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Orange County Library System announces virtual NEA Big Reads series in August

*Orlando, Florida will come together to read and celebrate *Pretty Monsters**

ORLANDO, FL (July 8, 2020) - The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and the Orange County Library System are teaming up to present the NEA Big Read series with featured keynote author Kelly Link, as she presents from her award-winning YA book *Pretty Monsters*. Link will kick off this special virtual summer series on August 23, 2020.

Big Read is a NEA grants program, managed by Arts Midwest, which supports influential community reading programs. The initial goal of the program is to introduce and promote older books to new readers, participate in art programming, and help enhance their creativity. Each program is designed around a NEA Big Read book, including Kelly Link's *Pretty Monsters*, the supernatural themed selected title for OCLS.

The kick-off event will feature a virtual keynote by *Pretty Monsters* author Kelly Link at 2 p.m. *Pretty Monsters* is a collection of nine stories in the genre of fantasy and fairy tales. While the stories are distinct from one another, they all capture that same nether-worldly spirit of the macabre. The book teeters seamlessly between funny, strange and breathtaking.

NEA Big Read is a program of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) designed to broaden our understanding of our world, our communities, and ourselves through the joy of sharing a good book. Orange County Library system is one of 78 not-for-profit organizations to receive a grant to host an NEA Big Read project from August 23, 2020 through September 13, 2020. The NEA Big Read in Orlando, Florida is presented in partnership with Valencia College with support from the National Endowment for the Arts.

For more information and to view a full calendar of events, visit ocls.info/bigread.

For more information on Kelly Link, visit www.prhspeakers.com.

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