



TEXAS BOOK FESTIVAL TO PRESENT VIRTUAL TEXAS TEEN BOOK FESTIVAL AND VIRTUAL CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMING FROM OCTOBER 23-24

Attendees Can Access Virtual Conversations with Young Adult Authors on Crowdcast and Children's Authors on YouTube

WHAT: The 26th annual Texas Book Festival will kick off the nine-day hybrid festival with virtual young adult **Texas Teen Book Festival (TTBF)** programming and **virtual children's programming** from October 23 through October 24, 2021. Virtual Texas Teen Book Festival young adult events will stream on Crowdcast, and most children's virtual storytimes and panels will air on the [Texas Book Festival YouTube channel](#).

TEXAS TEEN BOOK FESTIVAL: YOUNG ADULT PROGRAMMING (VIRTUAL)

The TTBF started as the Austin Teen Book Festival in 2009, when librarian Heather Schubert partnered with BookPeople to organize a gathering at Westlake High School that hosted 16 authors and 500 attendees. The event continued to grow, and in 2011-2013 was sponsored by the Austin Public Library Friends Foundation. In 2014 the Fest was renamed the Texas Teen Book Festival and is currently a collaboration of the Texas Book Festival, BookPeople, and a dedicated group of librarian volunteers. Authors to stream on Crowdcast can be found on the Texas Book Festival [schedule](#). TTBF highlights include, but are not limited to:

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23 | Keynote: Benjamin Alire Sáenz | *Aristotle and Dante Dive into the Waters of the World* | 11:45 a.m. CST

- Two Mexican-American boys navigate cultural and familial pressures while exploring their new relationship—and the complexities of being young, gay, and in love during the height of the AIDS crisis. Texas Writer Award recipient (2016) Benjamin Alire Sáenz's highly anticipated sequel to the award-winning *Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe* (A *Time* Best YA Book of All Time) offers a stunning portrait of two teens coming into their own that's tender and intimate and utterly unforgettable.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24 | Keynote: Angeline Boulley | *Firekeeper's Daughter* | 2:00 p.m. CST

- Ever an outsider as an unenrolled Anishinaabe descendant on one side and a member of her town's wealthiest white families on the other, Daunis's tangled family ties, love of hockey, and passion for science collide as she investigates a string of drug-related deaths in her community—deaths that hit way too close to home. Filled with Anishinaabemowin phrases and compelling cultural context, Boulley's immersive, *New York Times* bestselling thriller packs a big punch.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMING (VIRTUAL)

Authors to air on YouTube can be found on the Texas Book Festival [schedule](#). Conversations during virtual children's programming include, but are not limited to, the following highlights:

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23

- Gloria Amescua, *Child of the Flower-Song People*
- Chris Barton, *How to Make a Book (about My Dog)*
- Cynthia Levinson, *The People's Painter*
- Diana López, *Sing with Me: The Story of Selena Quintanilla / Canta conmigo: La historia de Selena Quintanilla*
- Tracy Nelson Maurer, *Lady Bird Johnson, That's Who!*
- Cynthia L. Smith, *Ancestor Approved: Intertribal Stories for Kids*
- Divya Srinivasan, *What I Am*
- Anne Wynter, *Everybody in the Red Brick Building*
- Beatrice Zamora and Maira Meza, *The Spirit of Chicano Park / El espíritu del parque Chicano*

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24

- Kathi Appelt, *Once Upon a Camel*
- W. Stone Cotter, *Second Chance*
- Adrianna Cuevas, *Cuba in My Pocket*
- K. A. Holt, *Ben Y and the Ghost in the Machine: The Kids Under the Stairs*
- Kimberly Willis Holt, *The Ambassador of Nowhere Texas*
- Priya Huq, *Piece by Piece: The Story of Nisrin's Hijab*
- Varian Johnson, *Playing the Cards You're Dealt*
- Jon Scieszka and Steven Weinberg, *AstroNuts Mission Three: The Perfect Planet*
- Cynthia Leitch Smith, *Ancestor Approved: Intertribal Stories for Kids*
- Texas Bluebonnet Award Announcement

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 and follow along on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram @texasbookfest.

WHEN: Saturday, October 23 through Sunday, October 24, 2021

WHERE: Virtual Texas Teen Book Festival: Crowdcast links found on Texas Book Festival's [schedule](#)
Virtual Children's Programming: [Texas Book Festival YouTube channel](#)

###

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 for more information, and join the conversation using the hashtag #txbookfest on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram @texasbookfest.