



TEXAS BOOK FESTIVAL REVEALS FIFTEEN AUTHORS FOR 2022 FESTIVAL

The 2022 Festival will feature Omar Epps, Angie Cruz, Sandra Brown, David George Haskell, and Michaela Goade, among others

AUSTIN, TX (July 13, 2022) - The Texas Book Festival is thrilled to announce fifteen authors joining a full return to the in-person Festival Weekend this fall.

The Festival will feature Screen Actors Guild Award recipient and nine-time NAACP Image Award winner **Omar Epps**, Good Morning America Book Club Pick author and Women’s Prize finalist **Angie Cruz**, Texas literary legend and author of seventy-three *New York Times* bestsellers **Sandra Brown**, Pulitzer Prize finalist and Guggenheim Fellow biologist **David George Haskell**, *NYT* bestselling children’s author-illustrator and Caldecott medalist **Michaela Goade**, and many more.

The Festival, returning in person November 5–6 in downtown Austin after two years of virtual and hybrid programming, will include a sizable list of impressive literary talent for readers of all ages. The full lineup will be completed and revealed in September.

“This announcement marks the beginning of our Festival season, and we are very excited to bring talented authors and thousands of readers together again at our beloved annual event,” says Lois Kim, TBF’s Executive Director. “We hope all Texans, young and old, newly Texan or 7th generation, are marking their calendars to join us for an epic literary weekend.”

The sneak peek lineup includes:

Omar Epps, the actor-producer known for his roles in *House*, *Shooter*, *This Is Us*, and many more television shows and feature films, will present his debut young-adult novel *Nubia: The Awakening*, an epic Afrofuturist saga billed as perfect for fans of *Black Panther*. **Angie Cruz**, the award-winning author who debuted her first novel *Soledad* at Texas Book Festival 2001, will return to present new work *How Not to Drown in a Glass of Water*, about a woman who, faced with an unexpected job loss amid the Great Recession, evaluates her life.

Mega bestselling author, onetime TBF First Edition Literary Gala emcee (2003), and Texas native **Sandra Brown** will present latest novel *Overkill*, in which a former NFL superstar struggles with a crisis of conscience and juggles a life-or-death decision. Acclaimed professor of biology and environmental scientist **David George Haskell** brings to the Festival his Kirkus-starred book *Sounds Wild and Broken*, in which he explores the auditory wonders of the animal kingdom, and how endangered they are. **Michaela Goade**—illustrator for 2021 Caldecott

winning and bestselling *We Are Water Protectors*—presents *Berry Song*, a Kirkus- and *Publishers Weekly*-starred picture book in which granddaughter and grandmother deepen their connection with the earth.

"There's something special about seeing authors in-person again," says TBF literary director Matthew Patin. "Virtual programming provided us, and continues to provide, creative opportunities, yet nothing quite matches an author visiting Austin once more. In pre-COVID times we took a physical appearance for a given, but now it feels that much more valuable and important. And the fifteen names here are only a fraction of what's to come."

The full list of sneak peek authors includes:

- Vishwesh Bhatt, *I Am From Here: Stories and Recipes from a Southern Chef*
- Sandra Brown, *Overkill*
- Sandra Cisneros, *Woman Without Shame: Poems*
- Angie Cruz, *How Not to Drown in a Glass of Water*
- Erin Entrada Kelly, *Those Kids from Fawn Creek*
- James Kirchick, *Secret City: The Hidden History of Gay Washington*
- Omar Epps, *Nubia: The Awakening*
- Sidik Fofana, *Stories from the Tenants Downstairs*
- Michaela Goade, *Berry Song*
- Xochitl Gonzalez, *Olga Dies Dreaming*
- David George Haskell, *Sounds Wild and Broken: Sonic Marvels, Evolution's Creativity, and the Crisis of Sensory Extinction*
- Elizabeth McCracken, *The Hero of This Book*
- Matt de la Peña, *Patchwork*
- Mary Laura Philpott, *Bomb Shelter: Love, Time, and Other Explosives*
- Roger Reeves, *Best Barbarian: Poems*

The 2022 Texas Book Festival will take place in person November 5–6, in downtown Austin.

The 2022 Texas Book Festival is co-presented by H-E-B and AT&T. Other major sponsors include Brigid Cockrum and Family, Tocker Foundation, Still Water Foundation, Amplify Credit Union, Buena Vista Foundation, Tapestry Foundation, *Kirkus Reviews*, Central Market, *Texas Monthly*, *Austin Chronicle*, and Jordan Foster. BookPeople is the official Festival bookseller.

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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 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 Texas Book Festival will take place from November 5 to November 6, with events taking place in downtown Austin and at the Texas Capitol, 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 #texasbookfest on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram @texasbookfest.