FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Contact: **Susan Lendroth**
213-228-7313

Los Angeles Public Library Launches Coretta Scott King Book Award 50th Anniversary Celebration

LOS ANGELES (April 22, 2019)—On Saturday, April 27 at Central Library, the Los Angeles Public Library will kick off a year-long celebration in honor of the 50th Anniversary of the Coretta Scott King Book Awards.

The awards are presented annually by the American Library Association (ALA) to outstanding African American authors and illustrators of books for children and young adults that demonstrate an appreciation of African American culture and universal human values.

The launch celebration on April 27, which would have been Mrs. King's 92nd birthday, will include a storytime, crafts and, of course, cake in the Children's Dept. at Central Library, 630 W. Fifth Street, Los Angeles. Festivities begin at 11:00 a.m.

The 50th anniversary celebration throughout 2019 will feature events and programs at branches across the city; a Coretta Scott King 50th Anniversary Reading Challenge; and the "Our Voice" exhibit of original art from Coretta Scott Award-winning books, November 8, 2019-January 27, 2020 at Central Library.

Visit lapl.org/csk50 for details about the reading challenge and upcoming 50th anniversary events.

The Coretta Scott King Book Awards commemorate the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and honors his wife, Mrs. Coretta Scott King, for her courage and determination in working for peace and world brotherhood.

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 25,000 programs a year provide everyone with free and easy access to information and the opportunity for lifelong learning.

####

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**