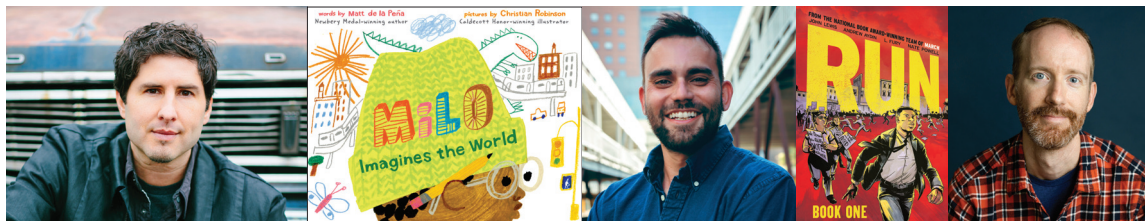


MISSISSIPPI BOOK FESTIVAL

2022 KIDNOTE FEATURE

It wouldn't be the Mississippi Book Festival without KidNote — our annual star-studded event for children's literature featuring celebrated guest authors who know how to spark and fuel a love for reading in young people.



The 2022 KidNote was back to in-person engagement and magnified through live-streaming. Interactive literary programs for K-3 and 9-12 were hosted at downtown Jackson venues and simultaneously beamed into the classrooms of 156 schools across the state, reaching a total of more than 24,000 students.

Matt de la Peña, a Newberry Medal award-winning author, led the youngest readers on a journey of self-discovery with his latest picture book *Milo Imagines the World*. de la Peña's quiet yet enthusiastic demeanor kept his audience rapt and focused on the book's central character and visuals while unfurling details of his own life that inspired wonder and understanding about the variety of lives that surround each of us.

Andrew Aydin and Nate Powell fascinated high school students with real history in their graphic novel *RUN: Book One*, developed in collaboration with the late Congressman John Lewis. Vividly recounting Lewis's civil rights journey in graphic novel form, the author's and the illustrator's passion for good storytelling inspired students with a spirit of adventure for the democratic process.

"Matt de la Peña's creative writing genius connects with each of us (children and adults) as he taps into the world we live in. Regardless of our diverse experiences, appearance, and culture, he gets to the heart of the matter."

— DR. KATHLEEN GRIGSBY —

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT, ELEMENTARY DIVISION
JACKSON PUBLIC SCHOOL



Always striving to stimulate imagination and inspire tomorrow's book lovers, the festival continues its cornerstone commitment to growing young readers across the state. With donor dollars, 3,300 free books were put into the hands of students and on the shelves of libraries in participating schools.

GENEROUS FUNDING PROVIDED BY:

THE JAMES & MADELEINE MCMULLAN FAMILY FOUNDATION | THE PHIL HARDIN FOUNDATION
TERRY HUNT & DICK MOLPUS | FEILD CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATION | JUNIOR LEAGUE OF JACKSON