



Media Contact:

Jose Rodriguez, Communications & PR Coordinator
Jose@texasbookfestival.org | (512) 477-4055

For Immediate Release

May 6, 2025

**TEXAS BOOK FESTIVAL TO BRING READING ROCK STARS SCHOOL PROGRAM TO DFW,
DISTRIBUTE MORE THAN 3,400 FREE BOOKS TO LOCAL ELEMENTARY STUDENTS**

DFW, TX (May 6, 2025) – On May 8–9, Texas Book Festival (TBF) will bring its Reading Rock Stars (RRS) school program to the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex. 10 children’s authors and illustrators will present their books at six local Title I elementary schools, with TBF giving away more than 3,400 books, each personally signed by the visiting authors and handed to students to take home and keep. The 9th consecutive visit to DFW, TBF has distributed more than 23,000 books in the region between 2017 and 2024.

Participating authors include Rachel Más Davidson (*The Helping Sweater*), Antwan Eady (*The Last Stand*), Jolene Gutiérrez (*Mamiachi and Me: My Mami’s Mariachi Band*), Kari Lavelle (*Ode to Grapefruit: How James Earl Jones Found His Voice*), Cynthia Leitich Smith (*Blue Stars: Mission One: The Vice Principal Problem*), Rex Ogle and Dave Valeza (*Pizza Face*), Natalia Sylvester (*A Maleta Full of Treasures / La Maleta de Tesoros*), and Lisa Yee [*A Copycat Conundrum (The Misfits)*].

To coordinate a media visit to a participating school, contact TBF Communications & PR Coordinator Jose Rodriguez at Jose@texasbookfestival.org. Event photos and footage will be available upon request on Monday, May 12, 2025.

[Reading Rock Stars](#) is Texas Book Festival’s signature literacy program, enlivening books for children by bringing nationally recognized and award-winning authors and illustrators to schools to share stories that ignite curiosity and excitement among young readers and provide memorable experiences to support a lifelong love of reading, writing, and creativity.

Author visits are the culmination of several weeks of planning on the part of students, educators, and TBF staff. Between 2001 and 2024, TBF has donated 183,140 books to children across Texas via this initiative. Reading Rock Stars DFW is made possible thanks to the generosity of donors and foundations, including H-E-B Read 3, Central Market, Addy Foundation, and Texas Commission on the Arts.

###

ABOUT TEXAS BOOK FESTIVAL

With a vision to inspire Texans of all ages to love reading, Texas Book Festival connects authors and readers through experiences that celebrate the culture of literacy, ideas, and imagination. Founded in 1995 by former First Lady Laura Bush, Mary Margaret Farabee, and a group of volunteers, the nonprofit Texas Book Festival promotes the joys of reading and writing through its annual Festival Weekend, the Reading Rock Stars Title I elementary school program, the Real Reads Title I middle and high school program, grants to Texas public libraries, and year-round literary programming. The 2025 Texas Book Festival will take place from Nov. 8–9 in downtown Austin in the Texas Capitol and nearby venues and will feature renowned authors participating in panels, book signings, and activities. Thanks to generous donors, sponsors like presenting sponsor [H-E-B](#), and volunteers, the Festival remains free and open to the public. Learn more at texasbookfestival.org.