



LOS ANGELES PUBLIC LIBRARY

LIBRARY NEWS

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**Award-winning Author Luis Rodriguez Among  
Writers at “Word Thirst” Poetry Kick-off Event  
on Oct. 22 at Arroyo Seco Branch Library**

Poetry fans are invited to attend “Word Thirst,” a free, new poetry program featuring the participation of three local Latino writers, including best-selling author Luis Rodriguez, on Thursday, Oct. 22, from 6-7pm at Los Angeles Public Library’s Arroyo Seco Branch, 6145 N. Figueroa St., Los Angeles.

Rodriguez, award-winning author of “Always Running” and “The Republic of East L.A.,” will read selections of his work. In addition to his literary endeavors, he has also written articles for *The Nation*, *New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Chicago Tribune*, *U.S. News & World Report*, and *LA Weekly* among other publications. He is a regular honorary guest host on KJLH-FM’s Front Page radio talk show in Los Angeles.

Joining Rodriguez in this kick-off “Word Thirst” event will be emerging, L.A.-based poets Xochitl-Julisa Bermejo and Erika Ayón.

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Bermejo is a poetry editor for The Splinter Generation, and has been published in Glass Poetry Journal, The Umbrella Journal, PALABRA, and Los Angeles Review.

Ayón was recently selected as a 2009 Rosenthal Emerging Voices Fellow and has taught poetry to high school students as part of "P.E.N. (a worldwide literary organization) In The Classroom (PITC)." She is currently at work on "Orange Lady," a collection of her poetry.

The branch is launching "Word Thirst" as a monthly literary program in which both emerging and established writers are invited to share their work with the public. For more information on this free event, please call the branch at (323) 255-0537.

The Los Angeles Public Library serves the largest urban population of any library in the country. Its Central library, 71 branch libraries, six million books and state-of-the-art technology provide everyone with free and easy access to information and the opportunity for life-long learning. For further information, visit the Library's Web site at [www.lapl.org](http://www.lapl.org).

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