
MEDIA RELEASE

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Hopkinsville, KY – July 20, 2020 – Hopkinsville-Christian County Public Library (HCCPL) will be presenting Jeanine Cummins, author of the bestselling book, *American Dirt*, in a live Zoom book discussion event on Wednesday, September 2, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. Central time. Participants may join the zoom meeting through the link provided: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84882218243>. This event can be accessed virtually from anywhere.

American Dirt is a 2020 fictional novel about the ordeal of a Mexican woman who had to leave behind her life and escape as an undocumented immigrant to the United States with her son. The book is already being hailed as "a *Grapes of Wrath* for our times" and "a new American classic." *American Dirt* is a rare exploration into the inner hearts of people willing to sacrifice everything for a glimmer of hope.

HCCPL Executive Director, DeeAnna Sova, interacted with Ms. Cummins on Instagram after the author offered to hold a Zoom book discussion event for any of her followers that reached out to her. Her only request was that as the host we encourage donations to help protect migrants in the borderlands during COVID-19. While donations may be made anytime between now and the September event, all donations made during the month of July will be matched 100% by the author. The GoFundMe link provided (<https://charity.gofundme.com/o/en/campaign/borderlands>) can be used by anyone to donate. In order to track our communities' specific event donations, the author asks that a note be made on each donation, "Hopkinsville Library Event."

"To say we are beyond excited is an understatement," shared Ms. Sova. "To have an author of this caliber is beyond our library's expectations. Ms. Cummins's book is currently on the New York Times bestseller list for the 25th week in a row. To host a bestselling author is very expensive and would normally be well beyond our budget. This is incredibly generous of Ms. Cummins to provide the opportunity for a small library like ours and to in turn encourage donations that are very close to her heart."

Please follow the HCCPL social media pages and website at www.hccpl.org for updates on this and other events.