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'Writers Resist' returns in Houston

The rained-out reading gets rescheduled for Thursday

By Alyson Ward, Houston Chronicle Updated 10:47 am, Monday, January 30, 2017

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Jingting Lu holding a sign during Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee's press conference at Bush Intercontinental Airport, challenging the Executive Order regarding the ban on selective Muslim nations. (For the Chronicle/Gary Fountain, January 29, 2017) less

On Election Day, torrential rains postponed the Writers Resist reading in Houstor Now it's back on the calendar. More than 30 Houston writers and poets are lined up to read **Thursday night** at "Writers Resist: Let Us Gather." The reading starts at 7 p.m. at St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 5501 Main.

Writers Resist is a national movement that organized almost spontaneously after the election of President Donald Trump. In the week of Trump's inauguration, writers gathered to read at more than 75 events around the world. The events weren't protest with signs and marching; instead, the readings allowed writers to stand up and read passages - from their own work and the work of others - about democracy and freedom, protest and activism, hope and social justice.

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Writers Resist is about "sharing a commitment to the spirit of compassion, equality, free speech and the fundamental ideals of democracy," says Lupe Méndez, one of the local organizers. The first Houston event was Jan. 15.

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At this makeup reading in Houston, writers will represent a number of local literary institutions, including Balcony Poets, Inprint, Houston VIP poetry-slam team, Writespace, Nuestra Palabra: Latino Writers Having Their Say and Writers in the Schools. For a full list of the writers who are lined up to participate, check out the event's Facebook page.

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