



SAN DIEGO

BOOK FESTIVAL

PRESENTED BY THE **UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO**

Saturday, August 23, 2025

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

University of San Diego Campus

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®

kpbs

SAN DIEGO BOOK FESTIVAL

PRESENTED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO

Author Panel and Signing Tips:

- For ticketed panel sessions, no printed or digital ticket is required. Please arrive early to secure your seat.
- For guests without reservations for ticketed panel sessions, a standby line and/or overflow seating (in a different room than the panel) may be available.
- 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.



Larry Charles
Comedy Samurai
10:35 a.m. - 11:20 a.m.
KIPJ Theatre



Sarah Ahn
Umma: A Korean Mom's Kitchen Wisdom and 100 Family Recipes
11:40 a.m. - 12:25 p.m.
KIPJ Theatre



Ziggy Marley
Pajammin'
12:45 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.
Main Stage



Stacey Abrams
Coded Justice
1:50 p.m. - 2:35 p.m.
Shiley Theatre

Outdoor Spaces



West Entrance Information Booth

- Programs
- First Aid/EMT
- Lost and Found

Exhibitors

San Diego Council on Literacy (#4)
LoveLitCon (#5)
Books for Ages Bookmobile (#6)
Friends of the San Diego Public Library (#7)
San Diego Public Library (#8)
Jane Austen Society of North America, San Diego (#9)
Printers Row Publishing Group (#10)



East Entrance Information Booth

- Programs
- Lost and Found

1

Writers' Block

- Author Exhibitor Check-In
- See page 10 author listings*

2

Paperback Park Independent Booksellers

Warwick's (#1)
Meet Cute Romance Bookshop (#2)
The Library Shop (#3)
Libélula Books & Co (#4)
USD Torero Bookstore (#5)
Camino Books: For the Road Ahead (#16)
The Book Catapult (#17)
La Playa Books (#18)
Mysterious Galaxy (#19)
UC San Diego Bookstore (#20)

2

Paperback Park (cont.) Exhibitors

University of San Diego College of Arts and Sciences and USD Humanities Center (#6)
University of San Diego Admissions Office (#7)
University of San Diego School of Leadership and Education Sciences (#8)
University of San Diego Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies (#9)
University of San Diego School of Law (#10)
Broadway San Diego (#11)
San Diego Poetry Annual (#12)
San Diego State University Department of English and Comparative Literature (#13)
California Retired Teachers Association (#14)
Coronado Public Library (#15)
Public Matters (#21)
One Book, One San Diego (#22)
Bona Fide Bookworm (#23)
Write Out Loud (#24)

3

Main Stage

See page 7 for schedule

4

Storytime Square

- Youth Stage
- See page 7 for schedule*

Exhibitors

Joyride Bookshop (#1)
Joyride Author Signing (#2)
Parent Institute for Quality Education (#3)
AuthorHouse Kids (#4)
San Diego Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators (#5)
San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance Press (#6)
Words Alive (#7)
San Diego County Library (#8)
The Learning Choice Academy (#9)
Habbi Habbi Bilingual Books & Toys (#10)
Children's Museum of Discovery (#11)
KPBS (#12)

5

Food Trucks



Shuttle Info

Free Tram Service

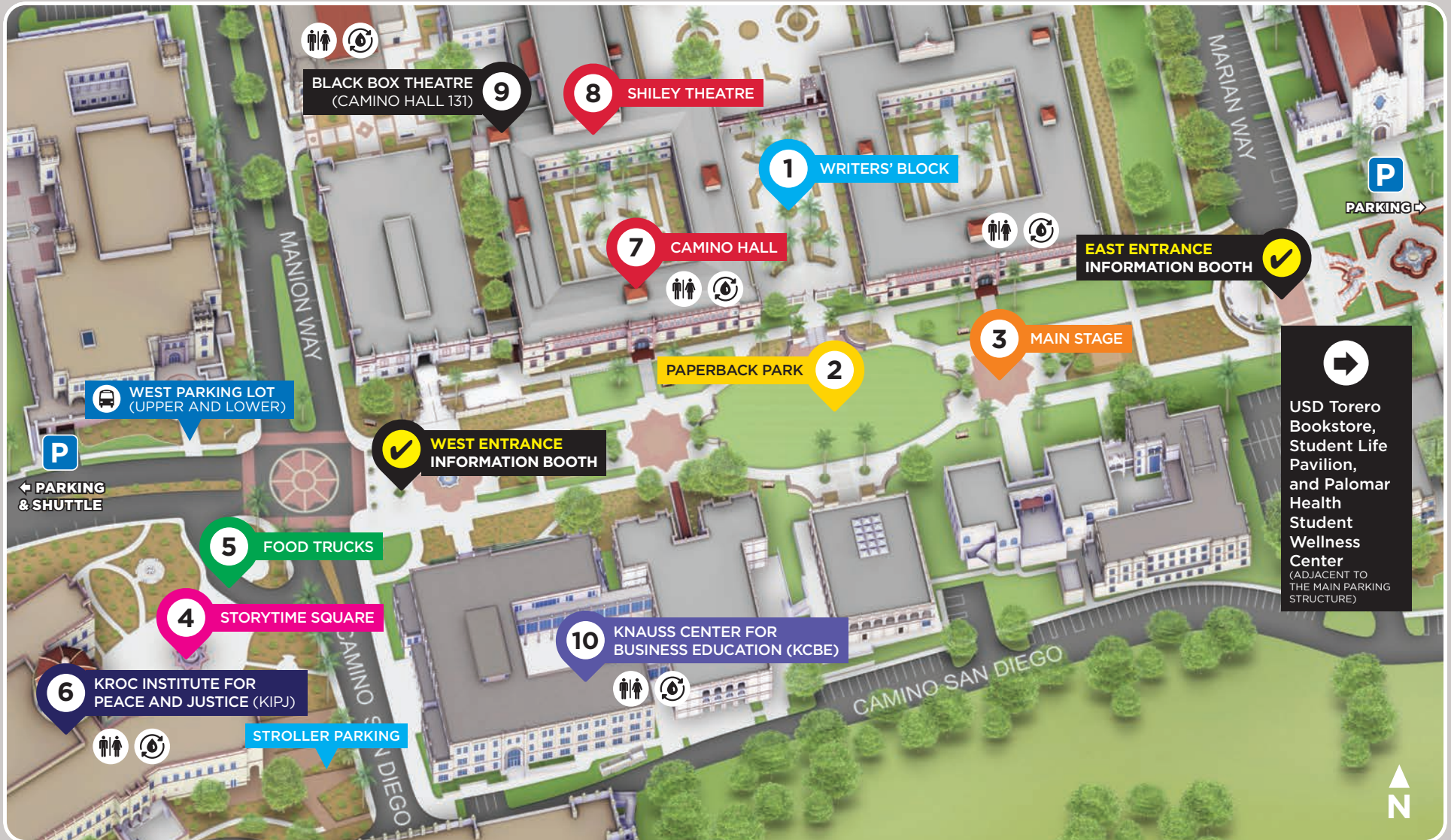
A free tram will loop continuously from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. between both levels of the West Parking Lot and Copley Circle (west event entrance).



Restroom



Water



Indoor Spaces

- 6** **Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice (KIPJ)**
 - Theatre
 - KIPJ Sections A-G

- 7** **Camino Hall**

- 8** **Shiley Theatre**
(Camino Hall)

- 9** **Black Box Theatre**
(Camino Hall 131)

- 10** **Knauss Center for Business Education (KCBE)**
 - Nexus Theatre

KPBS SAN DIEGO BOOK FESTIVAL 2025 SCHEDULE

FESTIVAL OPENING | 10 AM - 10:15 AM | OPENING REMARKS | MAIN STAGE

Author Breakout Sessions I

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

10:35AM -
11:20AM

KIPJ THEATRE*
PANEL DISCUSSION A

Headliner: Larry Charles, *Comedy Samurai*
Moderator: Andrew Bracken, Producer/Host of *KPBS Roundtable*
Book Sales & Signing: The Library Shop
***Overflow location:** KIPJ Section A

TICKETED SESSION

KIPJ SECTION B
PANEL DISCUSSION B

BUILDING HOPE ON TRAUMATIC TERRAIN IN SCI-FI & FANTASY
Lessons in Magic and Disaster, Charlie Jane Anders
Automatic Noodle, Annalee Newitz
The Memory of the Ogisi, Moses Ose Utomi
Moderator: Diana Leong, Assistant Professor of English & Comparative Literature, SDSU
Book Sales & Signing: Mysterious Galaxy
**Moses Ose Utomi will sign books after the 11:40 a.m. - 12:25 p.m. session at the UC San Diego Bookstore booth.*

KIPJ SECTION C
PANEL DISCUSSION C

FINDING YOUR VOICE & TAKING A STAND IN CHILDREN'S LIT
Spark, Chris Baron
The Fire, The Water & Maudie McGinn, Sally Pla
Speechless, Aron Nels Steinke
Moderator: Virginia Loh-Hagan, Executive Director for AANHPI Affairs & APIDA Center, SDSU
Book Sales & Signing: Warwick's

KIPJ SECTION D
PANEL DISCUSSION D

THE COMPANY WE KEEP: FRIENDSHIP IN FICTION
The Payback, Kashana Cauley
Kate & Frida, Kim Fay
The Great Mann, Kyra Davis Lurie
Moderator: Cassandra Schaeg, Host of KPBS Series *Fresh Glass*
Book Sales & Signing: La Playa Books

KIPJ Sections E/F
PANEL DISCUSSION E

A SPARK INTO A FLAME: WIELDING MEMOIR FOR THE GREATER GOOD
Burnt: A Memoir of Fighting Fire, Clare Frank
Moderator: Scott Rodd, KPBS Investigative Reporter
Book Sales & Signing: The Book Catapult

Knauss Center for Business Education 114/116, Nexus Theatre

PANEL DISCUSSION F
NEW WORK IN THEOLOGY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES
Reproductive Justice and the Catholic Church: Advancing Pragmatic Solidarity with Pregnant Women and Reproduction and the Common Good: Global Perspectives from the Catholic Tradition, Emily Reimer-Barry
Eco-theology and Love: The Converging Poetics of Sohrab Sepehri and James Baldwin, Bahar Davary
Moderator: Noelle Norton, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, USD
Book Sales & Signing: USD Torero Bookstore table outside of Nexus Theatre

20% OFF

Enjoy 20% off at select USD on-campus dining: Smart Market, Pavilion Dining, Tu Mercado, and Crush Juice Co.*

*Offer valid only at these locations during the 2025 KPBS San Diego Book Festival on Saturday, Aug. 23, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., while supplies last.

Photo statement

By entering and participating in this event, you acknowledge that photography and/or videography may occur. Your presence constitutes your consent to being photographed or filmed, and to the use of those images or recordings for advertising and promotional materials for this event. If you do not wish to be photographed or filmed, please inform the event organizers or photographers. Thank you.

KPBS SAN DIEGO BOOK FESTIVAL 2025 SCHEDULE

Author Breakout Sessions II

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

<p>11:40AM - 12:25PM</p>	<p>KIPJ THEATRE* PANEL DISCUSSION A</p> <p>Headliner: Sarah Ahn, <i>Umma: A Korean Mom's Kitchen Wisdom and 100 Family Recipes</i></p> <p>Moderator: Lee Ann Kim, Former Journalist, Founder of SD Asian Film Festival</p> <p>Book Sales & Signing: The Book Catapult</p> <p>*Overflow location: KIPJ Section A</p> <p>TICKETED SESSION</p>	<p>KIPJ SECTION B PANEL DISCUSSION B</p> <p>WHEN SCIENCE & MAGIC ENTWINE IN YA FANTASY</p> <p>Coffeeshop in an Alternate Universe, C.B Lee</p> <p>His Mortal Demise, Vanessa Le</p> <p>Moderator: Phillip A. Leavenworth, MFA Fiction, Filmmaker, SDSU</p> <p>Book Sales & Signing: Meet Cute Bookstore</p>	<p>KIPJ SECTION C PANEL DISCUSSION C</p> <p>THE CULT(URE) OF SURF</p> <p>Windansea, Christopher Ahrens</p> <p>Kelly Slater: A Life of Waves, Todd Glaser</p> <p>Surfer Stories, Claudia Leenthal</p> <p>Moderator: Scott Bass, Surf Reporter</p> <p>Book Sales & Signing: Camino Books: For the Road Ahead</p>	<p>KIPJ SECTION D PANEL DISCUSSION D</p> <p>FIERCE HEROINES IN HISTORY</p> <p>Rebel Empresses, Nancy Goldstone</p> <p>Eleanore of Avignon, Elizabeth DeLozier</p> <p>Moderator: Randy Dotinga, Freelance Writer</p> <p>Book Sales & Signing: La Playa Books</p>	<p>KIPJ SECTIONS E/F PANEL DISCUSSION E</p> <p>Sandra Alcosser, Director & Founder SDSU MFA Program, Editor-in-Chief, Poetry International, Montana's First Poet Laureate, Author</p> <p>Blas Falconer, PhD., SDSU MFA Professor, Author, Editor-in-Chief Poetry International Online</p> <p>Adam O. Davis, Author, Co-Creator of podcast Poetry Goes to the Movies, English Literature teacher at The Bishop's School</p> <p>Meagan Marshall, PhD., SDSU Professor, Managing Editor of Poetry International & PI Online, Poet, Performer</p> <p>Poetry International: Artrice Bennett, SDSU Jon Tobias, SDSU Sam Yaziji, SDSU</p> <p>Location: KIPJ Sections E/F</p>	<p>CAMINO HALL 131, BLACK BOX THEATRE PANEL DISCUSSION F</p> <p>THE FINEST PODCAST LIVE: FACT, FICTION AND FANTASY</p> <p>Alternative Facts, Emily Greenberg</p> <p>The Memory of the Ogisi, Moses Ose Utomi</p> <p>Moderator: Julia Dixon Evans, KPBS Arts Reporter and Host, The Finest Podcast</p> <p>Book Sales & Signing: UC San Diego Bookstore</p> <p>TICKETED SESSION</p>	<p>KNAUSS CENTER FOR BUSINESS EDUCATION 114/116, NEXUS THEATRE PANEL DISCUSSION G</p> <p>COMMUNITY AND COMMUNICATION</p> <p>Applied Theatre and Gender Justice: Imagination, Play, Movement, Evelyn Diaz Cruz</p> <p>Communication in Action, Jonathan Bowman</p> <p>Moderator: Brian Clack, Professor of Philosophy and A. Vassiliadis Distinguished Director of the Humanities Center, USD</p> <p>Book Sales & Signing: USD Torero Bookstore table outside of Nexus Theatre</p>
<p>12:45PM - 1:15PM</p>	<p>MAIN STAGE PAJAMMIN', ZIGGY MARLEY</p> <p>Conversation with Mychal Threets, PBS Resident Librarian</p> <p>Book Sales & Signing: Camino Books: For the Road Ahead</p>						
<p>1:15PM - 1:30PM</p>	<p>One Book ONE SAN DIEGO</p> <p>MAIN STAGE ONE BOOK, ONE SAN DIEGO ANNOUNCEMENT</p>						

KPBS SAN DIEGO BOOK FESTIVAL 2025 SCHEDULE

Author Breakout Sessions III

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

1:50PM - 2:35PM	SHILEY THEATRE PANEL DISCUSSION A Headliner: Stacey Abrams, Coded Justice Moderator: Jade Hindmon, Host of <i>KPBS Midday Edition</i> Book Sales: La Playa Books Opening by US Bank	KIPJ SECTION B PANEL DISCUSSION B SWIPING WRITE Gold Coast Dilemma , Nana Malone Julia Song is Undateable , Susan Lee* On Her Terms , Amy Spalding Moderator: Lauren Marie Fleming, Author of <i>Because Fat Girl</i> Book Sales & Signing: Meet Cute Bookstore **Julia Song is Undateable** is not available until October 25. Meet Cute Bookstore will host Susan for an author signing of her book, "The Romance Rivalry."	KIPJ SECTION C PANEL DISCUSSION C COMICS FOR KIDDOS: WHEN A PICTURE IS WORTH 25-50K WORDS All the Hulk Feels , Dan Santat Sib Squad , Steve Breen Moderator: Alonso Nuñez, Owner of Little Fish Comic Book Studio Book Sales & Signing: The Library Shop	KIPJ Section D PANEL DISCUSSION D THIS MESSAGE WILL SELF-DESTRUCT: WORDS AS WEAPONS IN AMERICA Stories Are Weapons , Annalee Newitz Moderator: Scott Lewis, Editor in Chief, Voice of San Diego, and Contributor, KPBS Public Matters Book Sales & Signing: UC San Diego Bookstore	KNAUSS CENTER FOR BUSINESS EDUCATION 114/116, NEXUS THEATRE PANEL DISCUSSION E FILM AND FOOD IN SPANISH LIFE AND CULTURE Volatile Whiteness: Race, Cinema, and Europeanization in Spain , Martin Repinecz Food Studies en español. Investigación actual en gastronomía y comunicación , Rebecca Ingram Moderator: Amanda Petersen, Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies, College of Arts and Sciences, USD Book Sales & Signing: USD Torero Bookstore table outside of Nexus Theatre
	TICKETED SESSION				

Author Breakout Sessions IV

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

2:55PM - 3:40PM	KIPJ THEATRE* PANEL DISCUSSION A Headliner: Karen Hao, <i>The Empire of AI (VIRTUAL)</i> Moderator: Jared Whitlock, Features Editor, Endpoints News Book Sales: UC San Diego Bookstore *Overflow location: KIPJ Section A	KIPJ SECTION B PANEL DISCUSSION B MELDING THE REAL AND UNREAL IN ROMANCE Love at First Sighting , Mallory Marlow If Not For My Baby , Kate Golden Alchemy and a Cup of Tea , Rebecca Thorne Moderator: William A. Nericcio, PhD., Director of MALAS program, Director & Editor of SDSU Press, Professor, Author Book Sales & Signing: Mysterious Galaxy	KIPJ SECTION C PANEL DISCUSSION C COMING OF AGE: YOUNG LOVE & HIGH STAKES Up in Smoke , Nick Brooks A Sharp Endless Need , Mac Crane Moderator: Parker Edison, Host and Co-creator, The Parker Edison Project, KPBS Book Sales & Signing: The Book Catapult	KIPJ Section D PANEL DISCUSSION D KILLER CONVERSATION: THE ART OF THE CRIME Odyssey's End , Matt Coyle Inside Threat , Matthew Quirk Moderator: Lawrence K. Jackson, KPBS San Diego News Now Producer/Host Book Sales & Signing: Warwick's	KNAUSS CENTER FOR BUSINESS EDUCATION 114/116, NEXUS THEATRE PANEL DISCUSSION E Indirect Light , Malachi Black Introduction by: Michael Kelly, Professor of Philosophy, USD Book Sales & Signing: USD Torero Bookstore table outside of Nexus Theatre

Main Stage Performances Emcee: Ramel Wallace, Educator, Poet and Host of "CreativeMornings, San Diego"	
10:00AM - 10:15AM	OPENING REMARKS & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT Deanna Mackey, General Manager, KPBS Noelle Norton, Dean, College of Arts & Sciences, USD
10:15AM - 11:15AM	Young Lions Jazz Conservatory
11:30AM - 12:00PM	"A Way With Words, Live!" Martha Barnett and Grant Barrett Book Sales & Signing: Warwick's
12:15PM - 12:30PM	Write Out Loud: "NO LEFT TURNS" by Michael Gartner
12:45PM - 1:15PM	Headliner: Ziggy Marley, <i>Pajammin'</i> Conversation with Mychal Threats, PBS Resident Librarian Book Sales & Signing: Camino Books: For the Road Ahead
1:15PM - 1:30PM	One Book, One San Diego Announcement
1:45PM - 2:15PM	Tiny Desk Performance: Julianna Zachariou, Tiny Desk Contest contestant
2:30PM - 3:00PM	Poetry: San Diego Poet Laureate, Paola Capó-García, Jason Perez & Karla Cordero Book Sales & Signing: Libélula Books & Co.
3:15PM - 3:45PM	Cooking Demo: The Great American Recipe Contestant, Waigal Safi Moderated by Julia Dixon Evans, Arts Reporter/Host, "The Finest" Book Sales & Signing: Libélula Books & Co.
3:45PM	Closing Remarks

Youth Stage Author Story Times and Performances Emcee: Words Alive! Storytime Square	
10:30AM - 10:50AM	Opera4Kids
11:00AM - 11:20AM	Story time: Georgeanne Irvine, San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance Press Book Sales & Signing: San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance Press
11:30AM - 11:50PM	Story time: María Dolores Águila - Barrio Rising Book Sales & Signing: Libélula Books & Co.
12:00PM - 12:20PM	Center for World Music: Nomsa Burkhardt, South African-born storyteller, artist, and cultural educator performing "Connecting Our Worlds Through Stories"
1:40PM - 2:00PM	Story time: Susie Ghahremani, Rosemary Long Ears & Zohreh Ghahremani, <i>Memory Garden</i> Book Sales & Signing: Joyride Bookshop
2:10PM - 2:30PM	Story time: Devin Elle Kurtz, <i>Bakery Dragon</i> Book Sales & Signing: Joyride Bookshop
2:40PM - 3:00PM	Story time: Minh Lê, <i>Built to Last</i> Book Sales & Signing: Joyride Bookshop
3:10PM - 3:30PM	Story time: Andrea Zuill, <i>Bob the Vampire Snail</i> Book Sales & Signing: Joyride Bookshop
3:40PM - 4:00PM	Story time: 2025 One Book, One San Diego Kids Selection
PBS Kids Characters (at KPBS Booth in Storytime Square)	
10:00AM - 12:00PM	Clifford the Big Red Dog
12:00PM - 2:00PM	Cat in the Hat
2:00PM - 4:00PM	Curious George



*Outdoor programming on stages does not require a ticket.

Writers' Block: Authors Exhibitors

Laura Akers (#10)
Nicolette Andrews (#11)
Raynette Andrewsen (#10)
Elissa Barber (#12)
Loni Belle (#12)
Veranice Berry (#13)
S.G. Blaise (#8)
Gregg Brandalise (#21)
Chancellor Brown (#9)
Marya Brunson (#3)
Anna Bushi (#13)
Camille Cabrera (#22)
Bryan Cantrell (#23)
Alyssa Charpentier (#24)
Lisa Cortez (#25)
Erica Curtis (#26)
Timothy Dahms (#27)
Jon Deam (#14)
Michael Digby (#24)
Lianne Downey (#3)
Rocio Dresser (#28)
Ama Eisa (#25)
Jim Foley (#15)
Maria Garcia (#2)
Jennifer Gasner (#29)
Phil Graubart (#30)
Anthony Green (#28)
S.J. Greene (#22)
Bonnie Hardy (#21)
MK Hart (#31)

Elisabeth Hartig Lentulo and Catherine
Allen-Walters (#31)
Megan Haskell (#11)
Horror Writers Association (HWA),
San Diego Chapter (#16)
Jacob Hubbard (#32)
Amir Issaa (#33)
Rita Joiner Soza & Frank H. Cruz (#33)
Joel D. Joseph (#32)
Catherine Kimbril (#34)
Michael Kinnamon (#30)
Susan Krechel (#17)
Mandy Krogh (#18)
Michael Krogh (#18)
Richard Lederer (#35)
John Masiulionis (#19)
Tim Miller (#20)
Gaby Moreno (#36)
Melissa Moreno (#36)
Phillip Mottaz (#35)
Michelle Nott (#37)
Phil Oakley (#38)
Lee Obsidian (#38)
William OuYang (#39)
Michele Palmer (#7)
Bina M Patel (#39)
Ryder Phoenix (#40)
Ayan Ramanathan (#37)
David Reed (#41)
Stacey Roberts (#42)

Heather Ryan (#42)
Shugri Salh (#41)
San Diego Writers, Ink, A Year in Ink (#6)
Richard Sargent (#43)
Beverly Schmitt (#44)
H.D. Scott (#23)
Emily Silva Hockstra (#4)
Susan Stapczynski (#43)
Lisa Summerour (#5)
Bethel Swift (#29)
Susan Taylor (#45)
Rob Tonkin (#45)
Carl Vonderau (#15)
Gary Wallace (#20)
Jasmine Walls (#27)
Molly Wauson (#44)
Tristana Webster (#1)
Risa Williams (#26)
Emma and Lauren Wilson (#34)
Sierra Zounes (#40)

Notes:



Having fun isn't hard
when you've got a
library card!

Many thanks to our 2025 Festival Sponsors and Partners!

PRESENTING SPONSOR



PREMIER SPONSOR



ENDORISING SPONSORS



CONTRIBUTING SPONSORS

