



## Bookmarks

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### **Bookmarks Summer Reading Program Kick-off Event and 2017 Festival Authors with Titles on the Summer Reading List Announced**

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. (May 12, 2017) – Bookmarks announced several of its 2017 Festival authors at a special Kick-off event for its Summer Reading Program on May 11 at the William G. White Family YMCA in Winston-Salem. At the Kick-off, more than 250 teachers, students, and their families learned about the Summer Reading Program and the 2017 Festival, played games including Book Bingo, made bookmarks with Art for Art's Sake, and heard award-winning poet Ismael Khatibu, a speaker in Bookmarks Authors in Schools program.

Bookmarks Summer Reading Program, now in its third year, helps students, parents, and teachers prepare for the annual Bookmarks Festival of Books and Authors, which will take place September 7 –10. K-12 students across North Carolina are invited to participate in the Summer Reading Program. Participants will have the chance to earn books and cash prizes up to \$250. The program has book lists for Elementary, Middle, and High School students to read, enjoy, and respond to over the summer through written, visual, and video responses.

A Summer Reading brochure can be downloaded at [bookmarksnc.org](http://bookmarksnc.org). In addition to the book lists and full program details, the brochure details a variety of reading and writing events offered for students during the summer to keep them engaged with reading.

2017 Festival Authors whose books are part of the Summer Reading Program are: Javaka Steptoe, author of *Radiant Child*, Winner of the 2017 Randolph Caldecott Medal; the author of the two bestselling sports books of all time, John Feinstein, who is releasing a new young adult book titled *Backfield Boys*; Cuban-American author, Margarita Engle who wrote the Charlotte Zolotow Award winner *Drum Dream Girl*; cartoonist, co-creator and writer of the "Over the Hedge" comic strip, Michael Fry; award-winning and bestselling author and illustrator, Grace Lin; the winner of the Coretta Scott King/John Steptoe Award for New Talent, Jason Reynolds, whose new book *Patina* is a follow-up to *Ghost*; NC Battle of the Books frequent author, Alan Gratz; and multiple Parents' Choice Gold Award winner, Matt Tavares, author and illustrator of *Red and Lulu*. Award-winning and bestselling young adult authors Jenny Han and Sherrilyn Kenyon also will appear at the Festival. Historical authors, Robert Hicks, whose newest book is *The Orphan Mother*, and Martha Brockenbrough, who wrote the forthcoming *Alexander Hamilton, Revolutionary*, round out the list.

## **About Bookmarks**

Bookmarks is a Triad-based literary arts nonprofit organization that fosters a love of reading and writing in the community. Programming connects readers with authors and books and is achieved through the largest annual book festival in the Carolinas; an Authors in Schools program, which reaches 7,500 students annually; a Summer Reading program open to K through 12th grade students across North Carolina; and year-round events. This summer, Bookmarks will open its nonprofit independent bookstore and gathering place at 634 West Fourth Street #110 in downtown Winston-Salem. Buy your books from Bookmarks and learn more about our new home by visiting [www.bookmarksn.org](http://www.bookmarksn.org).

## **2017 Bookmarks Festival Authors with Titles on the Summer Reading List**

**Martha Brockenbrough** draws on her diverse experience in journalism, research, nonfiction, and literary teen fiction to bring characters to life. A powerful storyteller and narrative voice, she is the author of the critically acclaimed young adult novels *The Game of Love and Death* and *Devine Intervention*. Her newest book is the forthcoming *Alexander Hamilton, Revolutionary*.

**Margarita Engle** is the Cuban-American author of many verse books, including the Newbery Honor Book *The Surrender Tree*, the Charlotte Zolotow Award winner *Drum Dream Girl*, and the Walter Dean Myers Honor *Enchanted Air*. Her books also have received multiple Pura Belpre and Americas Awards as well as a Jane Addams Award, an International Reading Association Award, and many others.

*Presented with support from the Hispanic League*

**John Feinstein** is the *New York Times* bestselling author of 35 books for adults and children, including the two best-selling sports books of all time. A writer for *The Washington Post*, Feinstein has been inducted into the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame and The National Sportswriters and Sportscasters Hall of Fame. His new young adult book is *Backfield Boys*.

**Michael Fry** has been a cartoonist for over 30 years, and is the co-creator and writer of the “Over the Hedge” comic strip, which was turned into a Dreamworks film starring Bruce Willis and William Shatner. His middle grade book *How to Be a Supervillain*, is a rollicking adventure that follows Victor Spoil, who comes from a long line of famous supervillains but doesn’t have a single bad-guy bone in his body!

*Presented with support from Piedmont Parent*

**Alan Gratz** is the author of many critically-acclaimed books for children and teens, including *Samurai Shortstop*, an ALA Top Ten Books for Young Adults; *Prisoner B-3087*; *The Brooklyn Nine*; and the League of Seven trilogy. A former middle and high school teacher, his books frequently appear on the NC Battle of the Books list.

**Jenny Han** is the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Shug*, The Summer I Turned Pretty series, and co-author of the Burn for Burn series. A former children's bookseller, she earned her MFA in creative writing at the New School. Her new young adult novel, *Always and Forever, Lara Jean*, is the third book in the To All the Boys I've Loved Before trilogy.

**Robert Hicks** is the *New York Times* bestselling and award-winning author of *The Widow of the South* and *A Separate Country*. A lifelong collector, Hicks was the first Tennessean to be listed among *Arts & Antiques'* Top 100 Collectors in America—his collection focuses on Outsider Art and Southern Material Culture. His latest historical novel, *The Orphan Mother*, is an epic tale of one remarkable woman's quest for justice in the years following the Civil War.

**Sherrilyn Kenyon** is an award-winning author and regular on the *New York Times* list. This extraordinary bestseller continues to top every genre in which she writes, including manga and graphic novels. More than 70 million copies of her books are in print in more than 100 countries, including her paranormal Dark Hunter romance series. *Intensity* is the seventh book in her Chronicles of Nick series for young adults.

*Presented with support from Forsyth Family and Forsyth Woman Magazines*

**Grace Lin** is the award-winning and bestselling author and illustrator of picture books, early readers, and middle grade novels. Her novel *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon* was awarded the Newbery Award and *Ling and Ting* was honored with the Theodor Geisel Honor in 2011. She was recognized as a Champion of Change for Asian American and Pacific Islander Art and Storytelling.

*Presented with support from Fidelity Investments*

**Jason Reynolds** is the author of *When I Was the Greatest*, the recipient of the Coretta Scott King/John Steptoe Award for New Talent; the Coretta Scott King Honor books *Boy in the Black Suit* and *All American Boys* (co-written with Brendan Kiely); and *As Brave As You*, his stunning middle grade debut that was a *Time* Book of the Year. *Patina* is a follow-up to *Ghost*, the first book in his middle grade Track series, which was also a National Book Award finalist.

**Javaka Steptoe** is an award-winning artist, designer, and illustrator. His debut picture book, *In Daddy's Arms I Am Tall*, won the Coretta Scott King Award, and *Jimi: Sounds Like a Rainbow* received a Coretta Scott King Honor. His most recent book, *Radiant Child*, is a visually stunning picture book biography about modern art phenomenon Jean-Michel Basquiat.

**Matt Tavares** is the author-illustrator of 17 books, including *Becoming Babe Ruth* and *Growing Up Pedro*. His books and illustrations have received multiple awards, including three Parents' Choice Gold Awards, and two of his books have been named ALA Notable books. His new picture book, *Red and Lulu*, is a heart-tugging story combining the cheer of Christmas, the magic of New York City, and the real meaning of the holiday season.

*Presented with support from The Winston-Salem Dash*