

Texas Book Festival Leadership



Lois Kim

Executive Director

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Lois serves as Texas Book Festival's chief executive, responsible for managing staff, programs, operations, external relations, and resource development. An immigrant from Seoul, Korea, Lois grew up in Williamsville, New York. She holds a bachelor's degree in English from the University of Michigan and a master's degree and Ph.D. in English from the University of Texas at Austin, where her research focused on Shakespeare and early modern culture. In her early career, she taught high school English at a boarding school and pursued graduate coursework from the Bread Loaf School of English at Middlebury College. Prior to joining the Texas Book Festival, Lois served as the associate director of University Extension at UT Austin, where she managed student and academic affairs for college credit students. She also served on the board of the Austin Public Library Friends Foundation for six years, four of those as Vice President. Her husband, Phillip Reed, is a principal of Cotera + Reed Architects and they have two children: Sylvia and Nate. She has been a member of her book club for more than 20 years and favorite book genres are contemporary literary fiction and the 19th-century novel.



Claire Burrows

Deputy Director

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Claire serves as Texas Book Festival's operating director, managing staff, logistics, and organizational operations. She joined the Texas Book Festival in 2014. Claire has a PhD in Comparative Literature from Stony Brook University and a master's degree in Aesthetic Studies from UT Dallas and a bachelor's degree in Literary Studies from UT Dallas. Before joining the Festival, Claire was an adjunct professor at Stony Brook University teaching film, literature, and cultural studies. Her literary interests include comics and graphic novels, literary fiction, and memoirs.



Matthew Patin

Literary Director

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Matt has nearly fifteen years of experience in books, editing, and publishing, primarily as an independent editor. Matt began his career as an author assistant, then interned at both the Austin Chronicle and aGLIFF—an Austin-based film festival—before occupying communications and editorial roles at two publishing firms. Since 2009 he has edited, collaborated with, or advised nearly 200 fiction and nonfiction authors, including award winners and bestsellers, and has contributed to Kirkus Reviews and the Austin Chronicle. He has a bachelor's degree from the Moody College of Communication at the University of Texas and is a California State University–certified ghostwriter. In addition to acting as TBF's literary director, Matt serves on the board of directors at Austin Bat Cave—a literary and literacy-education nonprofit and TBF partner organization. Matt describes his reading diet as omnivorous, and he's always hungry.