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New York Times Best Seller M. T. Anderson to Speak at Beverly Hills Public Library

Public Invited to Free Author Discussion and Book Signing

Beverly Hills, Calif. – Join *New York Times* best-selling author and National Book Award winner M. T. Anderson at the Beverly Hills Public Library on Thursday, April 28, 2016 at 7 p.m. in the library auditorium at 444 North Rexford Drive, Beverly Hills, California, 90210. Anderson will talk about his new, non-fiction book, *Symphony for the City of the Dead* and engage the audience in a question and answer dialogue. The event is free. Books will be available for sale and signing by the author.

M.T. Anderson is an accomplished author of a wide range of titles, including works of fantasy and satire, for readers of various ages. Anderson is the winner of the *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize, the National Book Award and a *New York Times* bestseller. He studied English Literature at Harvard University and Cambridge University and went on to receive his MFA in Creative Writing from Syracuse University.

Symphony for the City of the Dead, M.T. Anderson's first non-fiction book, is a riveting account of the Siege of Leningrad in WWII. After Hitler's forces surrounded the city in 1941, more than a million citizens perished during the two and a half years of bombardment and starvation. Composer Shostakovich was trapped in Leningrad during part of the siege before escaping with his family. He wrote his 7th Symphony, the *Leningrad Symphony*, to rally, eulogize and commemorate his fellow citizens. Anderson's thrilling account offers bravery and heroism in the face of terrifying odds.

Anderson also celebrates the power of music. In explaining why he writes books for youth, he notes, "Now I'm an adult, and I'm used to dissonance and to the unbearable crimes of war. I take them for granted. But I shouldn't. So I wanted to write this book for readers who still feel outrage and discord, who still dream of a more harmonious world."

For more information about Beverly Hills Public Library events, go to www.bhpl.org.

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