# SIX BRIDGES BOOK FESTIVAL

## SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

**VENUE**

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<td>10AM</td>
<td>Clinton Presidential Library</td>
<td>[Virtual] 10:11am</td>
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**SUNDAY, OCT. 23**

- Clinton Presidential Library 10-11am
- Virtual 10:30-11am
- Virtual 12:30-1pm
- Virtual 1:30-2pm
- Virtual 2:30-3pm

**MONDAY, OCT. 24**

- Clinton Presidential Library 10-11am
- Virtual 10:30-11am
- Virtual 12:30-1pm
- Virtual 1:30-2pm
- Virtual 2:30-3pm

**TUESDAY, OCT. 25**

- Clinton Presidential Library 10-11am
- Virtual 10:30-11am
- Virtual 12:30-1pm
- Virtual 1:30-2pm
- Virtual 2:30-3pm

**WEDNESDAY, OCT. 26**

- Clinton Presidential Library 10-11am
- Virtual 10:30-11am
- Virtual 12:30-1pm
- Virtual 1:30-2pm
- Virtual 2:30-3pm

**THURSDAY, OCT. 27**

- Clinton Presidential Library 10-11am
- Virtual 10:30-11am
- Virtual 12:30-1pm
- Virtual 1:30-2pm
- Virtual 2:30-3pm

**FRIDAY, OCT. 28**

- Clinton Presidential Library 10-11am
- Virtual 10:30-11am
- Virtual 12:30-1pm
- Virtual 1:30-2pm
- Virtual 2:30-3pm

**SATURDAY, OCT. 29**

- Clinton Presidential Library 10-11am
- Virtual 10:30-11am
- Virtual 12:30-1pm
- Virtual 1:30-2pm
- Virtual 2:30-3pm

**SUNDAY, OCT. 30**

- Clinton Presidential Library 10-11am
- Virtual 10:30-11am
- Virtual 12:30-1pm
- Virtual 1:30-2pm
- Virtual 2:30-3pm

**EXHIBITIONS**

- OLIVER JEFFERS: 15 YEARS OF PICTURING BOOKS  | Oct. 20-Dec. 29  | Children's Library Gallery
- CHARLY PALMER, TELLING STORIES: ILLUSTRATIONS & NEW WORKS  | Oct. 7-Dec. 1  | Hearne Fine Art
ABOUT THE FESTIVAL

2022 SIX BRIDGES BOOK FESTIVAL

This year we’ve added five new venues, eight new sponsors, a new party, another full day of family activities, plus a concert at CALS’s theater, exhibitions, movies, workshops, and more. However, the heart of the Fest remains the wonderful book discussions and panels. The throw of what the books cover is vast—from the realities of a hardscrabble youth in the Chicago projects to innovative southern cottage design. Learn bold truths about the scourge of drugs in America, then flip to something lighter as you revel in joyous children’s illustrations. Dare to hear about exorcisms from a highly credentialed source, before taking in some Buddhist tenets the next day. Biographies of Johnny Cash, Mahalia Jackson, and George Michael are in the same delightful mix with books on ancestry, science, law, and even pickleball. From the warm and fuzzy to the sharp and fizzy, this year’s Fest is packed with stimulating books and intriguing authors, performances, and events. You’ll find a bit of magic, poetry, science, horror, history, true crime, mindfulness, food, and fantasy. Did I mention Ann Patchett, John Waters, and shadow puppets?

Please, take a few moments with the program and roster, and you’ll discover a Fest brimming with opportunities to explore new terrain, challenge beliefs, scare yourself silly, laugh ‘til you weep, make your own book cover, escape into a wonderful plot, and ponder oh so many ideas. And if all that’s not your cup ‘o tea, heck, we brought back the pie contest.

Here’s to good reading.

Brad Mooy
Six Bridges Book Festival Coordinator

ART EXHIBITIONS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20

Oliver Jeffers: Gallery Talk

Watch this prerecorded video about the exhibition. The exhibition is part of the National Center for Children’s Illustrated Literature and was also featured at the Orlando Museum of Art.

Thursday, Oct. 20, Noon-1 p.m., virtual

Oliver Jeffers: 15 Years of Picturing Books

Wow. You’re in for a treat with this amazing exhibition of more than 80 pieces of original art by a world-renowned children’s author and illustrator. Oliver Jeffers is a visual artist and author working in painting, bookmaking, illustration, collage, performance, and sculpture. Curiosity and humor are underlying themes throughout his practice as an artist and storyteller. While investigating the ways the human mind understands its world, his work also functions as comic relief in the face of futility. Jeffers’s engagements and practice are truly international in scope. His critically acclaimed picture books have been translated into over 50 languages and sold over 14 million copies worldwide.

His original artwork has been exhibited at such institutions as the Brooklyn Museum in New York, the Irish Museum of Modern Art in Dublin, the National Portrait Gallery in London, and the Palais Auersperg in Vienna. Jeffers grew up in Belfast, Northern Ireland.


This exhibition was organized by the National Center for Children’s Illustrated Literature, Abilene, Texas, and originally debuted in June of 2018 for the 7th Annual Children’s Art and Literacy Festival. It has also been featured at the Orlando Museum of Art and the High Museum of Art in Atlanta.

For information on free book giveaways during the exhibition, please visit SixBridgesBookFestival.org.


EXHIBITION: Oct. 20 to Dec. 29

Hillary Rodham Clinton Children’s Library & Learning Center, 4800 West 10th St., regular library hours.

For virtual sessions, please register at SixBridgesBookFestival.org.
ART EXHIBITIONS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20

Charly @ the Clinton Presidential Center
Clinton Presidential Center, Thursday, Oct. 20, 10-11 a.m.

Charly Palmer, Telling Stories: Illustrations & New Works Exhibition
RECEPTION: Thursday, Oct. 20, 5-7 p.m., Hearne Fine Art
This one-of-a-kind exhibition will feature vibrant work by the acclaimed author and illustrator.
After a day of programming for students at the Clinton Presidential Library, the extremely talented author/illustrator of The Legend of Gravity and several other books will attend this fun reception.
Palmer has even designed a cover for Time magazine.
Sponsored in part by Clinton Presidential Center, Hearne Fine Art/Pyramid Art, Books & Custom Framing, Little Rock Central High School Tiger Foundation.
EXHIBITION: Oct. 7 to Dec. 1, Hearne Fine Art, regular gallery hours

Rooftop Party
Kick into major Fest mode with this rooftop party, featuring electrifying tunes by Big John Miller Band and a bold light display.
Sponsored by Pro Smart Print & Promo.
CALS Parking Deck Rooftop, Oct. 20, 7-8:30 p.m.

Illustrated Arkansas: The Art of Comics
The Illustrated Arkansas exhibition features artists living and working in the state who have created or worked on print or digital comics and graphic novels. The exhibition will represent a wide range of illustration styles and media in the comics format. Some of the artists represented are: Gustav Carlson, Frank Fentress, Greg Fischer, Sean Fitzgibbon, Marko Head, Michael Jukes, Stephen Koch, Alex Langley, David Orr, Michael Tierney, and Freshawn Womack.
EXHIBITION: Oct. 14 to Jan. 28, CALS Roberts Library, Underground Gallery, Galleries & Bookstore at Library Square, regular gallery hours

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21

Chris Pavone
Tautly wound and expertly crafted, Two Nights in Lisbon is a riveting thriller about a woman under pressure, and how far she will go when everything is on the line. “I defy anyone to read the first twenty pages of this breakneck novel, then try to put it down for five minutes... This is taut suspense at its very best.”—bestselling author John Grisham.
Sponsored by WordsWorth Books.
Ron Robinson Theater, 100 River Market Ave., Noon-1 p.m.

Serial Mom (screening)
To get you in that John Waters mood... She’s the perfect all-American parent: a great cook and homemaker, a devoted recycler, and a woman who’ll literally kill to keep her children happy. Beverly Sutphin’s murderous habits turn her into a media celebrity in John Waters’s sharp-edged satire on family life, tabloid TV, video store customers who don’t rewind, and other topics. Starring Kathleen Turner, Sam Waterston, Ricki Lake, and Matthew Lillard.
Ron Robinson Theater, 100 River Market Ave., 7-8:30 p.m.

Pub or Perish
One of the few events that has been around since the beginning of the Fest... This popular favorite features libations and literature shaken and stirred. What a mix! Limited open mic slots available.
Sponsored by Arkansas Times.
The Library Kitchen + Lounge, 313 President Clinton Ave., 6:30-9 p.m.
SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22

Eli Cranor and Marcie Rendon

Don’t Know Tough is a novel about a high school football player, set against an explosively troubled home life, the idealistic coach who thinks he can save him, and the murder that threatens to tear their Arkansas town apart. Set in 1970s Minnesota, Sinister Graves features the return of Cash Blackbear in a thrilling, poignant mystery. Nineteen-year-old Cash must uncover the truth behind his family’s past, and his own identity, before he is swallowed by the darkness.

Ron Robinson Theater, 10-11 a.m.

Kimberla Lawson Roby and Claudia Gray

Sister Friends Forever is an emotional novel that follows four lifelong friends—Serena (single), Michelle (engaged), Kenya (married), and Lynette (divorced)—as each faces a crisis in family, love, and forgiveness, finding that they need their friendship more than ever. In The Murder of Mr. Wickham, a summer house party turns into a thrilling whodunit when Jane Austen's Mr. Wickham meets a suspicious end. Nearly everyone at the party is a suspect, so it falls to the party's two youngest guests to solve the mystery in this tantalizing fusion of Jane Austen and Agatha Christie.

Ron Robinson Theater, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Mark Haber and Steve Yarbrough

In Saint Sebastian's Abyss, one former best friend is called to the other's deathbed for unknown reasons. He spends his flight to Berlin reflecting on Dutch painter Count Hugo Beckenbauer and his masterpiece, "Saint Sebastian's Abyss," the Renaissance painter's only known work that established both men as important art figures. He spends his flight to Berlin reflecting on Dutch painter Count Hugo Beckenbauer and his masterpiece, "Saint Sebastian's Abyss," the Renaissance painter's only known work that established both men as important art figures.

Main Library, Darragh Center, 1-2 p.m.

A Book Cover by Design Workshop

Artist Robert Bean helps participants learn how text and images work together, why typography matters, and how color affects the viewer's impression and emotions. Come up with your own imaginary book title, then draw and/or collage your book cover's image and walk away with your own book cover and a handful of ideas for a whole new book.

Main Library, Darragh Center, 1:30-3 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22

Sean Thor Conroe and Zain Khalid

The audacious, freewheeling debut novel Fucboi follows our eponymous fucboi, Sean, as he attempts to live meaningfully in a world that doesn't seem to need him. Brother Alive is an astonishing debut novel about family, sexuality, and capitalist systems of control, following three adopted brothers who live above a mosque in Staten Island with their Imam father.

Sponsored by Elizabeth Fletcher Dishongh Charitable Trust.
Ron Robinson Theater, 1-2 p.m.

Lydia Conklin and Lee Mandelo

In the exuberant story collection Rainbow, queer, trans, and gender-nonconforming characters seek love and connection in hilarious and heart-rending stories that reflect the complexity of our current moment. A nonbinary writer on the eve of top surgery enters into a risky affair during the height of COVID; a lesbian couple elicits a close friend as a sperm donor, and a lonely office worker struggling with their gender identity chaperones their nephew to a trans YouTube convention. Summer Sons weaves codependent college boys, Fast cars, dark inheritances, and academic intrigue together with equal parts spooky ghost story and exploration of grief and masculinity.

Sponsored by KUAR FM 89.3.
Main Library, Darragh Center, 2:30-3:30 p.m.

GonnaRose Nethercott and Annie Harnett

In Thistelfoot, the Yaga siblings have been estranged since childhood. But when they receive a mysterious inheritance from their twice-great-grandmother near Kyiv, the two reunite—only to discover that their bequest isn’t land or money, but something far stranger: a sentient house on chicken legs. In the tradition of modern fairytales and Jewish myth—a debut novel about the ancestral hauntings that stalk us, and the uncanny power of story. Bonus: Shadow puppet show included! In the darkly comic novel Unlikely Animals, Emma Starling returns to her small hometown in New Hampshire to care for her father, who is dying from a mysterious brain disease. Her dad has been hallucinating small animals, as well as having visions of the ghost of a long-dead naturalist, once known for letting wild animals live in his house. This ghost has been giving him some ideas on how to spend his final days.

Main Library, Darragh Center, 1-2 p.m.

Steve Petkoff

Holly Street depicts the stories of a young boy growing up in Helena, Arkansas, in the Delta during the 1940s and 1950s. The author grew up working on a bread truck and learned how to drive it by the age of eight while he was still taking full advantage of his youth. He was a witness to incest, drunks, and murder, and found Civil War relics in his yard, including a skeleton. Sponsored in part by St. Mark’s Episcopal Church and Betty Rowland Wittenberg Foundation.

St. Mark’s Episcopal Church, 1000 N. Mississippi Street, 4-5 p.m.

Teen Poetry Competition

Join us for an afternoon of poetry by young aspiring Central Arkansas poets.
Main Library, Darragh Center, 4-5 p.m.

False Negative: An Evening with John Waters

Waters's rapid-fire one-man “vaudeville” act focuses on Waters's early negative genetic influences; his fascination with true crime, exploitation films, fashion lunacy, the extremes of the art world, Catholicism, and sexual deviancy; and his love of reading. Waters is a writer, a film director, an actor, and a visual artist best known for his films, including Hairspray, Pink Flamingos, and Serial Mom. He is the author of the national bestsellers Role Models, Carsick, and Mr. Know-It-All. His spoken-word shows continue to be performed around the world. Following the show, Waters will sign copies of his new book, Lithomouth.

Main Library, Darragh Center, 2:30-3:30 p.m.

Check out Book Central in the Main Library both Fest Saturdays!
**FAMILIES, KIDS, TEENS**

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22**

**Little Readers Rock**
A full day of fun family events, including an author visit, a performance, engaging activities, delicious snacks, book giveaways, and more. Little Readers Rock will also have stations to play Go Fish, take a photo, and receive free books.
In partnership with Junior League of Little Rock.
Saturday, Oct. 22, 10:00 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Hillary Rodham Clinton Children’s Library & Learning Center, 4800 W. 10th St.

**AMFA ArtStart!**
Put your art goggles on with Liz McMath to engage your imagination as you examine the whimsical Toys Designed by Artists collection from the Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts, and discover How to Spot an Artist with the book by Danielle Krysa.
Main Floor, 10-10:30 a.m.

**AMFA Art Garden**
Harness the power of the sun to create unique designs on nature print paper, and be guided through creating an origami lotus flower for the Art Garden community installation, part of the grand opening celebrations at the newly renovated Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts. This is a drop-in activity.
Sponsored in part by Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts.
Lawn, 10-11:30 a.m.

**Tommy Terrific**
See Little Rock’s favorite magician for kids.
Theater, 10:30-11 a.m.

**Lunch**
Grab & Go from the front desk and then participate in simultaneous food fun downstairs led by Little Readers Rock Co-Chair Sarah A. Morris.
Front Desk and Downstairs Activity Room, 11 a.m.-Noon

**Charly Palmer, The Legend of Gravity**
The award-winning author/illustrator who grew up playing streetball in Milwaukee makes a special visit. He studied art and design at the America Academy of Art and the School of the Art Institute, both in Chicago.
Sponsored in part by Clinton Presidential Center, Hearne Fine Art/Pyramid Art, Books & Custom Framing, Little Rock Central High School Tiger Foundation.
Theater, Noon

**Chinese Folk Tales & Fu Characters**
Ashley Wang, co-chair of Little Readers Rock, will read an exciting Chinese folk tale and then help students make a fun craft inspired by the tale.
Downstairs Lab, 12:30 p.m.

**Make Your Own Crayons**
Inspired by the Oliver Jeffers exhibition, staff from the Children’s Library & Learning Center teach kids to make crayons. Jeffers did the illustrations for the popular Crayon books.
Downstairs Activity Room, 1 p.m.

**Mask Making**
Don’t have a costume for the Costume Party? That’s ok! Build a mask here.
Downstairs Lab, 1 p.m.

**Costume Party & Parade**
Calling all ghosts, princesses, cowboys, ballerinas, video game characters, or anything your heart desires. Come one and all for a spooktacular party and parade.
Main Floor, 1:30-2 p.m.

**mömandpöp (concert)**
To close the day, enjoy a boisterous concert by the energetic duo.
Theater, 2:30-3 p.m.

**THE WRITERS IN THE SCHOOLS (OR WITS) INITIATIVE**
Child members of the Festival can have a special visit from a local author, discuss his or her work, and participate in a reading and/or writing activity.

**Teen Poetry Competition**
Join us for an afternoon of poetry by young aspiring Central Arkansas poets.
Main Library, Darragh Center, Saturday, Oct. 22, 4-5 p.m.

**Robin Stevens**
Murder Is Bad Manners, the first in the Murder Most Unladylike series for readers ten and up, is the story of Daisy Wells and Hazel Wong, best friends who create a detective society—and then discover a murder at their school.
Wednesday, Oct. 26, Noon-1 p.m., virtual

**Aida Salazar**
A Seed in the Sun is about a farm-working girl with big dreams. She meets activist Dolores Huerta and joins the 1965 protest for migrant workers’ rights in this tender-hearted middle grade novel in verse, perfect for fans of Rita Williams-Garcia and Pam Muñoz Ryan.
Friday, Oct. 28, Noon-1 p.m., virtual

**SIX BRIDGES MARKET**
New in 2022, the Fest brings more family fun to downtown, with games, crafts, roving characters, music, and special appearances.
Saturday, Oct. 29, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
River Market Pavilions, 400 President Clinton Ave.

**TIMES AND DATES VARY**

**The Writers in the Schools (or WITS) Initiative**
Lan Samantha Chang, Brandy Colbert, Lydia Conklin, Sean Fitzgerald, Kim Fu, Ayana Gray, Oscar Hokeah, Zain Khalid, GennaRose Nethercott, Megan Kate Nelson, Patrick Oliver, Charly Palmer, Jewel Thomas, Toya Wolfe, and Steve Yarbrough visit area schools over the course of this year’s Festival to speak directly with students. Aida Salazar, Anne Simon, and Robin Stevens participate virtually.
Sponsored by Wright Lindsey & Jennings LLP.
Friday, Oct. 21, Thursday, Oct. 27, and Friday, Oct. 28, various area schools and times

**Additional Family Programs**

**Teen Poetry Competition**
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Main Library, Darragh Center, Saturday, Oct. 22, 4-5 p.m.

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Sponsored by Wright Lindsey & Jennings LLP.
Friday, Oct. 21, Thursday, Oct. 27, and Friday, Oct. 28, various area schools and times
**SESSION DESCRIPTIONS**

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23**

**Toya Wolfe**  
_Last Summer on State Street_ pulls back the curtain on life inside the projects, portraying with absolute authenticity what it’s like to grow up in a world where gang violence, stray bullets, and predators are a part of one’s social fabric. Yet the story is filled with joy and buoyancy—a beautiful reminder of childhood innocence and the power of community and family. Profound, reverent, and uplifting, this novel explores racist institutions, redlining, and gentrification, showing the power of owning one’s past and the impact of those defining relationships that form the heartbeat of our lives.

Ron Robinson Theater, 1-2 p.m.

**Bitty Martin**  
_Snake Eyes: Murder in a Southern Town_ reveals the true story of frightening times when a girl’s suspicious death in 1966 at Hot Springs’ Blacksnake Ranch triggered the owner to commit a murder. Hot Springs residents were terrified of the ranch owner, and soon scary stories of his relationship with Toya Wolfe.

Ron Robinson Theater, 2:30-3:30 p.m.

**Pie Contest**  
The reemergence of pie. To participate in the Traditional Pie Bake-Off and Recipe Swap Competition, entrants should be at The Root Café at 3:30 p.m. with their best pie and copies of the recipe. Monetary and other prizes will be awarded.

Sponsored in part by The Root Café.

To participate, 3:30 p.m.  
The Root Café, 4-5:30 p.m.

**Kimberly Wehle**  
Whether it be buying a house, negotiating a salary, or choosing the right health care, every major decision you make matters—so why not learn a methodical process to help you cut through the confusion and maximize the quality of your choice?

In this session on How to Think Like a Lawyer—and Why, participants will learn why the tenured law professor, book author, opinion journalist, lawyer, and former CBS News legal analyst’s method is so effective, filling law school classrooms with eager students year after year. CALS Executive Director Nate Coulter moderates. This CALS Speaker Series program honors Rabbi Ira Sanders, a passionate advocate for social justice.

Ron Robinson Theater, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 24**

**Anne Simon**  
The final book in the Tales of Merylene graphic novel trilogy (after _The Song of Aglaia and Empress Cristina_), _Boris the Potato Child_ delivers a bitter critique of our consumerist impulses and abuses. Mong literature and pop culture (such as mashing Simone de Beauvoir with the Beatles), Simon has created in Merylene a world as abundant in visual imagination as Oz or Narnia, but crafted with a Swiftian pan that’s mightier than any man’s sword.

Noon-1 p.m., virtual

**Karen Eva Carr and Rachel Simon**  
_Shifting Currents: A World History of Swimming_ is a deep dive into the history of aquatics that exposes centuries-old tensions of race, gender, and power at the root of many contemporary swimming controversies. Using archaeological, textual, and art-historical sources, it shows how the water attracted non-swimming northerners even as they perceived others’ ‘swimming as uncanny, related to witchcraft and sin. An entertaining and comprehensive look at America’s fastest growing sport, _Pickleball for All_ is the ultimate primer for any level of player interested in the wacky history, unique rules, and exciting future of pickleball. From the history of the game to the basic rules (that you do not want to be caught in the "kitchen" during a volley), Simon offers a complete overview for casual and expert players alike.

4-5 p.m., virtual

**Omotara James and J. Estanislao Lopez**  
_A profound and intersectional text, Song of My Softening is a queer, fat love song of the interior. Poems study the ever-changing relationship with oneself, while also investigating the relationship that the world and nation has with Black queerness. This book is a window into what perseverance looks like, un-gilded, a mirror for anyone born into a culture outside of their identity, who has survived alienation, violence, depression, and systematized oppression.

We Borrowed Gentleness is a book of poems interrogating the power structures we inherit and the patriarchal violence that embeds itself in language and cultural memory. However, the book leaves open the question of whether man, men, a father and son, are redeemable. And yet there are poems that find, still, bits of joy and perhaps a shred of hope.

6:30-7:30 p.m., virtual

**Xochitl Gonzalez and Stewart O’Nan**  
_Song of Olga Dias Dreaming_ is a status-driven wedding planner grapples with her social ambitions, absent mother, and Puerto Rican roots—all in the wake of Hurricane Maria. Set against the backdrop of New York City in the months surrounding the most devastating hurricane in Puerto Rico’s history, this is a story that examines political corruption, familial strife, and the very notion of the American dream—while asking what it really means to weather a storm. _Ocean State_ is a novel about a teenaged love triangle and a murder in a small town on the Rhode Island shore. Exploring the ecstasy and desperation of romantic love, it shows the lengths we’ll go to in order to hold on to it.

8-9 p.m., virtual
### SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25**

**Emma Kennedy**  
*Letters from Brenda*, a heartbreakingly funny look at the impact of discovering lost letters, is a celebration of correspondence.  
Noon-1 p.m., virtual

**Daniel Black**  
*Don’t Cry For Me* is the story of a dying Black man and his desperation to heal the breach between himself and his estranged gay son. Told in the epistolary form, this novel-in-letters explains to the son how and why the father treated him the way he did. The letters also express a heartfelt apology that the father hopes will heal the son’s wounded heart.  
4-5 p.m., virtual

**Sam Quinones**  
*The Least of Us: True Tales of America and Hope in the Time of Fentanyl and Meth* chronicles how America’s opioid epidemic has evolved from opioids into illicit synthetic drugs.  
Sponsored by Arkansas Municipal League.  
Ron Robinson Theater, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27**

**Brandy Colbert**  
*The Tulsa Race Massacre* was one of the most devastating acts of racial violence in United States history. But how did it come to pass, and why are the events unknown to so many of us today? *Black Birds in the Sky: The Story and Legacy of the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre*, ambitious and intimate in turn, explores the ways in which the story of the Tulsa Race Massacre is the story of America—and by showing us who we are, points to a way forward.  
Sponsored by John & Robin Horn Foundation.  
WITS—Central High School, school only

**Aamina Ahmad**  
*In the Return of Faraz Ali*, a man is sent back to his birthplace—Lahore, Pakistan’s notorious red-light district—to hush up the murder of a girl, and finds himself separated by both land and gods—risking everything to reunite. But the longer they're apart, the more they will have to reckon with changing destinies and, maybe, changing hearts.  
Sponsored by At Home in Arkansas.  
WITS—Southwest High School, school only

**Ty Seidule**  
*Lee and Me: A Southerner’s Reckoning with the Myth of the Lost Cause* explores why some of this country’s oldest wounds have never healed.  
Sponsored in part by CALS Adult Programming.  
6:30-7:30 p.m., virtual

**Ann Patchett**  
The beloved New York Times bestselling author of *Bel Canto*, *Commonwealth*, *The Dutch House*, and other books, reflects on home, family, friendships, and writing in this deeply personal collection of essays. A literary alchemist, Patchett plumbs the depths of her experiences to create gold: engaging and moving pieces that are both self-portrait and landscape, each vibrant with emotion and rich in insight. Infused with the author’s grace, wit, and warmth, the essays in *These Precious Days* resonate deep in the soul, leaving an indelible mark—and demonstrate why Ann Patchett is one of the most celebrated writers of our time.  
Sponsored by Arkansas Democrat-Gazette.  
6:30-7:30 p.m., virtual  
Register online at SixBridgesBookFestival.org.

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26**

**Robin Stevens**  
*Murder Is Bad Manners*, the first in the Murder Most Unladylike series for readers ten and up, is the story of Daisy Wells and Hazel Wong, best friends who create a detective society—and then discover a murder at their school.  
Noon-1 p.m., virtual

**Shilpa Revella**  
*Silent Fire: The Story of Inflammation, Diet, and Disease* is a riveting investigation of inflammation and how we can prevent, treat, or even reverse it.  
6:30-7:30 p.m., virtual

**Jorge L. Contreras**  
*The Genome Defense: Inside the Epic Legal Battle to Determine Who Owns Your DNA* follows ACLU lawyers, along with a committed group of activists, scientists, and physicians, who took on a one-in-a-million case all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court, showing how society is grappling with how to balance scientific discovery with corporate profits and the rights of all people.  
8-9 p.m., virtual

**Colin Edward Woodward**  
Country music star Johnny Cash left Arkansas in 1950, but he never really left Arkansas in his mind. Over the course of his life and career, he returned often to his home state to see family, hunt and fish, revisit familiar spots, and play memorable concerts. *Country Boy: The Roots of Johnny Cash* combines biography, social history, and music criticism in its examination of Cash’s days in his home state.  
Sponsored by Central Arkansas Library System Foundation.  
4-5 p.m., virtual

**Zarqa Nawaz and Tomi Obaro**  
*Jameela Green Ruins Everything*, *Amina Ahmad* and *Akil Kumarasamy*  
Noon-1 p.m., virtual

**Ayana Gray**  
*Beasts of Ruin*, the much anticipated follow-up to *New York Times* bestselling *Beasts of Prayer*, Koffi’s powers grow stronger and Ekon’s secrets turn darker as they face the god of death. Koffi and Ekon—separated by both land and gods—risk everything to reunite. But the longer they’re apart, the more they will have to reckon with changing destinies and, maybe, changing hearts.  
Sponsored by At Home in Arkansas.  
WITS—Southwest High School, school only

**Ty Seidule**  
In a forceful but humane narrative, *Robert E. Lee and Me: A Southerner’s Reckoning with the Myth of the Lost Cause* challenges the myths and lies of the Confederate legacy—and explores why some of this country’s oldest wounds have never healed.  
Sponsored in part by CALS Adult Programming.  
6:30-7:30 p.m., virtual
SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28

Aida Salazar

*A Seed in the Sun* is about a farm-working girl with big dreams. She meets activist Dolores Huerta and joins the 1965 protest for migrant workers’ rights in this tender-hearted middle-grade novel in verse, perfect for fans of Rita Williams-Garcia and Pam Muniz Ryan.

Noon-1 p.m., virtual

Maud Newton

Searching, moving, and inspiring, *Ancestor Trouble* is one writer’s attempt to use genealogy—a once niche hobby that has grown into a multi-billion-dollar industry—to expose the secrets and contradictions of her own ancestors, and to argue for the transformational possibilities unlocked when we reckon with our ancestors. Supported in part by Arkansas State Library.

4-5 p.m., virtual

Richard Gallagher

*Demonic Foes: My Twenty-Five Years as a Psychiatrist Investigating Possessions, Diabolic Attacks, and the Paranormal* provides astonishing examples of the most harrowing authentic possessions he has encountered over the years, while also explaining how to recognize false cases. He will also speak a bit about *The Exorcist.*

6:30-7:30 p.m., virtual. Also shown on the Ron Robinson Theater screen.

The Exorcist (screening)


Ron Robinson Theater, 8-10:15 p.m.

Purchase copies of Festival books in person at WordsWorth Books or at Book Central in Main Library both Fest Saturdays.

Online sales available at SixBridgesBookFestival.org.

Get your 2022 Six Bridges Book Festival t-shirt! $17

Available at SixBridgesBookFestival.org.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29

A. Six Bridges Market

Oh, so much fun! A second full day of family events. This one will feature inflatables, outdoor games, planting stations and other crafts for kids, face painting, costumed artists, food vendors, and special appearances.

River Market Pavilion, 400 President Clinton Ave.

9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Brooks Blevins and John A. Kirk

*A History of the Ozarks, Vol. 3: The Ozarkers* charts the development of a misunderstood and stereotyped people, from the emergence of the hillbilly image to the rise of Walmart and from the phenomenon of tourism in Branson to the demographic changes wrought by the arrival of tens of thousands of Hispanic and Asian poultry workers. *Windshop Rockefeller: From New Yorker to Arkansawyer, 1912-1956* investigates why the scion of one of the most powerful families in American history left New York for an Arkansas mountaintop in the 1950s. Extensively researched and richly detailed, it casts a powerful new light on Rockefeller’s relationship with his adopted state, where his legacy continues to be felt more than half a century after his governorship.

Sponsored by Arkansas Department of Parks, Heritage and Tourism.

Main Library, Darragh Center, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Fall Charcuterie Design Workshop: Lauren Thomas

Join boho-chic lifestyle blogger and debut author Lauren Thomas, *The Modern Hippie Table,* as she demonstrates how to build beautiful themed charcuterie arrangements directly on your table. You’ll find inspiration on how to incorporate traditional meats and cheeses with seasonal florals and other edibles tucked into the empty spaces.

Sponsored by Arkansas Democrat-Gazette.

Limited seating. Roosevelt Thompson Library, 38 Rahling Circle, 10-11 a.m.

Tickets are $15, and available at SixBridgesBookFestival.org.

Get your 2022 Six Bridges Book Festival t-shirt! $17

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Tickets are $15, and available at SixBridgesBookFestival.org.

Limited seating. Roosevelt Thompson Library, 38 Rahling Circle, 10-11 a.m.
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29

Vishwesh Bhatt and Lauren Thomas
One of the South’s best chefs invites you to grill, swim, and fry your own way to a more expansive and delicious diner. In his long-anticipated cookbook, I Am From Here: Stories and Recipes from a Southern Chef, James Beard Award–winning chef Vishwesh Bhatt shares his world-life story through 130 recipes that pay homage to traditional southern and Indian ingredients while exploring the unexpected delight of partnering the two.

The Modern Hippie Table invites you to slow down and create a sanctuary at home, using food and conversation to bring people together, strengthen family bonds, and forge melting friendships. The more than seventy recipes are elevated, yet simplified, ensuring the host has plenty of time to enjoy the gathering, and there are menus to help plan any meal, big or small.

Sponsored by Arkansas Democrat-Gazette and in part by Friends of Central Arkansas Library System.

Ronnie Williams
Markham Street: The Haunting Truth behind the Murder of My Brother, Marvin Leonard Williams is an exploration of systemic racism, police violence, and the facts of a brutal murder, as well as the story of one man’s enduring love for his lost brother and his devotion to his grieving parents.

Ron Robinson Theater, 2:30-3:30 p.m.

James Gavin and Janis F. Kearney
George Michael: A Life is the most comprehensive and probing telling to date of the story of the Greek-British pop superstar whose worldwide hits—“Careless Whisper,” “Faith,” “Freedom ‘90,” “One More Time,” and others—established him as a hyper-macho sex god whose work was both praised and smolderingly erotic. Michael’s long-hidden homosexuality was a ticking time bomb, and as one of the industry’s most privileged yet tortured men began to self-destruct, the industry showed little sympathy.

Only on Sundays: Mahalia Jackson’s Long Journey is a re-examination of Mahalia Jackson’s hard road from invincing as the young Halie who loved to dance, sing, and play baseball to leaving New Orleans at age sixteen to become America’s Queen of Gospel, healing with her songs and her stories.

Sponsored by Rozaback Fund.

Khnentul Lodrö Thaye
The Power of Mind: A Tibetan Monk’s Guide to Finding Freedom in Every Challenge is a modern guidebook based on ancient Buddhist techniques for transforming suffering into complete well-being that benefits us and the people around us.

Sponsored by John David Coulter Memorial Fund.

Kim Fu and Kevin Brockmeier
In the twelve unforgettable tales of Lesser Known Monsters of the 21st Century, the strange is made familiar and the familiar strange, such that a girl growing wings on her legs feels like an ordinary rite of passage, while a bug-infested house becomes a Kafkaesque nightmare. Each story builds a new world all its own. In The Ghost Variations, the author of the acclaimed novel The Brief History of the Dead gives us one hundred funny, poignant, scary, and thought-provoking ghost stories that explore all aspects of the afterlife. These tales are by turns playful, chilling, and philosophical, paying homage to the genre while audaciously subverting expectations.

Main Library, Darragh Center, 1-2 p.m.

Sean Fitzgibbon and Sofia Warren
Graphic nonfiction What Follows is True: Crescent Hotel explores the Crescent Hotel’s strange two years as the Baker Hospital, one of the darkest and most controversial legends in the town of Eureka Springs, Arkansas. With nuance, compassion, and humor, Radical: My Year with a Socialist Senator is a gripping and intimate graphic memoir of a millennial New Yorker cartoonist’s experience embedded with Julia Salazar and her freshman staff of community organizers battling entrenched power structures.

Sponsored by Arkansas Democrat-Gazette.

Main Library, Darragh Center, 4-5 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29

Evoking American South Cooking Workshop: Vishwesh Bhatt
James Beard award winner Vishwesh Bhatt captures the Evoking American South in his debut cookbook, I Am From Here: Stories and Recipes from a Southern Chef. Included in NPR’s “Books We Love in 2022,” this dazzling blend of stories, photos, and recipes makes the compelling case for a Southern cuisine defined by inclusion, innovation, and tradition. Bhatt will cook something “unpretentious, inventive, and incredibly delicious” for the group to sample.

Sponsored in part by Friends of Central Arkansas Library System.

Tickets are $15, and available at SixBridgesBookFestival.org. Limited seating.

Roosevelt Thompson Library, 38 Rahling Circle, 4-5 p.m.

George Michael Reborn (concert)
On the eve of the phenomenally successful Faith’s 35th anniversary, the Fest brings you a tribute to the late artist who gave the world hit after hit and sexy pop, funk, and soul. The tribute stars Robert Bartha. Earlier the same day, catch New York-based biographer James Grein speak about his new book, George Michael: A Life. (See pg. 18)

Sponsored in part by Meadows, Adams & Lee.

Tickets are $25, and available at SixBridgesBookFestival.org.

Ron Robinson Theater, 8-9:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30

Evolving American South Cooking Workshop: Vishwesh Bhatt
In the ingeniously structured meditation The Last Days of Roger Federer: And Other Endings, Geoff Dyer sets his own encounter with late middle age against the last days and last works of writers, painters, musicians, and sports stars who’ve mattered to him throughout his life. This study of the careers of athletes, writers, and artists coming to an end shows how we come to appreciate certain works of art more when set against a consciousness of the deepening twilight.

The Believer begins with a Mannsrore choir performing on a subway platform, a fleeting moment of the writers that sets the author on a fascinating journey to discover why people need to believe in absolute truths and what happens when their beliefs crash into her own.

Ron Robinson Theater, 2:30-3:30 p.m.

Geoff Dyer and Sarah Krasnostein
The Shining
In the ingeniously structured meditation The Last Days of Roger Federer: And Other Endings, Geoff Dyer sets his own encounter with late middle age against the last days and last works of writers, painters, musicians, and sports stars who’ve mattered to him throughout his life. This study of the careers of athletes, writers, and artists coming to an end shows how we come to appreciate certain works of art more when set against a consciousness of the deepening twilight.

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Ron Robinson Theater, 2:30-3:30 p.m.

Classic in Context: The Shining
Audience members from the 2021 Festival chose Stephen King’s The Shining for this year’s classic. Horror writer John Horror Jacobs, who has been a finalist for the Shirley Jackson Award, the World Fantasy Award, and the Bram Stoker Award, gives some interesting background on King’s popular book.

Discussion: Ron Robinson Theater, 4-5 p.m.

The Shining (film screening)

Both Sponsored by Dr. Elizabeth Fletcher Dishongh Charitable Trust.

Film Screening, Ron Robinson Theater, 6:30-9 p.m.
Behind the Scenes

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The Writers in the Schools (or WITS) Initiative

EIGHTEEN AUTHORS WITH BEHIND-THE-SCENES VIEWS FROM THE WITS 2022 PROGRAM

The Writers in the Schools (or WITS) Initiative is supported by the National Endowment for the Arts, Arkansas Humanities Council, National Endowment for the Humanities, United States Congress, Arkansas State Library, and Institute of Museum and Library Services. The Junior League of Little Rock is a partner for the Little Readers Rock event.

Zoom Squad: Katelyn Adams, Toni Bull, Aaron Campbell, Carmen Cooper, Jennifer Cordell, Camille Davis, Stephan A. Fields, Karen Gashrie, Natasha Haley, Caleb Holcomb, Mark Hotchkiss, Joseph Hudak, Jasmine Jabe, John Lenehan, Riley Lucas, Felix Richardson, Megan Saville, Stephanie Shire, April Smith, André Thornton, Justin Vess, Jakebe Ward, Matthew Wilson, Heather Zünden

Festival Guides: Manann Barry, Lynn Christy, Sara Cooke, Susan Cooper, Dana Downes, Jami Doby, Audrey Evans, Annette Herrington, Darlene Kurtz, Suzanne Mackey, Mary Sha Mairinary, Cheri Nicholas, Cas Rifkin, Emily Roberson, Lynna Shonert, Fred Ursey, Marcy Welch, Melissa Woods

Central Arkansas Library System: Kate Adams, Griffin Bribong, Eliza Borné, Katherine Blake, Sheka Carlcock, Marilyn Cash, Mark Chinn, Carol Coffey, Joye Cole, Nata Couuter, Jamie Davis, Arisana Debono, Lisa Donovan, Linda Elkins, Brandon Gibbons, Lance Ivy, Jasmine Jabe, Chris Kettarmann, Mary Otsiaen, Ellen Samples, Hannah Sauters, Jo Spencer, Rebahak A. Smith, Colin Thompson, Jet Tran, Sha Washington

Additional Presenters: Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts, Robert Bean, Mom & Pop, Tommy Terrific

Special Thanks: Jama Best, Phyllis Bittin, Kevin Brockmeier, Amanda Copley, Randy Duncan, Jen Emberton, Jen Fawkes, Natalie Ghodasti, Garis Haarne, Stacy Hurst, Lis Lent, Gary Miller, Laurie Pierce, Lynne Phillips, Nathan Vandiver, May Remmull Whilhab

Six Bridges Presents and Speaker Series since 2021 Fest: Albert Murray Tribute: South to a Very Old Place, Lee A. Daniels, Paul Devlin, Lewis Jones, Carolyn Medina, moderator Berji de la Piedra, Brad Taylor, End of Days, moderator Steve Strawtis, Chip Jones, The Organ Theunes, moderator Laura Guðrún Grimsdóttir, Stephanie Kihl, Desde before Swen series, moderator Michael Hibblen, Sonya Singh, Sari, Net Seri, moderator; Ginger Young; Imani Perry, moderator Cherise Jones-Brench (M. Smith program); Steen Croyer, Cult Classic, moderator Amy Bradley-Hoke, photojournalists Sebastián Hidalgo, Jessa Rivas, moderator Arshia Khan (J.N. Hesekel program); Phong Nguyen, Brass Drum, moderator Steven Duong

Thank you to the Fred K. Darragh, Jr. Foundation for sponsoring the 2022 Banned Books Week programs held in September.

Addison Donors

Suzy Amstel, Stella Cameron, Nate Couuter, LaReina R. Fuentes-Cook, Sally Goss, Natasha Graf, Tamela A. Lee, Diane and Drew O’Rourke-Camp, Mary B. Rosenketter, Susan Santa Cruz, Erin Wood
Supported/made possible in part by the National Endowment for the Arts, Arkansas Humanities Council, National Endowment for the Humanities, United States Congress, Arkansas State Library, and the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The Junior League of Little Rock is a partner for Little Readers Rock.