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CITY of BEAVERTON

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BEAVERTON CITY LIBRARY HOSTS DISCUSSION ON INCOME AND WEALTH INEQUALITY

BEAVERTON, Ore. – The Beaverton City Library will host “How Much Inequality is Acceptable?” on Tuesday, Feb. 16, at 6 p.m. at the main location, 12375 SW Fifth Street. As part of the Oregon Humanities Conversation Project, presenter Julia Hammond will lead a conversation about income and wealth inequality and how big-picture economics affect individual lives.

“How Much Inequality Is Acceptable?” will explore beliefs and values around income inequality. Is it an incentive for hard work and invention, an acceptable part of community life? Or does that story no longer make sense? At what point, if ever, is the gap too large? Inequality seems a natural consequence of rewarding excellence and innovation in a capitalist economy. But the level of inequality changes with the times. A number of prominent economists have recently suggested that America now has the largest income gap in the history of the world. As of 2013, one tenth of American households earned almost half of all income.

Julia Hammond is a writer, educator and curriculum developer. She is the owner of FolkLala, a company that curates folk art boxes for families, schools and nonprofits. For the past nine years, she has been a humanities professor at the Art Institute of Portland.

This event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Jill Adams, adult services librarian, at JAdams@BeavertonOregon.gov.

ABOUT OREGON HUMANITIES

Oregon Humanities connects Oregonians to ideas that change lives and transform communities. More information about Oregon Humanities’ programs and publications, which include the Conversation Project, Think & Drink, Humanity in Perspective, Idea Lab, Public Program Grants, and Oregon Humanities magazine, can be found at www.oregonhumanities.org. Oregon Humanities is an independent, nonprofit affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities and a partner of the Oregon Cultural Trust.

ABOUT THE LIBRARY

The Beaverton City Library is the second-busiest library system in the state, with more than 780,000 patrons a year at its main location (12375 SW Fifth Street) and Murray Scholls branch (11200 SW Murray Scholls Place).

For additional information regarding Beaverton City Library services, visit www.BeavertonLibrary.org or call 503-644-2197. The Beaverton City Library is one of fifteen

libraries in Washington County Cooperative Library Services (WCCLS) that work communally to provide excellent countywide library service by sharing valuable resources and information with one another.

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Caption: The Beaverton City Library will host “How Much Inequality is Acceptable?” with presenter Julia Hammond (pictured), as part of the Oregon Humanities Conversation Project, on Tuesday, Feb. 16, at 6 p.m. *(Photo/Julia Hammond)*