



## TEXAS BOOK FESTIVAL TO DISTRIBUTE NEARLY 3,000 BOOKS TO 4 HOUSTON-AREA TITLE I ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS FOR READING ROCK STARS PROGRAM

**AUSTIN, TX (March 15, 2024)** – On Friday, March 22, Texas Book Festival (TBF) will bring its annual Reading Rock Stars (RRS) program to Houston. 13 celebrated children’s authors and illustrators will present their latest books to students in four Title I schools throughout the Houston area.

Texas Book Festival’s Reading Rock Stars literacy program enlivens books for children by bringing authors 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. To celebrate the growing bilingual community in Houston, we are thrilled to feature several bilingual authors and books in both Spanish and English.

Author visits are the culmination of several weeks of planning on the part of students, educators, and TBF staff and conclude with each student taking home a signed copy of the author’s book. Since 2001, TBF will have donated 174,224 books to children across Texas through this initiative as of March 22, 2024. H-E-B Read 3 is the presenting sponsor for Texas Book Festival’s Reading Rock Stars program.

### PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

- Almeda Elementary School (Houston ISD)
- Elrod Elementary School (Houston ISD)
- Kelso Elementary School (Houston ISD)
- Magrill Primary (Aldine ISD)

### PARTICIPATING AUTHORS

- Jorge Tetl Argueta - [\*Tierra, Tierrita / Earth, Little Earth\*](#)
- Chris Barton - [\*Glitter Everywhere!\*](#)
- Valerie Bolling - [\*Together We Swim\*](#)
- Adrianna Cuevas - [\*The Ghosts of Rancho Espanto\*](#)
- Rachel Más Davidson - [\*I Love You Mucho Mucho\*](#)
- Lalena Fisher - [\*Friends Beyond Measure\*](#)
- Van G. Garrett - [\*Juneteenth\*](#)
- Xelena González and Adriana M. Garcia - [\*Remembering\*](#)
- Jamar J. Perry - [\*Cameron Battle and the Escape Trials\*](#)
- Erika Said - [\*El cumpleaños de mi hermana Dulce / My Sister Dulce's Birthday\*](#)
- John Schu - [\*This Is a Story\*](#)
- Carmen Tafolla - [\*Warrior Girl\*](#)

For media coverage inquiries, please contact Texas Book Festival Communications & PR Coordinator Jose Rodriguez at [Jose@texasbookfestival.org](mailto:Jose@texasbookfestival.org).

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### **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 school, high school, and early college program, grants to Texas libraries and year-round literary programming. The 2024 Texas Book Festival will take place from November 16–17, with events taking place in downtown Austin and at the Texas Capitol, featuring renowned authors, panels, book signings, and activities. Thanks to generous donors, sponsors, and volunteers, the Festival remains free and open to the public. Learn more at [www.texasbookfestival.org](http://www.texasbookfestival.org) or follow along on [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), and [X](#) @texasbookfest.