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## For Immediate Release

### Award-Winning Author Angela Johnson Visits Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh

**(PITTSBURGH, PA – December 5, 2007)** Author Angela Johnson is the featured speaker this month during Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh's *Behind the Book: Authors Talk to Teens* lecture series. Her lecture will take place Wednesday, December 12, at 6 pm at Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh – Homewood.

In 2004, Johnson's novel *First Part Last* won the Printz Award for Excellence in Young Adult Literature and the Coretta Scott King Award. Johnson's books address personal, everyday subjects—from family relationships, to the difficulties of growing up. Her books have been said to contain characters that stay with readers long after the cover has been closed. Johnson's editor, Kevin Lewis, stated in an article for Knight Ridder / Tribune News Service that "A reader might begin thinking that they have nothing in common with Johnson's characters, but by the end they realize that the list of things people share—things like family, friends, struggle, change, love, loss, dreams, and so on—is much more profound or, meaningful than the list of our differences."

Commenting on why she chose to write for the teenage audience, Johnson said "Kids and teens are so much more interesting than adults. Life is happening when you are a teenager. One minute you're a child, the next you're allowed to go out in the world by yourself. Who knows what will happen?"

Presented in partnership with PPG Industries, this event will show teen readers that their favorite books are not only words on a page, but works of art that can serve as the catalysts for inspiration, self-confidence and ambition in a young person's life and mind. Teens will have the opportunity to learn about Johnson's writing process, with time for a question and answer session. Copies of Johnson's books will be made available for purchase; however, teens are encouraged to bring in their own copies for signing.

Admission is free, but registration is required. Please contact [teens@carnegielibrary.org](mailto:teens@carnegielibrary.org) or call 412.578.2599. Additional information about Angela Johnson is available at [www.carnegielibrary.org/teens](http://www.carnegielibrary.org/teens).

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#### **About Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh** *Building Communities, Enriching Lives*

Established as a public trust in 1895, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh serves the citizens of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County with a distinguished history of leadership among the country's great public libraries. Through its 19 neighborhood locations, including Main Library and the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh is the region's most visited asset. Each year the Library provides more than 8,000 free programs, classes and other learning and training opportunities that are tailored to meet the dynamic and diverse needs of people living in Western Pennsylvania.