



Texas Book Festival Organization & Programs Fact Sheet

Texas Book Festival is a nonprofit organization that connects authors and readers through year-round, statewide programs that celebrate the culture of literacy, ideas, and imagination. TBF brings authors to Title I elementary schools, awards grants to public libraries, and engages tens of thousands of Texans at the annual Festival. Above all, TBF inspires all Texans to love reading.

READING ROCK STARS

Reading Rock Stars is Texas Book Festival's signature literacy program that brings nationally recognized authors to Title I schools in Austin, Dallas, Fort Worth, Houston, Rio Grande Valley, and El Paso. Teachers receive a custom curriculum, preparing their students for each author's presentation, and, as the event's culmination, each student receives their very own signed copy of the author's book.

- 161,000+ books given to students in Texas
- 730+ author visits

TEXAS PUBLIC LIBRARY GRANTS

The Texas Book Festival is committed to supporting literacy across Texas through its Library Grant program. The organization awards these collection enhancement grants to ensure that reading is accessible and available to all Texans.

- More than \$3.5 million in grants awarded to 600+ libraries

REAL READS

Modeled on our successful year-round Reading Rock Stars program, the Real Reads program aims to inspire a love of reading in Texas middle and high school students from underserved groups by connecting celebrated authors with students. Teachers and mentors receive a customized curriculum to prepare their students for each author's presentation and, as the event's culmination, each student receives their very own signed copy of the author's book.

- 590 books given to students in Texas
- 5 author visits

HISTORY

Founded in 1995 by Laura W. Bush, a former librarian and then First Lady of Texas, along with Mary Margaret Farabee and a dedicated group of volunteers, the TBF set out to honor Texas authors, promote the joys of reading, and benefit the state's public libraries. The first Festival took place in November 1996 and has grown into one of the nation's premier literary events.

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