Six months after it was first announced and four months after it was originally to be presented, the 2020 Ohioana Book Festival is only a few days away from becoming a “virtual reality.”

As you know, in this time of COVID-19, we decided that for the safety of everyone—authors, attendees, volunteers, and staff—the festival could not be held as a live event. Thanks to the wonder of technology, however, we ARE able to present the festival as a virtual event and extend it from one day to an entire weekend ... August 28, 29, and 30!

We’re pleased to say that many of the things you love about the Ohioana Book Festival will be in this virtual edition: there will be 140 participating Ohio authors, representing every literary genre from novels to nonfiction, from picture books to poetry. There will be panel discussions, conversations, and readings. There will be story times and fun with drawing for children. There will be a number of outreach programs with community partners.

You’ll find the information here: http://www.ohioana.org/programs/ohioana-book-festival/, including the listing of all the live and pre-recorded programs on the schedule, complete with links to register or view them as they become available. Additional story times and readings will be available online beginning the 28th of August. And importantly, with the entire festival being recorded, once it’s over you’ll be able to go back and watch any program whenever you like (panels recorded live will be added following the festival).

We know many of you love the book fair at the festival. Well, you’ll be glad to know you can still get copies of books by your favorite authors! Beginning Tuesday, August 25, our official bookseller, The Book Loft of German Village, will have a special festival section available on their website, www.bookloft.com.

Obviously, we’re disappointed that we won’t be able to see you in person. However, we are optimistic given the success of our recent virtual events, as well as a number of other online literary programs that have taken place, that this will be a fun and dynamic way to celebrate Ohio books and authors, while keeping everyone safe.

Thanks for your patience and understanding during this difficult time. And special thanks to our festival authors, sponsors, and partners who have hung in there with us! We’ll see you at the festival!
Festival Authors

FICTION

Patricia Averbach
Connie Berry
Matt Betts
Shawn Boyd
Sarah Anne Carter
Meredith Doench
Amanda Flower
Steve Goble
Victor Hess
Leanna Renee Hieber
Anna Lee Huber
Jay B. Kalagayan
Jen Knox
Crissie Ann Leonard
Kristen Lepionka
Theresa E. Liggins
Julie Anne Lindsay
Anne Marie Lutz
Olivia Matthews
Authors are subject to change.
Authors are subject to change.
Authors are subject to change.
NONFICTION (cont.)

Diane Stortz
Cindy Thomson
Paula Stone Tucker
Nita Sweeney
Betty Weibel

POETRY

Donna Wyland
Steve Abbott
Darren C. Demaree
Marcus Jackson
Megan Neville

Kiya Renae
Jim Reuther
James Alan Riley
Kezia Sproat
Rachel Wiley

YOUNG ADULT & MIDDLE GRADE

Jenn Bishop
Dustin Brady
Tamara Bundy
Mary Kay Carson
Cinda Williams Chima

Authors are subject to change.
Authors are subject to change.