



TEXAS BOOK FESTIVAL TO HOST READING ROCK STARS AUTHOR PRESENTATIONS BY RENOWNED AUTHORS, INCLUDING LAURA BUSH

Children's Book Authors James Luna and Hena Khan to Join Laura Bush at Thomas Tolbert Elementary School on May 19

WHAT: The Texas Book Festival will host its Reading Rock Stars program on Friday, May 19 at Thomas Tolbert Elementary School. Beginning at 11 a.m., the school will host three authors—**James Luna**, author of two bilingual picture books; **Hena Khan**, Pakistani-American author of *Amina's Voice*, and Texas Book Festival Founder, beloved First Lady, and bestselling children's book author **Laura Bush**.

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. The Texas Book Festival also gives each student an autographed copy of each author's book and provides the school library with a new set of books. After each presentation, the author personally hands a signed book to each student. Texas Book Festival will be donating a total of 580 books to Thomas Tolbert Elementary School.

The Texas Book Festival has coordinated more than 350 author visits and provided more than 81,000 books to students in Title I schools across Texas since its inception.

For more information on the Texas Book Festival and Reading Rock Stars, please visit www.texasbookfestival.org.

WHO: James Luna – *The Place Where You Live*
Hena Khan – *Amina's Voice*
Laura Bush – *Our Great Big Backyard*

WHEN: Friday, May 19
11 a.m.:

- Pre-K & Kindergarten – James Luna (library)
- 4th & 5th Grade – Hena Khan (gym)

12:45 p.m.:

- 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Grades – Laura Bush (auditorium)

WHERE: Thomas Tolbert Elementary School
4000 Blue Ridge Boulevard, Dallas, TX 75233

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ABOUT TEXAS BOOK FESTIVAL

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, youth fiction writing contest, and year-round literary programming. The Festival is held on the grounds of the Texas Capitol each fall and features more than 250 renowned authors, panels, book signings, live music, cooking demonstrations, and children's activities.

The 2017 Texas Book Festival Weekend will take place on November 4 and 5. Thanks to generous donors, sponsors, and 1,000 volunteers, the Festival remains free and open to the public. Visit www.texasbookfestival.org for more information, and join the conversation using the hashtag #txbookfest on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram @texasbookfest.