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The logo for the Mississippi Book Festival, featuring the words "MISSISSIPPI BOOK FESTIVAL" in white, uppercase letters on a solid orange rectangular background.

MISSISSIPPI  
**BOOK**  
FESTIVAL

## **Mississippi Book Festival Goes Virtual**

JACKSON, MS – The Mississippi Book Festival is going virtual. After COVID-19 caused the cancellation of its August event, the festival has been working to create a virtual experience for readers to connect with the many authors who had planned to come back in August.

That virtual event will go public on the festival’s website on October 12 when more than 110 authors and moderators will appear on 31 panels that have been recorded over the last month. According to Ellen Daniels, the festival executive director, “We have such a great group of authors and moderators who have rallied to record more than 35 hours of great conversations about books and writing. Our community of book lovers has grown so much over the past seven years, so we are delighted to offer these panels online and to continue engaging our loyal audience. We couldn’t have our literary lawn party, but we can still have a literary log-on party!”

Some of the authors featured include Curtis Wilkie, Kiese Laymon, Nic Stone, W. Ralph Eubanks, Jerry Mitchell, Catherine Pierce, Beth Ann Fennelly, Mitch Landrieu, William Ferris, Angie Thomas, Aimee Nezhukumatathil, Robert Khayat, and Kai Bird.

All panels will be made available online for public viewing on the Book Festival’s website beginning Tuesday, October 12. To connect with the virtual festival on October 12, please visit [msbookfestival.com](http://msbookfestival.com). You can also connect with the Mississippi Book Festival on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#).

“Hundreds of people work year-round to make the Mississippi Book Festival a success,” said Daniels, “and it would not be possible without the help of generous sponsors and donors from across the state. The Community Foundation for Mississippi is the festival’s longtime partner and this year’s presenting funder. Trustmark National Bank is the lead sponsor for the virtual event.”

### ***About The Mississippi Book Festival***

*The Mississippi Book Festival, a nonprofit founded by Mississippi book lovers, launched in August 2015 on the State Capitol grounds and continues to draw thousands to its annual “literary lawn party.” The event features hundreds of visiting authors, panel discussions, book signings, booksellers, Capitol tours, food trucks, and family-friendly activities.*

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