources and a free reader's guide will be distributed. Those who take the training may be asked to join the library's list of volunteer facilitators for Reading Together discussion groups.

This is a free program; registration is required. For more information, or to register to attend the training sessions for *The Things They Carried*, please call the Reading Together coordinator, Joan Hawxhurst, at 553-7913.

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