

LEARN UNITED & LIVE UNITED

An ongoing and collaborative learning series facilitated by United Way of Asheville and Buncombe County

Dear America, Notes of an Undocumented Citizen

by Jose Antonio Vargas

	All are welcome to join our book discussion :		
	Aug 21	Part 1 (Beginning-p.44)	Wednesday mornings 8:45-9:45 am United Way Building 50 S. French Broad Ave Enter front door and look for sign indicating meeting room Free parking in the VISITOR spaces (Yellow-lined).
	Sept 4	Part 2 (p.45-p.174)	
	Sept 18	Part 3 (p.175-end)	
Feel free to drop-in on any dates you are able, regardless of whether you attended previously!			

Learn United is free, open to everyone, and no registration is required.

Author Visit: October 3

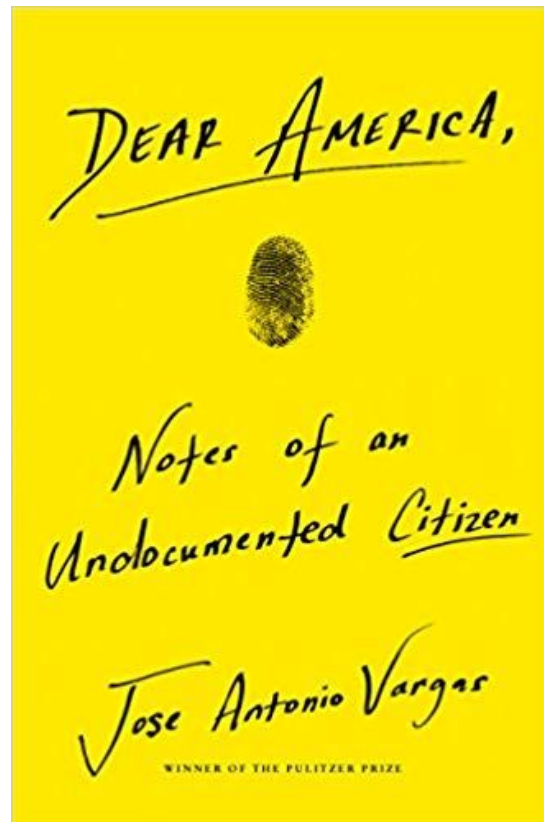
Jose Antonio Vargas is the featured speaker at Pisgah Legal's Justice Forum at 7:00 on Thursday, October 3rd in the Thomas Wolfe Auditorium. More information on that event is available here: <https://www.pisgahlegal.org/justiceforum/> Tickets to the Forum are free! All Learn United participants are strongly encouraged to attend.

About Learn United:

United Way of Asheville and Buncombe County hosts learning opportunities around a series of topics that impact our community and our ability to fully realize our mission and vision. Our hope is to expand the understanding of staff, volunteers and community members around a variety of topics. All are welcome to participate.

For questions about the Learn United education series, please contact:
Zack Goldman, zack.goldman@unitedwayabc.org

“After 25 years of living illegally in a country that does not consider me one of its own, this book is the closest thing I have to freedom.” --Jose Antonio Vargas



“This is not a book about the politics of immigration. This book—at its core—is not about immigration at all. This book is about homelessness, not in a traditional sense, but in the unsettled, unmoored psychological state that undocumented immigrants like myself find ourselves in. This book is about lying and being forced to lie to get by; about passing as an American and as a contributing citizen; about families, keeping them together, and having to make new ones when you can’t. This book is about constantly hiding from the government and, in the process, hiding from ourselves. This book is about what it means to not have a home.” --Jose Antonio Vargas

In "Dear America," Jose Antonio Vargas writes about the precarious life he has built in the United States as an undocumented immigrant. Jose Antonio Vargas comes from a family of gamblers, and in his new book, "Dear America: Notes of an Undocumented Citizen," he's upping the ante "or maybe, given the current executive's predilection for travel bans and family separations, he's going all in. Vargas recalls the enormous wager his family made 25 years ago, when his mother brought him to Ninoy Aquino International Airport in Manila and put him on a flight to California. He was 12 years old, and he would go to America first. Mama, as he calls her throughout his memoir, promised to follow. In America, there is a gatekeeping of racial identity where everyone is expected to fall under either the black community or the white community. These extremes leave people confused on how they identify themselves (i.e. Jose's Filipino identity crisis). 300. What was the author's main argument in Ch.5 about the position of Filipinos in America? Responses may vary - Centuries of control from other countries created foggy and confusion as to how Filipinos were categorized. - Had to spend a good portion of recent history adapting to other cultures instead of expressing their own. On this episode, we discuss the Books and Boba October 2018 (also Filipino American History Month) book club pick, Dear America: Notes of an Undocumented Citizen, by Jose Antonio Vargas, a memoir of Vargas' life as an undocumented American, from his childhood discovery of his status, to becoming an award winning journalist, to his current life as a high profile advocate for immigrant. Smart People Podcast is a weekly, interview-based podcast that features today's most well respected thought leaders engaging in authentic, insightful conversation for the benefit of the listener. The host, Chris Stemp, and his co-host/producer Jon Rojas, utilize their insatiable curiosity and relatable charm to provoke their guests into giving the interview of a lifetime. Dear America is a courageous book written by a human being who overcame his natural desire for privacy and security to use his personal biography to shine light on the plight of undocumented Americans. An accomplished journalist, Vargas was able to fully capture my attention with his painful account of his struggle to find a home in a country that has so far denied him any chance at legal status. But Vargas goes much farther than that. He aims to show American citizens that undocumented Americans are your neighbor, your family member, your colleague at work just as gay individuals who came out changed perceptions of the homosexual community. Background Briefing with Ian Masters. "Dear America, Notes of an Undocumented Citizen" (Extended) - Jose Antonio Vargas. 2 years ago2 years ago. News & Politics.