

## **VENTURA COUNTY LIBRARY**

## 5600 Everglades St., Suite A, Ventura, CA 93003

# www.vencolibrary.org

# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 13, 2023

SUBJECT: ***Mariposas del Campo*** – a film screening with Robin Rosenthal and Bill Yahraus, celebrating Ventura County’s 150th Anniversary – at the Albert H. Soliz Library (2820 Jourdan Street, Oxnard, CA)

CONTACT: Ron Solórzano, Regional Librarian, (805) 218-9146

## DATE: Saturday, August 12, 2023; 7:30pm

Filmmakers **Robin Rosenthal and Bill Yahraus** will visit the **Albert H. Soliz Library** at **7:30pm on Saturday, August 12, 2023**, for a screening of their film ***Mariposas del Campo***. The film will be shown outdoors in the library’s parking lot; limited seating will be available, and attendees are encouraged to bring their own seating as well if they wish. This screening is being put on as part of Ventura County’s celebration of its 150th Anniversary.

*Mariposas del Campo* shares the stories of indigenous Mixtec, Zapotec, and Purépecha teenagers from Mexico striving to change their families’ destinies in the strawberry fields of Oxnard, California. Through a stormy year of sanctioned racism and anti-immigrant policies, the documentary captures their journeys—with help from the characters’ own intimate videos—as they navigate cultural identity, parental expectations, economic challenges, and the justice needs of their migrant farmworker community. For young people whose lives have always been steeped in uncertainty, it takes a leap of faith to chase a dream.

Pony Highway Productions is the husband-and-wife team of Bill Yahraus and Robin Rosenthal. Their award-winning documentaries—made with the members of a traveling tent circus; a Hall of Fame racehorse trainer’s barn; and a team of Mexican American female equestrians—have aired nationally on PBS and toured internationally.

Regarding *Mariposas del Campo*, the filmmakers note, "Among the many lessons of the pandemic was the essential role of the workers who harvest our food. *Mariposas* gives voice to these families, connecting them to the larger immigrant story playing out daily in the news, in the political realm, and in the history of this country."

"A big priority for us was insuring that the young people portrayed had a say in how they and their community were seen. During filming, we held video training workshops—providing cameras and the opportunity to discuss their footage and talk about the direction the film was taking. Our young collaborators dove in with gusto, contributing significant personal material. The film you will see is a mix of our footage and theirs."

This event is free and open to the public. For additional information, contact Ron Solórzano, Regional Librarian, at (805) 218-9146 or [ron.solorzano@ventura.org](mailto:ron.solorzano@ventura.org).

The Albert H. Soliz Library is located at 2820 Jourdan Street in Oxnard, CA. Hours of service are 2pm to 6pm Monday, Tuesday, and Friday; 10am to 1pm and 2pm to 6pm on Wednesday; and 2pm to 7:30pm on Thursday.

*Ventura County Library:  
Inspiring our community to explore, discover and connect.*

The Ventura County Library is available 24/7 at [www.vencolibrary.org](http://www.vencolibrary.org).

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