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Authors at JCPL Presents Tracy K. Smith and Adrian Matejka

FRANKLIN, Ind. – Join us for a very special Authors at JCPL visit at our Franklin Branch Friday, Sept. 7, at noon. U.S. Poet Laureate, Tracy K. Smith and Indiana Poet Laureate, Adrian Matejka will share excerpts from their work.

Tracy K. Smith earned a BA from Harvard University and an MFA in creative writing from Columbia University. Smith is the author of three books of poetry with most recent being "Wade in the Water" 2018. In 2014 she was awarded the Academy of American Poets fellowship. She has also written a memoir, "Ordinary Light" 2015, which was a finalist for the National Book Award in nonfiction. In June 2017, Smith was named US Poet Laureate, the fifth African-American to hold the title. She is focusing on speaking in rural areas where most writers are unlikely to visit.

Adrian Matejka was born in Nuremburg, Germany and grew up in California and Indiana. He is a graduate of Pike High School in Indianapolis, Indiana University Bloomington and the MFA program at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale. He is the Ruth Lilly Professor/Poet-in-Residence at Indiana University in Bloomington. Adrian is an author of four collections of poetry, the most recent being "Maps to the Stars" 2017. Matejka will serve as Indiana Poet Laureate through December 2019.

The first 20 JCPL cardholders to register and attend the program will receive a signed copy of one of the poets' books. Copies of the poets' books will be available for purchase from Wild Geese Bookshop. Authors at JCPL is a program that brings popular and award-winning writers from around the country to Johnson County.

The Franklin Branch is located at 401 State Street Franklin 46131. For more information, please contact Monica Harvey at 317-738-2957 or mharvey@jcplin.org.

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