



## Bookmarks

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### **Bookmarks Summer Reading Program Kick-off Event and 2018 Festival Authors with Titles on the Summer Reading List Announced**

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. (May 21, 2018) – Bookmarks is proud to announce that popular children’s book author, Dav Pilkey (best known for his Captain Underpants series), will deliver Bookmarks’ first Kids’ Keynote as a part of its 14th Festival of Books and Authors to be held September 6 – 9, 2018. Pilkey, along with multiple other award-winning and bestselling authors for all ages, is featured in Bookmarks’ fourth annual Summer Reading Program, which helps students, parents, and teachers engage in various reading and writing activities as they prepare for the annual Festival.

The 2018 Bookmarks Summer Reading Program Kickoff event will be held on Saturday, June 9 from 2 – 4 p.m. at Bookmarks, 634 W. Fourth Street #110 in downtown Winston-Salem. Games and inflatables will be provided by the YMCA along with giveaways and overviews of the Summer Reading Program and the featured authors.

Pre-K-12<sup>th</sup> grade students are invited to participate in Bookmarks Summer Reading Program, and the school with the most participants will win \$500 of books for their school library. Participants will receive a Summer Reading Passport, which has book lists for Pre-K, Elementary, Middle, and High School students to read and enjoy, along with free events and activities to participate in at Bookmarks and in our community. All are offered for students during the summer to keep them engaged. Upon completion, the Summer Reading Program Passport may be turned in on Saturday, September 8 at the Bookmarks’ Festival for a book of the student’s choice. In addition, all participants will be entered into a contest where four winners will receive a \$50 gift card to Bookmarks.

Dav Pilkey will deliver Bookmarks’ first Kids’ Keynote on Friday, September 7 at 6:30 p.m. at Reynolds Auditorium. The evening program is presented by Fidelity Investments, which has a long tradition of supporting Bookmarks and its outreach and events. With offices in Winston-Salem and Greensboro, Fidelity Investments earned the top 2018 Customer Experience Index rating for Best Online Broker for the fourth year in a row by *Investor’s Business Daily*.

Pilkey has written and illustrated numerous popular, award-winning books for children, including the Captain Underpants series; *Dog Breath*, winner of the California Young Reader

Medal; and *The Paperboy*, a Caldecott Medal Book. His newest series, *Dog Man*, is a *New York Times* bestselling graphic novel for children. Pilkey's dyslexia and ADHD made school almost impossible when he was a child. His books focus on the power of reading and the importance for each child to find the right book to motivate the desire to learn. Tickets for the Kids' Keynote will go on sale to the public on Friday, July 27 at 10 a.m. by calling 1-800-838-3006 or visiting [www.bookmarksnc.org](http://www.bookmarksnc.org)

Other authors whose books are part of Bookmarks Summer Reading Program and who will be featured on Saturday, September 8 at Bookmarks Festival of Books and Authors are: Kelly Barnhill, 2017 Newbery Medal Winner; Joyce Moyer Hostetter, frequent North Carolina Battle of the Books author; Stacy McAnulty, North Carolina author of various picture books and a new middle grade novel; David Barclay Moore, winner of the Coretta Scott King/John Steptoe Award for New Talent; Audrey Penn, creator of the Chester the Raccoon series; T.R. (Tanya) Simon, author of a middle grade book based on the life of Zora Neale Hurston, the first to be endorsed by her family; Jennifer Thermes, whose picture book takes readers on the Appalachian Trail; and Carole Boston Weatherford, whose award-winning books cover such subjects as Dorothea Lange, Harriet Tubman, and the Tuskegee Airmen.

Young adult authors include: perennial favorite and bestselling author Ellen Hopkins; NAACP Image Award-nominated Tiffany D. Jackson; fantasy and historical fiction author Makiia Lucier; graphic novelist Steve Nedvidek; Amy Reed, who is the editor of *Our Stories, Our Voices* which features 21 YA authors as they write about what it means to grow up female in America; and debut novelist Brenda Rufener, who addresses teen homelessness in her new book.

In addition, two authors whose books can be read by young adults and adults alike are: fantasy and science fiction writer Kelly Link, whose book *Pretty Monsters* will be discussed county wide through Forsyth County Public Library's On the Same Page program this fall, and Michel Stone, whose new novel *Border Child* is the timely story about Mexican immigrants.

### **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 8,500 students annually; a Summer Reading program; and year-round events across the Triad and in their nonprofit independent bookstore and gathering place at 634 West Fourth Street #110 in downtown Winston-Salem. To learn more visit: [www.bookmarksnc.org](http://www.bookmarksnc.org).

### **2018 Bookmarks Festival Authors with Titles on Bookmarks Summer Reading List**

**Kelly Barnhill** is the author of *The Girl Who Drank the Moon* the 2017 Newbery Medal Winner, a *New York Times* bestseller, *An Entertainment Weekly* Best Middle Grade Book of the Year, a *Publisher's Weekly* Best Book of the Year, A New York and Chicago Public Library Best Book, and an Indie bestseller. Barnhill is the recipient of fellowships from the Jerome Foundation, the

Minnesota State Arts Board, and the McKnight Foundation. She is the winner of the World Fantasy Award, the Parents' Choice Gold Award, the Texas Library Association Bluebonnet, and was a finalist for the PEN/USA literary prize. Her new book for adults is *Dreadful Young Ladies and Other Stories*.

**Ellen Hopkins** is a celebrated name among young adult writers. Hopkins is the award-winning author of 13 *New York Times* bestselling novels including the Crank series. She has also established Ventana Sierra, a nonprofit organization helping youth-in-need find safe housing and encouraging them to pursue career goals through higher education and the arts. Her newest young adult novel, *People Kill People*, will be out September 4.

**Joyce Moyer Hostetter** grew up in rural North Carolina and is the author of four historical fiction novels. Her debut novel about a North Carolina polio epidemic *Blue* won the International Reading Association Children's Book Award and has been selected to the North Carolina Battle of the Books list, in addition to receiving many other honors. Her latest novel *Drive* will be published in September.

**Tiffany D. Jackson** is the author of NAACP Image Award-nominated *Allegedly* and *Monday's Not Coming* released this May and named to the Indie Next List for Children's Books. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Film from Howard University and her Master of Arts in Media Studies from The New School University.

**Kelly Link's** debut collection, *Stranger Things Happen*, was a Firecracker nominee, a *Village Voice* Favorite Book and a *Salon* Book of the Year. Her second collection, *Magic for Beginners*, was chosen as one of the best books of the decade by *Salon* and *The Onion*. It was a Best of Book Sense pick and was selected for best of the year lists by *Time Magazine*, *Salon*, *Village Voice*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, and *The Capitol Times*. Link received her BA from Columbia University and her MFA from UNC at Greensboro. Her collection of short stories, *Pretty Monsters*, was chosen by Forsyth County Public Library to discuss for their On the Same Page program this fall.

**Makiia Lucier** is the author of historical fiction and fantasy for young adults. She grew up on the Pacific island of Guam and has degrees in journalism and library science from the University of Oregon and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Her debut novel, *A Death-Struck Year*, was called a "powerful and disturbing reading experience" by *Publishers Weekly*. It was a finalist for Germany's top book prize for children, the Deutscher Jugendliteraturpreis, as well as Japan's Sakura Medal, and was named an ABC Best Books for Children Selection by the American Booksellers Association. Her new book for teens is *Isle of Blood and Stone*.

**Stacy McAnulty** is the 2017 Ezra Jack Keats New Writer Honor Recipient for *Excellent Ed*, illustrated by Julia Sarcone-Roach. Her other picture books include *Earth! My First 4.54 Billion Years*; *Brave and Beautiful*; and *101 Reasons Why I'm Not Taking a Bath*. Her debut middle grade novel, *The Miscalculations of Lightning Girl*, came out in May 2018 and was a featured Indie Next Children's Pick.

**David Barclay Moore** studied Creative Writing at Iowa State University, Film at Howard University and Language Studies at L'Universite de Montpellier in France. His work has appeared in *Vibe Magazine*, *Callaloo Journal*, *Blithe House Quarterly* and *Killens Review of Arts and Letters*. His debut middle grade novel, *The Stars Beneath Our Feet*, was selected as a 2017 BookExpo/BEA Buzz Book and was the winner of the Coretta Scott King/John Steptoe Award for New Talent. Michael B. Jordan will be directing the movie adaptation.

For more than 20 years, **Steve Nedvidek** has been the Innovator in Residence for Chick-fil-A. Prior to joining Chick-fil-A, Nedvidek received a Bachelor of Arts in Communication from Wingate University and a Master of Arts in Theater from Wake Forest University. Steve Nedvidek is the author of the graphic novel series *The Jekyll Island Chronicles*.

**Audrey Penn** is the author of numerous children's books, including the Chester Raccoon series, which includes the *New York Times* bestseller *A Kissing Hand for Chester Raccoon*, which celebrates its 25th anniversary this year. She has won multiple awards for her books including being named a Caldecott Medal Nominee.

**Amy Reed** earned her MFA from New College of California. Her short work has been published in journals such as *Kitchen Sink*, *Contrary*, *Fiction*, and *Mission at Tenth*. She recently edited the anthology collection *Our Stories, Our Voices* with essays from 21 YA authors sharing deeply personal thoughts and experiences covering a wide breadth of topics about growing up female in America. Her newest young adult book is *The Nowhere Girls*.

**Brenda Rufener** graduated from Whitman College with a double major in English and biology. She is an advocate for homeless youth. Her debut novel *Where I Live* is an emotional portrayal of a very real, very prevalent, but often unspoken problem in the US about homelessness among teens and was included on *Bustle's* list of the "27 Most Anticipated YA Contemporary Books Hitting Shelves in 2018" calling it a "long overdue [book] in the young adult world."

**T.R. (Tanya) Simon** is the co-author of *Zora and Me* a middle grade book that is a fictionalization of the early years of the literary giant Zora Neale Hurston. This astonishing novel is the first project ever to be endorsed by the Zora Neale Hurston Trust that was not authored by Hurston herself and was the recipient of the John Steptoe New Talent Award as well as an Edgar Award Nominee for Best Juvenile Mystery. She is the co-author of *Oskar and the Eight Blessings*, which won the National Jewish Book Award for Children's Literature, and is the author of *Zora & Me: The Cursed Ground*, a follow up middle grade novel that will be published in September.

**Michel Stone** is a writer, speaker, educator, and community volunteer. Stone has published numerous stories and essays, and she is a 2011 recipient of the South Carolina Fiction Award for *The Iguana Tree*. She is a graduate of Clemson University with a Master's Degree from Converse College. Her latest novel, *Border Child*, is told with empathy and is a daring and timely story about Mexican immigrants.

**Jennifer Thermes** is a children's book author, illustrator, and map illustrator. She graduated from Parsons School of Design with a degree in Communication Design, and worked in a magazine art department for several years before becoming a full-time illustrator. Her books have received a *Kirkus* starred review, been included in several Bank Street College lists, and been recognized in *3x3 Magazine's* Children's Illustration Annual. Her newest book *Grandma Gatewood Hikes the Appalachian Trail* is a biography about the first woman to hike the Appalachian Trail solo at age 67.

One of the leading poets and biographers writing for young people today, **Carole Boston Weatherford** is the *New York Times* best-selling author of more than 50 books. She is the author of a prize-winning poetry chapbook, *The Tan Chanteuse*, and multiple award-winning children's books, including: *Dorothea Lange: The Photographer Who Found the Faces of the Depression*; *Schomburg: The Man Who Built a Library*; *The Legendary Miss Lena Horne*; *Sink or Swim: African American Lifesavers of the Outer Banks*; and *Juneteenth Jamboree*. Among her many honors are a North Carolina Arts Council Writers Fellowship, the NC Poetry Society Caldwell Nixon Award, and a NC Press Association Award. A *New York Times* bestseller, she teaches at Fayetteville State University. Her latest children's book *How Sweet the Sound: The Story of Amazing Grace* is a biography of the man behind the famous song.