



THE TEXAS BOOK FESTIVAL TO LAUNCH DAN RATHER'S NEW BOOK, *WHAT UNITES US*, AS PART OF 2017 FESTIVAL WEEKEND

Book Tickets Now Available

WHAT: Texas Book Festival is proud to host the official national launch of *What Unites Us*, the highly anticipated new book by **Dan Rather**, one of the world's best-known journalists. Rather will discuss his new book in conversation with Evan Smith, CEO and co-founder of *The Texas Tribune*, on **Saturday, November 4 at 12:00 p.m.** at **First Baptist Church** on Trinity Street. Book tickets are now available via the Texas Book Festival website. Ticket includes one pre-signed copy of the book and grants access to priority seating at his Festival session. This event will not include a public signing.

In this moment of crisis over our national identity, Rather has been reflecting—and writing passionately almost every day on social media—about the world we live in, what our core ideals have been and should be, and what it means to be an American. *What Unites Us* is a collection of wholly original essays that celebrate our shared values and remind us of what matters most in our great country. With a storied career that has spanned more than six decades, Rather has interviewed every president since Eisenhower and, over time, personally covered almost every important dateline in the United States and around the world. Rather is best known as anchor and managing editor of the *CBS Evening News*—a post he held for twenty-four years—along with his reporting on *60 Minutes*, *48 Hours*, and Emmy Award-winning *Dan Rather Reports* on HDNet. Now, building upon that foundation, he is president and CEO of News and Guts, an independent production company he founded.

Book tickets for this session are only available via Texas Book Festival's website and cost \$22.95 (plus tax). Purchasing a book ticket grants access to priority seating at the Festival session and one pre-signed copy of Rather's *What Unites Us*. Purchasing a book ticket is the only way to guarantee securing a signed copy of Rather's book during the Festival Weekend. A limited amount of free seating will be available day-of at First Baptist Church on a first come, first served basis. Priority seating will be reserved for ticket holders, who will be able to pick up their book at First Baptist Church on Saturday, November 4.

For more information on the Texas Book Festival, please visit www.texasbookfestival.org and follow along on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram @texasbookfest.

WHEN: Saturday, November 4 at 12:00 p.m.

WHERE: The Texas Book Festival
First Baptist Church
901 Trinity Street, Austin, TX 78702

TICKETS: \$22.95 (plus tax)

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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, 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 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.