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
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
<th>Sunday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 a.m</td>
<td>Cassandra King Conroy and Jaquira Diaz</td>
<td>CENTO Poetry Showcase</td>
<td>Geoffrey Brock and Padma Viswanathan</td>
<td>Bonnie Tsui</td>
<td>Tell Your Own Story</td>
<td>Jennifer A. O’Brien</td>
<td>Jeffrey Condran and Jen Fawkes</td>
<td>Andrew J. Milson</td>
<td>Toni Jensen, Frederick McKindra, and Joy Priest</td>
<td>Patrick M. Oliver &amp; Friends</td>
<td>Michael Taylor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30 a.m</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Kay Ulanday Barrett and GennaRose Nethercott</td>
<td>Amy Peterson</td>
<td>Perfectly Golden workshop</td>
<td>Jennifer A. O’Brien</td>
<td>Kat Robinson</td>
<td>Daniel Kraus and Linsey Miller</td>
<td></td>
<td>Vaughn Scribner</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noon</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Kathy Gunst, Katherine Alford, and Angela Garbacz</td>
<td>Classic in Context: Watership Down</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jeffery Condran and Jen Fawkes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Tasty Reads</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 p.m</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>GennaRose Nethercott and Hilary Leichter</td>
<td>Mayra Cuevas and Emily Roberson</td>
<td></td>
<td>Kat Robinson</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Game Hour</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30 p.m</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>S. Charles Bolton and William C. Davis</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Tommy Foltz and Mark Saviers</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Shea Tuttle</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 p.m</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Camille Acker and Geoffrey Blount</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Lisa Howorth and Susan Zurenda</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30 p.m</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Tim O’Brien</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>R. Eric Thomas and Alia Volz</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 p.m</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Pub or Perish</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Virgina Walden Ford</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All sessions are one hour, unless otherwise noted.
Thursday, October 8

noon
Cassandra King Conroy and Jaquira Díaz

*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**

**Schedule of Events**

**9 a.m.**
**Animal Yoga for Kids**
Kids learn how to stretch, breathe, and roar like some of their favorite animals.

**9:30 a.m.**
**Storytime**
Garbo Hearne, owner of Hearne Fine Art and Pyramid Gallery & Books, reads to the little ones.

**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.”

**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.

**12:30 p.m.**
**PBS for Kids**
Watch the new PBS KIDS show “Elinor Wonders Why” and do a fun activity too!

**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.

**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.

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

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.
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.

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

Moderators and Introducers

Zoom Squad
Rebecca Beadle, Karmen M. Cooper, Lauren E. Dixon, Rosslyn Elliott, Stewart Fuell, Karen Guthrie, Mark Hatchkiss, Joseph Hudak, Jasmine Jobe, Guy Lancaster, Grayson Martin, Sarah Sewell, Justin Vess, Heather Zbinden

Central Arkansas Library System
Shekia Carlock, Mark Christ, Carol Coffey, Joey Cole, Nate Coulter, Jamie Diaz, Lisa Donovan, Linda Ellis, Brandin Gibbons, Abigail Kerby, Lance Ivy, Chris Lettenmaier, Mary Osteen, Cathy Sanders, Jo Spencer, Ali Welky

Special Thanks

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, Beatrix Valera, Robin White
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 misguided 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.
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 a.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.

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 Ozark fried chicken, with nods to singular dishes such as Jimmy’s Serious Sandwiches’ “The Garden” sandwich, Frankie’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.  
Virgina 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 Wolverton. Schools include eStem, Philander Smith College, Ridge Road Elementary, Robinson High School, Shorter College, Southwest High School, Stephens Elementary, and Sylvan Hills High School.
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.

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.

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.

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.
Camille Acker 7  
Lyssa Kay Adams 4  
Katherine Alford 6, 8  
Amir Ahmadi Arian 9  
Afia Atakora 9  
Mark Barr 13  
Kay Ulanday Barrett 6  
Tom Bissell 4  
Jeffrey Blount 7  
S. Charles Bolton 7  
Anthony Bozza 4  
Geoff Brock 6  
Kevin Brockmeier 4  
Casey Cep 10  
Ernesto Cisneros 5  
Jeffrey Condran 12  
Cassandra King Conroy 4  
Mayra Cuevas 8  
William C. Davis 7  
Jaquira Díaz 4  
Jen Fawkes 12  
Tommy Foltz 12  
Virginia Walden Ford 13  
Ashley Franklin 5  
Angela Garbacz 6, 9  
Kathy Gunst 6, 8  
Rob Hart 9  
Lisa Howorth 11  
Tyrone Jaeger 13  
Toni Jensen 11  
Stacey Margaret Jones 13  
Daniel Kraus 10  
Amanda Leduc 9  
Hilary Leichter 6  
Frederick McKindra 11  
Linsey Miller 10  
Andrew J. Milson 10  
Jerry Mitchell 8  
Toby Muse 10  
GennaRose Nethercott 6  
Jennifer A. O’Brien 12  
Tim O’Brien 7  
Patrick M. Oliver 12  
Amy Peterson 8  
Dan Piepenbring 4  
Joy Priest 11  
Alisha Rai 4  
Emily Roberson 8  
Kat Robinson 12  
Mark Saviers 12  
Vaughn Scribner 14  
Stephanie Storey 9  
Michael Taylor 14  
R. Eric Thomas 11  
Bonnie Tsui 8  
Shea Tuttle 14  
Padma Viswanathan 6  
Megan Volpert 4  
Alia Volz 11  
Barry Wolverton 5  
Susan Zurenda 11

For full author bios, go to SixBridgesBookFestival.org.
Sponsors, Partners, and Supporters

Baring Cross Bridge Level

Arkansas Humanities Council

Arkansas Democrat Gazette

Friends of CALS

National Endowment for the Arts

The Six Bridges Book Festival is supported in part by the Arkansas Humanities Council.

Dr. Elizabeth Fletcher DISHONGH Charitable Trust

The Six Bridges Book Festival is supported in part by Arts Midway.

Broadway Bridge Level

Junction Bridge Level

Main Street Bridge Level

Wright Lindsey Jennings

Rebsamen Fund

CENTRAL ARKANSAS LIBRARY SYSTEM FOUNDATION

Junction  Bridge Level

DENNIS B. WHITEHEAD

PHILADELPHIA TIMES

AtHome in Arkansas

OXFORD AMERICAN

The Six Bridges Book Festival is supported in part by the Arkansas State Library and the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Rock Island Bridge Level

Phillip Huddleston

Literacy Action of Central Arkansas

Del Boyette

Arkansas Times

The Traveling Companions Book Club in Honor of May Griebel

I-30 Bridge Level

Ellon Cockrill

Marlena West

Little Readers Rock

The Junior League of Little Rock / Little Readers Rock is a partner for the Festival’s family events.

Partner

Susan Santa Cruz and Gael Sammartino, Book Club Campaign Chairs

Cheaper Than Therapy

Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close

Glitterature – for Jewelry Lovers

Montagne Court Page Turners

Most Fabulous Book Club (MFBC)

No Name Book Club

Third Tuesday Book Club

Third Thursday Book Club

Book Club Campaign Donors

Anonymous

Andrea Bevernitz

Amy Bradley-Hole

Bettina Brownstein

Donna Cavr

Carol Chappell

Mark Christ

Amber Davis

Annick Dellman-Schafer

Mary Dillard

Jane Doty

Jan Emberton

Audrey Evans

La Reina Fuentes

Madelyn Ganos

Susan Goldner

Sally Goss

Libby Grobmyer

Mary Cynthia Hess

Betsy Johnson

Susan Johnson

Kevin Jones

Gina Kokes

Dana Landrum

Judy Lansky

Tameka Lee

Hallie Lindsey

Jean Matchett

Brad Mooy

Lynn Parker

Marilynn Porter

Cas Rikin

Susan Russell

Donna Sammons

Lynna Schonert

Cathy Slater

Bill & Cathy Spivey

Laura Stanley

Myrna Thomas

Linda VanBlaricom

Gladys Whitney

Individual Donors

Anonymous

Andrea Bevernitz

Amy Bradley-Hole

Bettina Brownstein

Donna Cavr

Carol Chappell

Mark Christ

Amber Davis

Annick Dellman-Schafer

Mary Dillard

Jane Doty

Jan Emberton

Audrey Evans

La Reina Fuentes

Madelyn Ganos

Susan Goldner

Sally Goss

Libby Grobmyer

Mary Cynthia Hess

Betsy Johnson

Susan Johnson

Kevin Jones

Gina Kokes

Dana Landrum

Judy Lansky

Tameka Lee

Hallie Lindsey

Jean Matchett

Brad Mooy

Lynn Parker

Marilynn Porter

Cas Rikin

Susan Russell

Donna Sammons

Lynna Schonert

Cathy Slater

Bill & Cathy Spivey

Laura Stanley

Myrna Thomas

Linda VanBlaricom

Gladys Whitney

Additional Donors

Big Orange Capers

Cooper Grill

Hill Station

JM Foods

Lambrecht Gourmet

Nexus Coffee

Pizza Cafe

Rock Town Distillery

The Root Cafe

Trio’s

Wicked Snack Mix

ZAZA

The Six Bridges Book Festival is supported in part by the Arkansas Humanities Council.

The Six Bridges Book Festival is supported in part by the Arkansas State Library and the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Wittenberg Foundation

Queer Arts Arkansas

Big Orange Capers

Cooper Grill

Hill Station

JM Foods

Lambrecht Gourmet

Nexus Coffee

Pizza Cafe

Rock Town Distillery

The Root Cafe

Trio’s

Wicked Snack Mix

ZAZA

The Six Bridges Book Festival is supported in part by the Arkansas Humanities Council.

The Six Bridges Book Festival is supported in part by the Arkansas State Library and the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

The Six Bridges Book Festival is supported in part by the Arkansas Humanities Council.

The Six Bridges Book Festival is supported in part by the Arkansas State Library and the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

The Six Bridges Book Festival is supported in part by the Arkansas Humanities Council.

The Six Bridges Book Festival is supported in part by the Arkansas State Library and the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

The Six Bridges Book Festival is supported in part by the Arkansas Humanities Council.

The Six Bridges Book Festival is supported in part by the Arkansas State Library and the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

The Six Bridges Book Festival is supported in part by the Arkansas Humanities Council.

The Six Bridges Book Festival is supported in part by the Arkansas State Library and the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

The Six Bridges Book Festival is supported in part by the Arkansas Humanities Council.

The Six Bridges Book Festival is supported in part by the Arkansas State Library and the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

The Six Bridges Book Festival is supported in part by the Arkansas Humanities Council.

The Six Bridges Book Festival is supported in part by the Arkansas State Library and the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

The Six Bridges Book Festival is supported in part by the Arkansas Humanities Council.

The Six Bridges Book Festival is supported in part by the Arkansas State Library and the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

The Six Bridges Book Festival is supported in part by the Arkansas Humanities Council.

The Six Bridges Book Festival is supported in part by the Arkansas State Library and the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

The Six Bridges Book Festival is supported in part by the Arkansas Humanities Council.

The Six Bridges Book Festival is supported in part by the Arkansas State Library and the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

The Six Bridges Book Festival is supported in part by the Arkansas Humanities Council.

The Six Bridges Book Festival is supported in part by the Arkansas State Library and the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

The Six Bridges Book Festival is supported in part by the Arkansas Humanities Council.

The Six Bridges Book Festival is supported in part by the Arkansas State Library and the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

The Six Bridges Book Festival is supported in part by the Arkansas Humanities Council.

The Six Bridges Book Festival is supported in part by the Arkansas State Library and the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

The Six Bridges Book Festival is supported in part by the Arkansas Humanities Council.

The Six Bridges Book Festival is supported in part by the Arkansas State Library and the Institute of Museum and Library Services.