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Los Angeles Public Library Hosts Diversity in Speculative Fiction Event

Writers of Color Panel Discussion on Oct. 15 at the Downtown Central Library

Los Angeles, Oct. 9, 2015—The Los Angeles Public Library will host “Fiction Through a Dark Lens,” a free panel discussion at the Central Library by four established and emerging speculative fiction writers of color, Thursday, Oct. 15, 2015 at 6:30 p.m., 630 W. Fifth St. The authors will explain what motivates their work, the growing diversity in speculative fiction and how genre narratives can help foster healing.

Author Tananarive Due, whose short story collection *Ghost Summer* was released in September, will moderate the panel. Participants include:

- Steven Barnes, novelist and screenwriter, *The Kundalini Equation* and *Lion's Blood*
- Lilliam Rivera, young adult author of upcoming novels *My Shelf Life* and *Dealing in Sueños*
- Ayize Jama-Everett, science fiction author, *The Liminal People* and *The Entropy of Bones*
- Nalo Hopkinson, science fiction and fantasy author, *Falling in Love with Hominids* and *Sister Mine*

"I am absolutely delighted that Afrofuturist writer and Hugo Awards co-host Tananarive Due and four stellar panelists are coming to Central Library. In a world long dominated by narratives of white male heroes, things are changing because of the excellent work of writers like these," said James Sherman, librarian in Literature and Fiction at the Central Library.

A 2015 recipient of the nation's highest honor for library service—the National Medal from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the Los Angeles Public Library serves the largest and most diverse urban population of any library in the nation. Its Central Library, 72 branch libraries, collection of more than 6 million books, state-of-the-art technology accessible at www.lapl.org, and more than 18,000 public programs a year provide everyone with free and easy access to information and the opportunity for life-long learning.

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