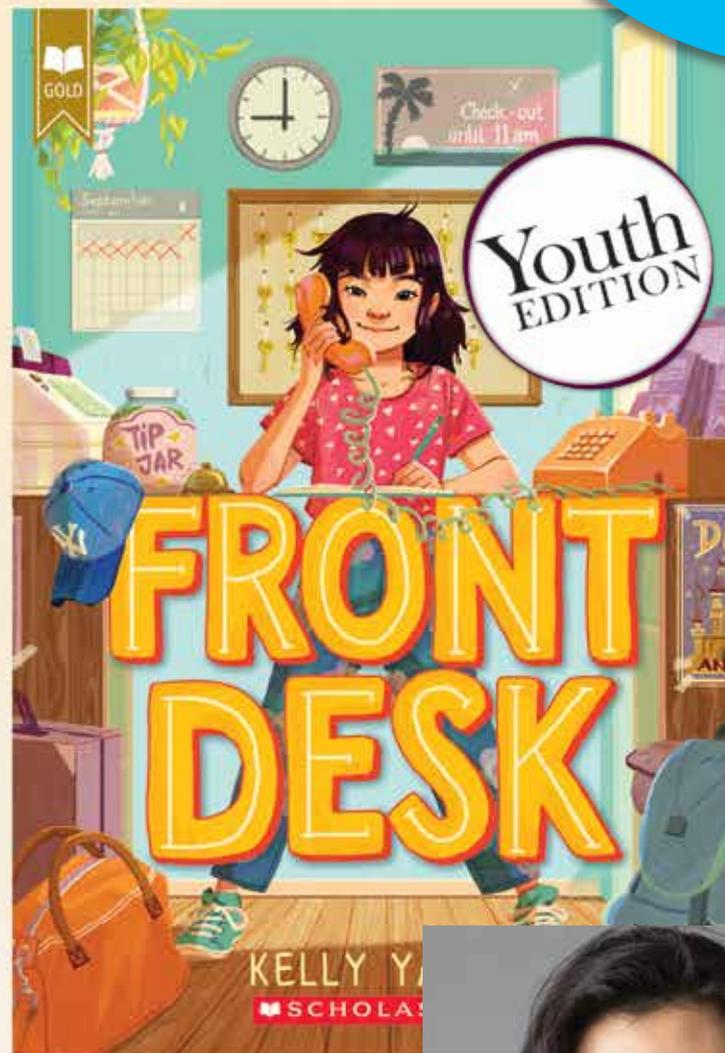
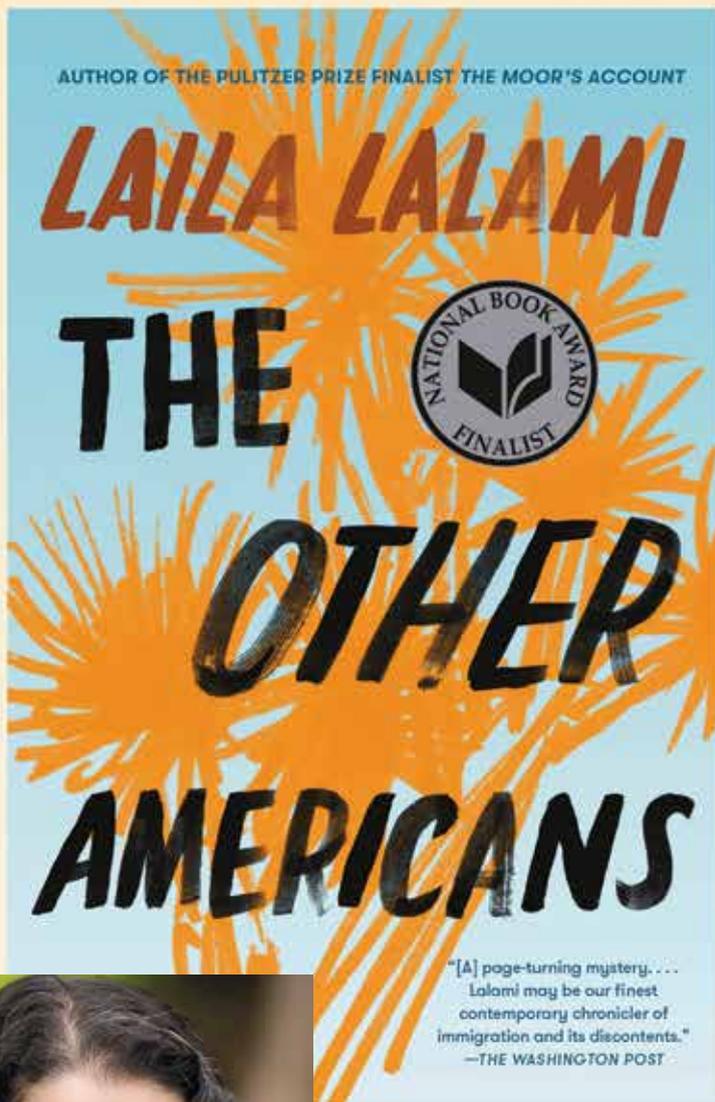


# 2021 A Novel Idea ... READ TOGETHER

MORE  
ONLINE



APRIL ROCHA PHOTOGRAPHY

**LAILA  
LALAMI**

Sunday, May 2, 2021  
4:00 p.m. • *Live Online*

**KELLY  
YANG**

Saturday, May 1, 2021  
4:00 p.m. • *Live Online*



[www.deschuteslibrary.org/novelidea](http://www.deschuteslibrary.org/novelidea)

# 18 YEARS OF “A NOVEL IDEA” CONTINUES... even during a pandemic

Last year, “A Novel Idea...Read Together” began just two weeks after the pandemic shut down our community. Thanks to the quick actions of library staff, we shifted to an online format and had our most successful program to date with more than 9,000 people participating. As we begin our 18th year, we are eager to continue to strengthen our communities and forge a love for literature through a series of online programs, book discussions, and author events. New this year, we are excited to announce “A Novel Idea” Youth Edition and now have two books to share with all of you.

The featured adult novel, *The Other Americans* by Pulitzer Prize finalist Laila Lalami, is part family saga, part murder mystery, and part love story informed by the daily struggles of Americans on the margins. The youth selection, award-winning debut novel *Front Desk* by Kelly Yang, is a heartwarming tale that follows 10-year-old Mia as she tackles racism, poverty, and her own mistakes. This book is ideal for third through eighth-grade readers.

Planned programs for *The Other Americans* delve into theme-related topics, from the Moroccan revolution to an exploration of Joshua Tree National Park, as well as tasty cooking demonstrations and lively jazz. Programming for *Front Desk* includes a family book discussion, a motel design contest, and a presentation detailing how to talk to kids about difficult subjects. All programs are available to view online and are free thanks to our generous sponsors.

We hope you join us for this wonderful opportunity to restore a bit of our social fabric through reading, discussing, and understanding one another—together. Happy reading!

Todd Dunkelberg, Director, Deschutes Public Library



[www.deschuteslibrary.org/novelidea](http://www.deschuteslibrary.org/novelidea)

## Snail Mail: Grab & Go Kit ♦

Grab a kit, connect with a purpose & start writing letters!  
Starting Saturday, April 3

## Let's Talk About It!

Explore a variety of discussion questions and resources for *Front Desk*.

Wednesday, April 7, 1:00 p.m.

Recording available online

## Front Desk: Dream Motel Design Challenge

Design a motel that is efficient, friendly, and welcoming to all! Include a short statement about your design and the first name of the motel's creator(s).

Friday, April 9; send photo and statement to [deschuteslibrary@gmail.com](mailto:deschuteslibrary@gmail.com). More info: <http://dpl.pub/dreammotel>

## Front Desk Monopoly: Grab & Go Kit ★

Play Mia's favorite game, but *Front Desk* themed.

Pick up Saturday, April 10

## Talking to Children about Racism and Discrimination 🗣️

A local panel shares tips and techniques for discussing racism, discrimination, and bullying with the children in your life.

Monday April 12, 6:00 p.m. Recording available after April 14

## Key Bookmark: Grab & Go Kit ♦

Design a *Front Desk*-inspired, key-shaped bookmark.

Starting Saturday, April 17

## Front Desk Family Book Group 🗣️

Discuss *Front Desk* by Kelly Yang.

Saturday, April 24, 11:00 a.m.



HAROLD DE PUJOS

**“A Novel Idea” Youth Edition Author Kelly Yang**  
Join award-winning author Kelly Yang for a live presentation about her book *Front Desk*, the “A Novel Idea” 2021 Youth Edition selection.

Live on YouTube

Saturday, May 1, 4:00 p.m.

Recording on YouTube after live event

FRONT  
DESK  
EVENTS

Youth  
EDITION



### Joshua Tree National Park Ranger Talk 🎧

Learn about this unique desert ecosystem with National Park Service Rangers.

Tuesday, April 6, 6:30 p.m.  
Recording available after April 8

### Quilt Show

Every year since 2011, Central Oregon quilters have put their own spin on “A Novel Idea” selections. With the book as inspiration and fabric as their medium, these artists create one-of-a-kind quilts that both delight and illuminate the book in unexpected ways.

Wednesday, April 7, 6:00 p.m.  
Recording available online

### Redmond High School Jazz Band

Join Ben Lawson, the director of Redmond High School’s jazz band, for music, memories, and the meaning of being a part of a jazz band.

Sunday, April 11, 4:00 p.m.  
Recording available online

### 1981 Casablanca & Contemporary Morocco 🎧

Hear past events in Casablanca put into context for today.

Wednesday, April 14, 6:00 p.m.  
Recording available after April 16

### Reaping What You Sow: Refugee Caravans at the U.S.-Mexico Border 🎧

Tom O’Keefe of Stanford’s Center for Latin American Studies explores how U.S. policies shaped the current immigration crisis.

Thursday, April 15, 6:00 p.m.  
Recording available after April 17

### Build Your Own Terrarium★

Learn about the care and feeding of air plants as you create your own mini Joshua Tree-inspired ecosystem.

Saturday, April 17, 1:00 p.m.  
Recording available online

### Merging Flavors: “A Novel Idea” Cooking Workshop 🎧

Gather ingredients and cook delicious meals inspired by the book.

Saturday, April 17,  
3:00 p.m.  
Recording available after April 19

### PTSD: Symptoms and Treatment 🎧

Discuss the symptoms of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and explore resources for evidence-based trauma treatment.

Monday, April 19, 1:00 p.m.  
Recording available after April 21

### Hearing in Color 🎧

Join us on a journey into the experiences of a synesthete and learn what it is like to hear in color.

Thursday, April 22, 7:00 p.m.  
Recording available after April 24

### Art Inspired by Art

Explore the art inspired by *The Other Americans* created by COCC students.

Monday, April 26, 6:00 p.m.  
Recording available online

### The Opioid Epidemic in America 🎧

Examine the history and influence of opioids and learn how their use for pain relief transformed into a national epidemic.

Tuesday, April 27, 5:30 p.m.  
Recording available after April 29

### “A Novel Idea” Trivia 🎧

Test your knowledge of the “A Novel Idea” adult and youth titles.

Thursday, April 29, 6:00 p.m.  
Recording available after May 1

# THE OTHER AMERICANS EVENTS



© JESSE DITTMAR

### “A Novel Idea” Author Laila Lalami

Join award-winning author Laila Lalami for a live presentation about her book *The Other Americans*, the “A Novel Idea...Read Together” 2021 community read selection.

Live on YouTube 

Sunday, May 2, 4:00 p.m.

Recording on YouTube after live event

★REGISTRATION REQUIRED 🎧 LIVE VIA ZOOM  LIVE VIA YOUTUBE

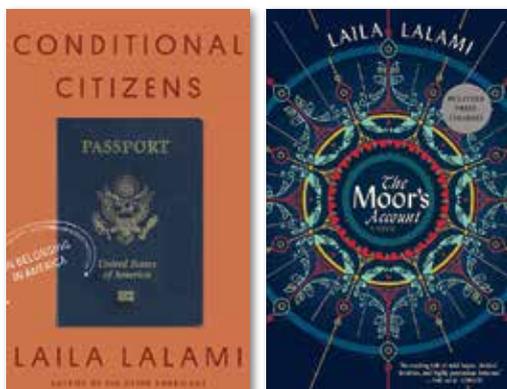
All programs are presented online. Access programs on Zoom, view recordings, or register for programs by visiting the library’s online calendar: [www.deschuteslibrary.org/calendar](http://www.deschuteslibrary.org/calendar)

# ABOUT THE AUTHORS

## LAILA LALAMI

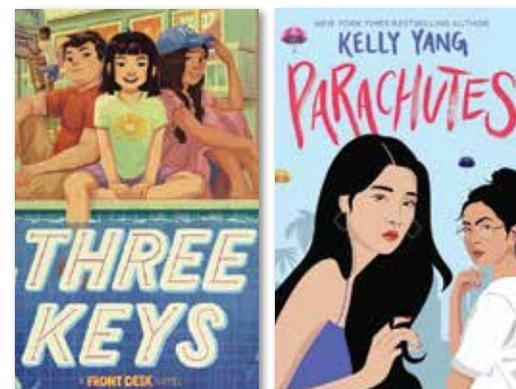
was born in Rabat and educated in Morocco, Great Britain, and the United States.

She is the author of four novels, including *The Moor's Account*, which won the American Book Award, the Arab-American Book Award, and the Hurston/Wright Legacy Award and was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in Fiction. Her most recent novel, *The Other Americans*, was a national bestseller and a finalist for the Kirkus Prize and the National Book Award in Fiction. She has received fellowships from the British Council, the Fulbright Program, and the Guggenheim Foundation and is currently a full professor of creative writing at the University of California at Riverside. Her new book, a work of nonfiction called *Conditional Citizens: On Belonging in America*, was published in September 2020.



## KELLY YANG

immigrated to America when she was six and grew up in Southern California, where she and her parents worked in three different motels. She eventually went to college at the age of 13 and law school at 17. She is a graduate of UC Berkeley, where she majored in Political Science, and Harvard Law School. She gave up law to pursue her passion of writing and teaching children writing. She is the founder of The Kelly Yang Project ([kellyyang.edu.hk](http://kellyyang.edu.hk)), a leading writing and debating program for kids in Asia. Kelly helped thousands of children find their voice and become better writers and more powerful speakers. She has been published in the *South China Morning Post*, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, and *The Atlantic*. Kelly is also the author of *Three Keys*, the sequel to *Front Desk*, and the YA novel *Parachutes*. She has three children and lives in San Francisco.



DESCHUTES PUBLIC  
LIBRARY  
FOUNDATION

**Lonza**  
Pharma & Biotech

**usbank**



THIS PROGRAM IS SUPPORTED BY  
THE OREGON CULTURAL TRUST.



**E.H. and M.E. BOWERMAN**  
ADVISED FUND OF THE  
OREGON COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION



**Wealth  
Management**

**Friends of the Library**

[www.deschuteslibrary.org/novelidea](http://www.deschuteslibrary.org/novelidea)