

YOUNG PEOPLE FIGHT OUR WARS; THAT'S WHY THEY SHOULD READ *THE THINGS THEY CARRIED.*

The Things They Carried, Tim O'Brien's fictionalized account of his experiences in Vietnam, paints a compelling—sometimes brutal—portrait of the war's effect on the soldiers caught in its grip. It's unforgettable.

O'Brien's book is the focus of the 2010 **The Big Read Westchester**, brought to you by ArtsWestchester and Westchester County Library System. *The New York Times* critic Michiko Kakutani calls *The Things They Carried* "...a vital, important book."

HOW CAN MY AGENCY PARTICIPATE?

The Big Read goals are simple: engage many people in reading — and thinking about — one book during a concentrated period of time.

- Encourage teens and young adults to read *The Things They Carried* during February and March 2010, Westchester's **The Big Read** months
- Organize a book discussion group for teens or staff; we can provide a facilitator free of charge.
- Participate in **The Big Read** events —film showings, a staged reading, panel presentations workshops and more.
- Bring a teaching artist to your site, enabling teens to explore one of the book's themes through a creative art project like making a video for YouTube, writing a memoir, or developing an oral history.

TO LEARN MORE visit www.artswestchester.org or return the attached reply card.

PLANNING COMMITTEE: *Fordham University at Westchester, Greater Hudson Valley Chapter of The Links Inc, Hudson Valley Writers' Center, The Picture House, Westchester Community College, Westchester County Youth Bureau, Westchester Library System, Youth Theatre Interactions.*

PARTICIPATING AGENCIES AND SCHOOLS (to date):

American Legion, Boys & Girls Club of Northern Westchester, Bronxville High School, City of Mount Vernon Veterans' Service Agency, Croton-Harmon High School, Dobbs Ferry Public Library, East Yonkers Kiwanis, Elmsford Rotary, Empire State College, Greenburgh Parks and Recreation Department, Greenburgh Public Library, Hastings High School, Hendrick Hudson Free Library, Hendrick Hudson High School, John Jay High School, Katonah Village Library, Mercy College, Mount Vernon High School, Mount Vernon Public Library, Mount Vernon Rotary, New Rochelle High School, Ossining High School, Somers Historical Society, Somers Library, The Jewish War Veterans Somers Post 46, The Poetry Caravan, Valhalla High School, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Westchester County Office of Veterans Affairs, Westchester County Veterans Museum, Westchester Youth Shelter, Westhab PEAK, White Plains Youth Bureau, Yonkers Arts, & YWCA of White Plains.

NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE ARTS



THE BIG READ IS AN
INITIATIVE OF THE
NATIONAL ENDOWMENT
FOR THE ARTS IN
PARTNERSHIP
WITH THE INSTITUTE
OF MUSEUM AND
LIBRARY SERVICES
AND ARTS MIDWEST.

