



SAN DIEGO

BOOK FESTIVAL

PRESENTED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO

Share your photos using **#KPBSBookFestival**

CELEBRATING LITERACY, LEARNING AND A LOVE OF BOOKS

The University of San Diego believes in lifelong learning, a love of reading and the magic of being completely absorbed in the pages of a book. USD is proud to serve as this year's presenting sponsor. On behalf of the College of Arts and Sciences and the Humanities Center, we welcome you to the KPBS San Diego Book Festival.

SANDIEGO.EDU



University of San Diego®

Welcome to the 2026 KPBS San Diego Book Festival

It is wonderful to see so many people of all ages come together around a shared celebration and love of books, learning and literacy.

Creating the San Diego Book Festival was a natural extension of KPBS' role as San Diego's storyteller and our One Book, One San Diego program, which has a long-standing commitment to literacy. We're celebrating the 20th Chapter of One Book, One San Diego this year, and this morning we will announce the much anticipated 2026 One Book selections.

This event is made possible by the generous support of our sponsors. A special thank you to University of San Diego for being our presenting sponsor and for hosting us on their beautiful campus.

The authors here today span a wide range of genres. Their books teach us something new, inspire our imagination and awaken emotions. That is the power of reading.

The connection and context for stories is what KPBS excels at. For 65 years, KPBS has been at the heart of our community, delivering trusted journalism, inspiring storytelling, and impactful programming and events that capture the pivotal and personal moments of our history.

We believe journalism is worth protecting. Art is worth protecting. Individual voices are worth protecting. When you are with KPBS, you are protecting your story.

Thank you for being here, and for celebrating creativity and community.

Enjoy your day!



Deanna M. Mackey
General Manager, KPBS



We are your public media station.

KPBS is an essential public service. We are reporters on the frontlines. We are investors in early childhood education. We are purveyors of the arts. We are facilitators of dialogue on issues important to our democracy. Together with you, we are proud to serve our community in so many ways.

Learn more at
kpbs.org/essential



kpbs **SAN DIEGO** **BOOK FESTIVAL** PRESENTED BY THE **UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO**

Author Panel and Signing Tips:

- For ticketed panel sessions, your ticket will be scanned at the door. Please have it open and ready upon entry. Access your tickets in the Eventbrite app and add them to your phone's digital wallet for the fastest entry. Or, to access via web, go to the Tickets section in your account on Eventbrite.com to view. Please arrive early to secure your seat.
- For guests without reservations for ticketed panel sessions, a standby line may be available outside of the session room. Please arrive early, as guests in the standby line will be let in on a first come, first served basis.
- For non-ticketed panel sessions, there will be a line (first come, first served) and as seats become available, guests will be allowed into the panel rooms.

Book Signings Tips:

- Most authors will sign books after their panel at designated bookseller booths. Please plan to buy featured books ahead of panel sessions. We cannot guarantee that every author will sign or that all guests will be able to get their book signed.
- While you are waiting for your book to be signed, please write the name of the person you'd like the book inscribed to on a sticky note to ensure the correct spelling.

See pages 7-12 for panels and designated booksellers.

OUTDOOR SPACES

A EAST ENTRANCE

Information
(Programs & Lost & Found)
Writers' Block Check-in
Exhibitor Check-in

1 Writers' Block: Author Exhibitors

See page 15 author listings

2 Colachis Plaza (Exhibitors)

- #1 San Diego Public Library
- #2 Friends of the San Diego Public Library
- #3 Aber Stoa Books
- #4 Journey Press
- #5 The Studi Plan Collective
- #6 Online Smiles
- #7 Lovinglog
- #9 Slvr Pynx
- #10 Book Barn Galore
- #11 Market by Mari
- #12 **KPBS Membership**
- #13 Hey Books!
- #14 Quiet Quail Books
- #15 the little wild library
- #16 YOU SHOULD READ

3 Paseo de Colachis (Exhibitors)

- #17 Coronado Public Library
- #18 California Retired Teachers Association CalRTA Area XI San Diego and Imperial Counties
- #19 PLNU Writing, M.A. and Writer's Symposium by the Sea
- #20 San Diego Poetry Annual
- #21 San Diego Writers, Ink
- #22 Write Out Loud

- #23 Goodwill San Diego County
- #24 San Diego County Library
- #25 Blue Shield of California Promise Health Plan
- #26 Reading Legacies
- #27 Bona Fide Bookworm
- #28 Printers Row/Canterbury Classics
- #29 USD Admissions
- #30 USD Copley Library USD Torero Bookstore
- #31 USD College of Arts and Sciences and Humanities Center
- #32 USD School of Leadership and Education Sciences
- #33 USD Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies
- #34 USD School of Law
- #35 USD Knauss School of Business
- #36 USD Athletics

4 Storytime Square - Blue Shield of California Promise Health Plan Youth Reading Stage & Youth Area - See page 13 for stage schedule

- #1 Blue Shield of California Promise Health Plan
- #2 San Diego County Library
- #3 San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance Press
- #4 Studio Fun International
- #5 First 5 San Diego
- #6 Children's Museum of Discovery
- #7 Bluebird Play
- #8 **KPBS Kids**

- #9 The World of Dr. Seuss presented by Dr. Seuss Enterprises
- #10 Feeding San Diego - Hunger Action Heroes Unite!
- #11 The Art of Patrick Ballesteros
- #12 AuthorHouse Kids
- #13 San Diego Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators
- #14 La Buqueria Books
- #15 Educational Enrichment Systems
- #16 Phyllis Schwartz, Marcie Colleen, Derek Danziger & Lisa Fyfe
- #17 Words Alive!

WEST ENTRANCE

B Information
(Programs & Lost & Found)
Featured Author Check-In
Moderator Check-In
Exhibitor Check-In

- #37 **TheFinestSD**
- #38 Little Fish Comic Book Studio & Kevin Workman Foundation
- #38 **One Book, One San Diego**
- #39 **KPBS en español**
- #39 **KPBS Public Matters**
- #40 San Diego Council on Literacy
- #41 SDSU English and Comparative Literature Department and SDSU Press
- #42 First Aid

5 Booksellers (Book Signing Locations)

- #1 Libélula Books and Co.
- #2 Roseville Books
- #3 Meet Cute Romance Bookshop
- #4 Camino Books: For the Road Ahead
- #5 Warwick's
- #6 Library Shop
- #7 Mysterious Galaxy
- #8 The Book Catapult
- #9 UC San Diego Bookstore

SESSION ROOMS

6 Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice (KIPJ)

Theatre
KIPJ Sections A-G

7 Mother Rosalie Hill Hall (MRH)

Warren Auditorium MRH 116

8 Copley Library (CL)

Mother Rosalie Reading Room

9 Knauss Center for Business Education (KCBE)

Nexus Theater (KCBE 114/116)

10 Camino Hall (CH)

Black Box Theater (CH 131)

11 Manchester Hall (MACH)

Auditorium

20% OFF

Enjoy 20% off at select USD on-campus dining:

Crush Juice Co., Pavilion Dining, Tu Mercado, Aromas, and La Paloma.*

*Offer valid only at these locations during the 2026 KPBS San Diego Book Festival on Saturday, Aug. 22, 10 a.m.–4 p.m., while supplies last.

PHOTO STATEMENT

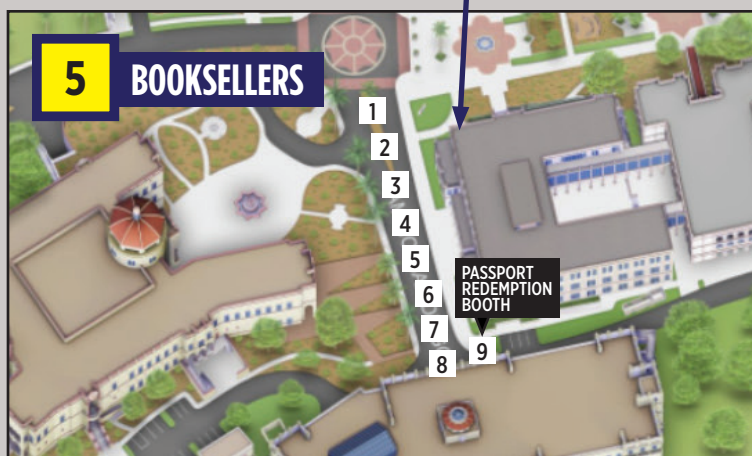
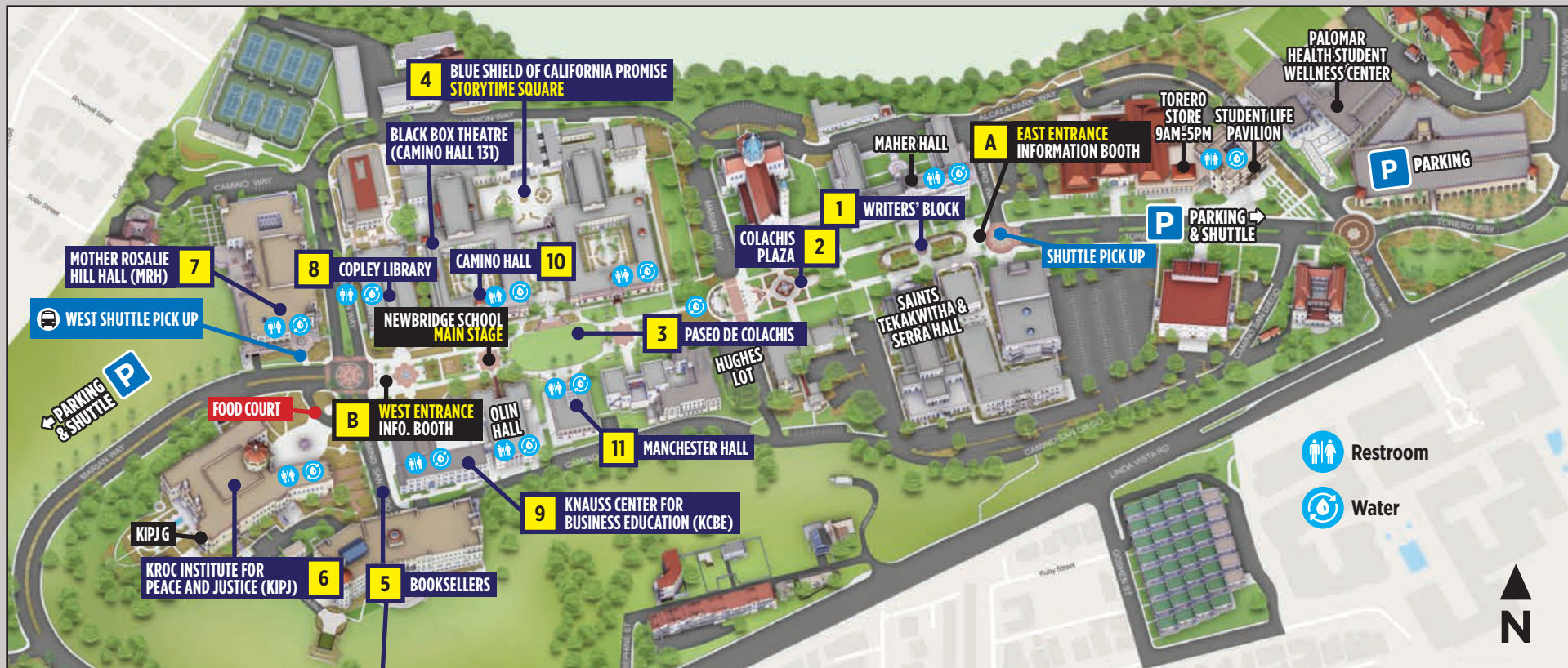
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FREE TRAM SERVICE

Free trams will loop continuously until 5:30 p.m. from the East and West ends of the event to the following locations:

- Main Parking Structure 3rd Level Circle
- Alcala Vista Apartments
- San Diego County Board of Education
- West Parking Structure



FOOD & DRINK (*AC available):

- Crush Juice Co.*** (juice bar)
9AM - 3PM
Palomar Health Student Wellness Center
- Pavilion Dining*** (food court/dining hall)
7AM - 9AM and 11AM - 2PM
Student Life Pavilion
- Tu Mercado*** (market/deli)
7AM - 9AM and 11AM - 2PM
Student Life Pavilion
- Aromas*** (coffee)
9:30AM - 4PM, Maher Hall
- Tom's Coffee** (coffee)
7AM - 3:30PM, Hughes Lot

- Doggos Gus** (hot dogs/smash burgers)
9:30AM - 3:30PM, in front of Hahn School of Nursing
- Smart Market*** (grab & go)
9:30AM - 3:30PM, Olin Hall
- Paletas** (popsicles)
10AM - 4PM, west of Copley Library
- Tiki Treats** (Dole Whip)
9:30AM - 3:30PM, west of Copley Library
- Belinda's Familia Mexican Food** (Mexican food)
9:30AM - 3:30PM, KIPJ food court
- Bubba's Hawaiian Snack Shack** (Hawaiian BBQ)
9:30AM - 3:30PM, KIPJ food court

- Dougie's Best** (cheesesteaks)
9:30AM - 3:30PM, KIPJ food court
- Kona Ice** (shaved ice),
9:30AM - 3:30PM, west of Copley Library
- La Paloma*** (market/deli)
9:30AM - 4PM, KIPJ
- Famigos Ice Cream** (popsicles)
9:30AM - 3:30PM, KIPJ food court, next to Belinda's truck

HEADLINERS

TICKETED SESSIONS

Credit: Chandra Wicke 2024 - Abby DeGasperis

10:30AM - 11:15AM

KIPJ Theatre

Headliner: "Lovergirls In STEM"

Christina Lauren, "The Romance Revival"

Book Sales & Signing: Meet Cute Romance Bookshop

11:30AM - 12:15PM

KIPJ Theatre

Headliner: "Enter the Doodleverse with Max Brallier"

Max Brallier, "The Last Comics on Earth: Across the Doodleverse"

Book Sales & Signing: UC San Diego Bookstore

Credit: Ruby Brallier - Liz Vaughan

Credit: Carlos Hernandez

12:30PM - 1:15PM

KIPJ Theatre

Headliner: "Claudette Zepeda Cooks the Borderlands"

Claudette Zepeda, "Cooking the Borderlands: Spice and Smoke Between Mexico and the States"

Book Sales & Signing: Libélula Books and Co.

Credit: Shamon McGill

2:30PM - 3:15PM

KIPJ Theatre

Headliner: "Unlocking the Written Word: Literacy, Empowerment, and Hope"

Oliver James, "Unread: A Memoir of Learning (and Loving) to Read on TikTok"

Book Sales & Signing: Warwick's

Credit: Sam Rand - Laura Elzorn

3:30PM - 4:15PM

KIPJ Theatre

Headliner: "Love is Real with Chuck Tingle"

Chuck Tingle, "Fabulous Bodies"

Book Sales & Signing: Mysterious Galaxy

KPBS SAN DIEGO BOOK FESTIVAL 2026 SCHEDULE

FESTIVAL OPENING | 10 AM – 10:20 AM | OPENING REMARKS & ONE BOOK ANNOUNCEMENT | MAIN STAGE

AUTHOR BREAKOUT SESSIONS I - 10:30AM - 11:15AM

Book signings will be approximately 15 minutes after the author's session at the bookstore booth listed. Schedule is subject to change.

KIPJ THEATRE PANEL DISCUSSION A Headliner: “Lovergirls In STEM” Christina Lauren, “The Romance Revival” Moderator: Jade Hindmon, <i>KPBS Midday Edition</i> Host Book Sales & Signing: #3 Meet Cute Romance Bookshop	MOTHER ROSALIE HILL HALL 116, WARREN AUDITORIUM PANEL DISCUSSION B “Exploring Together: Joy and Wonder in the Natural World” Genre: Nature / Environment Richard Louv, “Noticing: Intimate Encounters With the Natural World” Brad Ryan, “Grandma Joy and Me” Moderator: Julia Dixon Evans, KPBS Arts & Culture Reporter and Host, <i>The Finest</i> podcast Book Sales & Signing: #5 Warwick’s	MANCHESTER HALL - AUDITORIUM PANEL DISCUSSION C “The Kids Are All Fright” Genre: Young Adult Mystery Carlyn Greenwald, “What Happened to Those Girls” Chelsea Ichaso, “Beware the Abbott Boys” Moderator: Huda Al-Marashi, author of “Hail Mariam” Book Sales & Signing: #7 Mysterious Galaxy	KIPJ Section C & D PANEL DISCUSSION D “Poetry Beyond the Page” Genre: Poetry Kazim Ali, “The Man in 119” Elizabeth Metzger, “The Going is Forever” Michael Klam, “Stay There” Moderator: Parker Edison, Writer & Creator & Host, <i>The Parker Edison Project</i> podcast Book Sales & Signing: #8 The Book Catapult	CAMINO HALL 131, BLACK BOX THEATRE PANEL DISCUSSION E Port of Entry Live: Stories from the Borderlands with Adolfo Guzman-Lopez* Live Podcast Taping Be part of a live taping of Port of Entry featuring longtime journalist, poet and author Adolfo Guzman-Lopez, whose book “California Southern: writing from the road, 1992–2025” traces life along the U.S.-Mexico border. Writing as an immigrant, father, husband, son and Mexican American, he reflects on identity, belonging and what it means to grow up in this unique borderland Moderator: Natalie González Rodríguez and Alan Lilienthal, hosts, <i>Port of Entry</i> podcast Book Sales & Signing: #2 Roseville Books	KIPJ SECTION A & B PANEL DISCUSSION F “Demystifying Horror” Special Session Brian Asman, writer, actor, and director Dennis K. Crosby, author and secretary of the Horror Writers Association (HWA) San Diego Chapter Luke Dumas, USA Today bestselling author KC Grifant, author and founder of the HWA San Diego Chapter Horror is more than jump scares and gore, it’s a lens for exploring emotion, societal fears and the human mind. Join the local HWA chapter for a look at emerging trends and tropes in the genre, plus reading recommendations and writing tips. Moderator: Sarah Faxon, author and co-chair of the HWA San Diego Chapter Book Sales & Signing: HWA San Diego, Writers’ Block Booth #35	KNAUSS CENTER FOR BUSINESS EDUCATION 114/116, NEXUS THEATRE PANEL DISCUSSION G “Under Cover of Chaos” Author: Rebekah Wanic, PhD, Psychology USD Interlocutor: Noelle Norton, PhD, Dean, USD College of Arts and Sciences Book Sales & Signing: USD Torero Store
*TICKETED SESSION				*TICKETED SESSION		

KPBS SAN DIEGO BOOK FESTIVAL 2026 SCHEDULE

AUTHOR BREAKOUT SESSIONS II - 11:30AM - 12:15PM

Book signings will be approximately 15 minutes after the author's session at the bookstore booth listed. Schedule is subject to change.

KIPJ THEATRE PANEL DISCUSSION A Headliner: “Enter the Doodleverse with Max Brallier”* Max Brallier, “The Last Comics on Earth: Across the Doodleverse” Moderator: Andrew Bracken, Producer/Host, KPBS Roundtable Book Sales & Signing: #9 UC San Diego Bookstore	MOTHER ROSALIE HILL HALL 116, WARREN AUDITORIUM PANEL DISCUSSION B “Untold Truths: Intelligence, Deception, and the Shaping of History” Genre: History/Nonfiction Leon Carroll, Jr., “Ghosts of Sicily: The True Story of the Naval Intelligence Agents Who Courted the Mob to Fight Nazis in America and the Battlefields of Italy” Merryl Goldberg, “Notes of Deception” Michael Hiltzik, “Golden State Of California” Moderator: Andrew Dyer, KPBS Military and Veteran Affairs Reporter Book Sales & Signing: #2 Roseville Books	KIPJ SECTION A & B PANEL DISCUSSION C “Daydream Flip - Skate Life” Genre: Memoir/Sports/Culture Sean Mortimer, “Misfit: A Survival Guide” Neftalie Williams, “The Skateboard Life” Moderator: Steve Hawk, author and editor Book Sales & Signing: #4 Camino Books: For the Road Ahead	KIPJ Section C & D PANEL DISCUSSION D “With Friends Like These, Who Needs Enemies” Genre: Crime/Thriller Amy Chozick, “With Friends Like You” Joe Pan, “Florida Palms” Moderator: David Washburn, KPBS Investigative/Enterprise Editor Book Sales & Signing: #6 The Library Shop	MANCHESTER HALL - AUDITORIUM PANEL DISCUSSION E “Adapting Novels for the Screen” Special Session Olivia Rutigliano, Literary Hub and CrimeReads Brian Hu, SDSU educator; Artistic Director, San Diego Asian Film Festival Lisa Bruce, film producer Carlos de los Rios, screenwriter; filmmaker; author, and story consultant Moderator: Adhara Mereles, President, San Diego Writers, Ink	KNAUSS CENTER FOR BUSINESS EDUCATION 114/116, NEXUS THEATRE PANEL DISCUSSION F “Glimpses of Grace” Author: Michael Lovette-Colyer, PhD, USD Mission and Integration Interlocutor: Brian Clack, PhD, USD Philosophy and A. Vassiliadis Distinguished Director of the Humanities Center Book Sales & Signing: USD Torero Store
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*TICKETED SESSION

Join the celebration today!



- 2026 One Book Final Selections Announcement
10AM | NewBridge School Main Stage
- Visit the One Book, One San Diego Booth #38

Learn more about upcoming events and sign up for email updates at www.kpbs.org/onebook

KPBS SAN DIEGO BOOK FESTIVAL 2026 SCHEDULE

AUTHOR BREAKOUT SESSIONS III - 12:30PM - 1:15PM

Book signings will be approximately 15 minutes after the author's session at the bookstore booth listed. Schedule is subject to change.

KIPJ THEATRE PANEL DISCUSSION A Headliner: “Claudette Zepeda Cooks the Borderlands”* Claudette Zepeda, “Cooking the Borderlands: Spice and Smoke Between Mexico and the States” <i>Spanish Translation Available / Traducción al español disponible.</i> Moderator: Natalie González Rodríguez, KPBS Host, <i>Port of Entry</i> podcast and Spanish Web Producer Book Sales & Signing: #1 Libélula Books and Co. *TICKETED SESSION	KIPJ Section A & B PANEL DISCUSSION B “Until Death (And After)” Genre: Contemporary Fiction/Romance Susan Lee, “See You at the Sunset” Holly Michelle, “You’ll Be the Death Of Me” Bridget Morrissey, “In What World” Moderator: Virginia Loh-Hagan, educator, Executive Director for SDSU AANHPI Affairs & APIDA Center and author of over 450 books for children. Book Sales & Signing: #3 Meet Cute Romance Bookshop	MANCHESTER HALL - AUDITORIUM PANEL DISCUSSION C “Don’t Worry, Write Happy” Genre: Self-Help/Writing April Davila, “Sit Write Here: 6 Mindfulness Practices to Help You Write More and Suffer Less” Chris Duffy, “Humor Me” Moderator: Ashley Rusch, Producer, <i>KPBS Midday Edition</i> Book Sales & Signing: #5 Warwick’s	MOTHER ROSALIE HILL HALL 116, WARREN AUDITORIUM PANEL DISCUSSION D “Beneath the Sunshine: The Untold Story of San Diego” Genre: Local History/Social Justice Kelly Mayhew and Jim Miller, “Under the Perfect Sun: The San Diego Tourists Never See” Moderator: Julianna Domingo, Producer, <i>KPBS Midday Edition</i> Book Sales & Signing: #8 The Book Catapult	CAMINO HALL 131, BLACK BOX THEATRE PANEL DISCUSSION E Cinema Junkie podcast with author and zombie expert Bradley Voytek* Live Podcast Taping Author: Bradley Voytek, Do Zombies Dream of Undead Sheep? <i>KPBS Cinema Junkie</i> host Beth Accomando rises from the dead to talk with author, neuroscientist and zombie expert Bradley Voytek about his book “Do Zombies Dream of Undead Sheep?” Together, they’ll explore how the zombie brain works, uncover the origins of neuroscience and even dissect Jell-O brains for the audience to eat. Moderator: Beth Accomando, KPBS Arts & Culture Reporter, host, <i>Cinema Junkie</i> podcast Book Sales & Signing: #9 UC San Diego *TICKETED SESSION	Copley Library - Mother Rosalie Reading Room PANEL DISCUSSION F “Seeing Through Poetry: An Ekphrastic Writing Workshop” Special Session Facilitators: Blas Falconer, Author of <i>Rara Avis</i> and Professor of Creative Writing, San Diego State University San Diego State University MFA Students: Artrice Bennett Tammy C. Greenwood, author of <i>The Winged and the Horned</i> Rhiannon Scray Discover the art of ekphrasis, the centuries-old tradition of writing poetry in response to art. In this interactive workshop, explore how paintings, photographs and sculpture can inspire vivid poems through readings and guided discussion, then write your own original artwork inspired by a selected artwork. Open to all experience levels. You’ll leave with new tools for seeing, reading and writing more deeply. Book Sales & Signing: #8 The Book Catapult
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KPBS SAN DIEGO BOOK FESTIVAL 2026 SCHEDULE

AUTHOR BREAKOUT SESSIONS IV - 1:30PM - 2:15PM

Book signings will be approximately 15 minutes after the author's session at the bookstore booth listed. Schedule is subject to change.

NewBridge School Main Stage: Greg Karber, "Bordergrams: A Quest for the Queen"

KIPJ SECTION E & F PANEL DISCUSSION B "Horror? In this Economy? Sounds Right." Genre: Horror/Speculative Fiction Kim Fu, "The Valley of Vengeful Ghosts" Sarah Gailey, "Make Me Better" Moderator: Elaine Alfaro, KPBS East County Reporter Book Sales & Signing: #7 Mysterious Galaxy	MOTHER ROSALIE HILL HALL 116, WARREN AUDITORIUM PANEL DISCUSSION C "Complicated Characters, Complex Connections" Genre: Literary Fiction Vanessa Hua, "Coyoteland" Daniel Lavery, "Meeting New People" Rasheed Newson, "There's Only One Sin in Hollywood" Moderator: Amy Wallen, author Book Sales & Signing: #9 UC San Diego Bookstore	KIPJ SECTION A & B PANEL DISCUSSION D "Noir on a Sunny Day" Genre: Crime/Thriller Jordan Harper, "A Violent Masterpiece" Steve Hawk, "Nearshore" Moderator: Kevin Kearney, writer Book Sales & Signing: #4 Camino Books: For the Road Ahead	KIPJ SECTION C & D PANEL DISCUSSION E "Moonlight and Magic: Dark Myths and Dangerous Worlds" Genre: Historical Fantasy Alexandra Bracken, "Immortal Rose" Elizabeth Delozier, "The Whitechapel Full Moon Society" Megan J. Eccles, "Sing the Night" Moderator: Moses Ose Utomi, author Book Sales & Signing: #6 The Library Shop	MANCHESTER HALL - AUDITORIUM PANEL DISCUSSION F "The Neurodivergent Reader" Special Session Kelli Sandman-Hurley, Ed.D., Dyslexia Training Institute Sally Pla, author and founder of "A Novel Mind" Vide Sale-Reed, MFA, SDSU Alfonso Julián Camacho, author, "Alfie and Lisa's First Day of School" Explore how dyslexia, autism, ADHD, and other forms of neurodivergence shape the reading experience, including common strengths, challenges, and practical strategies. This session will highlight the importance of neurodiversity representation in literature, both in the authors we celebrate and the characters we see reflected on the page. Moderator: Matt Bowler, KPBS Video Journalist Book Sales & Signing: La Buqueria Books (Storytime Square)	KNAUSS CENTER FOR BUSINESS EDUCATION 114/116, NEXUS THEATRE PANEL DISCUSSION G "America's 250th: Recommended Reading" Panelists: Casey Dominguez, PhD, USD Political Science and International Relations Corey Gooding, PhD, USD Political Science and International Relations Tim Wyman McCarty, PhD, USD Political Science and International Relations Introduction: Noelle Norton, PhD, Dean, USD College of Arts and Sciences Book Sales & Signing: USD Torero Store
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KPBS SAN DIEGO BOOK FESTIVAL 2026 SCHEDULE

AUTHOR BREAKOUT SESSIONS V - 2:30PM - 3:15PM

Book signings will be approximately 15 minutes after the author's session at the bookstore booth listed. Schedule is subject to change.

KIPJ THEATRE PANEL DISCUSSION A Headliner: “Unlocking the Written Word: Literacy, Empowerment, and Hope”* Oliver James, “Unread: A Memoir of Learning (and Loving) to Read on TikTok” Moderator: Lawrence K. Jackson, Producer and Host of <i>KPBS’ San Diego News Now</i> podcast Book Sales & Signing: #5 Warwick’s	KIPJ SECTION A & B PANEL DISCUSSION B “Enemies Make The Best Lovers” Genre: Romantic Fantasy Lauren Kate, “White Lights” Addie Thorley, “Burn the Kingdom Down” Moderator: Amanda Mansfield, SDPL Librarian, Art, Music, and Recreation Section Book Sales & Signing: #3 Meet Cute Romance Bookshop	MOTHER ROSALIE HILL HALL 116, WARREN AUDITORIUM PANEL DISCUSSION C “Voices of Courage: Stories of Family, Courage, and Heritage” Genre: Memoir/Culture/Identity María Dolores Águila, “A Sea of Lemon Trees: The Corrido of Roberto Alvarez” Reyna Grande, “Migrant Heart” <i>Spanish Translation Available / Traducción al español disponible.</i> Moderator: Elsa Sevilla, TV host, speaker & author Book Sales & Signing: #1 Libélula Books and Co.	KIPJ SECTION C & D PANEL DISCUSSION D “Parenthood Unfiltered” Genre: Parenting/Family Cassidy Freitas, “Mom Needs a Moment” Leslie Priscilla, “Chancla” Moderator: Katie Anastas, KPBS Education Reporter Book Sales & Signing: #8 The Book Catapult	CAMINO HALL 131, BLACK BOX THEATRE PANEL DISCUSSION E The Finest Live: Why Book Clubs Matter* Live Podcast Taping Courtney Geilenfeldt (University Heights Women’s Walk Cookbook Club), Mimi Phung (North County Vietnamese Book Club) and Enid Sherman Moderator: Julia Dixon Evans, KPBS Arts & Culture Reporter and Host, <i>The Finest</i> podcast	KNAUSS CENTER FOR BUSINESS EDUCATION 114/116, NEXUS THEATRE PANEL DISCUSSION F “Corporate Reckoning” Author: Sarah Federman, PhD, USD Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies Interlocutor: Ron Niezen, PhD Political Science & International Relations Book Sales & Signing: USD Torero Store
*TICKETED SESSION				*TICKETED SESSION	

ADVENTURES AWAIT

Growing healthy kids is an adventure. KPBS is here to help.

Get started!
kpbs.org/families



kpbs
families

KPBS SAN DIEGO BOOK FESTIVAL 2026 SCHEDULE

AUTHOR BREAKOUT SESSIONS VI - 3:30PM - 4:15PM

Book signings will be approximately 15 minutes after the author's session at the bookstore booth listed. Schedule is subject to change.

KIPJ THEATRE PANEL DISCUSSION A Headliner: "Love is Real with Chuck Tingle"* Chuck Tingle, "Fabulous Bodies" Moderator: Beth Accomando, KPBS Arts & Culture Reporter Book Sales & Signing: #7 Mysterious Galaxy	MOTHER ROSALIE HILL HALL 116, WARREN AUDITORIUM PANEL DISCUSSION B "Dead or Alive Thrillers" Genre: Mystery/Crime Erica Hendry, "Let's Not Go Overboard" T. Jefferson Parker, "Wild Instinct" Lev AC Rosen, "The Disaster Gay Detective Agency" Moderator: Curtis Ippolito, author Book Sales & Signing: #2 Roseville Books	KIPJ SECTION A & B PANEL DISCUSSION C "Witches, Waterfalls and Thin Ice" Genre: Middle Grade Fantasy Julie Abe, "The Magic Library of Waterfall Way" Sumayyah Beck, "Airrelle of the Maroon Witches" Jessica Kim, "On Thin Ice" Moderator: Sarah Faxon, author Book Sales & Signing: #4 Camino Books: For the Road Ahead	KIPJ SECTION C & D PANEL DISCUSSION D "Long Shadows of Salem" Ben Wickey, "More Weight" Pop History/Illustrated Nonfiction Moderator: Randy Dotinga, freelance writer Book Sales & Signing: #6 The Library Shop	MANCHESTER HALL - AUDITORIUM PANEL DISCUSSION E "Making Non-Fiction KidLit Fun!" Special Session Pam Fong, "The Clock" Georgeanne Irvine, director of publishing and historical affairs for San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance, has written 30 children's books about animals and conservation Nikkolas Smith, "The History of We" Moderator: Virginia Loh-Hagan, educator, Executive Director for SDSU AANHPI Affairs & APIDA Center and author of over 450 books for children Book Sales & Signing: La Buqueria Books (Storytime Square)	KNAUSS CENTER FOR BUSINESS EDUCATION 114/116, NEXUS THEATRE PANEL DISCUSSION F "Will Rogers Storyteller" Author: Dennis Clausen, PhD, USD English Introduction: Ron Kaufmann, PhD, Associate Dean, USD College of Arts and Sciences Book Sales & Signing: USD Torero Store
*TICKETED SESSION					

PLEASE NOTE: Booksellers will remain open until 5PM. The last sessions end at 4:15PM with book signings at designated bookseller booths from 4:30PM - 5PM

NEWBRIDGE SCHOOL MAIN STAGE

EMCEE: **RAMEL WALLACE**

10:00AM - 10:20AM	Welcome - Ramel J. Wallace Opening Remarks - Travis Tamasese, KPBS Chief of Staff Welcome and Land Acknowledgement - Noelle Norton, PhD, Dean, College of Arts & Sciences, University of San Diego One Book, One San Diego Announcement - Travis Tamasese
10:20AM - 10:50AM	KPBS Sun Drenched Sounds #1 - Nicole Hernandez
11:15AM - 11:45AM	America250 - Write Out Loud featuring Emily Dickinson Performed by Rhianna Basore
12:15PM - 12:45PM	First Peoples of Southern California before 1775
1:00PM - 1:30PM	KPBS Sun Drenched Sounds #2 - Stanton Street Duo
1:40PM - 1:45PM	Remarks - Misty Jones, Director, San Diego Public Library
1:45PM - 2:15PM	"Bordergrams: A Quest for the Queen" - Greg Karber, Daniel Donohue, Dani Messerschmidt, and Amin Osman
2:30PM - 3:00PM	San Diego Poetry Annual featuring Katie Manning, Michael Klam, Blas Falconer, and Ana Carrete
3:30PM - 4:00PM	KPBS Sun Drenched Sounds #3 - Hana Fleur
4:00PM	Closing Remarks - Ramel J. Wallace



Experience San Diego's vibrant music scene through three live outdoor performances from local artists brought to you by KPBS' Sun Drenched Sounds live music series.

BLUE SHIELD OF CALIFORNIA PROMISE YOUTH READING STAGE

EMCEE: **WORDS ALIVE**

10:30AM - 10:55AM	"Laggie and Grillo: An Unlikely Friendship" Performance Book Sales and Signing at the Phyllis Schwartz booth
11:05AM - 11:25AM	Story time: Georgeanne Irvine, San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance Press, and Dr. Zoolittle! Book Sales and Signing at the San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance Press booth
11:35AM - 11:45 AM	Story time: Salina Yoon, "Kat & Mouse: Let's Have a Sleepover!" Book Sales and Signing - La Buqueria Books
11:55AM - 12:10PM	Story time: Andy Harkness, "Find the Sun" Book Sales and Signing - La Buqueria Books
12:20PM - 12:35PM	Story time: Nikkolas Smith, "The History of We" Book Sales and Signing - La Buqueria Books
12:35PM - 1:10PM	Break
1:10PM - 1:30PM	Draw with Illustrator, Patrick Ballesteros - "What Shape Are You?"
1:35PM - 1:50PM	Story time: Minh Lê, "Miles Ahead" Book Sales and Signing - La Buqueria Books
2:00PM - 2:15PM	Story time: Zohreh Ghahremani and Susie Ghahremani, "Celebrate Nowruz!: A Persian New Year Holiday to Honor Spring" Book Sales and Signing - La Buqueria Books
2:25PM - 2:40PM	Story time: Raissa Figueroa, "Small-Girl Zora and the Shower of Stories: A Tall Tale Based on the Life and Work of Zora Neale Hurston" Book Sales and Signing - La Buqueria Books
2:50PM - 3:05PM	Story time: Shugri Salh, "Suuban's First Day: A First Day of Herding Story" Book Sales and Signing - La Buqueria Books
3:15PM - 3:30PM	Story time: Deborah Underwood, "The Fairy Tale Fixers" Book Sales and Signing - La Buqueria Books
3:40PM - 3:55PM	Story time: One Book, One San Diego 2026 Kids Selection Reading by Words Alive

MEET PBS KIDS FRIENDS!

CLIFFORD - 10:00AM - 12:00PM

DANIEL TIGER - 12:00PM - 2:00PM

ARTHUR - 2:00PM - 4:00PM



COSTUME CHARACTER MEET-AND-GREETs ARE SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY



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It's told every day by the families who trust us and the alumni who thrive beyond our classrooms. Real Voices. Real Experiences. Real Results.

I am on cloud 9 today! I just got my son's high school placement scores for English and Math. He placed at grade level for both subjects! My kid, who the district told me had an IQ of 82 and could not recognize all the letters of the alphabet at the beginning of 2nd grade, is now testing at grade level! This is beyond my wildest dreams! I don't know how you did it ... truly incredible! Thank you so much for all the love you have poured into my kids!

—Parent of a NewBridge 2026 Graduate

The staff tailored their approach to ensure that when I went to high school, I would be successful. I can say that without NewBridge, I wouldn't be in the position I am in today. I'm a business owner in the San Francisco Bay area. I thank NewBridge and their tailored development for getting me to this place in my life.

—Bobby P., NewBridge Alum

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Writers' Block: Authors Exhibitors

All Author Exhibitors

(alpha order by last name):

Matt Abraham, *Petty, Greedy, and Evil* (#1)

Leah Aguirre, *Is This Really Love?* and co-author of *The Girl's Guide to Relationships, Sexuality, and Consent* (#2)

Stephanie Aleman, *Bootsie the Senior Dog* (#11)

Marie Andreas, *Hunter* (#3)

Nicolette Andrews, *Dragon's Temptation* (#32)

Maribel Angulo, *Peek-A-Photo: Where's My Family?* (#4)

Nydia Armendia-Sanchez, *Frida Kahlo's Flower Crown / Frida Kahlo y su corona de Flores* (#37)

Mark Bacon, *The Woke and the Dead* (#4)

Elissa Barber, *Grouchy Bear's Adventure - Twice the Fun* (#8)

Scott T. Barnes, *Chaos Woods* (#5)

Ciara Blume, *The Magpie Oracle of Sense and Serendipity* (#6)

Gregg Brandalise, *The Death Of Us All* (#7)

Elene Bratton, *Jamie's Joy Honoring Grief, Creating Legacy & Celebrating Life* (#5)

Barbara Burton, *A Walk Down Rushville* (#8)

Anna Bushi, *Curse of the River* (#9)

Stephanie Cadiero, *The Value of Broken Things* (#9)

Ralph Cates, *The Renaissance of Hope: Creating the Green New Deal* (#28)

Kiersten Dunbar Chace, *She Who Holds the Wind* (#16)

Tiffany Ciccone, *Anxious with Jesus: A Memoir from the Messy Intersection of Faith and Mental Illness* (#10)

Jesus Cortes, *God's GPS* (#11)

Derek Cressman, *Virtuality* (#12)

Roshonda Cureton, *Dark Psychology Secrets Revealed* (#12)

Fifi Curtis, *Hope Is All I Had: The Memoir of A Pedro Pan Girl* (#13)

Herbert De Leon, *Alamat Book Series* (#13)

Lianne Downey, *Perception: A Novel* (#15)

Travis Easter, *T.V. Holiday's Vendetta: Legend of The Iron Warrior Vol. 3* (#14)

Emporium of Wondrous Tomes: Stephen Prendergast, H.D. Scott (#44)

The Escondido Writers Group: Karen Black, Mike Casper, Krystina Coles, Tanya Ross (#50)

Carly Feldman, *The Rememberer* (#17)

Janessa Ferreira, *A Gift for Santa Claus: A Christmas Tradition* (#17)

Sarah Flocken, *Be Well* (#18)

Matthew Guzman, *Rieden Reece and the Dark Shadow* (#18)

Haaah™, *Connect with Words: Word Search Meets Journaling Book Series* (#43)

Dr. David Q. Hall, *Death Most Unholy* (#23)

Jill G. Hall, *On a Sundown Sea: A Novel of Madame Tingley and the Origins of Lomaland* (#40)

Theresa Halvorsen, *Dreams Under Glass* (#3)

Megan Haskell, *Quenched in Secrets* (#32)

Molly Heck, *Superhero is a Verb* (#38)

Charlena Henderson, *Why Are You Still Stuck On It, On Them?* (#19)

Regina Hiremath, *Lessons on the Way to Onesome* (#41)

Patrick Hirsch, *PRIMED* (#20)

Horror Writers Association San Diego (#35)

Lucy Jensen, *Granny's Magic Tree* (#42)

Jessica Joelson, *Forest Friends - The Last Tree* (#20)

Kyle Kaminski, *The Resistants: Bounty Hunter Blitz* (#16)

Katelynsam, *The Fated* (#14)

Veena Katikineni, *Dosa Day* (#21)

Brendan Kelly, *The Echo of Silence* (#22)

Kristin Kelly, *Uma's Head* (#21)

S. Kensington, *Just Another Girl on the Road* (#52)

Brittany Larsen, *Fa-La La-La Land* (#6)

Richard Lederer, *American History for Everyone* (#45)

Dennis Macaraeg, *At First Bloom* (#22)

Scott Mallory, *Snapshots and Memories* (#25)

Ada M. Marin, M.D., *Going From No and Frowning to Yes and Smiling: How 'Nellie Minus' Became 'Nellie Plus'* (#46)

Erik Martin, *The Case of the Niceferatu* (#25)

Peter McBride, *Dropping In on the Waves of Life - Something's Brewin'!* (#23)

Natasha Minier-Robinson, *My Heart Is Home* (#26)

Mint in Box Press (#34)

Simone Nobili, *Lizard Life* (#26)

Geraldine O'Sullivan, *The Middle School Survival Guide for Girls: The Inside Scoop on Dealing with School, Friends, Emotions, and Other Big, Big Changes* and co-author of *The Girl's Guide to Relationships, Sexuality, and Consent* (#2)

Partners in Crime - San Diego Chapter of Sisters in Crime (#29)

S. Pascarella, *Lore of Tir Nan Og* (#51)

Kendra Pearce, *Wolf of Fury* (#27)

Kate Pelczar, *Chills in the Desert* (#27)

Kenneth Pinckney, *The Hills We Climb, Love it Hate it Embrace, Life Journey* (#49)

John Pitner and illustrator, *Tony Washington, The Agitators: A Reminiscence* (#47)

Madi Power, *Tucks Green Heart: Navigating with Navi* (#28)

Deborah Rudell, *Grit & Grace: The Transformation of a Ship & a Soul* (#15)

William Rundle, *The Eternal Life of God and You* (#10)

Isaac Salcido, *The Day I Became a Cholo* (#39)

Julie Seyler, *Gluten For Punishment: Just Desserts for the Heartbroken, Lovesick, and Jilted* (#30)

Malik Sharif Sickstein, *I Grab The Mic* (#30)

Susie Kara Slater, *Urban Trails: San Diego* (#24)

Rita Joiner Soza, *Straight Out of Barrio Hollywood: The Adventures of Telemundo Co-founder Frank H. Cruz* (#24)

Kendall Stark, *Silent Soldiers* (#31)

Bethel Swift, *Artist & Author* (#33)

Maria Tillmanns, *Pixie, the Philosopher's Cat* (#19)

Dr. Mary Travelbest, *5 Steps to Solo Travel, Part C: Adventuring Alone, A Woman's Guide to Confidence, Courage, and AI on the Road* (#7)

Taryn Tyler, *Heart Splatters* (#33)

Jasmine Walls, *The Traitor & The Wretch* (#31)

Jillian Wilson, *Kaia and her Magical Kite* (#48)

Diane Wintz, MD FACS, *Sassafras Street: Human Connection through the Eyes of Caregivers* and Kelly Wright, MSN (#39)

K. Wright, *A Heart of Ice, A Heart of Stone* (#36)

WiFi info

University of San Diego's open and free wireless network, **usdguest**, is available across campus for guests.

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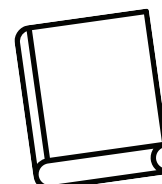


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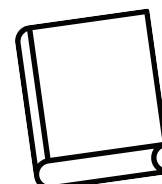


Passport stamps

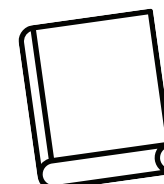
Visit the booths below and ask for a stamp (please be patient, as they may be busy!). Once you collect all 12 stamps, show your completed passport at the Passport Redemption booth (located in the Bookseller area, #5 on map) to enter the Book Festival opportunity drawing. Multiple fantastic prizes are available and you need not be present to win. Have fun!



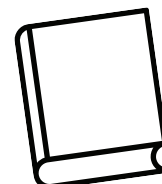
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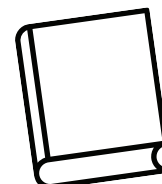
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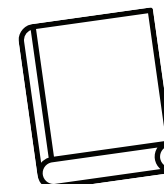
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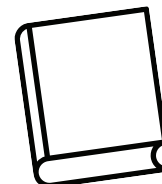
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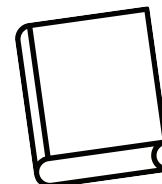
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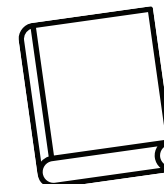
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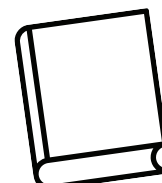
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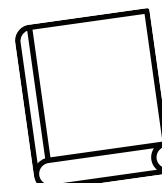
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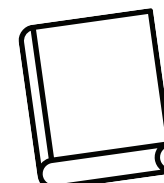
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