It’s finally here! The 15th anniversary Ohioana Book Festival takes place this week. We’ll be celebrating virtually from April 22 through April 25 . . . and we’d love to have you join us for this special occasion!

As we did last August, going virtual means we can keep everyone safe while at the same time bringing all the things festival-goers love about our event. Nearly 140 Ohio authors and illustrators will be taking part in panel discussions and conversations. There will be author readings and a fun contest for children (see p. 11). Books will be available to purchase through www.bookloft.com.

With something for every reader, the festival is a book lover’s dream. And with the virtual format, now everyone can join in, no matter where they live!

You’ll find all the information here: http://www.ohioana.org/programs/ohioana-book-festival/schedule/, including the listing of all the live and pre-recorded programs on the schedule, complete with their online links. 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 by selecting from the playlist on our website or visiting Ohioana’s YouTube channel.

The very first Ohioana Book Festival in 2007 had ten authors and a few hundred attendees. Today, the Ohioana Book Festival is the largest event in Ohio celebrating Ohio authors, reaching an audience of avid fans that expands with every passing year. With a new digital viewership that began with our first virtual festival events in 2020, we’re thrilled to introduce Ohio’s literary talent to readers all over the world!

No one ever imagined how much the festival would grow and evolve since that first event in 2007. We’re so grateful for the authors, sponsors, donors, partners, staff, and volunteers who have joined us on this journey for a decade and a half.

We hope you enjoy celebrating this milestone with us from the comfort of your own home. You can find complete details regarding the 2021 schedule and programs by visiting our website, www.ohioana.org, and also by checking us out on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

Connecting readers and Ohio writers. Nothing embodies our tagline better than the Ohioana Book Festival. We’ll see you there!
Festival Authors

FICTION

Tom Batiuk
Pete Beatty
Matt Betts
Tonya Ulynn Brown
Nancy Christie

Karin Cecile Davidson
Nathan Elias
Mary Ellis
Amanda Flower
Jennifer Geiger

Steve Goble
Gwen Goodkin
Eileen Curley Hammond
Nancy Herriman
Leanna Renee Hieber

Anna Lee Huber
J. E. Irvin
Linda Kass
John-Michael Lander
Theresa E. Liggins

Authors are subject to change.
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Authors are subject to change.
POETRY (contd.)

D E Zucccone
Karin Biggs
Jenn Bishop
Gary Buettner
Mary Kay Carson

Sarah Anne Carter
Cinda Williams Chima
Doug Coates
Margaret Peterson Haddix
Krysten Lindsay Hager

Sandra K-Horn
Intisar Khanani
Sophia R. Klein
Jason R. Lady
Terri Libenson

Mindy McGinnis
Karen Meyer
Patricia Miller
Bryan Prosek
Natalie Richards

Authors are subject to change.
Some Kind of Animal
Jennifer Ann Shore

Metallic Red
Linda Sohner

Mysteries of the Ancient Pyramids
Andrew Speno

The Many Lives of Eddie Rickenbacker
R. L. Stine

Goosebumps: Slappyworld

Broken Bat
Tara Tyler

Horizon Delta
D. W. Vogel

Other Words for Home
Jasmine Warga

Before the Ever After
Jacqueline Woodson

The Adventures of Chupacabra Charlie
Frederick Luis Aldama

Marionette and the Tortoise
Tim Bowers

Fun for Anyone!
Erin Alon Brain

Tullaby Prayer
Tamara Bundy

Pudgy Possum and the Porcupine
Mark M. Dean

Kathy S. Elasky

Dusternuffle
Rebecca Greenfield

Bandit Finds a Home
J. A. Hall

Zee Grows a Tree
Will Hillenbrand

Nothing in Common
Kate Hoefler

Hello!
Aiko Ikegami

Authors are subject to change.
JUVENILE (contd.)

Scott Longert
Mark Miesse
Oge Mora
Samuel Narh & Freda Narh
Nancy Roe Pimm

Merrill Rainey
Cristina Sicard
Tricia Springstubb
Frank Tupta
Thrity Umrigar

Christina Wald
Lindsay Ward
Katie Weyler & Carrie Weyler

Authors are subject to change.
SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

April 24th • Kick-off event for Kids ages: 5-8
April 24th • Registration Opens
April 25th • Kick-off event for Kids ages: 8-12
April 25th • Q&A
June 11th • Submission Deadline
June 14th - 18th • People’s Choice Awards Voting
June 28th • Color, Cut, Create awards LIVE!

Please check festival schedule for times.

J oin us for a kick-off event April 24th & 25th at noon with Author/Illustrator/ Paper Engineer Merrill Rainey to learn more about the Color, Cut, Create Contest! and pick up some tips & tricks on how to add that WOW factor to your submissions!

A contest Q&A will follow the April 25th session.

The first 10 registrants on both April 24th and April 25th will receive a FREE copy of either Color, Cut, Create · Dinosaur World, or Horse Ranch.

CONTEST!

UNLEASH YOUR CREATIVITY!

WINNING CATEGORIES & PRIZES!

Our GRAND PRIZE winners (1 per category) will be chosen by Merrill Rainey. Winners will be announced live on June 28th and will receive:

• $50 credit to The Book Loft of German Village.
• An Odd Dot book bundle.
• An Endurax iPad Tripod for iPhone/Tablets.
• Each winning entrant’s work will be displayed on the Ohioana website and shared on our social media channels.

Our PEOPLE’S CHOICE AWARD entries for each category will be posted to an online gallery to be voted on by the public the week of June 14th. Winners (1 per category) will be announced live on June 28th and will receive the following:

• $25 credit to The Book Loft of German Village.
• An Odd Dot book bundle.
• Each winning entrant’s work will also be displayed on the Ohioana website and shared on our social media channels.
**Coming Soon**

**Author Event: Paula McLain in Conversation with Connie Schultz**
May 20, 2021, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m., Gramercy Books Bexley, online event
Ohioana is pleased to be a Community Partner with Gramercy Books as it presents best-selling and Ohioana Award-winning novelist Paula McLain (*The Paris Wife*) in the launch of her highly-lauded crime novel, *When the Stars Go Dark*. Paula will be in conversation with Pulitzer Prize–winning journalist Connie Schultz, author of *The Daughters of Erietown*. For more information visit https://www.eventbrite.com/e/paula-mclain-in-conversation-with-connie-schultz-tickets-143246938449?aff=odeimcmailchimp&mc_cid=247491d5fa&mc_eid=59d5c3bf6f.

**Thurber Prize in American Humor**
May 21, 2021, 7:00 p.m., Thurber House, online event
The Thurber Prize for American Humor event is a night that shines a spotlight on writing, humor, James Thurber, and the city of Columbus itself. Join finalists Dave Barry, Kira Jane Buxton, and Damon Young for this free virtual celebration to see which of them will claim the 2020 prize. For more information visit https://www.thurberhouse.org/thurber-prize-for-american-humor.

**Ohioana Virtual Book Club: The Daughters of Erietown**
June 16, 2021, 10:00 a.m. – noon, online event
The book club’s spring pick is *The Daughters of Erietown* by author and Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Connie Schultz. Free. If you would like to attend, please email us at ohioana@ohioana.org.

**Wright Memorial Public Library: Ohio Literary Trail**
June 16, 2021, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m., online event
Join us for a tour of the Ohio Literary Trail from the comfort of your home and discover Ohio’s rich literary heritage through more than 70 sites. This presentation will focus on Southwest Ohio and include highlights from other regions around the state. Whether you are an armchair traveler or a road warrior, you will discover gems for explorers of all ages. For more information visit https://www.wrightlibrary.org/ohioliterarytrail.

**University of Findlay: Mazza Summer Conference**
July 12-14, 2021, online event
The University of Findlay’s Mazza Museum celebrates the original art of picture books using education, exhibits, events, and artist events. Join them for the 2021 Mazza Summer Conference, a three-day virtual and interactive conference full of educational and engaging presentations from top authors and illustrators in the picture book industry. For more information visit https://www.mazzamuseum.org/adults/conferences/summer-conference/.