



SAVANNAH BOOK FESTIVAL

Guidelines for the 2025 Savannah Book Festival

The annual Savannah Book Festival (SBF) will take place this year from February 6-9, 2025.

The 30+ nationally recognized authors who are invited to attend will participate in solo presentations and book signings in historic venues throughout downtown Savannah.

SBF also features three headlining authors at ticketed events on Thursday, Friday, and Sunday.

On Festival Saturday, all author presentations are held in the heart of Savannah and are free and open to the public.

Please read all the following information before submitting a book to the SBF:

To be considered for this year's Festival, the book must be published after the previous year's Festival. For example, books eligible for the 2025 Festival must be published after February 19, 2024. Please send or have your publicist send us the following:

- A press kit with clippings, reviews, an author bio, and list of previously published titles
- Links to author website and social media accounts

Please mail these items to Festival Executive Director, Tara Setter at:

Savannah Book Festival, 37 W Fairmont Ave, Suite 216 Savannah, Georgia 31406

or email: tara@savannahbookfestival.org

When should a book be submitted?

We accept submissions of books from March 1 through June 30 in the calendar year preceding the Festival.

Who decides which authors are invited?

An all-volunteer Author Selection Committee reviews the submissions and chooses the authors who will be invited. The bulk of invitations go out beginning in July with the schedule of authors usually in place by early September.

What types of books are considered?

While we review all books that are submitted, our main goal is to provide an excellent and diverse mix of literature for all visitors and participating authors featuring books from the following genres:

- Fiction — with an emphasis on literary fiction
- Narrative nonfiction — history, biography, memoir, and essays. Nonfiction books are considered from a variety of perspectives that encourage and engage in fair, respectful discussions of historical figures, and ideas.
- Graphic novels
- Cookbooks and food-related titles
- Art and architecture titles
- Titles with a local focus

What types of books are not considered?

Due to the volume of work submitted, Savannah Book Festival does not consider self-published or author-financed titles. The SBF's focus is on adult literature, therefore, children's books are not considered. SBF does include one to two YA or YA crossover books each year.

What happens when a book is selected?

We typically begin issuing invitations to participate in the Festival in July with the schedule of authors in place by early September. As we are unable to notify individuals who are not selected, we post an announcement on the Festival website when all submissions have been considered and invitations have been sent.

Book Sales and Signings:

The Festival works with Follet and the Savannah College of Art and Design bookstore to order books for sale during the Festival. All books that are signed must be purchased at the Festival. Festival Saturday authors are invited to head to the Book Signing Tent after their presentation to sign books.

Travel:

Savannah Book Festival covers travel and lodging expenses for all invited authors. Our presenting authors stay at beautiful hotels located in the heart of Savannah's historic district, close to all Festival venues.

SBF@Schools:

Savannah Book Festival invites participating authors to arrive in Savannah a day early to take part in SBF@ Schools. In 2024, over 20 authors volunteered to visit public middle and high schools, universities, and community centers. Authors express that this program is the highlight of their Festival experience.

Please keep in mind:

There is no fee for submissions.

Meeting the criteria for consideration does not guarantee an invitation to participate in the Festival as a featured author.

Books submitted for consideration will not be returned, and authors will receive neither feedback nor critique of submitted works.

Questions?

(912) 598-4040 or tara@savannahbookfestival.org.