

Six Bridges Book Festival

OCTOBER 8-18, 2020



SIXBRIDGESBOOKFESTIVAL.ORG

Supported in part by the Arkansas Humanities Council, the Arkansas State Library, and the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

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2 ABOUT THE FESTIVAL

This year's books cover everything from faith to rage baking, the Battle of New Orleans to the history of merpeople, the last trial of Harper Lee to last work of Prince, the spirituality of Mr. Rogers to the evolution of Eminem. You'll find insight on immigration and disabilities, memoirs both trying and amusing, essays from writers of color on belonging and the LGBTQ+ community on fashion. Heck, you can even learn about the inner workings of cocaine cartels and rabbit warrens. We've tossed in a poetry contest, a game hour, and the return of the edible books contest for good measure. Plus, much more. This should be quite a Fest. Enjoy!

Brad Mooy, Fest Coordinator



Little Rock is known for its many striking bridges, which make elegant silhouettes across the Arkansas River and provide pleasure to so many people who walk and bike the river trail. Our bridges light the night with color for all who enter and leave the city—a beautiful symbol of progress and hope.



All events, unless otherwise noted, will take place live on the Zoom platform. Registration for all events is open. When you register, you will receive a link to download a .pdf document with Zoom invitation information for your selected event(s). For security reasons, you will be required to have a free Zoom account to enter the event.



SIXBRIDGESBOOKFESTIVAL.ORG

Scan this QR code to go directly to our registration website!

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS 3

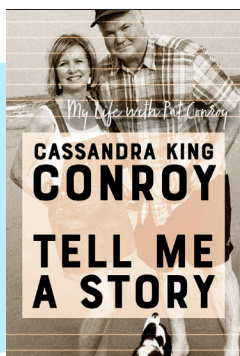
	10 A.M.	11:30 A.M.	NOON	1 P.M.	2:30 P.M.	4 P.M.	5:30 P.M.	7 P.M.
THURSDAY OCT. 8			Cassandra King Conroy and Jaquira Díaz				Megan Volpert & Friends* (1.5 hour session)	Tom Bissell and Kevin Brockmeier
FRIDAY OCT. 9			CENTO Poetry Showcase				Lyssa Kay Adams and Alisha Rai	Anthony Bozza and Dan Piepenbring
SATURDAY OCT. 10	Geoffrey Brock and Padma Viswanathan	Kay Ulanday Barrett and GennaRose Nethercott		Kathy Gunst, Katherine Alford, and Angela Garbacz	GennaRose Nethercott and Hilary Leichter	S. Charles Bolton and William C. Davis	Camille Acker and Geoffrey Blount	Tim O'Brien
	9 a.m.-2 p.m.: Little Readers Rock!							Pub or Perish
SUNDAY OCT. 11				Bonnie Tsui	Amy Peterson	Classic in Context: <i>Watership Down</i>	Classic in Context Film: <i>Watership Down</i>	Jerry Mitchell
MONDAY OCT. 12							Mayra Cuevas and Emily Roberson	Rage Baking workshop
TUESDAY OCT. 13							Amanda Leduc	Afia Atakora and Stephanie Storey
WEDNESDAY OCT. 14			Tell Your Own Story				Perfectly Golden workshop	Amir Ahmadi Arian and Rob Hart
THURSDAY OCT. 15			Andrew J. Milson				Daniel Kraus and Linsey Miller	Casey Cep and Toby Muse
FRIDAY OCT. 16			Toni Jensen, Frederick McKindra, and Joy Priest				Lisa Howorth and Susan Zurenda	R. Eric Thomas and Alia Volz
SATURDAY OCT. 17	Patrick M. Oliver & Friends	Jennifer A. O'Brien		Jeffrey Condran and Jen Fawkes	Kat Robinson	Tommy Foltz and Mark Saviers	Mark Barr, Tyrone Jaeger, and Stacey Margaret Jones	Virginia Walden Ford
SUNDAY OCT. 18				Michael Taylor	Vaughn Scribner	Tasty Reads	Game Hour	Shea Tuttle

All sessions are one hour, unless otherwise noted.

children	nonfiction	fiction	food	memoir / inspirational	poetry	teens/ya	special event	wild card
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4 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

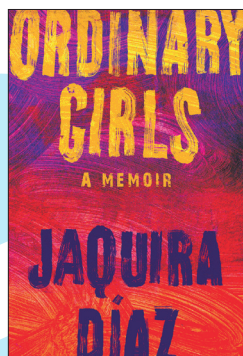
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8



noon

Cassandra King Conroy and Jaquira Diaz

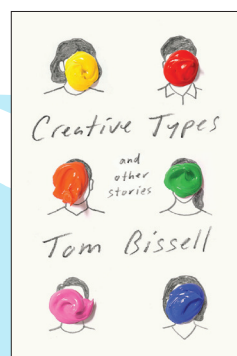
Tell Me a Story is a poignant, intimate memoir of a love affair with a natural-born storyteller whose lust for life was fueled by a passion for literature, food, and home. *Ordinary Girls* is a searing memoir about a challenging girlhood and triumphant coming of age, mapping a way out of despair toward love. *Sponsored by Arkansas Democrat-Gazette.*



5:30 p.m.

Megan Volpert & Friends

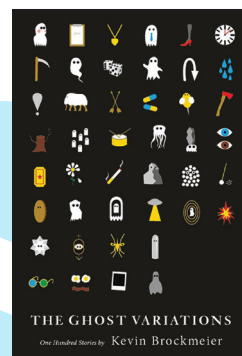
Closet Cases: Queers on What We Wear testifies to the power of fashion as a verb as it unfolds the complex strategies governing what the LGBTQ+ community does to build authentic selves. Jordan Butler, M Shelly Conner, Kate Leland, and Randi M. Romo, all featured in the book, join this fashion-forward panel. *Sponsored in part by Esse Purse Museum & Store.*



7 p.m.

Tom Bissell and Kevin Brockmeier

Creative Types is a collection of stories that renders the complex worlds of characters on the brink of artistic and personal crises. The tales in *The Ghost Variations: One Hundred Stories* are by turns playful, chilling, and philosophical, paying homage to the genre while audaciously subverting expectations.



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9

noon

CENTO Poetry Showcase

In collaboration with Lift Every Voice: Why African American Poetry Matters Today and the Library of America, the CENTO Poetry Showcase on CALS social media amplifies the voices of black authors by utilizing quotes from original works and knitting them together to create entirely new poems. Explore CALS reading lists and collection to find new ways of writing and thinking. Titles and the authors of the original works will be credited in the showcase. Go to CALS.org for more information.

5:30 pm

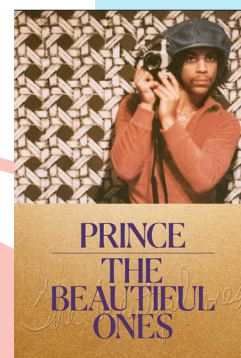
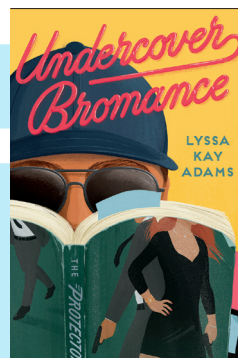
Lyssa Kay Adams and Alisha Rai

Undercover Bromance finds Bromance Book Club member Braden Mack trying to help Liv Papandreas take down her ex-boss, while the book club guys try to help him find the way to her heart. In *Girl Gone Viral*, über-private Katrina King becomes an unwitting internet sensation, and while bodyguard Jas Singh can hide her from the paparazzi, being alone makes it hard to hide their feelings from each other.

7 p.m.

Anthony Bozza and Dan Piepenbring

Bozza, a former staff writer at *Rolling Stone*, chronicles the past 20 years of rapper Eminem's life, based on exclusive interviews with the artist, his friends, and his associates in *Not Afraid: The Evolution of Eminem*. Just months before his death, Prince Rogers Nelson began work on his memoir, *The Beautiful Ones*, collaborating with Piepenbring to highlight the strains of mystery, black identity, sexuality, and utopianism in his music. *Sponsored by Prosmart Printing.*



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10

LITTLE READERS ROCK!

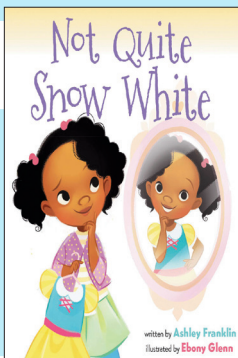


9 a.m. Animal Yoga for Kids

Kids learn how to stretch, breathe, and roar like some of their favorite animals.

12:30 p.m. PBS for Kids

Watch the new PBS KIDS show “Elinor Wonders Why” and do a fun activity too!



9:30 a.m. Storytime

Garbo Hearne, owner of Hearne Fine Art and Pyramid Gallery & Books, reads to the little ones.

1 p.m. Campfire Tales with Blueberry

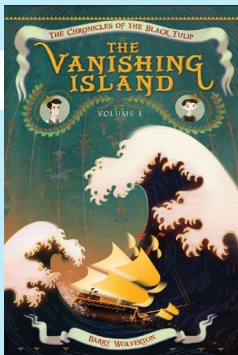
Blueberry, the fun-loving puppet from *Blueberry's Clubhouse*, will share fun campfire stories and art projects. And don't forget your campfire snacks! Blueberry's Clubhouse is produced by Arkansas PBS in conjunction with the Arkansas Arts Center.

10 a.m. Ashley Franklin

Not Quite Snow White is a delightful and inspiring picture book that highlights the importance of self-confidence while taking an earnest look at what happens when that confidence is shaken or lost. It has been called “a picture book for magical yet imperfect girls everywhere.”

1:30 p.m. Arkansas PBS APPY Time

Parents learn about the awesome PBS KIDS apps that keep the learning fun for parents and kids. Zoom in to resources available for anytime, anywhere learning.



10:30 a.m. Crafts

Megan McCain, chair of Little Readers Rock, guides youth through an easy, enjoyable craft.

11 a.m. Barry Wolverton

Get set for pirates and high adventure in the *Chronicles of the Black Tulip* series, an “alternate history epic” which is “richly imagined and gorgeously realized.”

11:30 a.m. Cooking in Bloom

Denise Alberts leads youth through something they can make in the kitchen.

noon Ernesto Cisneros

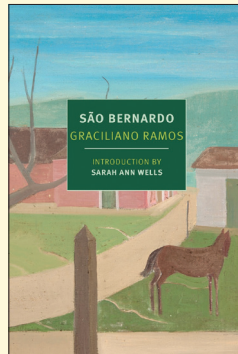
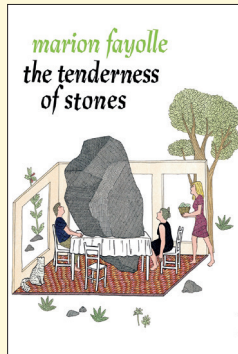
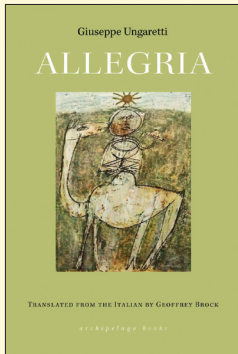
Online readers have said, “*Efrén Divided* takes readers inside a family struggling with poverty and deportation. While heartbreaking at times, the author balances a tough and frightening subject with love.” *Sponsored by Friends of Central Arkansas Libraries.*



Go to SixBridgesBookFestival.org to get an activity kit for the kids!

6 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

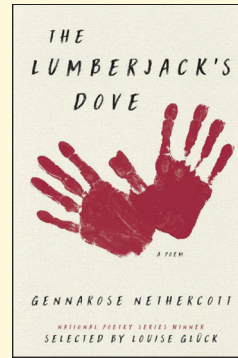
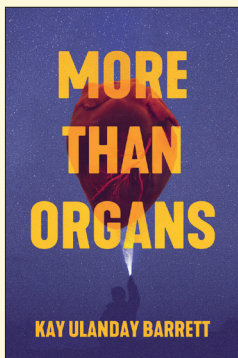
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10



10 a.m.

Geoff Brock and Padma Viswanathan

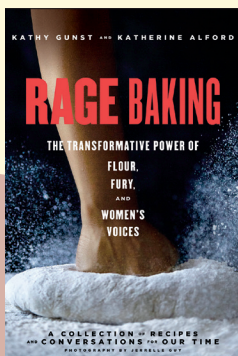
Brock has recently translated two books: Giuseppe Ungaretti's *Allegria*, considered one of the greatest books of Italian poetry of the 20th century; and *The Tenderness of Stones*, Marion Fayolle's beautifully illustrated memoir about the death of her father. *São Bernardo*, translated by Viswanathan, is a masterwork about backcountry life by one of Brazil's most celebrated novelists, Graciliano Ramos.



11:30 a.m.

Kay Ulanday Barrett and GennaRose Nethercott

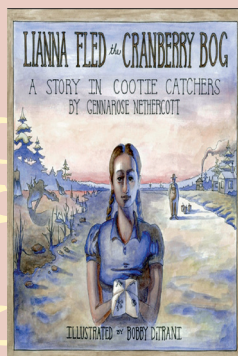
A love letter to Brown, Queer, and Trans futures, the collection of poetry *More Than Organs* questions "whatever wholeness means" for bodies always in transit, for the safeties and dangers they silo. A narrative poem, *The Lumberjack's Dove* describes a woodsman who cuts his hand off with an axe—however, instead of merely being severed, the hand shapeshifts into a dove. *Sponsored by Sibling Rivalry Press and Queer Arts Arkansas.*



1 p.m.

Kathy Gunst, Katherine Alford, and Angela Garbacz

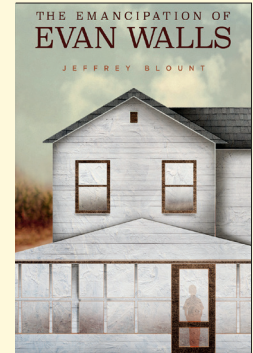
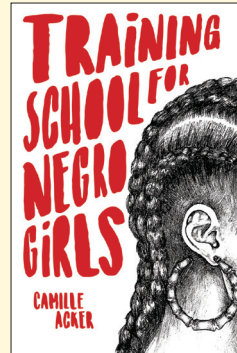
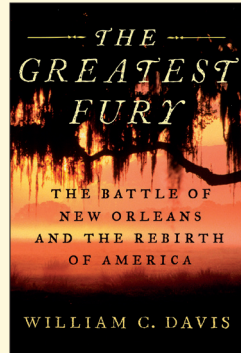
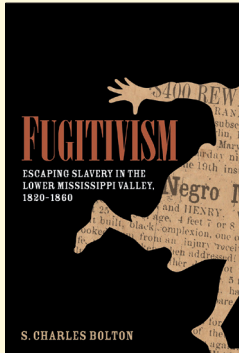
Rage Baking: The Transformative Power of Flour, Fury, and Women's Voices is a collection of more than 50 recipes as well as short essays and quotes from some of the best bakers, activists, and outspoken women in the country. *Rage Baking* encourages women to use sugar and sass as a way to defend, resist, and protest. With an uncomplicated approach to getting home bakers in the kitchen to try their hand at beautiful recipes, *Perfectly Golden* invites everyone into the kitchen, regardless of how they eat. The treats are baked without dairy or gluten but can be made with butter and all-purpose flour just as easily. *Sponsored by KUAR FM 89.*



2:30 p.m.

GennaRose Nethercott and Hilary Leichter

With *Lianna Fled the Cranberry Bog*, a story told in fold-up paper "cootie catchers," the traditional children's game is transformed into an interactive fable of cruel beasts, daring thieves, lost sweethearts, and a family on the run. *Temporary* casts a hilarious and tender eye toward the struggle for happiness under late capitalism. Whether it's shining an endless closet of shoes, swabbing the deck of a pirate ship, or assisting an assassin, for the mythical Temporary, "there is nothing more personal than doing your job."



4 p.m.

S. Charles Bolton and William C. Davis

Fugitivism: Escaping the Lower Mississippi Valley 1820-1860 explains how escapees made use of steamboat transportation, how urban runaways differed from their rural counterparts, how enslaved people were victimized by slave stealers, how conflicts between black fugitives and the white people who tried to capture them encouraged a culture of violence in the South, and how runaway slaves from the Lower Mississippi Valley influenced the abolitionist movement in the North. *The Greatest Fury: The Battle of New Orleans and the Rebirth of America* details the December 1814 British invasion of Louisiana and the last-minute efforts of American forces to meet and repel that threat. The result was not only a stunning victory that cemented the United States' hold on the vast central portion of the continent, but it also made Andrew Jackson president and refocused American attention away from the East and toward the expanding opportunities of the unsettled West.

5:30 p.m.

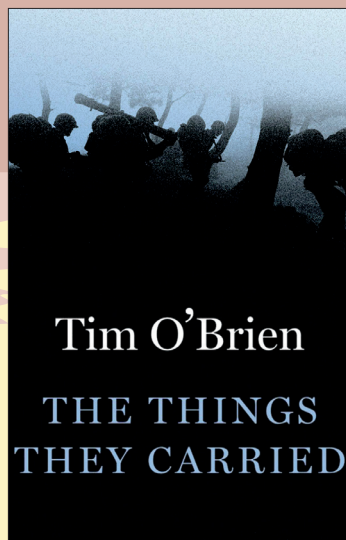
Camille Acker and Jeffrey Blount

Training School for Negro Girls, a debut short-story collection, unleashes the irony and tragi-comedy of respectability onto a wide-ranging cast of characters, all of whom call Washington, DC, home. A "woke" millennial tries to fight gentrification, only to learn she's part of the problem; a grade school teacher dreams of a better DC, only to take out her frustrations on her students; and a young piano player wins a competition, only to learn the prize is worthless. Ultimately, they are confronted with the fact that respectability does not equal freedom. Inspired to overcome the racism aimed at African Americans and the second-class status imposed on them, the protagonist in *The Emancipation of Evan Walls* dreams of a life bigger than that lived by most people he knows in his small Virginia town. Caught in a crossfire of hate from whites and his own people, who question whether he is "black enough," Evan is often alone and bewildered with only the love of his great-grandmother and his mentor, Bojack, to keep him on track.

7 p.m.

Tim O'Brien

The Things They Carried has sold over two million copies worldwide and was a finalist for both the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Critics Circle Award. More recently, the book was included among Amazon's "List of 100 Books to Read in a Lifetime" and was credited as the inspiration for a National Veterans Art Museum exhibition of the same name in Chicago. The book is part memoir, part fiction. *Sponsored by National Endowment for the Arts/The Big Read.*



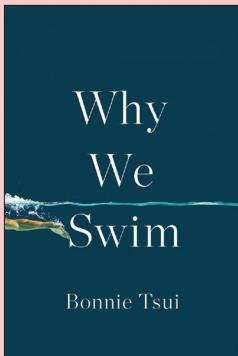
7 p.m.

Pub or Perish

Come to Sticky Rock 'N' Roll Chicken Shack to hear local authors in the Fest's only "live and in-person" and socially distanced event. Doors open 6 p.m. Limited seating available. Limited open mic slots are available beginning Friday, Oct. 9 at 10 a.m. Please contact chrisjames501@gmail.com for more information. Go to CentralArkansasTickets.com to get your free tickets. *Sponsored by Arkansas Times.*

8 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11



1 p.m.

Bonnie Tsui

Why We Swim is propelled by stories of Olympic champions, a Baghdad swim club that meets in Saddam Hussein's palace pool, modern-day Japanese samurai swimmers, and even an Icelandic fisherman who improbably survives a six-hour swim after a shipwreck.

2:30 p.m.

Amy Peterson

Where Goodness Still Grows is a collection of essays that seek to reimagine virtue in our current political moment. It is animated by a vision of a more expansive faith that chooses love rather than fear. *Sponsored in part by Christ Episcopal Church.*

4 p.m.

**Classic in Context:
Watership Down**

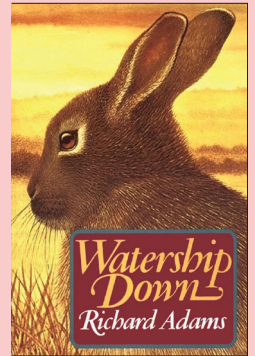
Author Barry Wolverton and special guest Gwen Moritz discuss Richard Adams' exhilarating classic, which won in 2019 by more than a hare. Be sure and vote for your choice for 2021! *Sponsored by Rebsamen Fund.*

5:30 p.m.

Classic in Context Film:

Watership Down

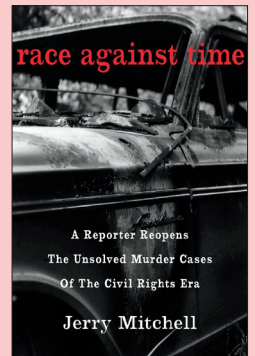
"In this celebrated adaptation...an offshoot group of rabbits struggle to break from their failing, violent community to form a utopian society....First-time director Martin Rosen and his team of animators created a dark, beautiful work that blends poetic mysticism and austere realism." *Sponsored by Rebsamen Fund.*



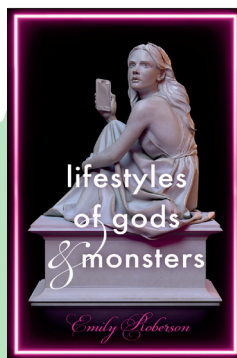
7 p.m.

Jerry Mitchell

Race Against Time: A Reporter Reopens the Unsolved Murder Cases of the Civil Rights Era takes readers on the twisting, pulse-racing road that led to the reopening of four infamous killings from the days of the civil rights movement: the assassination of Medgar Evers, the firebombing of Vernon Dahmer, the 16th Street Church bombing in Birmingham, and the Mississippi Burning case. The author reveals how he found secret documents and long-lost witnesses and suspects to build up evidence strong enough to take on the Klan. *Sponsored by University of Arkansas Clinton School of Public Service.*



MONDAY, OCTOBER 12



5:30 p.m.

Mayra Cuevas and Emily Roberson

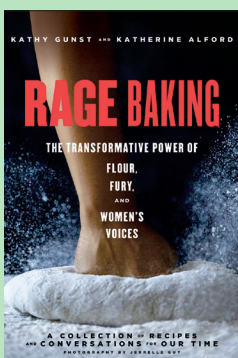
Salty, Bitter, Sweet is a slow-burn romance in a cutthroat kitchen. There's more to becoming a top chef for 17-year-old Isabella Fields than just not getting chopped...especially when the chances of things heating up with an intriguing boy and becoming a food star in the kitchen are both on the chopping block. Greek mythology meets the Kardashians in *Lifestyles of Gods and Monsters*, a fresh, fast-paced debut young adult novel about celebrity culture, family dynamics, and finding love amidst it all.

7 p.m.

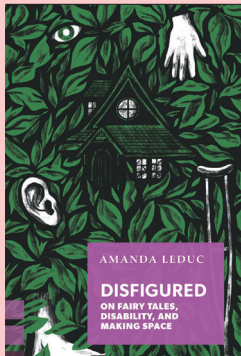
Rage Baking workshop

Katherine Alford and Kathy Gunst

Ready for some *Rage Baking*? Seasoned pros Katherine Alford and Kathy Gunst attack the fall galette with apples and pears (and a savory twist) and the Marbled Chocolate and Vanilla Cookies from their must-have book. Both recipes have cool, approachable techniques. *Sponsored by KUAR FM89.1.*



TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13



5:30 p.m.

Amanda Leduc

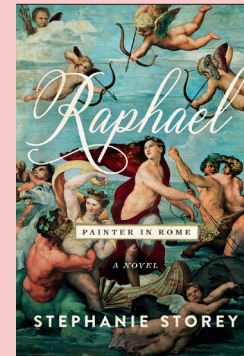
Disfigured: On Fairy Tales, Disability, and Making Space points the way toward a new world where disability is no longer portrayed as a punishment or impediment but operates, instead, as a way of centering a protagonist and helping them to cement their own place in a story, and from there, the world. The book examines fairy tale archetypes—the beautiful princess, the glass slipper, the maiden with long hair trapped in the tower—and tries to make sense of them through a twenty-first-century disablist lens.



7 p.m.

Afia Atakora and Stephanie Storey

Conjure Women is a sweeping story that brings the world of the South before and after the Civil War vividly to life through the lives of three women: Miss May Belle, a wise healing woman; her daughter precocious Rue, who is reluctant to follow in her mother's footsteps as a midwife; and their master's white daughter Varina. *Raphael, Painter in Rome* is the story of the artist's determination to keep the promise he made to his father: become the greatest artist in history. As he strives for perfection in his art, he must battle his inner demons of desperate ambition, crippling fear of imperfection, unshakable loneliness, fierce rivalry with Michelangelo, and love of a baker's-daughter-turned-prostitute who becomes his muse. Supported in part by the Arkansas State Library and the Institute of Museum and Library Services.



WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14



noon

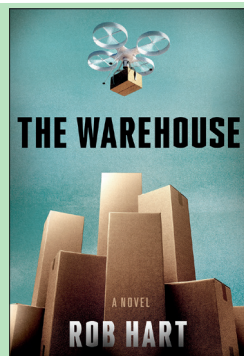
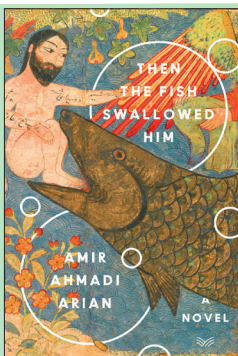
Tell Your Own Story, Arkansas PBS

Find out about a nationwide storytelling initiative, "PBS American Portrait," that allows people from all walks of life to participate in a national conversation about what it means to be an American today. Help others hear what a complex, real, and fascinating mosaic Arkansas is!

5:30 p.m.

Perfectly Golden workshop with Angela Garbacz

Professional baker Angela Garbacz mixes it up in her full demo. Her recent classes have included cutting, baking, and decorating tips on making cinnamon rolls and glaze from scratch, sugar cookie dough, and a layer cake. Expect something sweet, delicious, and *Perfectly Golden*. Sponsored in part by At Home in Arkansas.



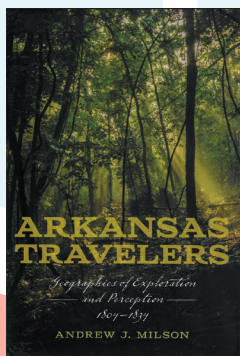
7 p.m.

Amir Ahmadi Arian and Rob Hart

Then The Fish Swallowed Him tells the story of an Iranian bus driver who gets involved in a workers' strike without understanding the consequences in the context of Iranian politics. He is taken to jail, where he endures a long, vicious, demoralizing interrogation, during which he has to deal with his past while desperately trying to prove his innocence. *The Warehouse* is a near-future dystopian novel that imagines one company dominating the American retail economy and introducing the live-work model. It's a cautionary tale about how large corporations treat employees like disposable products—and how we helped build that environment—wrapped in the language of a thriller.

10 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15



noon

Andrew J. Milson

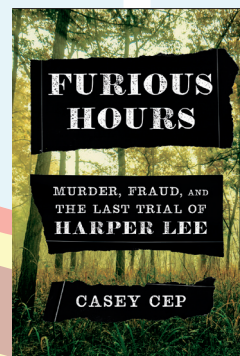
Arkansas Travelers: Geographies of Exploration and Perception, 1804-1834 takes readers on an tour with William Dunbar, Thomas Nuttall, Henry Rowe Schoolcraft, and George William "Fenston" Featherstonhaugh as they explored the Arkansas frontier in the early nineteenth century. Maps have been created to illustrate the routes as well as their environmental and cultural perceptions.



5:30 p.m.

Daniel Kraus and Linsey Miller

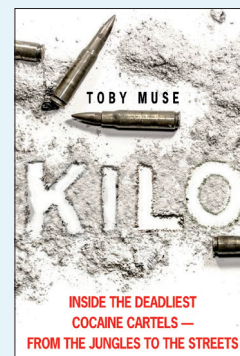
In *Bent Heavens*, Liv Fleming's father Lee went missing more than two years ago, not long after he claimed to have been abducted by aliens. Liv has long accepted that he's dead, yet continues to check the traps Lee left to catch the aliens he so desperately believed were after him. This horrifying and heartbreaking thriller explores the lengths people go to find justice and to avoid facing the painful reality of grief. *Belle Révolte* is a standalone fantasy in which Emilie des Marais and Annette Coucher, two very different young women, must trade lives to pursue their ambitions, work together to stay alive, and end a war caused by magic and greed.



7 p.m.

Casey Cep and Toby Muse

Furious Hours is the true story of Willie Maxwell, a preacher accused of murdering five of his family members, only to be killed by at the funeral of his last victim. Harper Lee was in the audience when Maxwell's murderer was acquitted, and she spent years working on her own version of the case. *Kilo: Inside the World's Deadliest Cocaine Cartels* follows the journey of a kilo of cocaine from the farmers who produce it, to the killers who protect it, to the drug barons made wealthy by it. Muse's unprecedented access to Colombia's cocaine cartels allows readers to meet the traffickers as well as the Colombian police and U.S. Coast Guard who combat smuggling. *Sponsored by Wordsworth Books.*



BEHIND THE SCENES

Fest Coordinator: Brad Mooy

Book Sales: WordsWorth Books
Zoom Squad Commander: Nathan Smith
Marketing: Tameka Lee
Webmaster: Scott Kirkhuff
Graphic Designer: Michelle Bailey Keahey
Little Readers Rock Chair: Megan McCain
Moderator Chair: Amy Bradley-Hole
WITS Chair: Jennifer White
Festival Art: Phillip Rex Huddleston
Volunteer Coordinator & SWAG: Polly Deems
Special Assistance: Madelyn Ganos
Feature Stories: Rosslyn Elliott
Social Media: Stewart Fuell
Office Assistance: Nicole Smith, Marlena West

Talent Committee

Eliza Borné, Amy Bradley-Hole, Kevin Brockmeier, Guy Choate, Tom DeBlack, Polly Deems, Garbo Hearne, Rettina Hill, Michelle Bailey Keahey, Frederick McKindra, Brad Minnick, Katherine O'Bryan, Susan Santa Cruz, Mary Gay Shipley, Dorian Stuber

Moderators and Introducers

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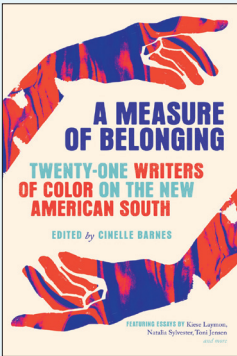
Special Thanks

Jama Best, Bryan Borland, Kevin Brockmeier, Jeff Condran, Amanda Copley, Ernie Dumas, Tamika Edwards, Jan Emberton, Stephanie Ferguson, Diane Foster, Phillip Rex Huddleston, Rettina Hill, Phyllis Hodges, Betsy Johnson, Dana Kaye, Michelle Bailey Keahey, Gina Kokes, J. P. Langston, Chris King, Lia Lent, Diana Long, Megan McCain, Stephanie Maxwell, Gary Miller, Rex Nelson, Timothy Nutt, Lynne Phillips, Laurie Pierce, Mary Rimmel Wohlleb, Vaughn Scribner, Nathan Smith, Laura Stanley, Ragan Sutterfield, Denise Turlier, Nathan Vandiver, Jennifer White, Ginger Young

Additional Presenters

Denise Alberts, Arkansas Arts Center, Arkansas PBS, Jordan Butler, Edith Callaway-Frazier, M. Shelly Conner, Sarah Dixon, Garbo Hearne, Randall Horton, Katie Leland, Randi Romo, Brittany Sparkles, Beatriz Valera, Robin White

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16

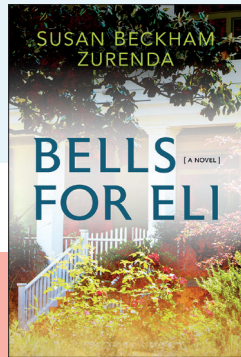
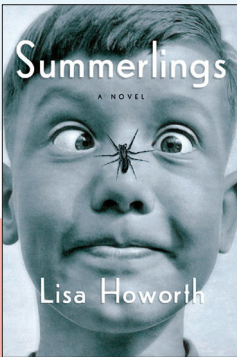


noon

Toni Jensen, Frederick McKindra, and Joy Priest

Urgent, necessary, funny, and poignant, *A Measure of Belonging: Writers of Color on the New American South* is a collection of essays from new and established voices that confront the complexities of the South's relationship with race, uncovering the particular difficulties and profound joys of being a Southerner in the 21st century. This collection celebrates the incredible diversity in the contemporary South by featuring essays by Jensen, McKindra, Priest, and more of the finest young writers of color living and working in the region today, who all address a central question: Who is welcome?

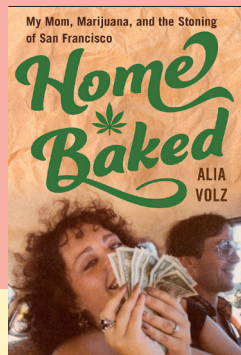
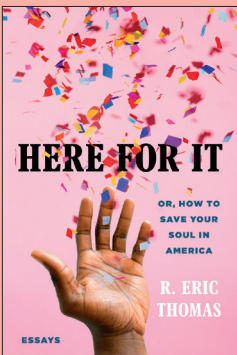
Sponsored by Arkansas Democrat-Gazette.



5:30 p.m.

Lisa Howorth and Susan Zurenda

Summerlings is a funny but poignant novel set in 1959 in Washington, DC that follows a trio of kids as they navigate the Cold War fears of the adults in their lives as well as issues of growing up: sexual confusion, family dysfunction, and death. The kids plan to throw a wild party, and along the way deal with a bizarre plague and heart-breaking family events, which they misguidedly take upon themselves to resolve, resulting in tragedy. In *Bells for Eli*, cousins Eli and Delia are meant to grow up happily and innocently in small-town South Carolina in the 1960s and '70s until a tragic accident leaves Eli disfigured and shunned by his peers. This compelling coming-of-age story illustrates a world where love, hope, and connectedness ultimately triumph. *Sponsored in part by Oxford American.*



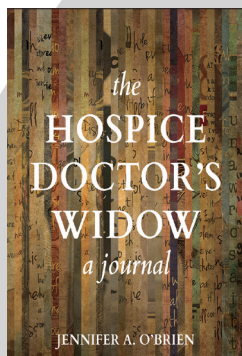
7 p.m.

R. Eric Thomas and Alia Volz

Here For It, Or How to Save Your Soul in America is a memoir-in-essays that weaves in themes of intersecting identities, particularly black, Christian, and queer. Many of the essays touch on the painful divisions of the spirit that resulted from Thomas's youth in a church that simply pretended homosexuals did not exist. In *Home Baked: My Mom, Marijuana, and the Stoning of San Francisco*, Volz shares her blazingly funny, heartfelt memoir as the daughter of the larger-than-life woman who ran Sticky Fingers Brownies, an underground bakery that distributed thousands of marijuana brownies per month and helped provide medical marijuana to AIDS patients in San Francisco.

12 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17



10 a.m.

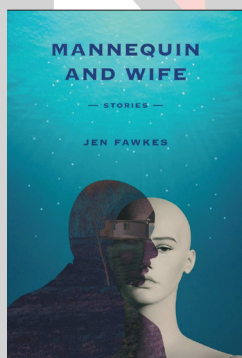
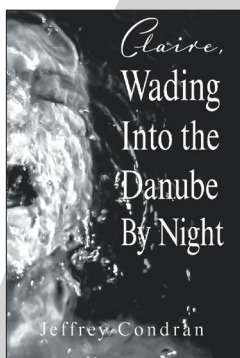
Patrick M. Oliver & Friends

Supporters from The Read, Lead, and Level Up project at Hall High School will discuss the fun, engaging writing activities used to produce a compelling collection of prose in the anthology *Our Stories, Our Voices, Our Visions*. Patrick M. Oliver, founder of Say It Loud! Readers and Writers, is joined by Edith Callaway-Frazier, Sarah Dixon, Randall Horton, Beatriz Varela, and Robin White, who will read and respond.

11:30 p.m.

Jennifer A. O'Brien

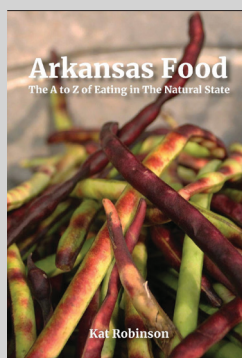
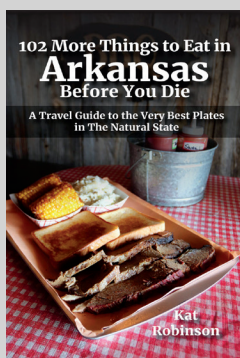
The Hospice Doctor's Widow: A Journal is an insightful blend of art and compassion, patience, and endearing honesty. What began as a visceral, self-care compulsion within days of diagnosis became handwritten notes, colorful collages, and layered images revealing the raw, luminescent reflections of a caregiver-turned-widow. *The Hospice Doctor's Widow* strives to remind us how to live presently during our darkest hours, honor grief, and discover – even after devastating loss – ways to forge forward.



1 p.m.

Jeffrey Condran and Jen Fawkes

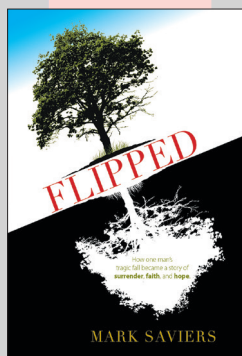
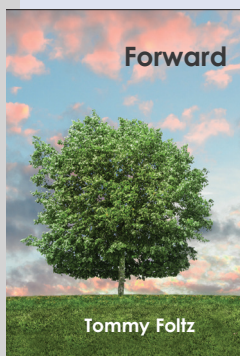
Claire, Wading Into the Danube By Night is an intense and sophisticated collection of stories, in which characters travel the world in search of truths that aren't always comfortable and companionship that doesn't always make sense. In *Mannequin and Wife*, sharp and imaginative tales trip seamlessly across borderlands, navigating comedy and tragedy, psychological and magical realism, the mundane and the marvelous. *Sponsored in part by UA Little Rock Department of English.*



2:30 p.m.

Kat Robinson

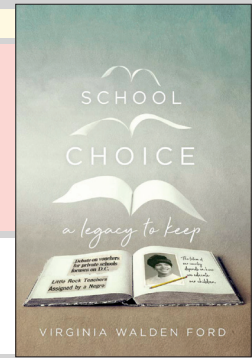
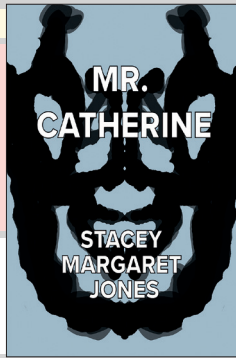
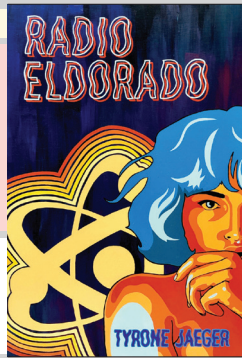
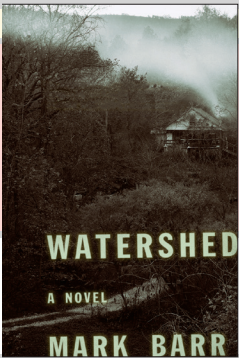
Arkansas Food: The A to Z of Eating in the Natural State is the culmination of 12 years of research and a lifetime of enjoying the dishes and traditions of regional cuisines, from rural tables to top-end restaurants. The collections *101 (and 102 More) Things to Eat in Arkansas Before You Die* offer diners the chance to consume the best each of Arkansas's regions has to offer, from Delta tamales to Oz ark fried chicken, with nods to singular dishes such as Jimmy's Serious Sandwiches' "The Garden" sandwich, Franke's eggplant casserole, and Tacker's Shake Shack's Sultana Burger. Robinson's well-vetted, regionally diverse travel guides answer the supreme question: "What should I eat in Arkansas?" *Sponsored in part by Arkansas Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism.*



4 p.m.

Tommy Foltz and Mark Saviers

Forward tells a father's journey through the struggle of dealing with the death by suicide of his 13-year-old son. He tries to stay positive, drawing strength from the support of his family and community and rejoicing in the growth of his fraternal twin brother. *Flipped* is the story of how God helped Saviers's brother-in-law, Tommy Van Zandt, survive and thrive after a tragic accident, and how faith, family, friends, and community came together to create triumph over tragedy.



5:30 p.m.

Mark Barr, Tyrone Jaeger, and Stacey Margaret Jones

Set in 1937 in rural Tennessee, with the construction of a monumental dam serving as a backdrop, *Watershed* is part history, part love story, delivering a gripping story of characters whose ambitions and yearnings threaten to overflow the banks of their time and place. *Radio Eldorado* transports the reader back to the 1960s and an America rife with internal conflict and anxiety from Vietnam to Free Love. In *Mr. Catherine*, a wife has gone missing a year after confessing to having an affair. This fast-paced domestic noir explores the dangerous secrets between a husband and a wife, as well as a deeper meditation on marriage, connection, and honesty.

7 p.m.

Virginia Walden Ford

Lessons and the legacies are explained in this searing new memoir, *School Choice: A Legacy to Keep*. On a cold winter night in February 1967, members of the Ku Klux Klan terrorized her family, burned a cross in their lawn—all because her father dared to take a job as the assistant superintendent of personnel for the Little Rock School District. He was more than qualified, but he was black.

WRITERS IN THE SCHOOLS



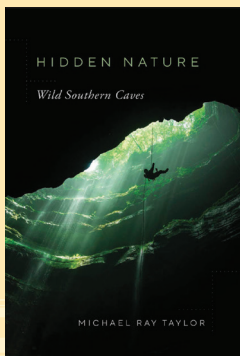
The Writers in the Schools (WITS) initiative is a tremendous part of the Fest. This year's iteration (virtually) sends 10 authors to various schools in central Arkansas. Wright, Lindsey & Jennings LLP is the longtime sponsor of this incredibly valuable program, which not only gives students the chance to meet authors, but also provides some schools with a set of the visiting authors' books.

We were honored to have Congressman John Lewis as one of the participants in our Writers in the Schools program back in 2014. Congressman Lewis and Andrew Aydin, co-author of the graphic novel *March: Book One*, talked to a group of children at Romine Elementary School.

Authors participating this year include Camille Acker, Anthony Bozza, Ernesto Cisneros, Mayra Cuevas, Ashley Franklin, Daniel Kraus, Linsey Miller, Stephanie Storey, Bonnie Tsui and Barry Wolvert. Schools include eStem, Philander Smith College, Ridge Road Elementary, Robinson High School, Shorter College, Southwest High School, Stephens Elementary, and Sylvan Hills High School.

14 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18



1 p.m.

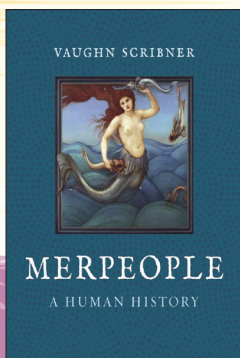
Michael Taylor

More than ten thousand known caves lie beneath the state of Tennessee and thousands more riddle surrounding states. In *Hidden Nature: Wild Southern Caves*, Taylor tells the story of this vast underground wilderness. In addition to describing the sheer physical majesty of the region's wild caverns and the concurrent joys and dangers of exploring them, he examines their rich natural history and scientific import, their relationship to clean water and a healthy surface environment, and their uncertain future.

4 p.m.

Tasty Reads

The Fest's Edible Book Contest premiered back in 2017, with wildly creative entries. This year, the contest is going virtual. Submit a photo of your edible creation from Oct. 1-11. This year's categories are adult, 17 & under, and CALS staff. There are cash prizes! For complete details and rules, go to sixbridgesbookfestival.org.



2:30 p.m.

Vaughn Scribner

From the sirens of Homer's *Odyssey* to Hans Christian Andersen's *The Little Mermaid* to the film *Splash*, myths, stories, and legends of half-human, half-fish creatures have fascinated humans since ancient times. *Merpeople: A Human History* traces the history of mermaids and mermen. From film to philosophy, church halls to coffee houses, ancient myth to modern science, Scribner shows that mermaids are—and always have been—everywhere.

5:30 p.m.

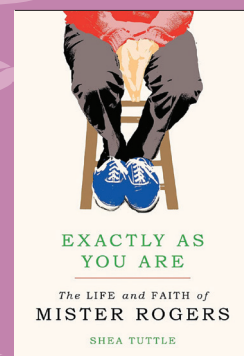
Game Hour

Join us for a fun-filled hour of fest-related games and trivia. Compete against other festival-goers for bragging rights and maybe win a prize or two.

7 p.m.

Shea Tuttle

Fred Rogers fiercely believed that all people deserve love. In *Exactly as You Are*, Tuttle looks at his life, the people and places that made him who he was, and his work through "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood." She pays particular attention to his faith—because Rogers was a deeply spiritual person, ordained by his church with a one-of-a-kind charge: to minister to children and families through television. Sponsored in part by Betty Rowland Wittenberg Foundation and Saint Mark's Episcopal Church.



Thank you to our official bookseller WordsWorth Books. Purchase your books when you register for the Festival at SixBridgesBookFestival.org.

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For full author bios, go to SixBridgesBookFestival.org.

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IN ARKANSAS



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