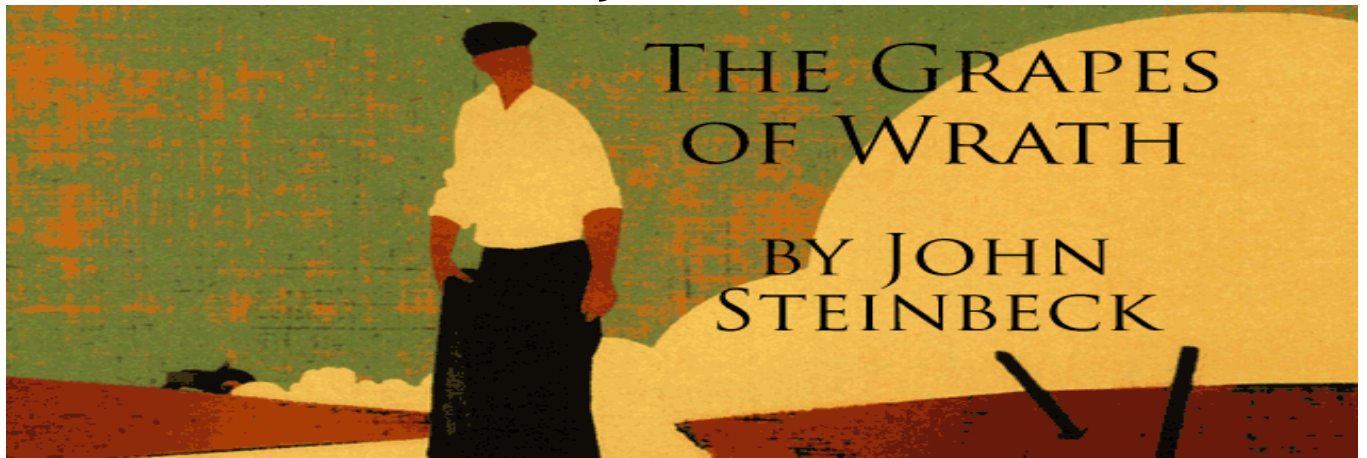


This Year's Community Read:



In conjunction with this year's Community Read, The History Center will feature an expert speaker and show a film on the history surrounding the subject.

The local community read of The Grapes of Wrath raises a number of relevant historical questions. What do historians know about the origins of the Dust Bowl and the Okies who made the trek to California? Why did the plight of the Joads and the other beleaguered Dust Bowl migrants at the center of John Steinbeck's classic Depression-era novel of hardship and courage, resonate so strongly with the American people? Are the lessons of that turbulent era relevant and useful for policy-making today?

On September 12, the History Center in Tompkins County presents Prof. Clete Daniel, professor of American labor history in the ILR School at Cornell University and author of Bitter Harvest: A History of California Farmworkers, 1870-1941. Prof. Daniel's presentation will examine these and other questions and will be preceded by a showing of Pare Lorenz's film "The Plow that Broke the Plains" (25 minutes). "Plow" was selected for preservation in the United States National Film Registry by the Library of Congress as being "culturally, historically, or aesthetically significant."

A question and answer session will conclude the event.

The program begins at 1 p.m. on September 12th and is free and open to the public.



at: The History Center in Tompkins County
401 East State Street, Ithaca, New York in the Gateway Center