



TEXAS TEEN BOOK FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES 2017 SCHEDULE

Young Adult Book Festival to Feature All-Star Author Sessions, Panels, Workshops, Book Signings, Interactive Space, Costume Contest, and More

AUSTIN, TX (September 11, 2017) – The Texas Teen Book Festival announced today the full schedule for the 2017 edition, taking place on Saturday, October 7 from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at St. Edward's University. This year's Festival features an exciting program with opening keynote speaker **Marie Lu** and closing keynote speaker **Jason Reynolds**; panels and sessions by award-winning authors, including **Lizzie Velásquez, Tillie Walden, Jennifer Mathieu, I. W. Gregorio, Mackenzi Lee, and Julie Murphy**; plus book signings, educational workshops, a costume contest sponsored by Epic Reads, and the first-ever iTent.

"It is finally time to announce the 2017 Texas Teen Book Festival schedule and we can stop struggling to keep secrets!" says TTBF Festival Director Shawn Mauser. "We are so excited to announce this program that has been in the works since January. We hope to see everyone out for a celebration of reading, authors, and the teens who love them!"

The jam-packed festival day will begin at 8 a.m. and features panels, keynotes, and events, including:

- 8 a.m. – TTBF Bookstore Opens, Alumni Gym
- 8:30 a.m. – *Early Bird Signings*
 - Featuring: Marie Lu, Jason Reynolds, E. Lockhart, and Stephanie Perkins
- 10 a.m. – *Official Welcome and Opening Keynote* at RCC Gym
 - Featuring: Marie Lu
- 11:15 a.m. – *Panel: To Thine Own Self Be True*, at RCC Gym
 - Featuring Jason Reynolds, Zac Brewer, Tillie Walden, Renée Watson, and Corrie Wang
- 11:15 a.m. – *Panel: Me + You = Fate* at Mabee Ballroom
 - Featuring Kathryn Ormsbee, Mackenzi Lee, Julie Murphy, Adam Silvera, and Jenna Evans Welch
- 11:15 a.m. – *Panel: The Ties That Bind* at Jones Auditorium

- o Featuring Sandhya Menon, Amy Tintera, Jessica Taylor, Peter Bognanni, and Andrew Shvarts
- 11:15 a.m. – *Badgerdog Poetry Workshop 1* at Fleck Hall, Room 314
- 11:15 a.m. – *Barrio Writers Workshop* at the Library, Room 141
- 11:15 a. m. – *Book Signings*
- 12:30 p.m. – *Panel: Where I Belong: Stories of Immigration, Resilience, and Hope* at RCC Gym
 - o Featuring Mitali Perkins, Adi Alsaid, Francisco X. Stork, and Diana J. Noble
- 1:30 p.m. – *Special Speaker* at RCC Gym
 - o Featuring Lizzie Velásquez
- 2:30 p.m. – *Panel: Smart is the New Black* at Mabee
 - o Featuring Marie Lu, Ashley Poston, Kerri Maniscalco, and Ryan Graudin
- 2:30 p.m. – *Panel: Fierce Reads* at Jones Auditorium
 - o Featuring Mitali Perkins, Caleb Roehrig, Anna-Marie McLemore, and Jennifer Mathieu
- 2:30 p.m. – *WNDB Educator Workshop* at Library, Room 142
- 2:30 p.m. – *Book Signings*
- 3:15 p.m. – *Epic Reads Costume Contest Judging* at RCC Gym
- 3:30 p.m. – *Panel: Of Myth & Mystery* at Mabee Ballroom
 - o Featuring E. Lockhart, Stephanie Perkins, Julie Buxbaum, David Bowles, and Cory Putman Oakes
- 3:30 p.m. – *Panel: It's Time to Save the World... Again* at Jones Auditorium
 - o Featuring Cindy Pon, Aditi Khorana, Erin Bowman, Lisa Maxwell, and S.J. Kincaid
- 3:30 p.m. – *Badgerdog Workshop 2* at Fleck Hall, Room 314
- 3:30 p.m. – *Educator Workshop 2: AISD Educator Book Club with Adi Alsaid* at the Library, Room 142
- 3:30 p.m. – *Book Signings*
- 4:15 p.m. – *Opening to Closing Note: Essay Presentation* at RCC Gym
- 4:30 p.m. – *Closing Note Speaker Jason Reynolds* at RCC Gym
- 5:30 p. m. – *Final Group Signing*

In addition to panels and workshops throughout the day, the Festival will feature:

- Writing workshops hosted by Badgerdog and Barrio Writers at 11:15 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Badgerdog is a writing program of the Austin Public Library Foundation for writers of all ages and skill levels, and Barrio Writers is a creative writing program that provides free college level writing workshops to teenagers in underserved communities.
- A We Need Diverse Books (WNDB) workshop led by Dhonielle Clayton, COO of WNDB, to discuss using diverse books in the classroom at 2:30pm. This workshop is specifically programmed for educators, who will also hear about WNDB's new app, "Our Story," a useful book-finding tool for teachers, librarians, and students. "Our Story" offers cool content from authors as well as WNDB-themed curriculum and material perks. This event is for pre-registered attendees only, and reservations are available via the Texas Teen Book Festival website.

- An Austin ISD Adult Book Club and an Educator Book Club Discussion with Adi Alsaid at 3:30pm. This kick-off meeting will give adult readers the opportunity to meet Alsaid and discuss his latest novel, *North of Happy*.
- Additionally, this will be the first year for the iTent. This interactive space is designed to bring YA fans closer to their favorite authors and will offer opportunities to learn, create, and share. Book Talks, Zine Making, and Ask Me Anything sessions will all take place in the iTent. Full iTent schedule to be announced closer to the Festival.

TTBF is presented in collaboration with the Texas Book Festival, BookPeople, a dedicated team of librarians, and venue sponsor St. Edward's University. The program is made possible in part by a grant from Humanities Texas, the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

TTBF remains free and open to the public thanks to generous donors, sponsors, and dozens of committed volunteers. For more information, please visit www.texasteenbookfestival.org and keep up with announcements at [Facebook.com/TexasTeenBookFestival](https://www.facebook.com/TexasTeenBookFestival), and on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/TXTeenBookFest) and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/TXTeenBookFest) @TXTeenBookFest.

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ABOUT THE TEXAS TEEN BOOK FESTIVAL:

The Texas Teen Book Festival is a one-day event that celebrates the teen reading experience by inviting fans to visit with some of the most popular and critically acclaimed young adult authors in the country. The Texas Teen Book Festival was born as the Austin Teen Book Festival in 2009, when librarian Heather Schubert partnered with BookPeople to organize a gathering at Westlake High School. Five hundred guests and sixteen authors attended the first year and the event grew every year thereafter. From 2011-2013, the Festival was sponsored by the Austin Public Library Friends Foundation, and in 2014, the Festival became a program of Texas Book Festival and was renamed the Texas Teen Book Festival. One of the largest gatherings of its kind anywhere, the annual TTBF takes place in the fall on the campus of St. Edward's University. For more information, visit www.texasteenbookfestival.org.