



July 9th 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Reading In Public**

[www.readinginpublic.com](http://www.readinginpublic.com)

*Celebrate the written word by way of community performance in a public space. The Reading in Public (RIP) project was formed to counter that reading is not dead nor is it a lost art.*

SAN LUIS OBISPO — **Reading In Public** (RIP) was formed to celebrate the written word by way of community performance in public spaces. The project grew out of our own reflection on the shifting landscape in publishing, as the print industry continues its slide downward. On the other hand, online media is evolving at a phenomenal rate, and, increasingly, we all find ourselves writing in public, as bloggers or tweeters, for instance.

Similarly, **Reading In Public** seeks to broadcast words into the public agora, however participants wish to read: Whether traditionally with the simple, quiet act of contemplative reading on a noisy street corner, or as performance, interactively engaging onlookers. By interrupting the solitude of the reader and directing attention at the act of reading, we make for reflection on the importance of words. The public provides its own commentary, by signing up to be a part of the project as reader, or through incidental participation as observer.

**What:** We'll be wheeling the **Reading In Public book chair** to various sites in downtown San Luis Obispo, and readers of every ilk are being assigned to those locations. A complete schedule of readers and locations will be posted on Friday, July 24th at [www.readinginpublic.com](http://www.readinginpublic.com)

**When:** Saturday, August 1, 2009, 10am - until dusk.

**Where:** Downtown San Luis Obispo, CA

**Call for Readers**

We're looking for readers -- grandparents, troubadours, spoken word performers, signers, mimes, poets, authors, storytellers -- people of all ages and walks of life who share a passion not only for words, but for story telling. Readers are free to bring their books, poems, newspapers, magazines, Kindles, laptops, favorite sites, Tweets, Braille -- we welcome it ALL. Sign up on our website by July 16th.

[www.readinginpublic.com](http://www.readinginpublic.com)

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Reading in Public is a project created and managed by Nothing Happened Here.  
[www.Nothinghappenedhere.com](http://www.Nothinghappenedhere.com)

**Caption for image:** Sketch of Reading in Public book chair courtesy of designer Chris Allen.

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