

TEXAS TEEN BOOK FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES 2016 SCHEDULE

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

AUSTIN, TEXAS (September 15, 2016) – The Texas Teen Book Festival announced today the full schedule for the 2016 edition, taking place on October 1 from 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. at St. Edward's University. This year's programming features an exciting schedule with keynote speaker **Laini Taylor** and closing note speaker **Leigh Bardugo**; panels and sessions by award-winning authors such as **Mindy Kaling**, **Sabaa Tahir**, **Ally Carter**, **Jeffery Self**, and **Traci Chee**; plus book signings, educational workshops, and fun events like the annual Texas Throwdown Game Show and the first-ever Costume Contest, sponsored by Fierce Reads.

"We are beyond excited about TTBF 2016 and have been busy working to roll out the best festival experience for all YA fans!" says TTBF Co-Director Cynthia Bartek. "We know that everyone will love our new features and expanded schedule. Count down with us to October 1st! See you there!"

For the first year ever, the TTBF will be partnering with Alamo Drafthouse Cinema and Penguin Teen for a special screening of *The Outsiders* on September 30 at 6:30 p.m. at the South Lamar location to kick off the festival. Penguin authors **Sabaa Tahir**, **David Arnold**, and **Renée Ahdieh** will join the exclusive event for a Q&A prior to the screening with Sarah Pitre from Alamo Drafthouse Cinema and [Forever YA](#) to talk about *The Outsiders*, a seminal work of the YA genre, and its special spot in their hearts as writers for a young adult audience. Tickets for the screening are \$25 and are available [here](#).

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

- 10:15 a.m. – *Official Welcome and Mindy Kaling Q&A* at RCC Gym
 - Moderator: Sarah Pitre
- 11:30 a.m. – *Panel: Just Like Old Times* at RCC Gym
 - Featuring Renée Ahdieh, Roshani Chokshi, Sarah Porter, Sabaa Tahir, Laini Taylor
- 11:30 a.m. – *Panel: Can You Keep a Secret?* at Mabee Ballroom
 - Featuring Carrie Jones, Adriana Mather, Caleb Roehrig, Sherri L. Smith, Maggie Thrash
- 11:30 a.m. – *Badgerdog Poetry Workshop* at Fleck Hall Room 305
- 12:30 p.m. – *Texas Throwdown Game Show* at RCC Gym
 - Featuring Sabaa Tahir, Rene S. Perez II, David Arnold, Caleb Roehrig, E.K. Johnston, and Jeffery Self

- 1:15 p.m. – *Costume Contest Judging* at Fierce Reads Photo Ops Booth
- 1:30 p.m. – *Keynote Speaker Laini Taylor and Announcement of Writing Contest Winners* at RCC Gym
- 2:30 p.m. – *Panel: Hiding in Plain Sight* at RCC Gym
 - Featuring Leigh Bardugo, Ally Carter, A.J. Hartley, Morgan Rhodes, and Billy Taylor
- 2:30 p.m. – *Panel: Pieces of Me* at Mabee Ballroom
 - Featuring Paula Garner, Joe Jiménez, Isabel Quintero, Jeffery Self
- 2:30 p.m. – *Panel: Where Loyalties Lie* at Jones Auditorium
 - Featuring Shaun David Hutchinson, Guadalupe Garcia McCall, Rene S. Perez II, Jeff Zentner
- 2:30 p.m. – *Badgerdog Poetry Workshop* at Fleck Hall Room 305
- 3:30 p.m. – *Panel: What the Heart Wants* at RCC Gym
 - Featuring David Arnold, Brendan Kelly, Samantha Mabry, Kenneth Oppel, Mary E. Pearson
- 3:30 p.m. – *Panel: With Great Power...* at Mabee Ballroom
 - Featuring Kendare Blake, Katherine Catmull, Traci Chee, C.C. Hunter, E.K. Johnston
- 4:30 p.m. – *Closing Note Speaker Leigh Bardugo and Announcement of Fierce Reads Costume Contest* at RCC Gym

In addition to panels and workshops throughout the day, the festival will feature a writing workshop hosted by Barrio Writers at 3:30 p.m., a creative writing program that provides free college level writing workshops to teenagers in underserved communities. Additionally, the TTBF is thrilled to add four new authors to the previously-announced lineup: **Guadalupe Garcia McCall**, author of *Shame the Stars*; **Joe Jiménez**, author of *Bloodline*; **Rene S. Perez II**, author of *Seeing Off the Johns*; and **Isabel Quintero**, author of the award-winning *Gabi, a Girl in Pieces* and recipient of the first annual Barrio Writers Featured Author Sponsorship and Tomás Rivera Book Award.

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, and on [@Twitter](https://Twitter) and [@Instagram](https://Instagram) @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.

