



## TEXAS BOOK FESTIVAL TO PRESENT VIRTUAL ADULT AUTHOR PROGRAMMING OCTOBER 25-31

*Attendees Can Register Virtual Sessions on Texas Book Festival's Website*

**WHAT:** The 26th annual Texas Book Festival virtual adult author programming will take place Monday, October 25 through Sunday, October 31 featuring author panels and solo author sessions for book fans to access anywhere encompassing all genres. Live virtual adult author panels and sessions will stream on Crowdcast and attendees can register on the [Texas Book Festival Schedule](#).

**Virtual Adult Programming highlights include (*All times CST*):**

### **MONDAY, OCTOBER 25**

**10:45 a.m.: The United States of Addiction: Opioids, Vaping, and Instant Gratification Made Easy**

Three authors capture in detail a portrait of an addicted nation—and the powerful industry forces complicit in stoking dependency.

**12 p.m.: International Bestseller Ann Cleeves in Conversation about *The Heron's Cry***

Detective Matthew Venn has been investigating a series of murders in the local area of North Devon. When Dr. Nigel Yeo is found fatally stabbed, Detective Matthew must sort through the lives and lies of this small community. Join international bestselling author Ann Cleeves as she returns for this compelling sequel to *The Long Call* (Two Rivers series).

**2 p.m.: Hear My Voice / Escucha mi voz: The Testimonies of Children Detained at the Southern Border of the United States**

*Hear My Voice/Escucha mi voz* is illustrated by 17 Latinx artists and shares the stories and testimonies of 61 children—from Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, Ecuador, and Mexico, ranging in age from five to seventeen—detained at the southern border. Join Warren Binford and Michael Garcia Bochenek as they discuss both the making of this moving and richly illustrated book and Project Amplify, an organization that supports children in migration.

### **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26**

**12 p.m.: The Family Roe: A Conversation with Joshua Prager**

Journalist Joshua Prager spent years interviewing Texan Norma McCorvey (1947–2017), or “Jane Roe,” the woman at the center of *Roe v. Wade*. In *The Family Roe*—in part a profile of three figures central to the landmark ruling, including the attorney who filed the original Texas lawsuit—Prager adds crucial research and primary-source perspectives to a reproductive-rights conversation that has divided the nation since the 1973 Supreme Court ruling, a conversation especially timely with 2021 developments in the Texas Legislature.

**7 p.m.: Emmy Award Winner Tamron Hall in Conversation with Texas Writer Award Recipient Attica Locke**

In *As the Wicked Watch*—the debut novel from Emmy Award winner, former *TODAY Show* host, and Luling, TX–born journalist Tamron Hall—a reporter unravels the mystery of two Black girls murdered by a serial killer terrorizing Chicago. With Edgar Award–winning author and Texas Writer Award recipient (2019) Attica Locke, Hall will discuss her writing, her philanthropy with the Tamron ❤️ Renate Fund, the similarities between herself and protagonist Jordan Manning, and being a woman of color in the newsroom.

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27**

**12 p.m.: Sandra Cisneros in Conversation about *Martita, I Remember You / Martita, te recuerdo***

*House on Mango Street* author and Texas Writer Award recipient (2005) Sandra Cisneros returns with a story about the permanence of friendship forged by shared struggles and experiences. In this dual-language edition of *Martita, I Remember You / Martita te recuerdo*, a young Mexican woman, Corina, leaves her family in Chicago to pursue her dream of becoming a writer in Paris. By chance she meets Martita and Paola, and together they support one another as they begin their new lives. Years pass and their paths diverge, until one day Corina discovers a letter that evokes powerful memories about the life-changing bonds of youthful friendships.

**2:45 p.m.: 20 Years Later: Talking about 9/11 with Those Too Young to Remember**

Children's books *Ground Zero* and *I Survived the Attacks of September 11, 2001* capture the tales of children thrust into unimaginable horror. Authors Alan Gratz and Lauren Tarshis—each of whom make use of historical fact and storytelling to present narratives that emphasize the links between past and present—discuss their creative processes and the challenges inherent in novelizations of monumental real-world events, and in particular the turn-of-the-millennium event that changed the course of US geopolitics for decades.

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28**

**10 a.m.: The Plague Year: Pulitzer Prize Winner Lawrence Wright in Conversation with the Texas Tribune's Evan Smith**

Texas Writer Award recipient (2011) and *New York Times* bestselling author Lawrence Wright returns to the Texas Book Festival to discuss *The Plague Year: America in the Time of Covid*, an exploration of the medical, economic, political, and social origins and implications of the covid pandemic.

**4:45 p.m.: Medicine and the Anatomy of Injustice: Rupa Mayra and UT–Austin's Raj Patel in Conversation**

University of California–San Francisco's Rupa Mayra and activist, bestselling author, and UT-Austin nutrition department researcher Raj Patel chart the connections between our biology and the injustices of our political, social, and economic systems. Join Mayra and Patel as they discuss how decolonizing food and medicine can help begin the healing not only of our bodies but also our planet.

**7 p.m.: The National Book Foundation Presents: An Evening with National Book Awards**

2021 National Book Award longlisters and potential winners Darcie Little Badger (*A Snake Falls to Earth*, Young People's Literature), Desiree C. Bailey (*What Noise Against the Cane*, Poetry), and Elizabeth McCracken (*The Souvenir Museum*, Fiction) discuss their work and recognition in advance of the 72nd Annual National Book Awards, presented in partnership with the Texas Book Festival.

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29**

**10:45 a.m.: Viva Texas Rivers!: Adventures, Misadventures, and Glimpses of Nirvana along Our Storied Waterways**

*Viva Texas Rivers!* is an illustrated treasure trove of stories, poems, and essays from dozens of Texas literary voices, past and present, exploring their personal connections with the Lone Star State's

waterways. Contributors Steven Davis, Sam Pfiester, Carmen Tafolla, Joe Nick Patoski, and TBF 2021 poster artist Clemente Guzman talk about the making of the book and share their own experiences.

#### **12:45 p.m.: Legends of Texas Music**

Photographer Tracy Anne Hart (*Seeing Stevie Ray*) spent nearly a decade capturing moments—both quiet and loud—in the life of legendary Texas-born guitarist Stevie Ray Vaughn. In *Ghost Notes*, longtime music journalist Michael Corcoran profiles not only household names but also the far-too-little-knowns of the Texas music pantheon—a Black gay Houston couple who inspired the creation of rock 'n' roll, for instance. Together Hart and Corcoran discuss these artists' lives, their legacies, and their impact on music far beyond Texas.

#### **4 p.m.: For the Love of Baseball: Two Lifelong Fans Talk MLB Road Trips and the Players Who Reshaped the Game**

Austinite author Katie Russell Newland (*A Season with Mom: Loss, Love, and the Ultimate Baseball Adventure*) and Journalist Luke Epplin (*Our Team: The Epic Story of Four Men and the World Series that Changed Baseball*) discuss their new novels featuring Russell's book that captures letters between her and her mom and their shared love for the game, and Epplin's book that traces the Jackie Robinson era of postwar team integration and portrays, in particular, the World Series. A can't-miss conversation for any true baseball fan.

#### **7 p.m.: An Ancestry of Objects: Tatiana Ryckman in Conversation with Deb Olin Unferth**

Tatiana Ryckman, editor of Austin-based independent publisher Awst Press, talks with NBCC Award finalist and Guggenheim Fellow Deb Olin Unferth about Ryckman's latest novel *An Ancestry of Objects*, a gem of a book about a young woman contemplating the end of her life as she's known it as tragedy after tragedy accumulates around her.

### **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30**

#### **10:00 a.m.: Deception, Deadly Rivals, and Uneasy Alliances: New Fiction from Texas Thriller Authors**

Paul Coggins (*The Eye of the Tigress*) and bestselling authors Jeff Abbott (*An Ambush of Widows*) and Amy Gentry (*Bad Habits*) join to discuss their new novels.

#### **11 a.m.: Boom State: Mayors of Austin, Houston, and San Antonio in Conversation about the "Texas Triangle"**

Dallas–Fort Worth, Houston–Galveston, and Austin–San Antonio (the "Texas Triangle") will soon comprise four of the ten most populous US cities and represent the fifteenth largest economy in the world. Join mayors Henry Cisneros (San Antonio, former), Ron Nirenberg (San Antonio, current), Sylvester Turner (Houston), and Steve Adler (Austin) as they discuss community-building, economic prosperity, and the possibilities and challenges we face in the inexorable march toward global mega-region status.

#### **2:45 p.m.: Beer Made from Fog, Millennia-Old Egg Ovens, Dining in the Sky, and More: A Conversation with *Gastro Obscura's* Cecily Wong**

Cecily Wong's *Gastro Obscura: A Food Adventurer's Guide* is a detailed and richly illustrated testament to food as a gateway to a greater understanding of history, science, art, and tradition. Join Wong as she discusses how people on all seven continents make food, eat, drink, and come together around the table.

### **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31**

#### **12 p.m.: Elizabeth McCracken and Rumaan Alam in Conversation**

In Rumaan Alam's 2020 National Book Award–nominated novel *Leave the World Behind*, a family thrust into a national crisis finds themselves learning to navigate the waters of trust with two complete strangers. In Elizabeth McCracken's 2021 National Book Award–nominated story collection *The Souvenir Museum*,

families come together, grow apart, and have their bonds tested. Join Alam and McCracken as they talk about family dynamics in fiction.

The festival continues to be free and open to the public thanks to generous sponsors and dedicated volunteers. The 2021 hybrid 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, Tapestry Foundation, *Texas Monthly*, Buena Vista Foundation, Still Water Foundation, BookPeople, Central Market, *Austin American-Statesman*, Pentagram, Jordan Foster Construction, St. David's HealthCare, and Loewy Law Firm.

For more information on the Texas Book Festival, please visit [www.texasbookfestival.org](http://www.texasbookfestival.org) and follow along on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram @texasbookfest.

**WHEN:** October 25, 2021 – October 31, 2021

**WHERE:** Virtual Adult Author Sessions: Crowdcast links found on Texas Book Festival's [schedule](#)

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### **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. This year's hybrid Texas Book Festival will take place from October 23 through October 31, with virtual events October 23–31 and the Festival Weekend taking place at the Austin Public Library and Symphony Square's outdoor amphitheater on October 30–31, featuring renowned authors, panels, book signings, and activities. Thanks to generous donors, sponsors, and volunteers, the Festival remains free and open to the public. Visit [www.texasbookfestival.org](http://www.texasbookfestival.org) for more information, and join the conversation using the hashtag #txbookfest on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram @texasbookfest.