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Authorspeak program concludes June 7 with visionary Latina voice

Elisha Miranda's socially conscious work challenges media stereotypes

DALLAS, TX – The Dallas Public Library's Authorspeak series will conclude June 7 with director, writer and producer Elisha Miranda. A visionary Latina voice, Miranda's work challenges stereotypes often seen in media portrayals of race, sexuality and gender. The program will be held at 7:30 p.m. at the Central Library, 1515 Young St.

She is currently developing *Sangria Street* on Nickelodeon. The show is the first English language program in America to prominently feature Latinas in front of and behind the camera. Her film project *Outside The Wall*, about a Puerto Rican graffiti artist, won a Tribeca All-Access Fellowship, and two of her short films, *Corporate Dawgz* and *Blind Date*, have won international awards. Her debut work of fiction, *The SistaHood: On The Mic*, written under her pen name, E-Fierce, is a hip-hop-inspired novel, the first in a four part series published by Atria Books / Simon & Schuster.

A graduate of the Department of Urban Studies and Planning at MIT, where she won the prestigious Urban Fellows Award, Miranda earned an MFA in film from Columbia University, and holds a dual BA in Ethnic Studies and English from UC Berkeley. As a product of a youth program, she is a testament to the importance of youth leadership and development. After years of working on issues ranging from multicultural education to HIV/AIDS, she began a career in entertainment with the intention of using popular media to promote social justice.

Currently an adjunct professor in film at the City University of New York, she works extensively with emerging filmmakers and other young artists. By exploring how pop culture and activism can inform and aid each other, she makes accessible the opportunities and goals that are important for young people to have.

For tickets go to: <http://www.ticketweb.com/t3/event/EventListings?orgId=11737>.

The Dallas Public Library operates the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library, 1515 Young St., and 25 branch locations. A library card is free for any Dallas resident. For information on the many free programs and services available at the Library, go to: <http://dallaslibrary.org/home.htm>.

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