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**LIBRARY FOUNDATION OF LOS ANGELES HIGHLIGHTS
OAXACAN COMMUNITY IN LOS ANGELES AS PART OF
GETTY'S PACIFIC STANDARD TIME: LA/LA**

New Art Exhibition Presented at Los Angeles Public Library

September 16, 2017-January 31, 2018

LOS ANGELES, CA (May 10, 2017) – The Library Foundation of Los Angeles and the Los Angeles Public Library celebrate Oaxacan culture in Los Angeles this fall as part of the Getty's *Pacific Standard Time: LA/LA* initiative-- set to launch September 2017. With particular focus on the Zapotec community, the largest group of indigenous Mexicans in L.A. (an estimated 250,000), the project will explore how visual art and language create and define culture. Anchored in a visual art exhibition in Los Angeles Central Library's Rotunda, native-born Oaxacan artists Tlacolulokos have been commissioned to create new work that will be displayed in juxtaposition to the Library's existing murals depicting the history of California from the 1930s.

The project departs from the key questions: How are we seen? How do we see ourselves? Who gets to speak for us? The answers to which prompt a deep look at the role that history, migration, and language play in the lives of Oaxacans, and more broadly, in migrant communities of multicultural Los Angeles. The new artwork consists of eight 13-foot tall panels and Zapotec text that will be exhibited during the four-month exhibition period, and will be accompanied by a short documentary by filmmaker Yolanda Cruz that follows the creation of the new work.

Throughout the city, branch libraries and the Library Foundation's award-winning ALOUD series will host more than 50 programs and workshops that will explore the broader themes of the project. Many of the programs will be multilingual and feature an array of creative thinkers including visual artists, poets, writers, craftspeople and more, who will engage the public in storytelling, literature, and hands-on workshops.

Visualizing Language: Oaxaca in L.A. is made possible through a generous grant from the Getty Foundation and the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts. For more information please visit lfla.org/oaxaca.

Tlacolulokos is a self-taught visual art collective comprised of Darío Canul (1984) and Cosijoesa Cernas (1992). They work from the community of Tlacolula de Matamoros, Oaxaca. Their work investigates the way in which local culture has been shaped by different social processes such as violence, migration and tourism. They work a wide range of media such as painting, video, and graphic art.

Amanda de la Garza Mata is the curatorial consultant for *Visualizing Language: Oaxaca in L.A.* De la Garza lives and works in Mexico City as Adjunct Curator at the University Museum of Contemporary Art (MUAC, UNAM). She has been awarded the Emerging Curators Prize, Frontiers Biennial, and the International Curatorial Projects Grant. This is the second exhibition in which she has worked with the artist collective Tlacolulokos.

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About the Library Foundation of Los Angeles

For 25 years, the Library Foundation of Los Angeles has provided critical support to the Los Angeles Public Library resulting in free programs, resources, and services available to the millions of adults, children, and youth of Los Angeles. Through fundraising, advocacy, and innovative programs, the Library Foundation strengthens the Los Angeles Public Library and promotes greater awareness of its valuable resources. For more information, please visit lfla.org.

Los Angeles Public Library

A recipient of the nation's highest honor for library service—the National Medal from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the Los Angeles Public Library serves the largest and most diverse urban population of any library in the nation. Its Central Library, 72 branch libraries, collection of more than 6 million books, state-of-the-art technology accessible at lapl.org and more than 18,000 public programs a year provide everyone with free and easy access to information and the opportunity for life-long learning.

Pacific Standard Time: LA/LA is a far-reaching and ambitious exploration of Latin American and Latino art in dialogue with Los Angeles. Initiated through grants from the Getty Foundation, Pacific Standard Time: LA/LA takes place from September 2017 through January 2018 at more than 60 cultural institutions across Southern California, from Los Angeles to Palm Springs, and from San Diego to Santa Barbara. Pacific Standard Time is an initiative of the Getty. The presenting sponsor is Bank of America. Additional support for the Library Foundation's exhibition is provided by the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts.

Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts

The Foundation's objective is to foster innovative artistic expression and the creative process by encouraging and supporting cultural organizations that in turn, directly or indirectly, support artists and their work. The Foundation values the contribution these organizations make to artists and audiences and to society as a whole by supporting, exhibiting and interpreting a broad spectrum of contemporary artistic practice.