



A Culture of Community

Fort Worth BookFest

THE 2017 FORT WORTH BOOKFEST

A Culture of Community

Ring a Bell for Literacy!

March 2017 Update

AN AMAZING STORY:

THE FORT WORTH BOOKFEST

It has been a little more than a year in the making, with plot twists and incredible intrigue that became more suspenseful by the day. When the first Fort Worth BookFest debuts in October, organizers are convinced that it will be a “transformative” event and an immediate added attraction in a city already known for its “Cowboys and Culture.”

The Fort Worth BookFest, which will highlight nationally and locally known authors of all cultural backgrounds, was formally unveiled at “The Big Reveal”, Thursday, February 9 at the Fort Worth Central Library Gallery.

Organizers of the cross-cultural and community-driven BookFest say, “Our purpose is to raise awareness of the transformative power of literacy.”

Originally planned as a one-day event, October 14, organizers, with the help of some incredible partners and sponsors, have planned other activities, including a Symposium, an Author’s Round-up for Children, AfricCom – a futuristic attraction for millennials featuring comic books and graphic novels, and an Authors’ Sunday Brunch.

The Fort Worth BookFest is a strategic collaboration with Max Rodriguez. Rodriguez is founder of the nationally-recognized Harlem Book Fair and publisher of the critically acclaimed QBR/The Black Book Review (www.qbr.com) – a New York Times-like review of current works by authors❖



CALL FOR PROGRAM PROPOSALS (CPP)

Guide for Authors | Writers | Programmers

Fort Worth BookFest’s theme is A Community of Culture! Genres represented include:

Fiction | Non-Fiction | Spiritual/Inspirational | Christian Science Fiction | Mystery | Poetry | Romance (not erotica) | Children | Teens/Young Adult | Graphic Novels | Culinary | History & Culture | Psychology/Personal Enrichment | Politics, Law & Justice, Societal Conditions. Issued in February, the Call for Program Proposals submissions’ schedule follows:

IMPORTANT DATES

- Final date to Submit questions regarding the CPP: March 15, 2017, 5:00 pm [CST]
- Deadline for Letter of Intent: March 20, 2017, 5:00 pm, Central Standard Time [CST] Direct/Submit all questions/correspondence to: fwbookfest@gmail.com
- Responses to questioners returned within 72 hours thru February 22nd
- Deadline for final program submission: March 31, 2017, 5:00 pm [CST]
- Invitations/Notification of acceptance: April 5, 2017

See www.fortworthbookfest.com for the details!❖



Fort Worth BookFest kicks off on Thursday, October 12 with an academic symposium titled LANGUAGE: IDENTITY: HOME, in partnership with, and on the campus of, Texas Christian University. The event includes a panel discussion that deconstructs language, showing how words and everyday language reinforce adverse (and positive) perceptions of race and identity, which in turn informs and impacts our sense of inclusiveness or alienation, our 'cultural' behaviors, and our collective self-worth. The Symposium will be live-streamed on Twitter via Periscope6



The Fort Worth BookFest’s Literacy Award & Welcome Reception, in partnership with, and on the campus of, Texas

Wesleyan University is Friday, October 13. A highlight of the evening will be the announcement of the first Fort Worth Literacy Award winners and the introduction of Fort Worth BookFest’s first *Writing S.W.A.G.* (Students Writing and Growing) Award winners. S.W.A.G. winners will read their papers during the BookFest and entertain questions about their work from the audience. Harlem Book Fair 2017 Wheatly Award Winners will read from their award-winning projects and talk with the audience❖



The inaugural Fort Worth BookFest continues on October 14 in partnership with Tarrant County College on the Trinity River Campus. The BookFest will celebrate words in all literary expressions and includes authors and booksellers, and workshops and seminars in partnership with the City of Fort Worth Economic Development

Department and other program partners. The BookFest is host to the world-wide launch of AfricCom – ethnic, futuristic, now – live-streamed on Twitter via Periscope. An *Authors Round-up* for Children, in partnership with the Fort Worth Library; *Movies-that-Matter*, in partnership with the Fort Worth Human Relations Commission; and artists, artisans, entertainment, food, and beverages complete the festival.



The 2017 Fort Worth BookFest closes October 15 with an **Authors' Sunday Brunch**. A ticketed event, the brunch is "author heaven." You'll have the pleasure of a published author as your VIP table-guest, hear from the Fort Worth Literacy Award winners on the State of Literacy in Fort Worth/Tarrant County; and be an audience member for the live-streamed *Writers on Writing*, with host Max Rodriguez interviewing authors appearing at the BookFest.



About Fort Worth BookFest

Conceived December 2015, outreach began January 2016, and a Founder's Day event, convened April 2016, kicked off the organizing and planning process. Envisioned as a cross-cultural, community-driven, and multi-genre literary event, Fort Worth BookFest will provide a platform for raising awareness of *the transformative power of literacy* in our community and throughout the southwest region (NM, OK, AR, LA, TX; our marketing area). For more information about Fort Worth BookFest, sponsorships and volunteer opportunities, author, artist or artisan participation opportunities, please visit www.fortworthbookfest.com for additional information and updates on activities. Like us [facebook.com/fwbookfest](https://www.facebook.com/fwbookfest) and follow us on twitter, @fwbookfest.



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