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**Library Foundation to Honor
Author Junot Díaz
At 22nd Anniversary Celebration
*Biannual Fundraiser to Benefit the
Los Angeles Public Library***

On Sept. 20, 2014, the Library Foundation of Los Angeles will celebrate its 22nd Anniversary with a gala celebration honoring Pulitzer Prize-winning writer Junot Díaz.

Díaz, author of the critically acclaimed *Drown*; *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*, which won the 2008 Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Critics Circle Award; and *This Is How You Lose Her*, a New York Times bestseller and National Book Award finalist, will receive the Los Angeles Public Library's Literary Award.

"We at the Los Angeles Public Library are thrilled to honor one of our era's greatest writers in Junot Díaz," said City Librarian John F. Szabo. "As an articulate champion of the immigrant experience, unparalleled in sheer originality of language, with a keen sense of history, culture, and the way forward, he is a writer relevant to the people of Los Angeles at this very moment."

The Literary Award is presented to an author for his or her outstanding contribution to literature. Past honorees have included Salman Rushdie, Harper Lee, Walter Mosley, Susan Sontag, Larry McMurtry, Norman Mailer, and others.

During the evening, bestselling author Judith Krantz will also receive the Foundation's Light of Learning Award for her passionate advocacy for the Los Angeles Public Library.

Former Light of Learning recipients include Sharon and Nelson Rising, The Ahmanson Foundation, Gregory and Veronique Peck, Wallis Annenberg, Flora Thornton, and other longtime supporters. The Foundation's anniversary is celebrated biannually.

The 22nd Anniversary Celebration will take place at the California Club, just steps from the historic downtown Central Library. Proceeds raised from the event will go towards three major program areas supported by the Foundation: Investing in New Readers, Helping Students Succeed, and Creating the Innovative Library of the Future.

For more information, please visit www.lfla.org.

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About the Library Foundation

The Library Foundation of Los Angeles provides critical support to the Los Angeles Public Library resulting in free programs, resources and services available to the millions of adults, children and youth of Los Angeles. Through fundraising, advocacy and innovative programs, the Library Foundation strengthens the Los Angeles Public Library and promotes greater awareness of its valuable resources. For more information, please visit www.lfla.org.

About the Los Angeles Public Library

The Los Angeles Public Library serves the largest and most diverse population of any library in the nation. Its Central Library, 72 branch libraries, more than six million books, and state-of-the-art technology accessible at www.lapl.org provide everyone with free and easy access to information and the opportunity for life-long learning.