



## TEXAS BOOK FESTIVAL TO DISTRIBUTE MORE THAN 3,000 BOOKS TO 6 DFW-AREA TITLE I ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS FOR READING ROCK STARS PROGRAM

**AUSTIN, TX (May 6, 2024)** – On Tuesday, May 14, Texas Book Festival (TBF) will bring its annual Reading Rock Stars (RRS) program back to the Dallas-Fort Worth Area (DFW). Ten celebrated children’s authors and illustrators will present their books to students in six Title I schools throughout DFW.

Texas Book Festival’s Reading Rock Stars literacy program enlivens books for children by bringing authors to schools to share stories that ignite curiosity and excitement among young readers and provide memorable experiences to support a lifelong love of reading, writing, and creativity.

Author visits are the culmination of several weeks of planning on the part of students, educators, and TBF staff and conclude with each student taking home a signed copy of the author’s book. Since 2001, TBF will have donated 177,563 books to children across Texas through this initiative as of May 15, 2024. H-E-B Read 3 is the presenting sponsor for the Reading Rock Stars program. Additional Dallas sponsors include Central Market and the Texas Commission on the Arts. Fort Worth sponsors include the Sid W. Richardson Foundation, the Ryan Foundation, Central Market, and the Texas Commission on the Arts.

### PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

- Audelia Creek Elementary School
- Alice Contreras Elementary School
- Forestridge Elementary School
- Leadership Academy at Mitchell Boulevard Elementary
- Richardson Terrace Elementary School
- Westcliff Elementary School

### PARTICIPATING AUTHORS

Rebecca Balcárcel (*Shine On, Luz Veliz!*), Breanna Carzoo (*Greenlight*), Jorge Cham (*Oliver’s Great Big Universe*), Angela Dominguez (*Stella Diaz Dreams Big*), AG Ford (*Construction Site: Taking Flight!*), Erika Lynne Jones (*The Loud Librarian*), Eliza Kinkz, Jesús Trejo (*Papá’s Magical Water-Jug Clock*), Don Tate (*Pigskins to Paintbrushes*), and Kaz Windness (*Swim, Jim!*).

High-resolution event photos will be available after noon on May 15, 2024.

For media coverage inquiries, please contact Texas Book Festival Communications & PR Coordinator Jose Rodriguez at [Jose@texasbookfestival.org](mailto:Jose@texasbookfestival.org).

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## **ABOUT TEXAS BOOK FESTIVAL**

With a vision to inspire Texans of all ages to love reading, 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 middle school, high school, and early college program, grants to Texas libraries, and year-round literary programming. The 2024 Texas Book Festival will take place from November 16–17, 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. Learn more at [www.texasbookfestival.org](http://www.texasbookfestival.org) or follow along on [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), and [X](#) @texasbookfest.