



MEDIA ADVISORY

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Thursday, August 17, 2017

BOOK FESTIVAL REACHES 2,000 STUDENTS ON FRIDAY

9:00 AM – Galloway Methodist Church Sanctuary

Acclaimed Children's author Meg Cabot will speak to 750 4th graders from Jackson Public Schools. At the end, they will each receive a free copy of Cabot's *Middle School Princess #3: Royal Crush*. Elee Reeves and her daughters will introduce Cabot, who is best known for the *The Princess Diaries* series of books.

10:30 AM – Galloway Methodist Church Sanctuary

New York Times best-selling author, and Jackson's own, Angie Thomas will speak to 750 9th Graders from JPS. Each child will receive a free copy of Thomas' new book, *The Hate U Give*. Mississippi Arts Commission Executive Director Malcolm White will introduce Thomas. The PBS News-Hour will be on hand to film the speech as part of a special segment they are producing on Thomas.

Throughout the day on Friday

Four of the festival's official authors will travel to select schools throughout the metro area to lead students in interactive reading experiences.

Linda Williams Jackson will visit Bailey Middle School, Murrah High School and Midtown Public Charter School.

Candace Fleming & Eric Rohmann will visit Mannsdale Elementary, Flora Elementary and St. Andrews Lower School.

Barry Wolverton will visit Casey Elementary, Smilow Prep Charter School and Pearl Elementary.

These events are funded in part by the Phil Hardin Foundation and the James and Madeleine McMullan Family Foundation.

Background on the authors is at www.msbookfestival.com/authors.

For information on the specific school visits, please email Holly Lange at info@msbookfest.com.

For information about the Mississippi Book Festival, please visit www.msbookfestival.com.