



TEXAS BOOK FESTIVAL TO HOST READING ROCK STARS LITERARY PRESENTATIONS

Famed Children's Authors to Perform at Crockett Elementary School on December 1

WHAT: The Texas Book Festival will host one of its annual Reading Rock Stars presentations on Thursday, December 1 at Crockett Elementary School. Beginning at 8:15 a.m., the school will host three authors — nationally recognized author **Kathi Appelt**, NFL veteran and Pro Bowl player from Dallas **Wade Smith**, and *New York Times* bestselling author **Nathan Hale**—to present their books for students.

The Texas Book Festival's Reading Rock Stars literacy program brings books to life for children in low-income schools and has hosted authors from across the country at six local Central Texas schools, including Crockett, in 2016. The authors will present their literary works in an entertaining fashion. The Texas Book Festival gives each student an autographed copy of each book and provides the school library with a new set of books.

After the 2016 Houston presentations, Reading Rock Stars will have coordinated more than 330 author visits and provided more than 78,000 books to students in Title I schools, since its inception.

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

WHO: Kathi Appelt – *Counting Crows*
Wade Smith – *Smitty Hits the (Play) Books*
Nathan Hale – *Alamo All-Stars*

WHEN: Thursday, December 1
8:15 a.m. – Kathi Appelt (library)
10:00 a.m. – Wade Smith (library)
8:15 a.m. – Nathan Hale (cafeteria)

WHERE: Crockett Elementary – Library and Cafeteria
2112 Crockett St., Houston, TX 77007

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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 280 renowned authors, panels, book signings, live music, cooking demonstrations, and children's activities. The 2016 Texas Book Festival Weekend took place on November 5 and 6, and the 2016 Texas Teen Book Festival was held on October 1. 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.