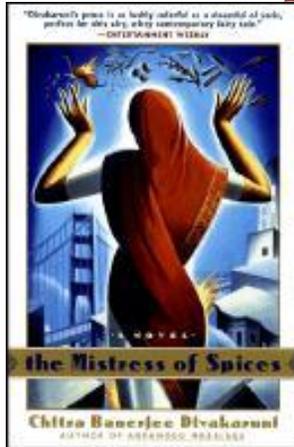
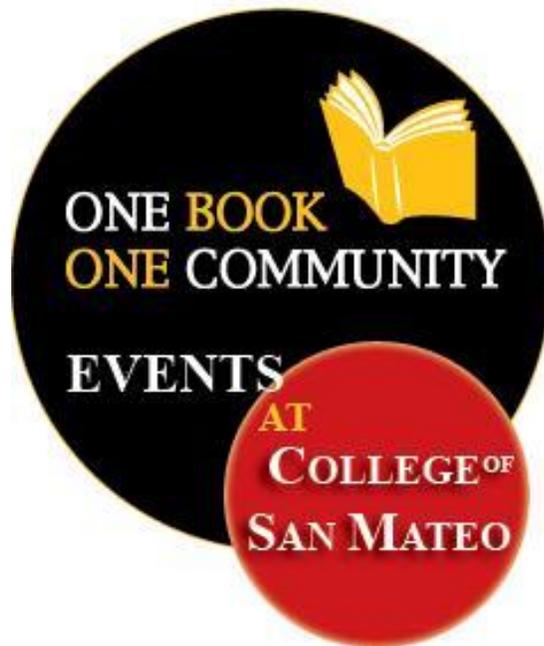




The Mistress of Spices



by Chitra Divakaruni



The CSM Library and the Peninsula Library System look forward to faculty and classified staff input to help develop related programming for students and the community as part of the countywide Fall 2009 "One Book, One Community" Campaign. This year's author is Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni.

Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni is an award-winning author and poet. Her themes include women, immigration, the South Asian experience, history, myth, magic, and celebrating diversity. Her books have been translated into 20 languages, including Dutch, Hebrew, Russian and Japanese. Two novels, *The Mistress of Spices* and *Sister of My Heart*, have been made into films. Her collection of short stories, *Arranged Marriage*, won an American Book Award.

Ms. Divakaruni currently teaches at the nationally ranked creative writing program at the University of Texas. Before moving to Texas, Ms. Divakaruni taught creative writing at two local community colleges; Diablo Valley College in Pleasant Hill and Foothill College in Los Altos, CA. Much of her work is set in Northern California.

We especially encourage faculty to assign all or part of this book to their classes as part of the regular curriculum or for extra credit if possible. Professor Divakaruni will be speaking at the San Mateo County Performing Arts Center on October 1, 2009. The event is free and open to the public.

We would like to arrange for her to speak at CSM if possible. We need faculty and staff to work with us to develop programs around the book that would support her appearance, as well as generate an audience.

Click on the titles for information about past OBOC events at CSM featuring Khaled Hosseini's [The Kite Runner](#) (2006) and Isabel Allende's [Daughter of Fortune](#) (2007). CSM did not develop any OBOC programs in 2008.

Please get involved and contact Lorrita Ford, Director of Library Services at fordl@smccd.edu or 650-574-6569 ASAP to let us know if you are interested in helping to develop programs or activities for the fall.