



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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2022 Va. Festival of the Book will take place as hybrid event in March

November 9, 2021—Charlottesville, Va.—A program of Virginia Humanities, the **Virginia Festival of the Book** announced today that the **28th annual Festival will take place as a hybrid event, March 16-20, 2022.**

Building on the success of almost two years of virtual programming and more than two decades of in-person events, the 2022 Festival will feature **events at local venues in Charlottesville and Albemarle County**—many of which will be livestreamed and recorded for on-demand viewing—as well as online-only **virtual events featuring speakers taking part from around the world.**

While allowing Festival attendees to once again meet favorite authors face-to-face and get books signed after programs in beloved venues, these events will also be more accessible to everyone, including any who cannot attend due to geography, time constraints, ability or some other barrier; those who could attend, but are more comfortable engaging from afar; and those who might wish to attend more than one event at the same time.

“We are tremendously excited to be planning our first-ever hybrid Virginia Festival of the Book. After twenty months of connecting more than 48,000 readers and authors on-line and more than two decades of presenting in-person Festivals, we’ve worked to envision what our community-focused Festival could be, to envision how we could offer **more than a return to normal,**” said Festival director **Jane Kulow.** “We feel privileged to be planning our most accessible Festival ever, offering access to people around the world as well as to those in our neighborhoods and those who visit from afar. **We invite all to share the wonder, adventure, and connection that stories offer,** and we look forward to seeing you at the Festival in March, however you can attend.”

Headlining speakers and a full schedule of 2022 Festival programming will be announced in January.

The Festival welcomes speakers and attendees from around the world, connecting people and ideas through books and reading by presenting accessible and inclusive events. **All virtual events and the majority of in-person events will be free to attend and open to the public.** *COVID protocols are in development based on evolving public health guidance and will be announced soon.*

Images available here: <https://virginia.box.com/s/8gs14wxx1fngk7t97dnn1v19qv57j33m>

All media inquiries should be directed to Sarah Lawson at books@virginiahumanities.org.

About the Virginia Festival of the Book:

A signature program of Virginia Humanities and the Virginia Center for the Book, the Virginia Festival of the Book brings readers and writers together for author readings, panel discussions, programs for children, and more. The 28th annual Virginia Festival of the Book will take place virtually, March 16-20, 2022. To learn about Festival programming and sponsorship opportunities, visit VaBook.org.

About Virginia Humanities:

Virginia Humanities is the state humanities council. We aim to share the stories of all Virginians—or, better yet, find ways for people to share their own stories. We want to connect Virginians with their history and culture and, in doing that, help us all get to know each other a little better. We are headquartered in Charlottesville at the University of Virginia but our work covers the Commonwealth. To learn more visit VirginiaHumanities.org.

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