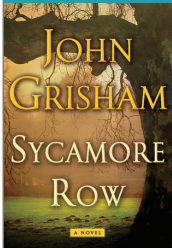


MISSISSIPPI BOOK FESTIVAL

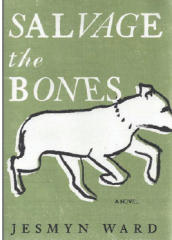
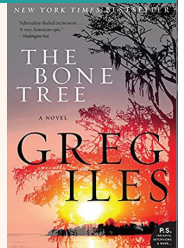
THROUGH THE YEARS (2015-2021)



2015 *The Literary Lawn Party was born!*

Mississippi's first statewide book festival was launched at the State Capitol by best-selling author John Grisham, after a lively kickoff by Jackson State University's renowned "Sonic Boom of the South."

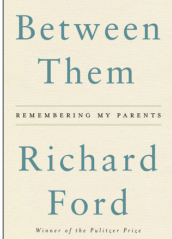
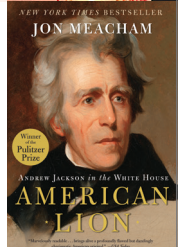
3,700 PEOPLE ATTENDED 100+ AUTHORS ON 22 PANELS INCLUDING JOHN GRISHAM, GREG ILES, KIESE LAYMON, ELLEN GILCHRIST, CURTIS WILKE, HALEY BARBOUR



2016 *Festival attendance grows dramatically!*

With young readers celebrating Curious George's 75th birthday, the festival upped the ante—and nearly doubled the attendance—thanks to more authors, exhibitors, and activities for everyone.

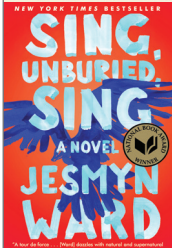
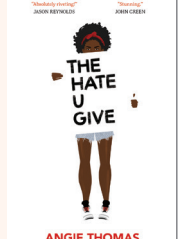
6,200 PEOPLE ATTENDED 130+ AUTHORS ON 32 PANELS INCLUDING JON MEACHAM, JESMYN WARD, HARRISON SCOTT KEY, JULIA REED, KATE DICAMILLO, ROY BLOUNT JR., BILL DUNLAP



2017 *Mississippi's Literary Map unveiled!*

Appearances by acclaimed local author Angie Thomas, Pulitzer-Prize winning native son Richard Ford, and trailblazing Librarian of Congress Dr. Carla Hayden capped off our third year.

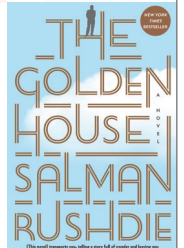
6,400 PEOPLE ATTENDED 150+ AUTHORS ON 45 PANELS INCLUDING MARK BOWDEN, GREG ILES, RICHARD GRANT, W. RALPH EUBANKS, VIVIAN HOWARD, BETH ANN FENNELLY



2018 *Write On, Mississippi! podcast launched!*

The festival made its mark on tourism with the unveiling of two Mississippi Writers Trail markers and local recognition from Visit Jackson for its contributions to the capitol city.

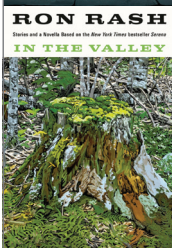
7,600 PEOPLE ATTENDED 160+ AUTHORS ON 42 PANELS INCLUDING JESMYN WARD, RICK BRAGG, SALMAN RUSHDIE, CHARLES FRAZIER, JON MEACHAM, KARL ROVE, ANGIE THOMAS



2019 *The Mississippi Book Festival turns 5!*

With continued support from presenting funder Community Foundation for Mississippi, 15,000+ people participated in person and via satellite events held in schools and bookstores across the state.

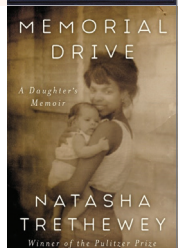
9,300 PEOPLE ATTENDED 170 AUTHORS ON 47 PANELS INCLUDING JUSTICE SONIA SOTOMAYOR, ANN PATCHETT, DAV PILKEY, RICHARD FORD, JOYCE CAROL OATES



2020 *We took the festival to the community!*

Constrained by the pandemic, we engaged our book-loving community through online conversations with authors, librarians, and young readers. Our podcast reached 10,000 downloads.

2,500 ONLINE SESSIONS 35+ AUTHORS ON 19 PANELS INCLUDING RON RASH, NATASHA TRETHEWEY, WAYÉTU MOORE, MICHAEL FARRIS SMITH, RICHARD GRANT, TIFFANY MCDANIEL



2021 *The first digital Kidnote reached over 9,300 children!*

With partners like Frontline PBS and C-SPAN, among others, we produced a robust virtual edition with 30+ panels and nearly doubled our student outreach with over 50 participating schools.

110 AUTHORS ON 31 PANELS INCLUDING CATHERINE PIERCE, KIESE LAYMON, JERRY MITCHELL, CURTIS WILKIE, ROBERT KHAYAT, AIMEE NEZHUKUMATATHIL, KAI BIRD, ANGIE THOMAS

