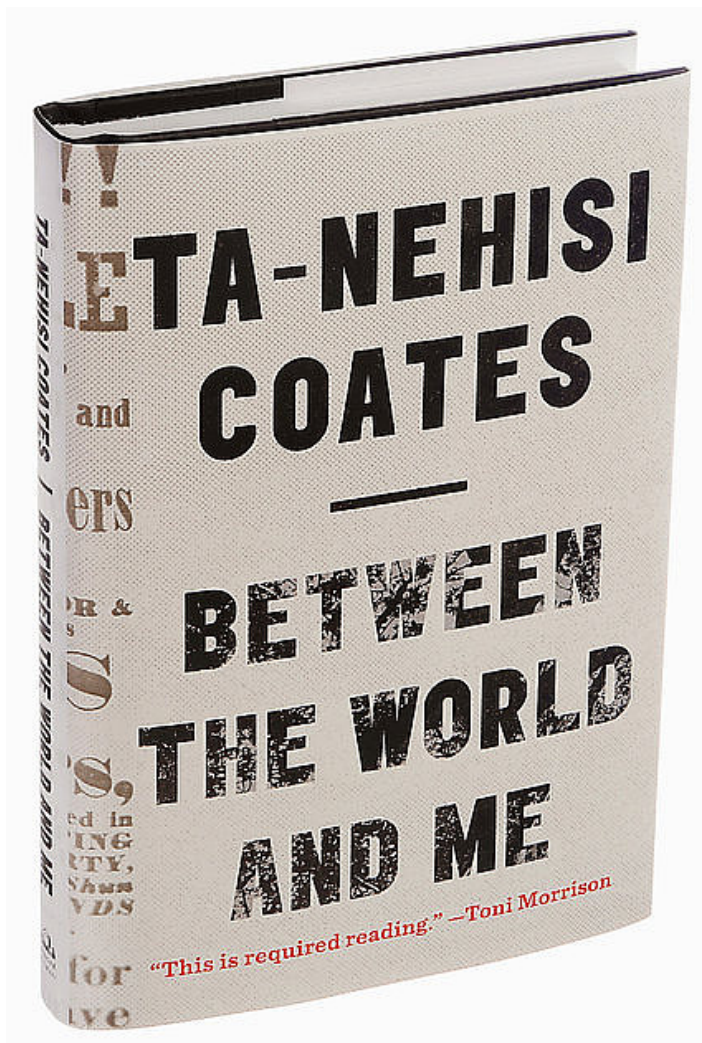


READ-IN AT LASC



In an effort to support campus and community literacy, Los Angeles Southwest College's Student Success Center will be hosting a read-in on Thursday, Oct. 29, of the best-selling book *Between the World and Me* by acclaimed author Ta-Nehisi Coates.

Community members will join LASC faculty and staff members in reading the book - which novelist Toni Morrison says is "required reading" - aloud from beginning to end from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Library on the second floor of the Cox Building.

Coates' book is written as a letter to his teenaged son about the feelings, symbolism and realities associated with being black in the United States.

"Students will be able to relate to it," Student Success Center Director Sabrena Turner-Odom says. "It is all about current events and their

historical context such as how we as a society got to where we are now with current social issues that we deal with in this community."

Turner-Odom says that she has wanted to create more activities on campus in which all students are welcome and there is a common theme that they can relate to. She also wants to use the event as a way to make students and the community aware of the college's reading program.

"I hope students get a stronger appreciation for reading and an understanding that reading one book from cover to cover is possible and fun," Turner-Odom says. "Reading should be looked at as enjoyable, can be shared with people, and can stimulate great dialog. The experience of understanding and enjoying a book is an experience that everyone should have."