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Contact: Justin Pearson
213-228-7554

Los Angeles Public Library Welcomes Caldecott Medal Winner Dan Santat *Accomplished author/illustrator to close out Summer Author Program with free event on Sept. 12*

Los Angeles, Sept., 8, 2016— The Los Angeles Public Library will conclude its free [Summer Author Program](#) at 11 a.m. on Monday, Sept. 12 when author/illustrator Dan Santat speaks at Central Library's Taper Auditorium. Santat, the 2015 Caldecott Medal Winner, will offer a humorous presentation that takes the audience through the creation of his award-winning *The Adventures of Beekle: The Unimaginary Friend* and *Are We There Yet?*, which was released earlier this year.

More than 150 students and teachers from Extera Lorena Elementary School and Tenth Street Elementary School will participate in the event with additional seats available for free to the public. Everyone in attendance will have the opportunity to win a copy of Santat's, *The Adventures of Beekle: The Unimaginary Friend*, and lunch will be served following the presentation.

Santat won the 2015 Caldecott Medal for distinguished illustration for *The Adventures of Beekle: The Unimaginary Friend*, a picture book that he wrote and illustrated. A resident of Southern California, Santat has worked on more than 20 books as an author or illustrator while also creating a cartoon titled *The Replacements* that ran for two seasons on Disney Channel.

Held in conjunction with the Library's Summer Reading Program, the free author series strives to inspire and motivate young readers throughout the summer months. This year, the Los Angeles Public Library has hosted 40 free events for children and teens, reaching nearly 38,000 participants who had the opportunity to learn firsthand from a host of distinguished authors, nearly all of whom have strong ties to this region. The program is funded by the Los Angeles Library Foundation's Future Leaders Fund, through an endowment to create programs that allow young readers to meet and connect with prominent authors.

About the Los Angeles Public Library

A 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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Peter Persic, Public Relations & Marketing Director

Los Angeles Public Library • 630 W. Fifth St. • Los Angeles CA 90071 • 213-228-7555 • Fax: 213-228-7569 • www.lapl.org