



TEXAS TEEN BOOK FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES 2019 LINEUP

11th Annual Texas Teen Book Festival Takes Place October 12, Featuring Thirty-Five Notable Young Adult Authors

AUSTIN, TEXAS (July 26, 2019) – The Texas Teen Book Festival announced today the 2019 author lineup will feature award-winning authors **Mary H.K. Choi, David Yoon, Gabby Rivera, Abdi Nazemian, Christopher Myers, Lauren Shippen**, and others. This year marks the 11th anniversary for the Texas Teen Book Festival, which will take place on Saturday, October 12th at Southwestern University and remains free and open to readers of all ages.

“I am so excited about our phenomenal lineup this year,” says Texas Teen Book Festival Program Director Meghan Goel. “Featuring a dynamic slate of books that range from terrifying thrillers to star-crossed romances to epic fantasies, this list truly offers something for every reader. We are also proud to highlight such a wide variety of new books and imprints that celebrate culture, identity, and foster dialogue about social awareness and engagement. As we move to our new home at Southwestern University, I look forward to reconnecting with the thousands of attendees who have supported this festival for 11 years and meeting new readers in Georgetown.”

Throughout the one-day festival, attendees will be able to enjoy author sessions and panels, book signings, workshops, and vendor displays perfect for young adult readers of all ages. This year’s lineup is full of renowned and award-winning authors. Among others, **Mary H.K. Choi**, culture correspondent on *Vice News Tonight* and *New York Times* bestselling author of *Emergency Contact*, will discuss her newest novel, *Permanent Record*, a witty, heartfelt romance featuring the inescapable influence of social media on everyday life.

TTBF will also showcase **David Yoon**, illustrator of *New York Times* bestseller *Everything, Everything*, who will present his debut novel, *Frankly in Love*, a thoughtful story of navigating expectations and first love; along with **Gabby Rivera**, LGBTQ Latinx author of *Marvel’s* upcoming first Latina lesbian character, America Chavez, who will present *Juliet Takes a Breath*, in which a queer Puerto Rican girl faces challenges growing up in the Bronx.

Producer, screenwriter, and author **Abdi Nazemian**, whose novel *The Walk-In Closet* won the 2015 Lambda Literary Award, will present his most recent work, *Like a Love Story*, a love letter

to queer individuals seeking self-expression and individuality. **Lauren Shippen** will present *The Infinite Noise*, her debut novel based on her award-winning science-fiction podcast, *The Bright Sessions*.

Award-winning children's author and illustrator **Christopher Myers** will discuss the launch of his own imprint with Random House Children's Books, Make Me a World, which reflects Myers's vision: to publish a selection of books that open up new worlds, possibilities, and pathways for young readers of all ages. Award-winning author **Akwaeke Emezi** will also present their new YA novel, *Pet*, the first novel to be published by Make Me a World.

TTBF authors will join previously announced keynote speakers **Erika L. Sánchez**, a bestselling and award-winning author who will present *I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter*, and YouTube sensation and author **Akilah Hughes** who will present her memoir, *Obviously: Stories from My Timeline*.

The full lineup of authors and their featured books for the 2019 Texas Teen Book Festival is as follows:

- Abdi Nazemian - *Like a Love Story*
- Akilah Hughes - *Obviously: Stories from My Timeline*
- Akwaeke Emezi - *Pet*
- Alex Temblador - *Secrets of the Casa Rosada*
- Alex Villasante - *The Grief Keeper*
- Amy Rose Capetta - *The Lost Coast*
- Arvin Ahmadi - *Girl Gone Viral*
- Bill Konigsburg - *The Music of What Happens*
- Brandy Colbert - *The Revolution of Birdie Randolph*
- Brittney Morris - *Slay*
- Christopher Myers - Make Me a World imprint
- David Yoon - *Frankly in Love*
- e. E. Charlton-Trujillo - *Fat Angie: Rebel Girl Revolution*
- Erika Sánchez - *I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter*
- Gabby Rivera - *Juliet Takes a Breath*
- Gretchen McNeil - *#murderfunding*
- Jennifer Donaldson - *I Know You Remember*
- Jennifer Donnelly - *Stepsister*
- Joelle Charbonneau - *Verify*
- Kat Cho - *Wicked Fox*
- Kate Williams - *The Babysitters Coven*
- Katharyn Blair - *The Beckoning Shadow*
- Katy Rose Pool - *There Will Come a Darkness*
- Kristina Pérez - *Wild Savage Stars*
- Lamar Giles - *Spin*
- Lauren Shippen - *The Infinite Noise*
- Margaret Owen - *The Merciful Crow*
- Mary H.K. Choi - *Permanent Record*
- Misa Sugiura - *This Time Will Be Different*
- Nandini Bajpai - *A Match Made in Mehendi*

- Renée Ahdieh - *The Beautiful*
- Rory Powers - *Wilder Girls*
- Sandhya Menon - *There's Something About Sweetie*
- Thanhha Lai - *Butterfly Yellow*
- Tricia Levenseller - *Warrior of the Wild*

The Texas Teen Book Festival is a collaboration between Texas Book Festival, BookPeople, a dedicated team of librarians, and venue sponsor Southwestern University. The 2019 TTBF is presented by H-E-B. Other major sponsors include Brigid Cockrum & Family, AT&T Foundation, the Buena Vista Foundation, 3M, Riveted by Simon Teen, PenguinTeen, EpicReads, and Reading Group Choices. The program is also made possible in part by a grant from Humanities Texas, the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The one-day TTBF will take place on Saturday, October 12th from 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. at Southwestern University in Georgetown. 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](https://www.facebook.com/TexasTeenBookFestival) and on [Twitter](#) and [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 Southwestern University. For more information, visit www.texasteenbookfestival.org.