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Contact: Yolanda Tiscareño

805-756-1707; ethnicstudies@calpoly.edu

Prize-Winning Author, Playwright Caryl Phillips to Speak Oct. 6 at Cal Poly

SAN LUIS OBISPO – Caryl Phillips, prize-winning author and playwright, will speak at Cal Poly at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 6, in Room 220 in the University Union.

His talk, titled “Growing Pains,” is based on his latest book, “Color Me English: Migration and Belonging Before and After 9/11.” The presentation will explore Phillips’ encounter with racism at a very early age and will include a reading from the book.

Lauded as “one of the literary giants of our time” by The New York Times, Phillips has amassed a long list of accolades, including winning the Martin Luther King Memorial Prize, a Guggenheim Fellowship, a British Council Fellowship, a Lannan Foundation Fellowship, and Britain's oldest literary award, the James Tait Black Memorial Prize, for his book “Crossing the River.” He also won the 2004 Commonwealth Writers Prize for “A Distant Shore,” and the 2006 PEN/Beyond the Margins Award for “Dancing in the Dark.”

Phillips’ appearance at Cal Poly is free and open to the public. It is presented by the Ethnic Studies Department and is co-sponsored by the Division of Student Affairs, the Office of the President, the Office of Inclusive Excellence, the College of Liberal Arts’ Lottery Speaker Fund, and the departments of English, History and Social Sciences.

For more information, contact the Ethnic Studies Department, 805-756-1707 or ethnicstudies@calpoly.edu.

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Public Affairs Office
California Polytechnic State University
San Luis Obispo, CA 93407

polynews [at] calpoly.edu