

11TH ANNUAL



KANSAS BOOK FESTIVAL

September 24, 2022 | Washburn University, Topeka

Free admission and open to the general public

Author Presentations • Book Signings • Book Sales
Children's Activities • Entertainment • Food Trucks

www.kansasbookfestival.com



WASHBURN
UNIVERSITY
Mabee Library

2022 KANSAS BOOK FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

All presentations are free and open to the public, occurring in the Mabee Library at Washburn University or in the Memorial Union. Books can be purchased all day. Donations welcome.

30 Exhibitors in Outdoor Tents

These vendors and others are on the lawn in front of the Washburn Memorial Union:

- Regional publishers such as University Press of Kansas or Meadowlark Books
- Magazine publishers such as New Letters
- Nonprofits such as The Kansas Authors Club or Liberate Books Project
- Authors with new books such as Ann Anderson with Topeka memoir *Posts of a Mid-Century Kid*
- The Ichabod Store with festival merchandise and books from all featured authors

Outdoor Performances

Starting at 11, come hear music and storytelling sponsored by Security Benefit:

- 11 am—Acoustic music by The Church Ladies
- 12 pm—Children's entertainment by Kyler Carpenter and storyteller Priscilla Howe
- 1 pm—Jazz by Doug Talley & Friends
- 2 pm—Rock by Bad Astra
- 3 pm—Singer/Songwriter Elexa Dawson

Book Art Exhibitions

- Mulvane Museum—The Fine Arts of Ruth Fisher: Handmade Books & Paintings
- Mabee Library Entrance: Inside Illumination

Food Trucks

Available in the parking area between the football stadium and the performance tent.

- All beef hotdogs, chili nachos, & sandwiches at DJ's Catering
- Lemonade and flavored ice from Tropical Treats

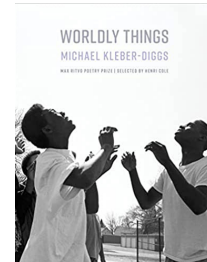


Pre-Festival Presentation

Friday, September 23

4 pm Worldly Things—Mabee Library Lounge

Poet Michael Kleber-Diggs, winner of the 2022 Hefner Heitz Kansas Book Award, shares from *Worldly Things*, which documents how America systemically fails those who call it home while also calling us to our collective potential for something better—radical kindness.



Main Festival Presentations

Saturday, September 24

9 am 2022 Kansas Notable Book Awards—Mabee Library Lounge

15 Notable Book Awards are presented to standout Kansas authors by State Librarian Ray Walling and Dr. Ted Daughety, First Gentleman of Kansas.

Seeking Peace in Turmoil—Memorial Union, Kansas Room

The author of *The Education of Corporal John Musgrave* compares his experience as a Vietnam vet with the author of *Letters to Martin*, Randal Jelks, who calls for a return to the spiritual democracy of Martin Luther King, Jr. Moderator: Washburn History Professor Rachel Goossen

Session sponsored by
Paper Plains, Lawrence, Kansas.

10 am Politics on the Prairie—Memorial Union, Kansas Room

Steve Cox (*When Sunflowers Bloomed Red*) talks with Lynda Beck Fenwick (*Prairie Bachelor*) about the impact of Populism and Socialism in Kansas, both past and present. Moderator: Kansas journalist and author Max McCoy.

Women and Patriarchy in Nonfiction and Fiction—Mabee Library, Room 300

Literary critic and memoirist Jessa Crispin (*My Three Dads*) talks with poet and fiction writer Patricia Traxler (*In the Skin*) about claiming their own perspectives, despite the restrictions of patriarchy. Moderator: Amy Sage Webb-Baza, Director of Creative Writing, Emporia State University.

Heart and Humor in Picture Books—Mabee Library, Room 300

Veteran picture book creators, Tammi Sauer (*No Bunnies Here*) and Brad Sneed (*Because I'm New*), read from a wealth of their fun, beautifully illustrated books, interacting with kids about heart and humor. Moderator: Joy Boyd, Former Elementary Librarian.

Window, Mirror, On the Wall: What Poems Speak to Us—Mabee Library, Room 303

Poets Traci Brimhall (*Come the Slumberless to the Land of Nod*) and Melissa Fite Johnson (*Green*) discuss what we learn from poems we recognize ourselves in—and from ones we don't. Moderator: Topeka Librarian Miranda Ericsson.

Picturing a Child's Perspective—Mabee Library, Room 302

Author-illustrators Daniel Miyares (*Hope at Sea*) and Grant Snider (*One Boy Watching*) discuss how they enter a child's point of view as they depict being a stowaway on a sailing ship or traveling by bus to school. Moderator: Author-illustrator Brad Sneed.

Seeing Kansas from a Distance—Mabee Library, Room 303

Two poets who lived in Kansas then moved away, look back through their poems: Lisa Hase-Jackson (*Flint and Fire*) and former Kansas Poet Laureate Denise Low (*Wing*). Moderator: Tom Averill, writer and founder of Kansas Studies Collection, Washburn University.

11 am **Native American Origins & Future—Memorial Union, Kansas Room**
Jennifer Raff (*Origin: A Genetic History of the Americas*) looks at genetic evidence for the original peopling of the Americas, while Sharice Davids, Congresswoman and Ho-Chunk member, talks about the future for Native Americans, drawing on her picture book *Sharice's Big Voice*. Moderator: Joshua Falleaf, Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Coneflower Consulting.

Politics of the Surreal—Mabee Library, Room 300

Kate McIntyre, winner of the Flannery O'Connor Fiction Prize for *Mad Prairie*, talks with Robert Long Foreman, author of the novel *Weird Pig*, about surreal fiction and current-day politics. Moderator: Kansas City Poet Stefanie Wortman.

Picture Books as a Mirror on Life—Mabee Library, Room 302

Two authors describe how their own family circumstances gave rise to stories dealing with disability (Anitra Rowe Schulte, *Dancing with Daddy*) and sibling rivalry (Brandon Todd, *Tou-Can't*). Moderator: Education Professor, Beth Dobler.

Writing and Rehabilitation—Mabee Library, Room 303

Poet Michael Kleber-Diggs (*Worldly Things*) compares notes with poet Brian Daldorph (*Words is a Powerful Thing*) about teaching poetry writing in prisons. Moderator: Melanie Burdick, English Chair at Washburn, and author of *Literacy Experiences of Formerly Incarcerated Women*.

Keynote Presentation (Memorial Union, Washburn Rooms A & B)

12 pm **DON'T TELL ME WHAT TO READ:
THREE SECRETS TO A SATISFYING READING LIFE**

K.J. Dell'Antonia, author of *The Chicken Sisters* (NYTimes Bestseller) and the recent comedic novel *In Her Boots* (acclaimed by Good Morning America), is a self-confessed bookish person with a deep love of reading. Come hear her talk about how to keep joy in your reading life.

1 pm **Murder, Mystery, and the Culpable Community—Memorial Union, Washburn Rooms A & B**

Two authors with mysteries set in different communities speak about how those communities create or solve the crime: Annie Ward (*The Lying Club*) and Brooke Beyfuss (*After We Were Stolen*). Moderator: Topeka librarian Miranda Ericsson.

Listening to the Prairie—Mabee Library, Room 300

Nonfiction writers Megan Kaminski (*Prairie Divination*) and Sara Dykman (*Bicycling with Butterflies*) describe what they hear from listening to the prairie, both flora and fauna. Moderator: Ecologist Courtney Masterson.

Picture Books and Classroom Kids—Mabee Library, Room 302

Picture book authors John Hare (*Field Trip to Volcano Island*) and Alastair Heim (*If I Ran Your School*) discuss their desire to help grade-school students keep their love of creativity. Moderator: Elementary Librarian Alice Reinert.

Harvest Time: Publishing New & Selected Poems—Mabee Library, Rm 303

Three established poets share from collections that span their careers, including early work and recent: Sidney Wade (*Deep Gossip*), Harley Elliott (*The Mercy of Distance*), and Caryn Mirriam-Goldberg (*How Time Moves*). Moderator: Former Kansas Poet Laureate Eric McHenry.

Child-Friendly and Youth Events

9 am to 4pm **Hands-on Activities hosted by Kansas Children's Discovery Center and Paper June—Out door activity tent**

9 am **Heart and Humor in Picture Books—Mabee Library, Room 300**

Picture book creators, Tammi Sauer (*No Bunnies Here*) and Brad Sneed (*Because I'm New*), read from a wealth of their fun, beautifully illustrated books, interacting with kids about heart and humor. Moderator: Joy Boyd, Former Elementary Librarian.

10 am **Kansas Kids Who Publish Books—Mabee Library, Bottom Level**

Wichita's Wyatt Shield (*Wyatt's Big Adventure with Shriners*), Washington's Kady Toole (*Izzy the Cowgirl Corgi*), and Topeka's Anna Riphahn plus composer Paul Epp (*The Timekeeper*) talk with Carol Settgest, coordinator of two books published by elementary students in Junction City.

12 pm **Children's entertainment by Kyler Carpenter plus storyteller Priscilla Howe**

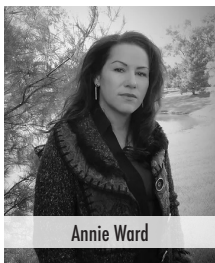
1 pm **Topeka High School Poetry Slam—Mabee Library, Bottom Level**

High school poets from Topeka High, Topeka West, and Highland Park compete for top poet! Moderator: Jess Karns, TWHS media specialist.

2 pm **Why Sci-Fi + Fantasy = YA Fascination—Mabee Library, Room 302**

YA authors Natalie Cammaratta and Kimberly Grymes discuss what makes Sci-Fi/Fantasy fiction so appealing.

50 Authors, Including ...



Annie Ward



Gary Jackson



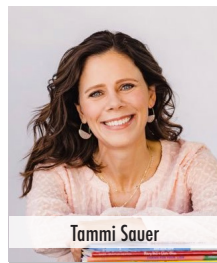
K.J. Dell'Antonia



Brad Sneed



Randal Jelks

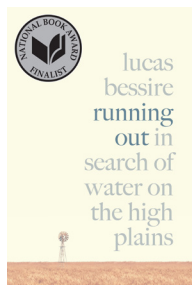


Tammi Sauer

2 pm

Water, Wheat, and Us—Memorial Union, Washburn Rooms A & B

Lucas Bessire, whose memoir about growing up on the depleted Kansas aquifer (*Running Out*) was a finalist for the National Book Award, compares notes with Scott Reynolds Nelson, author of a history of wheat in America (*Oceans of Grain*). Moderator: Steve Lerner, Psychologist and filmmaker (*When The Well Runs Dry*).



Life's Hard: Laugh More—Mabee Library, Room 300

Two humor writers talk about the myriad irritations—and comedic opportunities—that go with living in contemporary America: Nancy McCabe (*Can this Marriage Be Saved?*) and Jen Mann (*Midlife Bites*). Moderator: author Becky Blades (*Do Your Laundry or You'll Die Alone*).

Why Sci-Fi + Fantasy = YA Fascination—Mabee Library, Room 302

Natalie Cammaratta, author of paired sci-fi novels (*Falling and Uprising* and *Scattering and Breaking*) talks with Kimberly Grymes, author of paired sci-fi/fantasy novels (*Isoldesse* and *Red Umber Forest*) about why these genres continue to command reader interest. Moderator: Izzy Wasserstein, Fantasy/Sci-Fi Author.

Displacement and the Search for Homeland—Mabee Library, Room 303

Korean-African-American poet Gary Jackson (*Origin Story*), formerly from Topeka, talks with memoirist Aaron Brown (*Less Than What You Once Were*), who spent his childhood in North Africa. Together they discuss their displacements—and the inevitable struggle to claim a homeland. Moderator: Kansas Poet Laureate Huascar Medina.

A Reading by SE Kansas Poets—Mabee Library, Bottom Level

Allison Blevins, Lori Martin, Morgan McCune and Al Ortolani celebrate the rich trove of poetry from their region, along with Pittsburg-State-University poet Laura Lee Washburn.

3 pm

Native People & Themes in Kid's Books—Memorial Union, Washburn Rms A & B

Native American authors, Jimmy Beason (*Native Americans in History*) and Tom Pecore Weso (*Native American Stories for Kids*) discuss how their books bring important historical and cultural understanding into homes and increasingly diverse classrooms. Moderator: Former Kansas Poet Laureate, Denise Low.

Writing Against the Grain—Mabee Library, Room 300

A poet (William Sheldon, *Deadman*), essayist (Andy Farkas, *The Great Indoorsman*), and story writer (Patricia Lawson, *Odd Ducks*) talk about how they push back against the predictable. Moderator: Director of Writing, Fort Hays St U, Cheryl Duffy.

Secrets and Surprises of Research—Mabee Library, Room 302

Steve Paul, author of a biography about esteemed novelist Evan S. Connell (*Literary Alchemist*), discusses the unexpected side of deep research with Nicole Perry, author of a study about KS women jailed for venereal diseases in the early 20th Century (*Policing Sex in the Sunflower State*). Moderator: Historian Virgil Dean.

Jazz and Poetry at Play—Mabee Library, Room 303

Two poets who have jazz backgrounds talk about how jazz inspires and informs their poetry: Kevin Rabas (*Improvise*) and Phyllis Becker (*How I Came to Love Jazz*). Moderator: musician and former Kansas Poet Laureate, Kevin Rabas.

Straight Talk from Kansas Publishers—Mabee Library, Bottom Level

Tracy Million Simmons (Meadowlark Books), Michael Poage (Blue Cedar Press), Anne Spry (Personal Chapters LLC), Joyce Harrison (University Press of Kansas), & Thea Rademacher (Flint Hills Publishing) share their approaches to publishing, discuss publishing options, and answer questions.

Post-Festival Presentation

Sunday, September 25

3 pm **A Lyrical Homecoming—Grace Episcopal Cathedral**
Three celebrated poets, Sidney Wade, Gary Jackson, and Lisa Hase-Jackson, return to their former state—Kansas—to read from recent collections: *Deep Gossip*, *Origin Story*, and *Flint and Fire*.

Sponsors

Main Festival Sponsors—\$2,500-20,000:



Bestseller Sponsors—\$1,000-2,500:

- ArtsConnect
- Susan and Kent Garlinghouse Fund
- Monique Pittman-Lui
- Greater Topeka Fund / Topeka Community Foundation
- Security Benefit
- Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation
- Patrick Gideon
- Capitol Federal

Bookend Sponsors—\$500-1000:

- Jane and Dave Long
- Heritage Bank

In Kind Sponsor

- Parrish Hotel Corporation and its signature property, the Ramada Hotel and Convention Center