



Texas Book Festival

The Texas Book Festival is a nonprofit organization that connects authors and readers through year-round, statewide programs that celebrate the culture of literacy, ideas, and imagination. TBF brings authors to Title I elementary schools, awards grants to public libraries, and engages tens of thousands of Texans at the annual Festival and Texas Teen Book Festival. Above all, TBF inspires all Texans to love reading.

ANNUAL TEXAS BOOK FESTIVAL

For the first time ever, the 2020 Texas Book Festival Weekend will be held entirely online. This virtual festival will take place from October 31 through November 15, offering two full weeks of free programming open to the public. The Texas Book Festival is honored to be one of the largest and most prestigious literary events in the nation, typically welcoming 50,000 people from around the state, spread throughout the grounds of the State Capitol and along Austin's iconic Congress Avenue. Highlights this year include:

- More than 125 authors participating in virtual sessions, including programming for adults, young adults, middle-grade readers, and children.
- The First Edition Literary Gala will be held virtually on November 6. The annual gala will bring together some of the world's leading literary minds for an evening filled with good books and wonderful conversation.
- Texas Teen Book Festival will take place virtually during the Texas Book Festival and will feature conversations with acclaimed Young Adult authors aimed at teenage readers. Typically this event brings together 5,000+ attendees and 35+ authors of Young Adult literature.

READING ROCK STARS

Reading Rock Stars is the Texas Book Festival's signature literacy program that brings nationally recognized authors to Title I schools in Austin, Dallas, Fort Worth, Houston, and the Rio Grande Valley. Teachers receive a customized curriculum to prepare their students for each author's presentation and, as the event's culmination, each student receives their very own signed copy of the author's book.

- 119,000+ books given to students in Texas
- 500+ author visits

TEXAS PUBLIC LIBRARY GRANTS

The Texas Book Festival is committed to supporting literacy across Texas through its Library Grant program. The organization awards these collection enhancement grants to ensure that reading is accessible and available to all Texans.

- More than \$3 million in grants awarded to 600+ libraries

REAL READS

Modeled on our successful year-round Reading Rock Stars program, the Real Reads program aims to inspire a love of reading in Texas middle and high school students from underserved groups by connecting celebrated authors with students. Teachers and mentors receive a customized curriculum to prepare their students for each author's presentation and, as the event's culmination, each student receives their very own signed copy of the author's book.

- 1,150+ books given to students in Texas
- 8 author visits

HISTORY

Founded in 1995 by Laura W. Bush, a former librarian and then First Lady of Texas, along with Mary Margaret Farabee and a dedicated group of volunteers, the TBF set out to honor Texas authors, promote the joys of reading, and benefit the state's public libraries. The first Festival took place in November 1996 and has grown into one of the nation's premier literary events.

KEY STAFF

Lois Kim, Executive Director
Matthew Patin, Literary Director
Claire Burrows, Deputy Director




(512) 477-4055

MEDIA CONTACTS

Danielle Firestone
danielle@giantnoise.com
(512) 382-9017

Katey Psencik
katey@texasbookfestival.org

SOCIAL MEDIA

 [Facebook.com/TexasBookFestival](https://www.facebook.com/TexasBookFestival)
 [@TexasBookFest](https://twitter.com/TexasBookFest)
 [@TexasBookFest](https://www.instagram.com/TexasBookFest)