Norman Lear CENTERTAINMENT, MEDIA & SOCIETY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Veronica Jauriqui jauriqui@usc.edu | (213) 821-1284

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie Wins USC Annenberg's Rogers Award Internationally Acclaimed Author, Feminist, TED Talker

Honored for reframing the discourse on race, gender and identity



Photo by Wani Olatunde

LOS ANGELES, September 17, 2018 – Nigerian author **Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie**, a world-renowned novelist, cultural critic and feminist, has won the 2019 Ev Rogers Award.

Ms. Adichie's first novel, *Purple Hibiscus* (2003), won the Commonwealth Writers' Prize. Her 2013 novel, *Americanah*, won the National Book Critics Circle Award and was named one of The *New York Times*' Ten Best Books that year. Her work has been translated into more than 30 languages.

Ms. Adichie's "The Danger of a Single Story" is one of the mostwatched TED talks of all time. A MacArthur "genius" Fellow and a member of both the American Academy of Arts and Letters and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, she was named one of *TIME* magazine's 100 Most Influential People in the World in 2015. In 2017, *Fortune* magazine named her one of the World's 50 Greatest Leaders.

Presented since 2007 on behalf of the University of Southern California's Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism by the school's Norman Lear Center, the award honors the late USC Annenberg professor Everett M. Rogers, whose *Diffusion of Innovations* is the second-most cited book in the social sciences. Ms. Adichie will

receive the award and speak at USC Annenberg on Feb. 7, 2019.

"Her singular voice and her power to inspire made Chimamanda Adichie the unanimous choice for the 2019 Rogers Award," said USC Annenberg Dean Willow Bay. "Her visit to our school will continue the global conversation about race, gender and identity to which she's contributed so eloquently." Added USC Annenberg professor and Norman Lear Center director Martin Kaplan, "Ev Rogers showed how storytelling could be a catalyst for empowerment and development in Africa and South Asia. Chimamanda Adichie's work carries that insight worldwide."

The Norman Lear Center (<u>www.learcenter.org</u>) is a multidisciplinary research and public policy center studying and shaping the impact of entertainment and media on society.

The USC Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism (<u>annenberg.usc.edu</u>) is a national leader in education and scholarship in communication, journalism, public diplomacy and public relations, offering doctoral, graduate and undergraduate degree programs.