Join us for an evening of poetry readings and a musical performance with the first Chicana Poet Laureate of Santa Barbara, Melinda Palacio. She is the author of the novel *Ocotillo Dreams*, for which she received the Mariposa Award for Best First Book at the 2012 International Latino Book Awards and a 2012 PEN Oakland–Josephine Miles Award for Excellence in Literature. Melinda’s latest poetry collection is called *Bird Forgiveness*. Her first full-length poetry collection, *How Fire Is a Story, Waiting*, was a finalist for the Milt Kessler Award, the Paterson Prize, and received First Prize in Poetry at the 2013 International Latino Book Awards. Co-sponsored by the Chicana/o Studies Department, Las Maestras Center.

**THURSDAY, NOV 16TH, 2023**
6–7:30pm, Performance/MCC Theater

For more information or assistance in accommodating people of varying abilities contact the MultiCultural Center at 805.893.8411