



## TEXAS BOOK FESTIVAL TO HOST READING ROCK STARS WITH ACCLAIMED AUTHORS AT RIO GRANDE VALLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS ON MARCH 1 AND 2

*Texas Book Festival to Donate More Than 2,900 Books to Lyndon B. Johnson Elementary and JW Caceres Elementary Students with Reading Rock Stars Author Presentations*

**WHAT:** The Texas Book Festival will host the Rio Grande Valley Reading Rock Stars presentations on Thursday, March 1, at Lyndon B. Johnson Elementary and Friday, March 2, at JW Caceres Elementary School. Both elementary schools will host **Anna Meriano**, children's book author of *Love Sugar Magic: A Dash of Trouble*. Lyndon B. Johnson Elementary will also host **Juana Martinez-Neal**, a traditional mixed media artist and illustrator of *La Princesa and the Pea*, and **Duncan Tonatiuh**, author and illustrator of *Danza! Amalia Hernández and El Ballet Folklórico de México*. JW Caceres Elementary will host **Ana Aranda**, illustrator of *The Chupacabra Ate the Candelabra*, and **René Colato Laínez**, bilingual teacher, literature columnist for LA BLOGA, and author of *I Am René the Boy/Soy René el Niño*.

The Texas Book Festival's Reading Rock Stars literacy program brings books to life for children in low-income schools by inviting authors and illustrators into classrooms with entertaining presentations that inspire students to read, write, and create. Thanks to support from sponsors, including H-E-B Tournament of Champions, Texas College Savings Plan, and David Nathan Meyerson Foundation, the Texas Book Festival also gives each student an autographed copy of the presenting author's book and provides the school library with a new set of books by the visiting Reading Rock Stars authors. The Texas Book Festival will donate a total of 465 books to JW Caceres Elementary School and 430 books to Lyndon B. Johnson Elementary School.

With this latest round of Reading Rock Stars, the Texas Book Festival will have coordinated nearly 377 author visits and provided more than 88,000 books to students in Title I schools across Texas since its inception.

For more information on the Texas Book Festival and Reading Rock Stars literacy program, please visit [www.texasbookfestival.org](http://www.texasbookfestival.org).

**WHO:** **Lyndon B. Johnson Elementary**  
Anna Meriano - *Love Sugar Magic: A Dash of Trouble*  
Juana Martinez-Neal - *La Princesa and the Pea*  
Duncan Tonatiuh - *Danza! Amalia Hernández and El Ballet Folklórico de México*  
**JW Caceres Elementary**  
Anna Meriano - *Love Sugar Magic: A Dash of Trouble*  
Ana Aranda - *The Chupacabra Ate the Candelabra*  
René Colato Laínez - *I Am René, the Boy/Soy René, el Niño*

**WHEN:** **Lyndon B. Johnson Elementary: Thursday, March 1**  
**1:00 p.m.** - Grades 2 and 3 - Duncan Tonatiuh  
**1:30 p.m.** - Pre K, Kindergarten, and Grade 1 - Juana Martinez-Neal  
**1:30 p.m.** - Grades 4 and 5 - Anna Meriano (gym)  
**2:15 p.m.** - Grades 2 and 3 - Duncan Tonatiuh  
**2:30 p.m.** - Pre K, Kindergarten, and Grade 1 - Juana Martinez-Neal  
**2:30 p.m.** - Grades 4 and 5 - Anna Meriano (gym)

**JW Caceres Elementary: Friday, March 2**  
**9 a.m.** - Grades 2 and 3 - René Colato Laínez (cafeteria)  
**10 a.m.** - Grades 4 and 5 - Ana Aranda (library)  
**11:15 a.m.** - Grades 4 and 5 - Anna Meriano

**WHERE:** **March 1:** Lyndon B. Johnson Elementary  
1801 E Sprague St.  
Edinburg, TX 78542

**March 2:** JW Caceres Elementary  
503 South Hutto Rd.  
Donna, TX 78537

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### **ABOUT TEXAS BOOK FESTIVAL**

With a vision to inspire Texans of all ages to love reading, the Texas Book Festival connects authors and readers through experiences that celebrate the culture of literacy, ideas, and imagination. Founded in 1995 by former First Lady Laura Bush, Mary Margaret Farabee, and a group of volunteers, the nonprofit Texas Book Festival promotes the joys of reading and writing through its annual Festival Weekend, the one-day Texas Teen Book Festival, the Reading Rock Stars program, grants to Texas libraries, Fresh Ink Fiction Contest, and year-round literary programming. The Festival is held on the grounds of the Texas Capitol each fall and features more than 275 renowned authors, panels, book signings, live music, cooking demonstrations, and children's activities. The 2018 Texas Book Festival Weekend will take place on October 27

and 28. Thanks to generous donors, sponsors, and 1,000 volunteers, the Festival remains free and open to the public. Visit [www.texasbookfestival.org](http://www.texasbookfestival.org) for more information, and join the conversation using the hashtag #txbookfest on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram @texasbookfest.