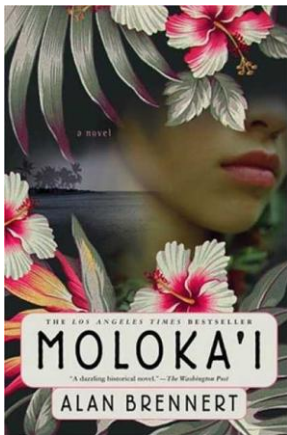


PARENT CENTER ADULT BOOK CLUB 2013 SELECTION

DISCUSSION DATE: **SATURDAY, APRIL 27TH, 2013 @ 10AM**

"*Moloka'i*" by Alan Brennert

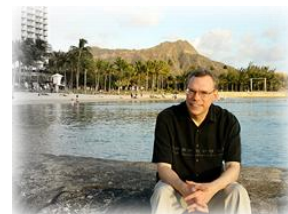


This richly imagined novel, set in Hawai'i more than a century ago, is an extraordinary epic of a little-known time and place and a deeply moving testament to the resiliency of the human spirit.

Rachel Kalama, a spirited seven-year-old Hawaiian girl, dreams of visiting far-off lands like her father, a merchant seaman. Then one day a rose-colored mark appears on her skin and those dreams are stolen from her. Taken from her home and family, Rachel is sent to Kalaupapa, the quarantined leprosy settlement on the island of Moloka'i. Here her life is supposed to end—but instead she discovers it is only just beginning.

With a vibrant cast of vividly realized characters, *Moloka'i* is the true-to-life chronicle of a people who embraced life in the face of death. Such is the warmth, humor, and compassion of this novel that readers will be changed forever by Rachel's story.

Moloka'i, about the forced segregation of leprosy patients to the settlement of Kalaupapa in Hawai'i, won praise from *The Washington Post*, the *Chicago Tribune*, and *Publishers Weekly*, and became a national bestseller in paperback as well as a favorite selection of reading groups across the country. It was also a 2012 One Book, One San Diego selection.



Author, Alan Brennert

Though a work of fiction, *Moloka'i* is based very much on fact. The author weaves real, historical patients and caregivers--from Father Damien to Mother Marianne Cope to the governor of the Territory of Hawai'i, Lawrence Judd--into the fabric of the story. Most everything in the novel has its basis in history, but the book is far more than that; it is the moving story of a woman's life, a life that sadly had too many counterparts in the real world.

For more information call the
New Parent Center, 900 Boston Avenue, Bridgeport (203) 275-1751

The discussion will be held at:
THE NORTH BRANCH PUBLIC LIBRARY - 3455 MADISON AVENUE, BRIDGEPORT
(WEBSITE) <http://bportlibrary.org/north>