

Thursday, Sept. 26, 2024

## LOUISIANA BOOK FESTIVAL SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

**BATON ROUGE, La.** — The Louisiana Book Festival is looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help put on the 20th edition of the state's flagship celebration of readers, writers, and their books.

The festival needs hundreds of volunteers in a <u>variety of capacities</u>, including welcoming presenters, escorting authors, assisting with programs, staffing festival information booths, and more.

Anyone interested in volunteering – whether all day or just part of the day – can find more information about the Festival's volunteer opportunities by visiting the <u>Louisiana Book Festival Volunteer</u> webpage and can sign up using the <u>online form</u>. The year's festival is **Saturday, November 2, from 9** a.m. to 4 p.m.

"The Louisiana Book Festival has developed a great reputation during the last two decades. The hospitality of our volunteers has become a trademark of the festival. They're great ambassadors not just for the book festival but for Louisiana," said Lieutenant Governor Billy Nungesser.

"The Louisiana Book Festival is all-hands on deck for the State Library staff. But we can't do it alone," said State Librarian Meg Placke. "Our volunteers are the unsung heroes. They keep the day running smoothly, and we're grateful for the countless hours of help they've given during the last 19 festivals. We're excited to welcome back longtime volunteers and excited to meet new ones."

Anyone who registers by October 4 will receive a free 2024 Louisiana Book Festival T-shirt, which features this year's artwork by Louisiana artist Kelly A. Mueller. Festival coordinators are happy to accommodate groups of friends, family, or organizations who wish to volunteer together. Volunteers must be 16 or older to volunteer.

The free, nationally recognized literary event will take place in the heart of Baton Rouge in the Louisiana State Capitol, State Library of Louisiana, Capitol Park Museum, and the surrounding Capitol Park area. This year the book festival will highlight more than 200 authors and panelists discussing their books and include dozens more attractions, such as the Young Readers Pavilion, with arts and crafts, costumed characters, and authors reading to children; Teen Headquarters, with bestselling and award-winning young adult authors; an abundance of programs for adult readers; and a wide variety of book-related activities and exhibitors.

Call Jamie Hebert at 225-342-4996 or email <u>Ibfvolunteer@state.lib.la.us</u> with volunteer questions and inquiries. For complete details on the 2024 Louisiana Book Festival, visit <u>LouisianaBookFestival.org</u> and follow us on the <u>Louisiana Book Festival Facebook page</u>.

The Louisiana Center for the Book was established in the State Library of Louisiana in 1994. Its mission is to stimulate public interest in reading, books, literacy, and libraries and to celebrate Louisiana's rich literary heritage. It is the official state affiliate of the Library of Congress Center for the Book.



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