

Latino Authors Highlight Special Event Honoring National Library Week at the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library

Rene Saldaña, Jr. and David Rice, two well-known Latino writers, will read from their works and share their views of Texas Latino writers in a free event, presented in both English and Spanish, at the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library on Saturday, April 16 at 3 p.m. in the 7th Floor O'Hara Exhibit Hall.

The event featuring the two authors is planned in celebration of National Library Week (April 10-16), and is part of the Texas Latino Voices series sponsored by the Texas Center for the Book, public libraries in Dallas, El Paso, and Austin, and REFORMA Rio Trinidad, an organization working for better library services for Hispanics.

Dr. Rene Saldaña, Jr. is an Assistant Professor at the University of Texas—Pan American and is the author of *The Jumping Tree* and *Finding Our Way*. *The Jumping Tree* won numerous awards including the Consortium of Latin American Studies Program's Americas Award Commendation. *Finding Our Way* was a Junior Library Guild Book Club selection in 2003, and was nominated by the American Library Association as a Best Book for Young Adults in 2004.

David Rice draws on his background of growing up and living in the Rio Grande Valley. His collection of short stories, *Crazy Loco*, received the American Library Association's Best Books for Young Readers Award.

This program is made possible in part by a donation from Humanities Texas, a state partner of the National Endowment for the Humanities. All Dallas Public Library events are free and open to the public. The Dallas Public Library consists of the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library, the Library on Wheels, and 24 branch libraries located throughout the city. For more information on library programs call (214) 670-1400.

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