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CENTER THEATRE GROUP TO OFFER FREE PLAY READING SERIES AT LOCAL PUBLIC LIBRARIES JULY THROUGH DECEMBER 2019

Readings Will Be Presented on Various Dates at Benjamin Franklin Library, Malabar Library and Robert Louis Stevenson Library

Center Theatre Group will continue its free library play reading series with the readings of six plays on select dates from July to December. The plays will be presented at Benjamin Franklin Library on Tuesdays, Malabar Library on Wednesdays and Robert Louis Stevenson Library on Thursdays. All readings will begin at 6 p.m.

Commissioned by Childsplay Theatre, **“Chato’s Kitchen”** is written by Gary Soto and adapted and directed by Mark Valdez. It will be performed in English on Tuesday, July 16, Wednesday, July 17 and Thursday, July 18.

Presented by Teatro del Barrio, **“La Visión de los Vencidos”** is written by Miguel Leon-Portilla and adapted and directed by Sergio Serdio. It will be performed in Spanish on Tuesday, August 13, Wednesday, August 14 and Thursday, August 15.

“The Rodriguezes: A Mariachi Story” is written by Rosalie Rodriguez with music by Los Rodriguez. It will be performed in English and Spanish on Tuesday, September 17, Wednesday, September 18 and Thursday, September 19.

Presented by Off The Tracks Theatre Company, **“Cosas Pequeñas y Extraordinarias”** is written by Daniela Arroia and Michaela Gramajo and is directed by Juan Parada. It will be performed in Spanish on Tuesday, October 15, Wednesday, October 16 and Thursday, October 17.

“Ring of Red, A Barrio Story” is written by Tomás Summers Sandoval and directed by Rose Portillo. It will be performed in English on Tuesday, November 12, Wednesday, November 13 and Thursday, November 14.

Presented by Group de Teatro Sinergia, **“La Navidad del Mojado”** is written by Rubén Amavizca-Murúa and directed by Minerva García. It will be performed in Spanish on Tuesday, December 10, Wednesday, December 11 and Thursday, December 12.

The Benjamin Franklin Library is located at 2200 East 1st Street, Los Angeles, CA 90033; the Malabar Library is at 2801 Wabash Ave., Los Angeles, 90033; and the Robert Louis Stevenson Library is at 803 Spence St., Los Angeles, 90023.

“These productions, free of charge to everyone, have a special significance to our neighborhood because over 90% of our patrons are of Hispanic origin. While most speak

both Spanish and English, many do not, so Center Theatre Group makes sure that Spanish-only speakers have the opportunity to enjoy live theatre in the language they understand,” said Benjamin Franklin Library Senior Librarian/Branch Manager Connie B. Topete. “These events foster a connection between each member of the community, the library and Center Theatre Group. They also cultivate pride of heritage and self-esteem in our patrons.”

For reservations to the reading, contact Jesus A. Reyes at jreyes@ctgla.org or call 213-972-8028. More information on Center Theatre Group’s community programs can be found at www.CenterTheatreGroup.org/Community.

Now in its sixth year, the 2019 library play readings are presented by Center Theatre Group’s Education, Engagement and Community Partnerships department and are supported in part by funding from the California Arts Council. Through free workshops, events, productions, discussions and other activities that take place at traditional and nontraditional venues, Center Theatre Group is working to connect with community members and artists throughout L.A. and to facilitate inclusive and thoughtful cultural conversations.

Center Theatre Group, one of the nation’s preeminent arts and cultural organizations, is Los Angeles’ leading nonprofit theatre company, which, under Artistic Director Michael Ritchie, programs seasons at the 736-seat Mark Taper Forum and 1600 to 2100-seat Ahmanson Theatre at The Music Center in Downtown Los Angeles, and the 317-seat Kirk Douglas Theatre in Culver City. In addition to presenting and producing the broadest range of theatrical entertainment in the country, Center Theatre Group is one of the nation’s leading producers of ambitious new works through commissions and world premiere productions and a leader in interactive community engagement and education programs that reach across generations, demographics and circumstance to serve Los Angeles.

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June 26, 2018