

THE NEA BIG READ

IMMIGRANT EXPERIENCES

PROJECT CONTEST



Attention Kent State Students!

Throughout Fall 2023, our entire community has the opportunity to participate in a series of events surrounding a National Endowment for the Arts Midwest Big Read Grant featuring the graphic novel, *The Best We Could Do*, by Thi Bui. You can be a part of this event by submitting a proposal to the NEA Big Read Immigrant Experiences Project Contest!

THE CONTEST:

We are a diverse nation, made up of many stories that include immigration of some kind. Some of us have relatives who found refuge here from war, famine, political oppression, etc. Some of us have ancestors who were brought here against their will or were forced to leave their native lands. All narratives are powerful and deserve to be explored and honored!

This is where you come in. This semester, you have the opportunity to submit a proposal for a project that honors experiences of immigrants and refugees as part of our NEA Big Read Immigrant Experiences Project Contest!

Proposals for projects may include, but are not limited to:

- » Traditional Essays
- » Poster Presentations
- » Poems, short stories, video interviews
- » Painting, photography, sculpture, or other work of art
- » A song, soundscape, or other musical interpretation of an immigrant experience

* The project need not directly relate to your family history. You may explore any topic that honors or celebrates the experiences of immigrants and/or refugees.

Proposals must include:

- » A 150-word abstract of your project.
- » A signed letter of support from a faculty member.

The deadline to submit proposals is Nov. 30th. You may submit your proposal via email to Dr. Alexis Baker at abaker9@kent.edu.

Submissions will be judged by a panel of Kent State Stark Faculty. All approved projects will be highlighted at the KSU Stark Annual Student Conference in April of 2024, with an invitation for the contributor to talk about their project. The top two entries will receive a free tablet! All approved projects and top two winners will be notified by a faculty member.

If you have interest,

please contact Dr. Alexis Baker at abaker9@kent.edu