

SIX BRIDGES BOOK FESTIVAL

September 28 – October 5, 2025 | Little Rock



C
A
L
S
CENTRAL
ARKANSAS
LIBRARY
SYSTEM

View the full list of authors at SixBridgesBookFestival.org

2025 SIX BRIDGES BOOK FESTIVAL

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

2-4:30 PM Creative Writing Workshop 1
McMath Library Led by: Deb Moore and Maggie Wells

2-4:30 PM Creative Writing Workshop 2
Terry Library Led by: Jasmine Jobe & Lauren Tuggle

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

6-7 PM Viktoria Capek, *Dear Reader: An Immersive Literary Journey Through Taylor Swift's Lyrics*
Fletcher Library Moderator: Emily Anne Gray

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

12-1 PM Kat Robinson, *The Arkansas Barbecue Traveler*
Whole Hog Riverdale Moderator: Rex Nelson
Sponsored by: Whole Hog Café

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1

6-7 PM Carly Anne York, *The Salmon Cannon and the Levitating Frog: And Other Serious Discoveries of Silly Science*
Ron Robinson Theater
Jasmin Graham, *Sharks Don't Sink: Adventures of a Rogue Shark Scientist*
Moderator: Karama Neal

7:30-8:30 PM Karida Brown, *Battle for the Black Mind*
Ron Robinson Theater
Eve Ewing, *Original Sins*
Moderator: Sericia Nelson

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2

5-7 PM Shannon Wright Art Exhibit and Reception
Hearne Fine Art

6-7 PM Louis Sachar, *The Magician of Tiger Castle*
Ron Robinson Theater Moderator: Ayana Gray

7:30-8:30 PM Wright Thompson, *The Barn*
Ron Robinson Theater Moderator: Karama Neal
Sponsored by: Pancea Financial with additional support from the CALS Distinguished Lecture Fund in honor of Maurice Smith

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3

12-1 PM Alex Vernon, *Peace Is a Shy Thing*
Ron Robinson Theater Moderator: Chelsea Clinton
Sponsored by: Clinton Presidential Center

5-7 PM Porter Prize Honoring Carolyn Guinzio
Main Library
Darragh Center

6:30-8 PM Kickoff Party
Main Library
5th Floor

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4

10 AM-12 PM A Celebration of Local Authors
Main Library
1st Floor
Tyler Mosley
Frank Thurmond
Tasia Taylor
Kawai Mullen
Josephine Osmand

10 AM-6:30 PM Book Swap
Main Library
Kate and Brantley
Buck Room

10-11 AM Rhona Weaver, *A Just Cause*
Main Library
Darragh Center Moderator: Ginger Young

10-11 AM Buckley T. Foster, *So Great Was the Slaughter*
Main Library
Adult Programming Room
Vaughn Scribner, *Under Alien Skies*
Moderator: Tom DeBlack

10-11 AM Juanita Tolliver, *A More Perfect Party: The Night Shirley Chisholm and Diahann Carroll Reshaped Politics*
Ron Robinson Theater
A'Leia Bundles, *Joy Goddess: A'Leia Walker and the Harlem Renaissance*
Moderator: Jessica McDaniel
Sponsored by: ESSE Purse Museum & Store and the CALS Distinguished Lecture Fund in honor of Betsey Wright

11:30 AM-12:30 PM John Warner, *More Than Words: How to Think About Writing in the Age of AI*
Main Library
Darragh Center
Liz Pelly, *Mood Machine: The Rise of Spotify and the Costs of the Perfect Playlist*
Moderator: John Williams

11:30-12:30 PM Jehanne Dubrow, *Civilians: Poems*
Main Library
Adult Programming Room
Maria Zoccola, *Helen of Troy, 1993*
Moderator: Heather Hummel

11:30 AM-12:30 PM Ginny Myers Sain, *When the Bones Sing*
Main Library
Teen Center
Linsey Miller, *That Devil, Ambition*
Moderator: Susie Dumond

11:30 AM-12:30 PM Phillip Ashley Rix, *For the Love of Chocolate: 80 At-Home Recipes from a Master Chocolatier's Imagination*
Main Library
Demonstration Kitchen
Moderator: Kelli Marks
Sponsored by: PLATED

11:30 AM-12:30 PM William Boyle, *Saint of the Narrows Street*
Ron Robinson Theater
Lucas Schaefer, *The Slip*
Moderator: Eli Cranor

1-2 PM **Peter Dunlap-Shohl**, *My Degeneration: A Journey Through Parkinson's*
Main Library
Darragh Center
Jennifer O'Brien, *Care Boss*
Moderator: Kathy Webb
Sponsored by: AARP Arkansas

1-2 PM **Adolph Reed Jr.**, *The South: Jim Crow and Its Afterlives*
Main Library
Adult Programming Room
Moderator: Jay Youngdahl
Sponsored by: Jay Youngdahl

1-2 PM **Annabel Monaghan**, *It's A Love Story*
Ron Robinson Theater
Regina Black, *August Lane*
Moderator: Mojadesinuola Adejokun

2:30-3:30 PM **Susie Dumond**, *Bed and Breakup*
Main Library
Darragh Center
Moderator: Viktoria Capek

2:30-3:30 PM **Katherine Stewart**, *Money, Lies, and God: Inside the Movement to Destroy American Democracy*
Main Library
Adult Programming Room
Moderator: Michael Cook
Sponsored by: John David Coulter Memorial Fund

2:30-3:30 PM **Eli Cranor**, *Mississippi Blue 42*
Ron Robinson Theater
Seth Wickersham, *American Kings: A Biography of the Quarterback*
Moderator: Jay Jennings

4-5 PM **Neena Viel**, *Listen to Your Sister*
Main Library
Darragh Center
Alex Grecian, *Rose of Jericho*
Moderator: Carl Napolitano

4-5 PM **Lincoln Michel**, *Metallic Realms*
Main Library
Adult Programming Room
Kevin Brockmeier, *The Ghost Variations: One Hundred Stories*
Moderator: Ty Jaeger

4-5 PM **Jennifer Haigh**, *Rabbit Moon*
Ron Robinson Theater
Milo Todd, *The Lilac People*
Moderator: Fred McKindra

5:30-6:30 PM **Jared Lemus**, *Guatemalan Rhapsody*
Main Library
Darragh Center
Samantha Edmonds, *A Preponderance of Starry Beings*
Moderator: Daniel Ford
Sponsored by: the University of Arkansas at Little Rock School of Literary and Performing Arts

5:30-6:30 PM **Gardiner Harris**, *No More Tears: The Dark Secrets of Johnson & Johnson*
Main Library
Adult Programming Room
Moderator: Steve Straessle
Sponsored by: the CALS Distinguished Lecture Fund in honor of J.N. Heiskell

5:30-6:30 PM **Maggie Stiefvater**, *The Listeners*
Ron Robinson Theater
Dolen Perkins-Valdez, *Happy Land*
Moderator: Beth Quarles
Sponsored by: The Rebsamen Fund

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5

1-4 PM **Little Readers Rock**
Children's Library & Learning Center
Shannon Wright, *Twins* | 1-2 PM
Storytime with Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts – Flurffy | 2 PM
Maria Hoskins, *Down Home in Arkansas: A Family Reunion Story* | 3-4 PM
In partnership with the Junior League of Little Rock.

2-4 PM **Pie Contest**
The Root Café

5-8:30 PM **An Evening with Shelby Van Pelt: A Special Fundraising Event**
Ron Robinson Theater
Moderator: Ashlei King

PARKING INFORMATION AND SPECIAL OFFER:

CALS and the Clinton Presidential Center are teaming up to offer a special perk for CALS cardholders: enjoy \$2 off all October.

Plus, on Main Library's Grand Reopening, Saturday, October 4, you can ride the free shuttle between the Clinton Center and Main Library to take part in the celebration.

Main Library parking lot will be closed on October 4 during the grand reopening celebration.

Books Available for Purchase

PYRAMID
ART, BOOKS & CUSTOM FRAMING
Est. 1988

WordsWorth
BOOKS
SERVING ARKANSAS READERS

Table of Contents

Schedule at a Glance	2
About the Festival	4
Session Descriptions	5
An Evening with Shelby Van Pelt: A Special Fundraising Event	12
Little Readers Rock	13
Writers in the Schools	13
Library Square Map	14
Book Sales & Merchandise	14
Main Library Grand Reopening	15
Behind the Scenes	15
Sponsors	16

This year marks the 22nd Six Bridges Book Festival, a celebration that has become both a Central Arkansas tradition and a gathering beloved by authors and readers alike. It also marks a special homecoming: after nearly two years of renovation, the Main Library once again becomes the heart of the festival. This year's festival will be a week of celebration, beginning on Sunday, September 28th, and building toward our much-anticipated Kickoff Party in the newly reopened library on Friday, October 3rd, with many festival sessions to follow there on Saturday, October 4th.

While every year brings an impressive lineup, 2025 may be one of my favorites yet. I hope every member of our community finds a session that sparks excitement. Fiction lovers will enjoy a powerhouse slate: childhood favorite Louis Sachar in conversation with Ayana Gray; literary standouts Dolen Perkins-Valdez, Maggie Stiefvater, Milo Todd, and Jennifer Haigh; romance favorites Annabel Monaghan and Regina Black; a poetry panel featuring Maria Zoccola and Jehanne Dubrow; a mystery panel with William Boyle and Lucas Schaefer; and a football panel with hometown favorite Eli Cranor and ESPN journalist Seth Wickersham—just to name a few.

For nonfiction readers, the spectrum ranges from profound to playful: Wright Thompson's searing exploration of the murder of Emmett Till; A'Lelia Bundles sharing the history of her trailblazing great-grandmother A'Lelia Walker; Juanita Tolliver's look at a pivotal night with Shirley Chisholm; Jennifer O'Brien and Peter Dunlap-Shohl's discussion on caregiving and living with lifelong illness; Liz Pelly's investigation into Spotify; Viktoria Capek's deep dive into Taylor Swift's lyrics; and Carly Anne York's lessons in "silly" science. Food lovers will also enjoy Kat Robinson's dive into Arkansas barbecue and Phillip Ashley Rix's chocolate-making demonstration.

Beyond the author sessions, two of our proudest traditions continue: Writers in the Schools (WITS), connecting nationally recognized authors with students across Central Arkansas and inspiring the next generation of readers and writers; and Little Readers Rock, our children's program in partnership with the Junior League of Little Rock, returning this year with author/illustrators Shannon Wright and Maria Hoskins, alongside crafts, snacks, and games.

As always, nearly all of the festival remains free to the public. The exception is our annual fundraising event, and this year we're thrilled to feature Shelby Van Pelt, author of *Remarkably Bright Creatures*, on Sunday, October 5th. If you love the festival and are able, I hope you'll consider joining us—your support ensures the festival thrives for years to come.

The Six Bridges Book Festival would not be possible without the collective effort of so many. To our sponsors, thank you for your generosity. To our incredible volunteers—from the Talent Committee to the moderators to the festival guides—we appreciate your countless hours and commitment. To the CALS staff, you make magic happen every year. To our booksellers, Pyramid Art, Books & Custom Framing and WordsWorth Books, thank you for your partnership. To the authors, thank you for sharing your stories. And finally, to you, our attendees: your passion over the past twenty-two years has made this festival so vibrant and so much fun.

Here's to another year of celebrating literature together.

Happy reading,
Drew Herget
Six Bridges Book Festival Coordinator

Attendees are encouraged to register for sessions at SixBridgesBookFestival.org.

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

Creative Writing Workshop 1

Sun., Sept. 28 | 2–4:30 PM | McMath Library

This fiction workshop invites writers of all levels to explore the building blocks of story—character, voice, and scene—through fun prompts and guided discussion. Instructed by Deb Moore and Maggie Wells.

Creative Writing Workshop 2

Sun., Sept. 28 | 2–4:30 PM | Terry Library

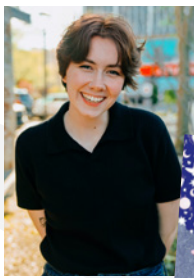
This fiction workshop invites writers of all levels to explore the building blocks of story—character, voice, and scene—through fun prompts and guided discussion. Instructed by Jasmine Jobe and Lauren Tuggle.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

Viktoria Capek

Dear Reader: An Immersive Literary Journey Through Taylor Swift's Lyrics

Mon., Sept. 29 | 6–7 PM | Fletcher Library



Emily Anne Gray, moderator

Nonfiction: Viktoria Capek is a writer, educator, and community builder passionate about how art uplifts the voices of women, queer people, and communities of color, creating space for their stories. Her guided-journal-style book *Dear Reader: An Immersive Literary Journey Through Taylor Swift's Lyrics* explores the books and literary themes woven throughout Swift's songwriting.



TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

Kat Robinson | *The Arkansas Barbecue Traveler*

Tues., Sept. 30 | 12–1 PM | Whole Hog Café, 2516 Cantrell Rd.



Rex Nelson, moderator

Nonfiction: Kat Robinson covers restaurants, food, and culinary traditions in the Natural State and has written 13 books. As the Emmy-nominated host of *Arkansas Dairy Bars* on PBS, a founding selection committee member for the Arkansas Food Hall of Fame, and the co-chair of the Arkansas Pie Festival, she continues to share the stories of our food and the hands that make it.



The Arkansas Barbecue Traveler: A Roadside Companion for Hungry Wanderers explores a state where the purveyors of wood-smoked meats shine, providing a photo-filled travelogue sharing what's great on the plate. Robinson documents nearly 400 barbecue joints across Arkansas's 75 counties, from high-end smokehouses to patina-coated roadside stands.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1

Dr. Carly Anne York & Jasmin Graham

The Salmon Cannon and the Levitating Frog: And Other Serious Discoveries of Silly Science and Sharks Don't Sink: Adventures of a Rogue Shark Scientist

Wed., Oct. 1 | 6–7 PM | Ron Robinson Theater

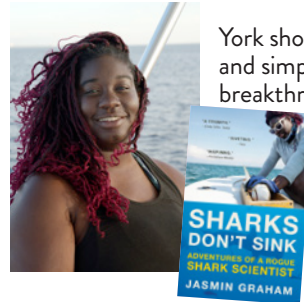


Karama Neal, moderator

Nonfiction: Carly Anne York is an animal behaviorist and physiologist who studies how animals interact with their environments.

She teaches biology courses and has participated in numerous YouTube shows and podcasts. She is also the author of two nonfiction science books for children. In *The Salmon Cannon and the Levitating Frog: And Other Serious Discoveries of Silly Science*, Carly Anne

York shows how unappreciated, overlooked, and simply curiosity-driven science has led to breakthroughs big and small.



Nonfiction: Jasmin Graham is a shark scientist and environmental educator who specializes in elasmobranch (shark and ray) ecology and evolution. She has a passion for science education and making science more accessible to everyone. *Sharks Don't Sink:*

Adventures of a Rogue Shark Scientist is an uplifting story of a young Black scientist's challenging journey to flourish outside the traditional confines of academia, inspired by her innate connection to nature's most misunderstood animal—the shark.

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

Dr. Karida Brown & Dr. Eve L. Ewing

The Battle for the Black Mind and *Original Sins: The (Mis)education of Black and Native Children and the Construction of American Racism*

Wed., Oct. 1 | 7:30–8:30 PM | Ron Robinson Theater



Sericia Nelson, moderator

Nonfiction: Karida Brown is a sociologist, professor, oral historian, and public intellectual whose research centers on the fullness of Black life. *The Battle for the Black Mind* takes readers on a powerful journey through the history of Black education, revealing the centuries-long struggle to control Black intellectual life in America and across the globe.



Nonfiction: Eve L. Ewing is a writer, scholar, and cultural organizer from Chicago. She is the award-winning author of *Electric Arches*, *1919*, *Ghosts in the Schoolyard*, and *Maya and the Robot*. She co-authored the play *No Blue Memories: The Life of Gwendolyn Brooks* with Nate Marshall and has written several projects for Marvel Comics. *Original Sins: The (Mis)education of Black and Native Children and the Construction of American Racism*

explores how our schools were designed to propagate the idea of white intellectual superiority, to “civilize” Native students, and to prepare Black students for menial labor. Ewing argues that these dynamics persist in a curriculum that continues to minimize the horrors of American history.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2

Shannon Wright Art Exhibit

Thurs., Oct. 2 | 5–7 PM

Hearne Fine Art/Pyramid Art, Books & Custom Framing

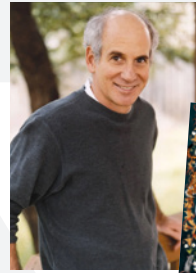


This reception celebrates the work of Shannon Wright. Wright will also appear at Little Readers Rock at the Children's Library & Learning Center on Sunday, October 5 at 1 PM.



Louis Sachar | *The Magician of Tiger Castle*

Thurs., Oct. 2 | 6–7 PM | Ron Robinson Theater



Ayana Gray, moderator

Fiction: Louis Sachar is the Newbery Award-winning author of more than 25 books for young people including *Holes* and the *Wayside School* series. *The Magician of Tiger Castle* is his first book aimed primarily at adults. In *The Magician of Tiger Castle*, in 1524, the kingdom of Esquivita is on the verge of collapse. Only the marriage between Princess Tullia and the Prince of Oxatania can save it. But when the Princess refuses, the King has no choice but to turn to Anatole, his much maligned magician.



Wright Thompson | *The Barn*

Thurs., Oct. 2 | 7:30–8:30 PM | Ron Robinson Theater



Karama Neal, moderator

Nonfiction: Wright Thompson is a senior writer for ESPN, an Emmy Award-winning reporter, and the executive producer of the TV show *TrueSouth*. Thompson is at heart a Southern storyteller who believes that understanding the place where one lives is both an obligation and an act of love. By exploring foodways, beliefs, identities, and histories—both



remembered and forgotten—he seeks to reveal the truths of the region he calls home. *The Barn* reckons with the 1955 murder of 14-year-old Emmett Till, the failure to bring his slayers to justice, and the global forces that caused the tragedy to play out the way it did. Over the years, this brutal history has largely disappeared from the public consciousness, particularly in Mississippi Delta communities surrounding the site of the lynching.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3

Dr. Alex Vernon

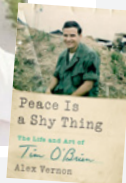
Peace Is a Shy Thing: The Life and Art of Tim O'Brien

Fri., Oct. 3 | 12–1 PM | Ron Robinson Theater



Dr. Chelsea Clinton, moderator

Nonfiction: Alex Vernon graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point (the only literature major in his class of over a thousand), served in combat as a tank platoon leader in the Persian Gulf War, and earned a PhD from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. He is the M.E. & Ima Graves Peace Distinguished Professor of English at Hendrix College in Conway and has



written eleven books. Drawing on never-before-seen materials and featuring over one hundred interviews, *Peace Is a Shy Thing: The Life and Art of Tim O'Brien* is the first literary biography of the preeminent American writer of the war in Vietnam and one of the best writers of his generation. It provides a detailed account of O'Brien's thirteen months as an infantryman in Vietnam while giving equal diligence to telling the story of his life and reconstructing his writing process.

Porter Fund Literary Prize - Carolyn Guinzio

Fri., Oct. 3 | 5-7 PM | Main Library - Darragh Center



The Porter Fund Literary Prize is presented annually to an Arkansas writer who has accomplished a substantial and impressive body of work that merits enhanced recognition. The \$5,000 prize makes it one of the state's most lucrative as well as prestigious literary awards. Eligibility requires an Arkansas connection. This year's recipient is poet Carolyn Guinzio, who lives just outside Fayetteville. Her eighth collection, *Cameo Blue*, is forthcoming in 2026 from Carnegie Mellon University Press. Her book *Meanwhile in Arkansas* (2025) was the winner of the Quarterly West Chapbook Prize.

Kickoff Party

Fri., Oct. 3 | 6:30 PM-8 PM | Main Library - 5th Floor



set the tone for an unforgettable weekend of literary discovery!

Celebrate the Six Bridges Book Festival in style! Join us for our annual literary soirée, where you can mingle with festival authors, enjoy lively music, and savor refreshments in a festive atmosphere. It's the perfect way to celebrate books, meet storytellers from near and far, and

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4

A Celebration of Local Authors

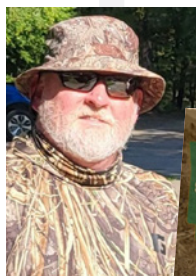
Sat., Oct. 4 | 10 AM-12 PM | Main Library - 1st Floor

Tyler Mosley, Frank Thurmond, Tasia Taylor, Kawai Mullen, Josephine Osmand

Dr. Buckley T. Foster & Dr. Vaughn Scribner

So Great Was the Slaughter and Under Alien Skies

Sat., Oct. 4 | 10-11 AM | Main Library



Tom DeBlack, moderator

Nonfiction: Buckley T. Foster is a scholar of nineteenth-century Southern and Arkansas history and serves as an assistant professor of history at the University of Central Arkansas. *So Great Was the Slaughter: Market Hunters, Sportsmen, and Wildlife Conservation in Arkansas* is an account of the rise of sportsmen and conservation groups in Arkansas who made common cause to protect the state's wildlife resources.



Nonfiction: Vaughn Scribner is an associate professor of history at the University of Central Arkansas. He is the author of *Merpeople: A Human History and Inn Civility: Urban Taverns and Early American Civil Society*. In *Under Alien Skies: Environment, Suffering, and the Defeat of the British Military in Revolutionary America*, he illustrates how foreign soldiers' negative

perceptions of the American environment merged with harsh wartime realities to elicit considerable physical, mental, and emotional anguish.

A'Lelia Bundles & Juanita Tolliver

Joy Goddess: A'Lelia Walker and the Harlem Renaissance and *A More Perfect Party: The Night Shirley Chisholm and Diahann Carroll Reshaped Politics*

Sat., Oct. 4 | 10-11 AM | Ron Robinson Theater



Jessica McDaniel, moderator

Nonfiction: A'Lelia Bundles, a former ABC News executive and NBC News producer, is the author of *On Her Own Ground: The Life and Times of Madam C. J. Walker*, a New York Times Notable Book about her entrepreneurial great-great-grandmother. *Joy Goddess: A'Lelia Walker and the Harlem Renaissance* is a vibrant, nuanced, deeply researched biography of the author's great-grandmother, a woman whose glamorous soirées helped define uptown New York's cultural and social scene during the 1920s.



Nonfiction: Juanita Tolliver is an MSNBC political analyst, an opinion contributor for *TheGrio*, and a contributor for *SiriusXM Progress*. She is a graduate of the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University and the University of North Carolina

at Chapel Hill. *A More Perfect Party: The Night Shirley Chisholm and Diahann Carroll Reshaped Politics* spotlights the legendary party hosted by legendary actress and singer Diahann Carroll for New York Representative Shirley Chisholm's historic 1972 presidential campaign, which changed the playing field for Black women in politics.

Rhona Weaver | A Just Cause

Sat., Oct. 4 | 10-11 AM | Main Library - Darragh Center



Ginger Young, moderator

Fiction: Rhona Weaver is a graduate of the University of Arkansas, a retired swamp and farmland appraiser, and the founder of a program for at-risk children. Her novels draw on her love of the land and her profound admiration for the men and women of the FBI, Park Service, and other first responders. Set against the stunning landscapes of Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks, *A Just Cause*, the third installment in the award-winning *FBI Yellowstone Adventure* series, is a thrilling tale that pits deceit, danger, and betrayal against trust and the roots of human compassion.

Book Swap

Sat., Oct. 4 | 10 AM-6:30 PM

Main Library - 5th Floor, Kate and Brantley Buck Room

Join the free book swap! Bring up to five young adult or adult books—no children's titles, please—and trade them for fresh stories.

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

John Warner & Liz Pelly

More Than Words: How to Think about Writing in the Age of AI and *Mood Machine: The Rise of Spotify and the Costs of the Perfect Playlist*

Sat., Oct. 4 | 11:30 AM–12:30 PM

Main Library – Darragh Center



John Williams, moderator

Nonfiction: John Warner is a writer, speaker, researcher, educator, and consultant in South Carolina. The former editor of *McSweeney's Internet Tendency*, he is the author of the books *Why They Can't Write* and *The Writer's Practice*. As "the Biblioracle," Warner is a weekly columnist at the *Chicago Tribune* and writes the newsletter

"The Biblioracle Recommends." *More Than Words* argues that generative AI programs like ChatGPT not only can kill the student essay but should, since these assignments don't challenge students to do the real work of writing. It calls for us to use AI as an opportunity to reckon with how we work with words and how all of us should rethink our relationship with writing.

Nonfiction: Liz Pelly is a journalist living in New York and teaching in the recorded music program at New

York University. Her essays and reporting have appeared in the *Baffler*, where she is a contributing editor, as well as in the *Guardian*, *Rolling Stone*, *Pitchfork*, and many other outlets. Drawing on over one hundred interviews with industry insiders, former Spotify employees, and musicians, *Mood Machine: The Rise of Spotify and the Costs of the Perfect Playlist* takes an unsparing look at Spotify's origins and influence on music, weaving unprecedented reporting with incisive cultural criticism, illuminating how streaming is reshaping music for listeners and artists alike.

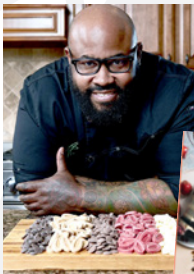
Phillip Ashley Rix

For the Love of Chocolate: 80 At-Home Recipes from a Master Chocolatier's Imagination

Sat., Oct. 4 | 11:30 AM–12:30 PM

Main Library – Teaching Kitchen, 5th Floor

Kelli Marks, moderator



Nonfiction: Phillip Ashley Rix has achieved international acclaim as a renowned luxury chocolatier and is celebrated for his exceptional craftsmanship. He is the official chocolatier for Cadillac, designed chocolates for President Barack Obama, and was a James Beard Award nominee in 2023 and 2024. His imaginative

chocolate factory and home are in Memphis, Tennessee. In *For the Love of Chocolate*, Rix guides readers through an inspiring collection of desserts, confections, and drinks that promise to transform your chocolate-making experience—whether you are a beginner or an experienced baker.

Ginny Myers Sain & Linsey Miller

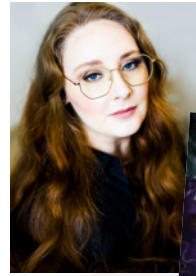
When the Bones Sing and *That Devil, Ambition*

Sat., Oct. 4 | 11:30 AM–12:30 PM | Main Library – Teen Center



Susie Dumond, moderator

Fiction: Ginny Myers Sain is the author of *Dark and Shallow Lies*, *Secrets So Deep*, and *One Last Breath*. Her debut novel was a *New York Times* bestseller and a Barnes & Noble YA Pick of the Month. Sain taught and directed theater in Clarksville, Arkansas, for many years but currently resides in Orlando. In the Southern gothic supernatural thriller *When the Bones Sing*, a teen girl in a small Ozarks town can hear the bones of the dead. For years, she has been helping the local sheriff recover the remains of hikers who go missing in her remote corner of the Arkansas Ozarks, but now she and her best friend must discover exactly what kind of evil is stalking the darkest parts of their beloved hills.



Fiction: Once upon a time, Linsey Miller studied biology in Arkansas. These days, she holds an MFA in fiction

and is the author of Lambda-nominated *What We Devour*. Her other works include the *Mask of Shadows* duology (*Belle Révolte* and *The Game*) and the first three books in the *Disney Princes* series. *That Devil, Ambition* follows three best friends as they attempt to pass their final year of school and win tuition waivers—by killing the devil summoned to teach their class before he kills them. This thrilling stand-alone fantasy explores the lengths we'll go to get ahead in academia.

William Boyle & Lucas Schaefer

Saint of the Narrows Street and *The Slip*

Sat., Oct. 4 | 11:30 AM–12:30 PM | Ron Robinson Theater



Eli Cranor, moderator

Fiction: William Boyle is the author of eight books set in and around the southern Brooklyn neighborhood of Gravesend, where he was born and raised. *Saint of the Narrows Street* is an operatic crime drama portraying characters forced into desperate action and doomed to reckon with their decisions across three decades in their southern Brooklyn neighborhood.



Fiction: Lucas Schaefer's work has appeared in *One Story*, the *Baffler*, *Slate*, and elsewhere. He holds an MFA from the New Writers Project at the University of Texas in Austin and lives with his family in Austin. *The Slip*, Schaefer's first novel, is a haymaker of an American novel that features a missing teenage boy, situations of shifting and mistaken identity, and the transformative power of boxing.

Dr. Jehanne Dubrow & Maria Zoccola

Civilians: Poems and Helen of Troy, 1993

Sat., Oct. 4 | 11:30 AM–12:30 PM

Main Library – Adult Programming Room



Heather Hummel, moderator

Nonfiction: Jehanne Dubrow, a distinguished research professor at the University of North Texas, is the author of three books of nonfiction and ten poetry collections. Her writing has appeared in *New England Review*, the *Southern Review*, and *Ploughshares*. The final volume of a groundbreaking trilogy about the experience of being a modern military spouse, *Civilians* examines a significant moment of transformation in a military marriage: the shift from active-duty service to civilian life.



Fiction: Maria Zoccola is a poet and educator from Memphis. She has writing degrees from Emory University and Falmouth University, and has spent many years leading creative writing workshops for middle and high school youth. Her work has appeared in the

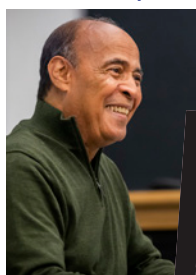
Atlantic, *Ploughshares*, the *Kenyon Review*, and elsewhere. Part myth retelling, part character study, the poetry collection *Helen of Troy, 1993* reimagines the Homeric Helen as a dissatisfied housewife in the hills of small-town Tennessee in the early 1990s. Helen comes of age, marries the wrong man, gives birth to a child she may not be ready to parent, and begins an affair that throws her whole life and future into chaos.

Dr. Adolph L. Reed Jr.

The South: Jim Crow and Its Afterlives

Sat., Oct. 4 | 1–2 PM

Main Library – Adult Programming Room



Jay Youngdahl, moderator

Nonfiction: Adolph Reed Jr. is a leading scholar of race, American politics, and inequality. A lifelong organizer, Reed is professor emeritus of political science at the University of Pennsylvania, and has held positions at Yale, Northwestern, and the New School. Americans' collective memory of segregation is shaped increasingly by its horrors



and heroic defeat, but they do not have a nuanced understanding of everyday life in Jim Crow America. In *The South*, Reed takes up the urgent task of recounting the granular realities of life in the last decades of the Jim Crow South.

Annabel Monaghan & Regina Black

It's A Love Story and August Lane

Sat., Oct. 4 | 1–2 PM | Ron Robinson Theater



Mojadesinuola Adejokun, moderator

Fiction: Annabel Monaghan is the *USA Today* bestselling author of *It's A Love Story*, *Summer Romance*, *Same Time Next Summer*, and *Nora Goes Off Script*, as well as two young adult novels and *Does This Volvo Make My Butt Look Big?*, a selection of laugh-out-loud columns. The novel *It's a Love Story* follows a former adolescent TV-actress-turned-Hollywood-producer whose "fake it till you make it" mantra sets her on a crash course with her past, forcing her to spend a week on Long Island with the last man she thinks might make her believe in love.



Fiction: Regina Black is a former civil litigator, current law school administrator, and lifelong romance reader who has always been passionate about the depiction of Black women in popular culture. In *August Lane*, a Black country music star who lied about

writing his only hit risks his comeback to reunite with the woman he stole it from, a first love the lyrics won't let him forget.

Peter Dunlap-Shohl & Jennifer A. O'Brien

My Degeneration: A Journey Through Parkinson's and Care Boss: Leadership Strategies & Resources for Family Caregivers

Sat., Oct. 4 | 1–2 PM | Main Library – Darragh Center



Kathy Webb, moderator

Nonfiction: Peter Dunlap-Shohl, who worked as cartoonist for the *Anchorage Daily News*, was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease in 2002



at the age of 43. *My Degeneration: A Journey Through Parkinson's* is a book-length autobiographical comic about the author's struggle to come to terms with a progressive, disabling, and incurable disease. It is hailed by doctors and patients alike as an honest and ultimately hopeful, if harrowing, read.



Nonfiction: Jennifer A. O'Brien has helped thousands live more fully by recognizing that at the end of life comes death, that family caregiving is our gravest calling and greatest honor, and that love is greater than death. She is the author of the award-winning book *The Hospice Doctor's Widow: An Art Journal of Caregiving and Grief*. *Care*

Boss: Leadership Strategies & Resources for Family Caregivers provides guidance and support to caregivers by identifying and empowering the family caregiver as the leadership position it is. This testament to the importance of caregiving brings dignity, strategy, organization, and a whole lot of heart to the messy and seemingly impossible task of providing quality care to a loved one.

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

Eli Cranor & Seth Wickersham

Mississippi Blue 42 and

American Kings: A Biography of the Quarterback

Sat., Oct. 4 | 2:30–3:30 PM | Ron Robinson Theater



Jay Jennings, moderator

Fiction: Award-winning author Eli Cranor lives and writes from the banks of Lake Dardanelle where he is the writer-in-residence at Arkansas Tech University in Russellville. In *Mississippi Blue 42*, former quarterback turned author Eli Cranor throws a glorious game winner in this series debut starring a rookie FBI agent who finds herself caught in the tangled web of a college football empire—and the bloody greed that fuels it.



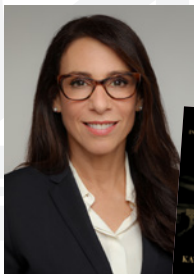
Nonfiction: Seth Wickersham is a senior writer at ESPN and the *New York Times* bestselling author of *It's Better to Be Feared: The New England Patriots Dynasty and the Pursuit of Greatness*. Focusing on investigative work on the National Football League, Wickersham has been a finalist for the National

Magazine Award for Reporting, and his stories have been anthologized in *The Best American Magazine Writing* and *The Best American Sports Writing*, among others. The quarterback is the American equivalent of royalty. As an inside look into a uniquely American job and a uniquely American obsession with football, *American Kings: A Biography of the Quarterback* is a must-read for sports fans and anyone who wants to understand what the price of ambition tells us about the quest for achievement and status.

Katherine Stewart

Money, Lies, and God: Inside the Movement to Destroy American Democracy

Sat., Oct. 4 | 2:30–3:30 PM | Main Library



Michael Cook, moderator

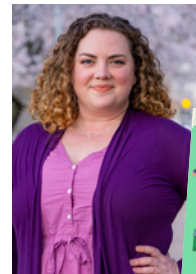
Nonfiction: Katherine Stewart has covered the intersection of faith and politics for over 15 years; her work appears in the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, the *New Republic*, the *Guardian*, and Religion News Service, and she has been featured on broadcast media outlets such as MSNBC, CNN, and NPR. The deeply reported *New York*

Times bestseller *Money, Lies, and God: Inside the Movement to Destroy American Democracy* takes readers to conferences of conspiracy-mongers, backroom strategy gatherings, and services at extremist churches, and profiles the people who want to tear it all down.

Susie Dumond & Sonora Reyes

Bed and Breakup and *The Proposal*

Sat., Oct. 4 | 2:30–3:30 PM | Main Library – Darragh Center



Viktoria Capek, moderator

Fiction: Susie Dumond is a queer writer originally from Little Rock who now lives in Washington, DC. Author of *Queerly Beloved* and *Looking for a Sign*, she also talks about books as a senior contributor at Book Riot and a bookseller at her local indie bookstore. In *Bed and Breakup*, two exes reunite to fix up and sell the bed-and-breakfast that destroyed their marriage—because some dreams, no matter how dusty or broken, deserve a second chance.



Fiction: Born and raised in Arizona, Sonora Reyes is the author of *The Lesbian's Guide to Catholic School* and *The Luis Ortega Survival Club*. They write fiction full of queer and Latinx characters in a variety of genres, with current projects in both kidlit and adult categories. Reyes is also the creator and host of

#QPOCChat, a monthly community-building chat for queer writers of color. *The Proposal* is a queer romance about lifelong best friends entering a marriage of convenience to avoid the looming shadow of deportation, but neither are prepared for the very real feelings pretending to be in love stirs up.

Jennifer Haigh & Milo Todd

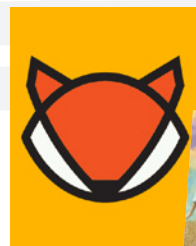
Rabbit Moon and *The Lilac People*

Sat., Oct. 4 | 4–5 PM | Ron Robinson Theater



Fred McKindra, moderator

Fiction: Jennifer Haigh is the author of eight bestselling, critically acclaimed works of fiction. Her first novel, *Mrs. Kimble*, won the PEN/Hemingway Award for debut fiction, and her novel *Mercy Street* won the 2023 Mark Twain American Voice in Literature Award. *Rabbit Moon* is set in Shanghai, where a fractured American family confronts their troubled past after their estranged daughter is hit by a car.



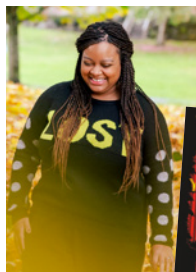
Fiction: Milo Todd, a Massachusetts Cultural Council grantee and a Lambda Literary Fellow, is co-editor in chief at the journal *Foglifter*. He teaches creative writing and history primarily to queer and trans adults, and he has received awards, accolades, and fellowships from such places as Tin House, Pitch Wars, *GrubStreet*, and Monson Arts. *The Lilac*

People is a moving and deeply humane novel about a trans man who must relinquish the freedoms of pre-World War II Berlin to survive first the Nazis then the Allies while protecting the ones he loves.

Neena Viel & Alex Grecian

Listen to Your Sister and *Rose of Jericho*

Sat., Oct. 4 | 4–5 PM | Main Library – Darragh Center



Carl Napolitano, moderator

Fiction: Neena Viel is a horror writer who lives in a cabin in the Washingtonian woods with her husband and the best dog on the planet. Her passion for philanthropy (almost) rivals her love for ghost stories. *Listen to Your Sister* is her debut novel. In *Listen to Your Sister*, a laugh-out-loud, deeply terrifying, and big-hearted speculative horror novel, twenty-five-year-old



Calla is struggling since becoming guardian to her teen brother Jamie. Jamie, full of good-natured recklessness, is usually off fighting for what matters to him or getting into mischief, often at the same time. Dre, their brother, promised he would help raise Jamie—but now in classic middle-child fashion, he's off doing his own thing. And through it all, *The Nightmare* never stops haunting Calla: recurring images of her brothers dying that she is powerless to stop.

Fiction: Alex Grecian is the nationally bestselling author of *Red Rabbit*, *The Yard*, *The Black Country*, *The Devil's Workshop*, *The Harvest Man*, *Lost and Gone Forever*, and *The Saint of Wolves and Butchers*, as well as the critically acclaimed graphic novels *Proof* and *Rasputin*, and the novellas *The Blue Girl* and *One Eye Open*. In supernatural horror novel *Rose of Jericho*, the *USA Today* bestselling follow-up to *Red Rabbit*, ghosts and ghouls are the least of a witch's problems in nineteenth-century New England, as something wicked is going on in the village of Ascension: the dead are not dying.

Lincoln Michel & Kevin Brockmeier

Metallic Realms and *The Ghost Variations: One Hundred Stories*

Sat., Oct. 4 | 4–5 PM | Main Library – Adult Programming Room



Ty Jaeger, moderator

Fiction: Lincoln Michel's previous books are the story collection *Upright Beasts* and the novel *The Body Scout*, which was named one of the 10 Best Science Fiction Books of 2021 by the *New York Times*, and he runs the popular literary newsletter "Counter Craft" and coedited the anthologies *Tiny Crimes* and *Tiny Nightmares*. *Metallic Realms* is a wildly inventive and enter-



taining novel about a sci-fi writing group whose fictional universe and personal dramas begin to collide and collapse. This genre-breaking ode to golden-age science fiction is a meditation on friendship, creativity, and the power and perils of storytelling.

Fiction: Kevin Brockmeier, who has been at the Fest every year since its inception, has published nine books of (mostly) fiction. He will be reading from new work

at the Fest. His most recent book, *The Ghost Variations: One Hundred Stories*, is a collection of very short flash fiction pieces addressing themes of souls, haunting, ghostliness, and the afterlife.

Jared Lemus & Dr. Samantha Edmonds

Guatemalan Rhapsody and *A Preponderance of Starry Beings*

Sat., Oct. 4 | 5:30–6:30 PM | Main Library – Darragh Center



Daniel Ford, moderator

Fiction: Jared Lemus is the author of two works of fiction published with Ecco-HarperCollins, and his work has appeared in the *Atlantic*, *Story*, the *Pinch*, and the *Kenyon Review*, among others. He holds an MFA from the University of Pittsburgh and is the Kenan Visiting Writer at UNC-Chapel Hill. The short-story collection *Guatemalan Rhapsody* offers a kaleidoscopic



portrait of an ever-changing country, the people who claim it as home, and those who no longer do. It explores how we journey from the circumstances that we are forged by, and whether the ability to change our fortunes lies in our own hands or in those of another.

Fiction: Samantha Edmonds, an assistant professor in the creative writing program at Berry College in Georgia,

is the author of the chapbooks *The Space Poet* and *Pretty to Think So*. Her work appears in the *New York Times*, *Fourth Genre*, *Ninth Letter*, *Mississippi Review*, and the *Rumpus*, among others. Blending fairy tale and science fiction with the otherworldliness of adolescence, *A Preponderance of Starry Beings* is a short-story collection for anyone prone to gazing skyward, inviting us into a mundane and whimsical world of night islands, alien planets, small towns, and faith lost and found, where a safe landing matters less than taking the leap.

Gardiner Harris

No More Tears: The Dark Secrets of Johnson & Johnson

Sat., Oct. 4 | 5:30–6:30 PM

Main Library – Adult Programming Room



Steve Straessle, moderator

Nonfiction: Gardiner Harris is a San Diego writer and award-winning investigative journalist who spent more than three decades roaming from the hollows of Eastern Kentucky to the mangrove forests of Bangladesh to the corridors of power at the White House. *No More Tears: The Dark Secrets of Johnson & Johnson* is an explosive, deeply reported exposé of Johnson & Johnson, one of America's oldest and

most trusted pharmaceutical companies. Harris uncovers evidence showing decades of deceitful and dangerous corporate practices that have threatened the lives of millions.

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

Maggie Stiefvater & Dolen Perkins-Valdez

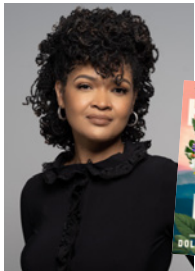
The Listeners and *Happy Land*

Sat., Oct. 4 | 5:30–6:30 PM | Ron Robinson Theater



Beth Quarles, moderator

Fiction: Maggie Stiefvater is the *New York Times* bestselling author of the *Shiver* trilogy, the *Raven Cycle*, and *The Scorpio Races*, among dozens of other YA fantasy novels. Her books have sold over five million copies around the world. *The Listeners* features a mesmerizing portrait of an irresistible heroine, an unlikely romance, and a hotel—and a world—in peril. After the attack on Pearl Harbor thrusts America into World War II, June Hudson, manager of the grand Avallion Hotel & Spa, must host several hundred Axis diplomats until their return can be arranged.



Fiction: Dolen Perkins-Valdez is the *New York Times* bestselling author of the novel *Take My Hand*, which was

awarded an NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Literary Work, a Silver Gavel Award from the American Bar Association, and a Fiction award from the Black Caucus American Library Association. In the novel *Happy Land*, Nikki hasn't seen her grandmother in years, due to a mysterious estrangement inherited from her mother. So when the elder calls out of the blue with an urgent request for Nikki to visit her in the hills of western North Carolina, Nikki hesitates only for a moment. After years of silence in her family, she's determined to learn the truth while she still can.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5



Pie Contest at The Root

Sun., Oct. 5 | 2–4 PM

The Root Café | 1500 Main St, Little Rock

To participate in the Traditional Pie Bake-Off and Recipe Swap Competition, entrants should be at The Root Café at 1:45 PM with their best pie and copies of the recipe.



An Evening with Shelby Van Pelt

Shelby Van Pelt | *Remarkably Bright Creatures*
Sun., Oct. 5 | 5–8:30 PM | Ron Robinson Theater

Full Event Schedule

5–6:30 PM Cocktail hour with heavy hors d'oeuvres

6:30–7:30 PM Author presentation + Q&A

7:30–8:30 PM Book signing



Ashlei King, moderator

Join *New York Times* bestselling author Shelby Van Pelt for a special evening featuring her debut novel, *Remarkably Bright Creatures*. The beloved book, now being adapted into a Netflix film starring Sally Field, tells the story of an unlikely friendship

between a widow and a giant Pacific octopus — and the truths uncovered about her son's disappearance decades earlier. Charming, compulsively readable, and full of wit, *Remarkably Bright Creatures* is a beautiful exploration of friendship, reckoning, and hope—a reminder that sometimes taking a hard look at the past can help uncover a future that once felt impossible.

This ticketed fundraiser includes festive drinks and bites, with proceeds supporting free public programs through the Six Bridges Book Festival.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5

Little Readers Rock

Sun., Oct. 5 | 1–4 PM | Children's Library & Learning Center

Get ready for a celebration designed just for kids! Little Readers Rock is all about sparking a love of reading in young children. Families can enjoy hands-on activities, interactive games, and the chance to meet authors who bring stories to life.

Join us for a joyful day dedicated to building strong reading skills—and a lifelong love of books.

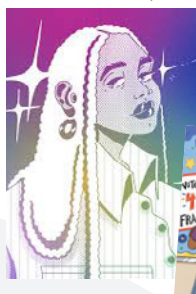
Presented in partnership with the Junior League of Little Rock.

FEATURED SESSIONS:

Author Shannon Wright

Book Reading and Signing – *Twins*

Sun., Oct. 5 | 1–2 PM | Children's Library & Learning Center



Shannon Wright is an award-winning illustrator and cartoonist based out of Richmond, Virginia. Some of her clients include the *Guardian*, *TIME* Magazine, the *New York Times*, *Mother Jones*, NPR, Google, and Scholastic. Her debut graphic novel, *Twins*, has received a 5-starred review from *Booklist*, *Kirkus*, *SLJ*, *Horn Book*, and *Publishers Weekly*.

More about the book *Twins*: Maureen and Francine Carter are twins—and best friends. They participate in the

same clubs, enjoy the same foods, and are partners on all their school projects. But just before the girls start sixth grade, Francine becomes Fran—a girl who wants to join the chorus, run for class president, and dress in fashionable outfits that set her apart from Maureen. A girl who seems happy to share only two classes with her sister! Maureen and Francine are growing apart and there's nothing Maureen can do to stop it. Are sisters really forever? Or will middle school change things for good?



Storytime with Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts – Flurffy

Sun., Oct. 5 | 2 PM

Children's Library & Learning Center

Come meet Flurffy, the lovable pink dog and puppet-in-residence at the Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts!

Author Maria Hoskins

Book Reading and Signing

Down Home in Arkansas: A Family Reunion Story

Sun., Oct. 5 | 3–4 PM | Children's Library & Learning Center



Mayflower, Arkansas, native Maria Hoskins has served as the community outreach specialist for the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Little Rock Field Office since October 2011, coordinating program topics such as civil rights, elder fraud, violent crimes, human trafficking, and cyber crimes. Prior to her work with the FBI, she served on the staff of U.S. congressman Vic Snyder. In Mayflower, she is the volunteer executive director of Youth

Advocate Resource Network. She is also an adjunct professor at her alma mater, Philander Smith University in Little Rock. As a children's book author, she focuses on family holidays.

In *Down Home in Arkansas: A Family Reunion Story*, as winter turns to spring and spring to summer, the family reunion tradition emerges. Families all over the world come together to reunite, socialize, strengthen family ties and relationships, and learn about family history. Such is the tradition with the writer's family, and Maria Hoskins recalls how fun, exciting, and entertaining her family is during their family reunions.

Writers in the Schools (WITS) Initiative

WITS sponsors: Arkansas Arts Council, Riggs Benevolent Fund, and Wright, Lindsey & Jennings LLP.

The Writers in the Schools (WITS) program is a key outreach initiative of the Six Bridges Book Festival. Presenting authors are invited to visit area schools to talk with students about the writing process and their work. Thanks to our generous WITS sponsors, students receive free books for their home libraries.

This initiative transcends the confines of traditional classrooms, making the magic of storytelling accessible to young minds.

WITS is about more than just teaching writing skills. Students encounter diverse literary genres, styles, and voices, witnessing the creative process up close. Workshops and interactions

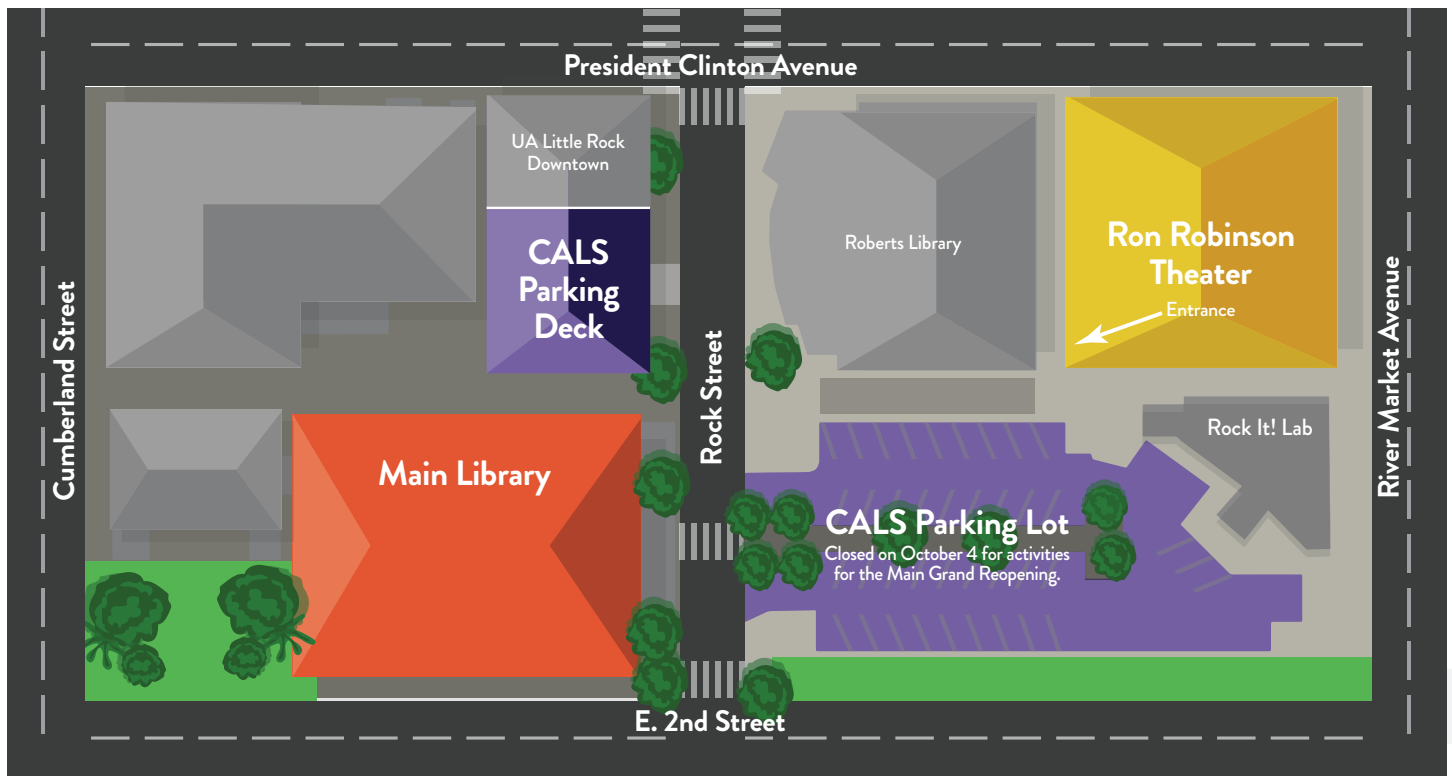
with authors encourage them to explore their own creativity, fostering a lifelong love for writing and literature. The program instills confidence and self-expression, empowering students to share their unique stories with the world. It champions diversity and celebrates the transformative power of words.

Writers are often inspired by the imagination and passion of the young people they meet in Central Arkansas and report that their WITS visit was a highlight of their time in our community.

This year's participating festival authors include:

Alex Vernon, Linsey Miller, Carly Anne York, Ginny Myers Sain, Shannon Wright, Katherine Stewart, Jasmin Graham, Shelby Van Pelt, Eli Cranor, Regina Black, William Boyle, Maggie Stiefvater, Jared Lemus, Neena Viel, and Liz Pelly.

LIBRARY SQUARE



Official Booksellers of the 2025 Six Bridges Book Festival

PYRAMID
ART, BOOKS & CUSTOM FRAMING
Est. 1988

WordsWorth
BOOKS
SERVING ARKANSAS READERS

**SIX BRIDGES
BOOK FESTIVAL**
September 28 - October 5, 2025 | Little Rock



**SIX BRIDGES
BOOK FESTIVAL**
September 28 - October 5, 2025 | Little Rock

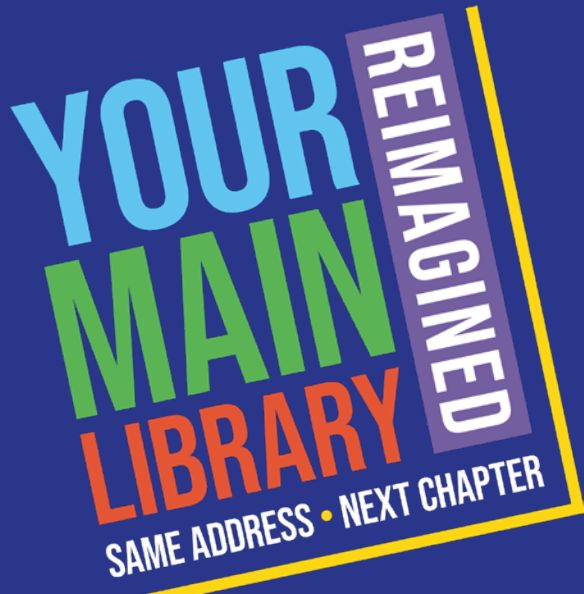


2025 Six Bridges Book Festival

T-shirt \$20 or
Canvas Tote Bag \$15

Available at SixBridgesBookFestival.org and in person at Ron Robinson Theater.

SPECIAL THANKS



Main Library Grand Reopening

Saturday, October 4 | 9 AM–4 PM

Main Library is back! Bring the whole family to Library Square for a full day of activities, games, entertainment, food, and fun. Enjoy live entertainment, food trucks, games, and hands-on activities for kids. Explore updated spaces designed for learning, creativity, and community, including a new café, maker-space, production studio, podcast studio, teaching kitchen, and rooftop terrace.

During Main Library's Grand Reopening, Saturday, October 4, you can ride the free shuttle between the Clinton Center and Main Library to take part in the celebration.

**It's more than a reopening,
it's a homecoming.**

**Main Library:
Same address. Next chapter.**

2025 Six Bridges Book Festival

Coordinator: Drew Herget

Book Sales:

Pyramid Art, Books & Custom Framing
and WordsWorth Books

Executive Director: Nate Coulter

Chief Financial Officer: Jo Spencer

Director of Programming: Ellen Samples

Director of Public Service: Kate Matthews

Chief Communications

and Engagement Officer: Tameka Lee

Chief Development Officer: Eliza Borné

Youth Services Coordinator: Amanda Orgel

Adult Programming Coordinator: Heather Zbinden

Webmaster: Jeff Matika

Volunteer Coordinator: Polly Deems

Fest Guides Chair: Ginger Young

Editor: Ali Welky

Little Readers Rock Chair: Sarah Labuda

Program Graphic Designer: Robin Stauffer

Marketing: Maria Aguilar, Brant Collins,
LaReina Fuentes-Cook,
Cassandra Kwarteng, Jessica McDaniel

Fundraising: Linda Ellis,
Hannah Saulters, Lilyan Kauffman

Special thanks to the CALS staff members who hosted Festival programs in their spaces:

Jennifer Cordell (Terry Library); Laura Hodo (McMath Library); Liz Wooley (Fletcher Library); Joey Cole (Ron Robinson Theater); Joe Hudak (Main Library); Shya Washington (Children's Library).

Talent Committee:

Eliza Borné, Kevin Brockmeier, Jeffrey Condran, Garbo Hearne, Susan Santa Cruz, Ellen Samples, Vaughn Scribner, Kandi West, Heather Zbinden

SPONSORS, PARTNERS, AND SUPPORTERS

BROADWAY BRIDGE

**Fred Darragh
Foundation**

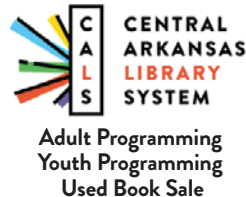


MAIN STREET BRIDGE



ENGLISH AND CREATIVE WRITING
SCHOOL OF LITERARY AND PERFORMING ARTS

JUNCTION BRIDGE



BARING CROSS BRIDGE



I-30 BRIDGE

Tippi McCullough
and Barbara Mariani

Susan Santa Cruz

Fred Ursery

AN EVENING WITH SHELBY VAN PELT HOST COMMITTEE

Booked Solid Book Club

Best Ever Book Club

Susan and Robin Borné

Bookends Book Club

Lit Happens Book Club

Who Picked This Book Book Club