**Extra Credit with Cultural Events: Fall 2016**

**Overview**: These assignments are a way to get an even better education than you would normally—and to boost your grade, too. What’s not to like?! Below I’ve listed a few things you can do, and I’m open to other ideas, as long as you run it by me first.

**Due date:** Turn them in as soon after the event as possible, it’s fresh in your mind. By the end of the semester, I will take only one from each of you, so don’t wait until then.

**What to Write**: In all cases I’m going to want a 1-page typed (MLA format) report of your experiences. Show me that you both went and thought about what you saw. Relate it to something we’ve read, if possible. Attach a “souvenir” such as a ticket, program, or photo of the event. This can be part of the 1-page report, but either keep the photo small or extend the essay half a page or so to compensate.

**What you get:** I’m offering a total of 30 points for the whole semester. Doesn’t sound like much, but on a 100-point assignment, it can turn a C- to an A+. Generally I offer up to 10 points per assignment, more if it is a more challenging or time-consuming task. I know this isn’t much, but of course you also get an enhanced educational experience and often free food and/or entertainment, as well.

NOTE: Most of these are once-only opportunities, so note the dates!

* **Los Gatos-Listowel (Irish) Writers’ Festival** Oct 6-9 <http://writersweeklosgatos.com/>
* ***It Can’t Happen Here*** (a play about politics)Berkeley Rep: runs through Nov 6th <http://www.berkeleyrep.org/season/1617/10650.asp>
* Check out the list of **visiting writers** who are sponsored by the **Center for Literary Arts** <http://www.litart.org/>. Their talks are in King Library unless otherwise noted. Usually lasts an hour, usually free, usually include refreshments.
1. October 19, 7pm **Luis Valdez**--SJSU alumnus and award-winning playwright, author of Zoot Suit and La Bamba, at this gala fundraiser in the newly refurbished Hammer Theatre (downtown).
2. November 15, 7pm –**Vendela Vida** is the award-winning author of five books. She co-wrote the screenplay for the 2009 film *Away We Go*.
3. December 7, 7pm – Reading and Discussion join the CLA and the Steinbeck Center for readings by this year’s Steinbeck Fellows **Xochitl-Julisa Bermejo** and **Gary Singh.**
*  *Corridos Remix* Directed by Kinan Valdez November 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 @8pm. The Hammer Theatre Center. For other Theater Department performances: <http://www.sjsu.edu/trft/trft_production_calendar/>
* 6 Oct, 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM SJSU Student Union Theater (downstairs, same plaza as Starbucks) All Campus Reads ***Just Mercy* event**: What does ***Just Mercy*** mean to those with personal experience with the criminal justice system?  Hear perspectives on the transition from incarceration to community from formerly incarcerated people and SJSU Justice Studies professors. Moderated by Raj Jayadev, Director of Silicon Valley DeBug.
* For other ***Just Mercy*** events: <http://www.sjsu.edu/reading/events_discussions/>

For other ideas, check the **Events Calendar**, and if you see something interesting, run it by me before you go—send an email.

<https://events.sjsu.edu/EventList.aspx?fromdate=9/26/2016&todate=10/2/2016&display=Week&view=DateTime>