Readings and Conversations with Pulitzer Prize-Winning Journalist & Writer

DIANA MARCUM, author of the bestselling memoir

THE TENTH ISLAND:
FINDING JOY, BEAUTY, AND UNEXPECTED LOVE IN THE AZORES

Wednesday, October 10, 2018 @ 3:30pm
O’Leary Library, Room 478
Parking: Wilder Lot

Reporter Diana Marcum is in crisis. A long-buried personal sadness is enfolding her—and her career is stalled—when she stumbles upon an unusual group of immigrants living in rural California. She follows them on their annual return to the remote Azorean Islands in the North Atlantic, where bulls run down village street, volcanoes are active, and the people celebrate festas to ease their saudade, a longing so deep that the Portuguese word for it can’t be fully translated. Years later, California is in a terrible drought, the wildfires seem to never end, and Diana finds herself still dreaming of those islands and the chuva—a rain so soft you don’t notice when it begins or ends. Diana returns to the islands of her dreams only to discover that there are still things she longs for—and one of them may be a most unexpected love.

Diana Marcum is a narrative writer for the Los Angeles Times. In 2015 she won the Pulitzer Prize for feature writing for her newspaper portraits of farmers, field-workers, and others in the drought-stricken towns of California’s Central Valley.

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