



Celebrating Reading, Writing & Creativity

Full Event Schedule & Session Details

Friday, April 27, 2018 – School Visit Day!

Twenty six school visits from festival authors and illustrators will reach 11,000+ local students.

Saturday, April 28, 2018 – Community Events!

Everyone is invited to all festivities throughout the day.

Festival Kickoff at Old High Middle School, Auditorium

Location: 406 NW 2nd Street | Bentonville, AR 72712

In partnership with Bentonville Schools, ESL Center

10:00 AM – 10:50 AM

A Festival of Family Stories: Celebrating 'Día' with Janet Wong

April 30th is *Día*, also known as Children's Day, Book Day—the perfect time for parents, grandparents, and children to share favorite poems and stories representing a wide variety of cultures. Join author Janet Wong for this early *Día* program where she will share diverse selections from *The Poetry Friday Anthology for Celebrations* and other books. Local students will be participating onstage in this special event. Open to all.

11:00 AM – 11:50 AM

Writing With Pictures: The Amulet Series with Kazu Kibuishi

Meet Kazu Kibuishi, creator of the *Amulet* graphic novel series! He'll show you how he creates the characters and settings of the *Amulet* series, and he'll talk about the importance of perseverance and making mistakes along the way.

Watch Kazu draw and paint, and learn how his education in filmmaking prepared him for a career as a graphic novelist. He'll also give you an inside look at how he redesigned the book covers for the 15th anniversary of *Harry Potter*.

Festival Continues at Bentonville Public Library

Location: 405 S. Main Street | Bentonville, AR 72712

12:00 PM – 2:50 PM

Author & Illustrator Presentations

3:00 PM

Formal Book Signings

LEARN MORE AT BYLF.ORG



Breakout Sessions at Bentonville Public Library

12:00 PM – 12:50 PM

Mary Casanova: ***An American Girl® Getting to Know You Celebration!***

Walmart Community Room

Each American Girl® doll has a story, a story that is told by a unique author. Join us for a special opportunity to meet award-winning author Mary Casanova as she shares her own story about what it is like to be a writer, and how she researches and creates her American Girl® books. With eleven American Girl® books, three book-inspired movies, five dolls--and her newest Kit and Rebecca mysteries--there will be *plenty* to talk about.

Then, explore the 1930s world of Kit Kittredge, have your picture taken with Ms. Casanova and one of the Library's dolls, and make your own scrapbook page! A collection of Mary's many books will be available for purchase including her two newest American Girl® books, *Menace at Mammoth Cave: A Kit Mystery* and *The Showstopper: A Rebecca Mystery*. There will be opportunities to have your book autographed!

Evin Demirel: ***African-American Athletes in Arkansas: Muhammad Ali's Tour, Black Razorbacks & Other Forgotten Stories Discussion***

Teen Zone

Jackie Robinson, Muhammad Ali and Colin Kaepernick — these athletes and more have helped changed American society in profound ways. Join sports historian Evin Demirel, a former *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette* reporter, for a look into sports as an agent for change nationally and in Arkansas. He will share not only stories within his book, but some of the journalistic methods used to chronicle them.

Alan Gratz: ***Choose Your Own Adventure!***

Children's Read Aloud

Join Alan Gratz, the *New York Times* bestselling author of the middle grade novels *Prisoner B-3087*, *Projekt 1065*, *Ban This Book*, *Refugee* and more, for an interactive presentation where YOU get to decide which direction the speech goes! Want to hear about his disastrous Little League adventures, or his abject failure as a youth soccer player? Want to hear about *Code of Honor*, or *The League of Seven*? It's up to you!

James Babb: ***Action and Adventure through Historical Fiction!***

Rotary Room

Set in rural Arkansas in the 1880s, *The Devil's Backbone* historical fiction series is about a young boy's adventures involving a horrible accident, bounty hunters and a fierce wild-man. But what part of the tale is fiction, and what part is true? The answers might surprise you!

1:00 – 1:50 PM

Caroline Tung Richmond: ***Choose Your Own Timeline: The Alternate History Genre***

Walmart Community Room

In this interactive presentation, Caroline will take the audience on a historical time warp, exploring real-life events and possible what-ifs.

Karen Akins: ***All I Really Need to Know, I Learned in Publishing***

Teen Zone

From first draft to finished book, writing a novel is full of fun challenges and frustrating roadblocks. In this session, 2016 Arkansas Teen Book Award winning young adult author Karen Akins shares the ins & outs and ups & downs of the publishing process. As well as how the lessons she's learned in publishing can help you tackle any goal.

Rich Davis: ***You are Creative!***

Children's Read Aloud

Children's book illustrator, Rich Davis, will take you on a creative exploring adventure through drawing fun things with him.

Kristin Gray: ***Let's Hear It for Research: How true facts inform fiction***

Rotary Room

Have you ever wondered how far chickens can fly? What food Amelia Earhart packed for long flights? Or what color a sunrise is on Mars? (Surprise, it's not what you think.) If you like oddball trivia and interesting facts, perhaps writing fiction is for you. Join local children's author Kristin L. Gray as she shows just how fun writing fact-based fiction can be.

2:00 – 2:50 PM

Ellen Airgood: ***Ask the Author***

Walmart Community Room

Ellen Airgood, author of *The Education of Ivy Blake*, provides an overview of her writing journey-which began in the fourth grade-and process, with a Q and A to follow.

Thomas Cochran: ***Point of View***

Teen Zone

Young writers interested in how a writer decides upon a point of view will find Thomas Cochran's discussion of his work helpful – and entertaining.

Roland Smith: ***Writing Wild, Wild Writer***

Children's Read Aloud

Join *NYT* bestselling author Roland Smith as he takes you around the world doing research for his award-winning adventure novels with step-by-step instruction on how you too can write a book.

Ard Hoyt: ***Ardlandia (a place of magic and wonder!)***

Rotary Room

How would you like to be queen or king of the world? A world you invented that's filled with the coolest kids - all your best friends, magical talking beasts - and danger. All the ingredients you need for grand adventures!

Follow Ard Hoyt as he shows you how he created worlds of pure imagination for over 30 children's books. It is a presentation full of funny stories and loaded with amazing pictures! Right this way your highness.

12:00 PM – 2:50 PM

THE POET AND THE POOCH: Featuring Janet Wong and RUFF, RUFF, READ

Fireplace Area

Please join Janet Wong and our Ruff, Ruff, Read volunteers as we share favorite selections with our poetry-loving pooches (and a stuffed toy rabbit, too). Children of all reading levels are welcome.

Janet Wong's book *Pet Crazy: A Poetry Friday Power Book* looks at many ways that pets are special to children, including a dog and rabbit that serve as reading buddies. When we give children the opportunity to read to a therapy animal, we are offering them a safe and comfortable companion for building their reading skill and confidence.

12:00 – 12:50 PM

Zaida, the Dog

1:00 PM – 1:50 PM

Cody, the Dog

2:00 – 2:50 PM

Obi, the Dog

About BYLF4

All Saturday events are free and open to the public, no registration is required. Book sales by Barnes & Noble throughout the day at BPL. BYLF4 is presented by Bentonville Public Library and the Bentonville Library Foundation. Learn more at bylf.org.

Children’s Book Week

Bentonville’s Youth Literature Festival is recognized as an “official event” to kick-off this year’s annual Children’s Book Week. Learn more at everychildareader.net/cbw.

El día de los niños

Día is a nationally recognized event that is held annually on April 30th. It is celebration of children, families, and reading that emphasizes the importance of literacy for children of all linguistic and cultural backgrounds. Learn more at dia.ala.org.

Festival Mission

To connect our community with authors and illustrators to spark imagination, inspire young learners and nurture a love of reading, writing and creativity!