

## **Writers', artists' organization hosts literary event for last-minute shoppers**

**International Black Writers & Artists Los Angeles hosts "Got Books?" featuring book signings by Tervalon, Dickey and a literary salon led by *L.A. Weekly* writer Sunday December 18**

**Los Angeles, Calif., December 12, 2005:** Got Books? If not, get books at the International Black Writers & Artists Los Angeles end of the year event appropriately titled "Got Books?" The event is the perfect opportunity for last-minute shoppers to pick up a literary gift like signed copies of *NY Times* Bestseller Eric Jerome Dickey's novels, or a book basket featuring the works of IBWALA members.

The event, in partnership with St. Elmo Village art space, will feature book readings and signings by several of the group's published authors in addition to live jazz and tours of St. Elmo Village Sunday December 18 from 1 to 5pm at St. Elmo Village located at 4830 St. Elmo Drive in Los Angeles (323.931.3409). Admission and valet parking are free and the event and organization is open to all.

St. Elmo Village, one of L.A.'s best kept secret for artists and art lovers, will be filled with roving musicians, winter warm beverages and refreshments and a silent book auction featuring trade, out-of-print and coffee table books, IBWALA's published anthologies and book gift baskets. Invited book signers will read, sign and sell books including:

- Eric Jerome Dickey (*Genevieve, Friends and Lovers*), of Los Angeles
- Jervey Tervalon (*All The Trouble You Need*), of Altadena
- Hazel Clayton Harrison (*The Story of Christmas Tree Lane*), of Altadena
- William L. Bulkley (*Son of Imhotep*), of Lakewood
- Marcus Love (*When Love Calls*), of Los Angeles

An additional activity will be the organization's bi-monthly Sunday Literary Salon Series, a discussion forum led by *L.A. Weekly*'s Erin Aubry Kaplan. December's salon focus will be

contemporary poets. The salons are designed to bring artists, readers, writers together in an intimate setting where attendants can speak frankly and openly about what inspires creative vision and how it impacts on the community and society at large.

For more information, log on to [www.ibwala.org](http://www.ibwala.org), email [info@ibwala.org](mailto:info@ibwala.org) or call 323.964.3721.

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**Story ideas for reporters/editors:**

- *Are books obsolete – with the electronic age, will we soon phase out books?*
- *Eric Jerome Dickey’s ten years of success writing NY Times Bestsellers “trash fiction” (ericjeromedickey.com)*
- *St. Elmo Village – an outdoor museum in Mid-City survives for three decades now a live-work space for artists, and is expanding the complex into a million dollar residential gallery space. How do they do it? (stelmovillage.org)*
- *International Black Writers & Artists Los Angeles – a 31-year-old nonprofit struggles during a time where art-related organizations are a necessity, but ignored by so many (ibwala.org)*
- *Erin Aubry Kaplan IBWALA board member and long-time L.A. Weekly writer moves on to Los Angeles Times in historic columnist position*