



TEXAS BOOK FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES FEATURED AUTHORS AT THE SOLD-OUT FIRST EDITION LITERARY GALA ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4

WHAT: The Texas Book Festival is delighted to host the 27th annual First Edition Literary Gala, co-presented by HEB and AT&T, on Friday, November 4, 2022 at the Fairmont Hotel in downtown Austin. The sold-out event is dedicated to celebrating books, authors, and literacy featuring an unforgettable line-up of literary luminaries from 2022. This year's Gala decor is inspired by TBF 2022 poster artist Minta Maria and her *Adrift* series.

Gala sponsorships fund access to the Annual Festival in the fall, year-round Reading Rock Stars and Real Reads programs (which provide author visits and book donations to students in Title I schools), grants to Texas public libraries across the state, and free literary programming throughout the year.

WHO: The exciting lineup of presenters at the 2022 First Edition Literary Gala include Culinary legend and sixteen-time James Beard Award recipient **Jacques Pépin** and author of *Jacques Pépin Art of the Chicken*; *Good Morning America* Book Club Pick author and Women's Prize finalist **Angie Cruz** with her latest book *How Not to Drown in a Glass of Water*; bestselling author of *Winners Take All* and award-winning former *New York Times* columnist **Anand Girdharadas**; and special guest **Elizabeth McCracken**. **Mac Barnett**, *New York Times* bestselling author, Caldecott Honor Book and E.B. White Read Aloud Award-winner, will emcee this year's gala.

All featured authors will have public sessions during the Festival Weekend on November 5 or 6. The full schedule will be released in early October.

Additional information on featured authors:

Culinary legend and sixteen-time James Beard Award recipient **Jacques Pépin** will present *Jacques Pépin Art of the Chicken*, chock-full of recipes, humorous stories, and his own paintings.

Good Morning America Book Club Pick author and Women's Prize finalist **Angie Cruz**, who debuted her first novel *Soledad* at the 2001 Texas Book Festival, will return with *How Not to Drown in a Glass of Water*, an emotional and inventive novel about a woman facing the future after losing everything.

Bestselling author of *Winners Take All* and award-winning former *New York Times* columnist **Anand Girdharadas** will present *The Persuaders*, an insider account of activists, politicians, educators, and everyday citizens working to change minds, bridge divisions, and fight for democracy.

Special guest and bestselling and award-winning author **Elizabeth McCracken** will present *The Her of This Book*, a taut, groundbreaking novel about a writer's relationship with her larger-than-life mother—and about the very nature of writing, memory, and art.

Mac Barnett is the New York Times bestselling author of many picture books, including *The Important Thing About Margaret Wise Brown*, the New York Times bestselling *The Wolf, the Duck, and the Mouse*, the Caldecott Honor Book and E.B. White Read Aloud Award-winner *Sam and Dave Dig a Hole*, and the Caldecott Honor Book and Boston Globe-Horn Book Award winner *Extra Yarn*. He is also the coauthor of the bestselling *Terrible Two* series with Jory John, and will be participating in the Reading Rock Stars program in Austin earlier on November 4.

Link to Author bios + headshots available here-

<https://giantnoise.box.com/s/b4pau3f1nvsv9jvstlqajoam999eqfrs>

Photos from 2019 Gala:

<https://www.texasbookfestival.org/2021-festival-photo-galleries/first-edition-literary-gala-gallery/>

WHEN: Friday, November 4, 2022 6:30pm

WHERE: Fairmont Austin | 101 Red River St, Austin, TX 78701
2nd Floor, Congressional Ballroom

WEBSITE: <https://www.texasbookfestival.org/gala/>

For more information on the Texas Book Festival, please visit www.texasbookfestival.org and follow along on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram @texasbookfest.

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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.