



TEXAS BOOK FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES 2019 LINEUP FEATURING MORE THAN 300 AUTHORS

Lineup Presents Sarah M. Broom, Aarón Sánchez, Jami Attenberg, Chris Ware, Laurie Halse Anderson, and More

AUSTIN, TEXAS (August 27, 2019) – Texas Book Festival (TBF) is excited to announce a 2019 lineup filled with nationally renowned authors, including **Sarah M. Broom, Aarón Sánchez, Ibram X. Kendi, Jami Attenberg, Tim O'Brien, Samantha Power, Chris Ware, Chris Shepherd, Laurie Halse Anderson, Jaquira Díaz,** and more. The 2019 TBF weekend takes place on October 26 and 27 and is spread throughout the grounds of the Texas State Capitol and along Austin's iconic Congress Avenue.

One of the largest literary festivals in the country, TBF showcases national and Texas authors, including debut and bestselling writers, renowned chefs, beloved children's illustrators and authors, and more, connecting attendees with their favorite authors in many genres and introducing readers to new literary talents. Among the acclaimed authors scheduled to appear at TBF this October is New Orleans native **Sarah M. Broom**, who will present her critically acclaimed debut memoir, *The Yellow House*. Raised in New Orleans East, Broom takes us through the history of New Orleans as seen through her family's past and her iconic childhood home.

TV personality, James Beard Award-winning chef, and cookbook author **Aarón Sánchez** will present his memoir, *Where I Come From: Life Lessons From a Latino Chef*, which offers an intimate look into the chaotic and unorthodox life of a professional chef and television personality. Sánchez is known for judge appearances on FOX's hit culinary competition series *MasterChef* and has co-starred on Food Network's *Chopped* and *Chopped Junior*.

New York Times bestselling author, historian, and leading antiracist voice **Ibram X. Kendi**, whose nonfiction book *Stamped From the Beginning: The Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America* won the National Book Award for Nonfiction, will present his most recent work, *How to Be an Antiracist*. Kendi leads readers through a widening circle of ideas, weaving a combination of ethics, history, law, and science with his own personal story, asking readers to think about what an antiracist society might look like, and how we can play an active role in building it. His work has appeared in the *New York Times*, *The Guardian*, *Washington Post*, *London Review*, and *Time*.

Jami Attenberg will present her new novel, *All This Could Be Yours*, a timely, piercing exploration of family secrets and the web of a toxic patriarch. Attenberg is the author of seven books of fiction, including *The Middlesteins*, which appeared on the *New York Times* bestseller list and was published in ten countries.

Award-winning author of *The Things They Carried* and former reporter for the *Washington Post*, **Tim O'Brien** will present his most recent work, *Dad's Maybe Book*, in which he shares wisdom from a life of letters, lessons learned in wartime, and the challenges, humor, and rewards of raising two sons. O'Brien was awarded the 1979 National Book Award for his bestseller *Going After Cacciato* and won the Pritzker Literature Award for lifetime achievement in military writing.

Former US Ambassador to the United Nations and Pulitzer Prize-winning author **Samantha Power** will present her most recent work, *The Education of an Idealist: A Memoir*, which traces Power's distinct American journey from her childhood in Dublin to the streets of war-torn Bosnia to the White House Situation Room. Powers is a leading global voice on human rights and international affairs, as she served four years as President Barack Obama's human rights advisor and eventually served in his Cabinet.

Chris Ware, award-winning cartoonist, novelist, and contributor to *The New Yorker*, will present *Rusty Brown*, his newest a graphic novel that features a young Nebraska boy and his obsession with superheroes. The novel depicts the melancholic, yearning thoughts of Midwestern characters moving through realities shared and cloistered. Ware also created *Jimmy Corrigan: The Smartest Kid on Earth* and *Building Stories*, which won the Guardian First Book Award and was listed as one of the 100 Best Books of the Decade by the *Times* (London) in 2009.

James Beard Award-winning chef of Houston's Underbelly Hospitality and cookbook author **Chris Shepherd** will present *Cook Like a Local: Flavors That Can Change How You Cook and See the World*, where he shares the names of the cooks who have inspired him and teaches readers how to respectively and creatively work with flavors and cultures of Vietnamese, Korean, Indian, and others. Shepherd will present in the Central Market Cooking Tent.

National Book Award finalist and *New York Times* bestselling author **Laurie Halse Anderson** will present *Shout*, a searing and soul-searching poetic memoir inspired by her groundbreaking novel *Speak* that advocated for survivors of sexual assault. *Shout* shares Anderson's personal reflections and calls to action denouncing our society's failures, and it is also a love letter to all the people with the courage to say #metoo and #timesup.

Hailed by *Publisher's Weekly* as "one of the most anticipated books of fall 2019," **Jaquira Díaz** will present her debut, *Ordinary Girls: A Memoir*, which will be published this October. *Ordinary Girls* recounts Díaz's childhood in Puerto Rico and Miami, along with her bumpy transition from girlhood to womanhood. Díaz is the recipient of two Pushcart Prizes and two MacDowell Colony Fellowships, among other honors. Her work appears in *The Best American Essays 2016*, *Rolling Stone*, *Tin House*, *New York Times Style Magazine*, and elsewhere.

The 2019 TBF author lineup features a diverse array of topics, genres, and writers, including acclaimed poets, illustrators, and bestselling authors of both fiction and nonfiction. The Festival Weekend will also showcase award-winning authors who were previously announced, including **Malcolm Gladwell, John Grisham, Sean Brock, John Hodgman, Kristen Arnett, Hafsa Faizal, Attica Locke, Saeed Jones, and Kwame Alexander**. Numerous Young Adult and children's book authors are a part of this year's TBF lineup, including **R.J. Palacio, Sonia Sotomayor, and Rainbow Rowell**. In addition to engaging author sessions and panels, TBF offers special programming throughout the weekend for kids, spanning educational programs, family fun activities, games, entertainment, and more.

“The excitement around this year’s list is palpable,” says Executive Director Lois Kim. “We are thrilled to be hosting so many talented authors across so many genres. We hope this high-octane list will energize book lovers across Texas to come join us for an unforgettable weekend of connection and community.

The 2019 TBF lineup will feature more than 300 celebrated and emerging writers, including journalists, artists, scientists, and more. The Festival Weekend includes acclaimed authors at readings, panel discussions, and signings; exhibitor booths and food vendors; Central Market Cooking and C-SPAN Tents; children’s entertainment; and the return of the Latinx Lit Tent. The Festival continues to be free and open to the public thanks to its generous and dedicated sponsors and volunteers. The Festival brings together more than 50,000 attendees, kids’ activities, food trucks, book signings, sales, and 100 exhibitors in and around the State Capitol over two full days.

The 2019 Texas Book Festival is co-presented by H-E-B and AT&T. Other major sponsors include Brigid Cockrum and Family, *Kirkus Reviews*, Tocker Foundation, Buena Vista Foundation, Central Market, C-SPAN 2/Book TV, St. David’s HealthCare, *Texas Monthly*, *Austin American-Statesman*, and Pentagram.

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

###

ABOUT TEXAS BOOK FESTIVAL

With a vision to inspire Texans of all ages to love reading, 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 Texas Teen Book Festival, the Reading Rock Stars Title I elementary school program, the Real Reads Title I middle and high school program, grants to Texas libraries, and year-round literary programming. The Festival is held on the grounds of the Texas Capitol each fall and features more than 300 renowned authors, panels, book signings, cooking demonstrations, and children’s activities. The 2019 Texas Book Festival Weekend will take place October 26 - 27. 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.