



Monday, Sept. 16, 2024

## SAVE THE DATE!

### THE 20TH LOUISIANA BOOK FESTIVAL SET FOR SATURDAY, NOV. 2

**BATON ROUGE, La.** — The Louisiana Center for the Book in the State Library of Louisiana is excited to announce the return of the Louisiana Book Festival on **Saturday, November 2, 2024**, the 20th year celebrating readers, writers, and their books. This year's festival is set for 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in downtown Baton Rouge at the Louisiana State Capitol, the State Library of Louisiana, the Capitol Park Museum, and the surrounding Capitol Park area. The festival is free and open to the public, with authors for readers of all ages and activities for children and teenagers.

The day before the festival will see the return of the popular WordShops, writing workshops with major authors and publishing industry professionals as instructors. Details about this year's workshops will be released soon, at which point online registration will open.

"This year's book fest lineup is shaping up to be another stellar one," said Lieutenant Governor Billy Nungesser. "It's an especially meaningful year since this will be the 20th festival. There were a few hiccups along the way over the years thanks to storms and the pandemic, but the fest hasn't only survived, it's thrived."

The Louisiana Writer Award will also celebrate its 25th year. This year's recipient is Baton Rouge-area native [David Kirby](#), a prolific poet and long-time professor at Florida State University.

The festival's fifteenth [One Book One Festival](#) program will feature Eudora Welty's *The Optimist's Daughter*, which opens in a New Orleans hospital during Mardi Gras. The reader discussion group will be led by perennial favorite Dr. Gary Richard.

"We'll have more than 200 authors and presenters taking part this year. Some are just starting out, and others are big names; some are homegrown, and others are from out of state. We're excited to welcome all of them, and we know attendees will be pleased with the lineup," said State Librarian Meg Placke.

Author and illustrator [William Joyce](#) returns with the anxiously awaited *Rocket Puppies*, his first book in eight years, which will be available at the festival to get autographed for the first time anywhere.



For more information about the 2024 Louisiana Book Festival, visit [LouisianaBookFestival.org](https://LouisianaBookFestival.org) or follow the fest on the [Louisiana Book Festival Facebook page](#).

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.



**Contact Information:**

Danny Monteverde  
State Library of Louisiana  
225-342-4930  
[dmonteverde@library.la.gov](mailto:dmonteverde@library.la.gov)

Barry Landry  
Office of the Lieutenant Governor  
225-342-7009  
[blandry@crt.la.gov](mailto:blandry@crt.la.gov)