



# NEWS RELEASE

[www.vegasvalleybookfestival.org](http://www.vegasvalleybookfestival.org)

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, Oct. 21, 2013

## Vegas Valley Book Festival Kicks Off In Las Vegas Oct. 30

*Schedule For All Events Now Available At [VegasValleyBookFestival.org](http://VegasValleyBookFestival.org)*

The 12th annual Vegas Valley Book Festival will take place Oct. 30-Nov. 2, 2013, with most programs scheduled at the downtown Historic Fifth Street School, located at 401 S. Fourth St. The schedule for all events and activities is available now at [www.vegasvalleybookfestival.org](http://www.vegasvalleybookfestival.org). The schedule also will be published in a special section of the Las Vegas Review-Journal Oct. 23.

An additional book-launch event sponsored by the festival has been added Monday, Nov. 4, at the Historic Fifth Street School. Bestselling author Jeff Kinney, author of the “Diary of a Wimpy Kid” series, will launch his latest book in the series and make an audience presentation at 11 a.m. at the school. Doors will open at 10 a.m. General admission seating is limited and will be first-come, first-served. Reserve two seats by sending an R.S.V.P. to [WIMPYKID@ABRAMSBOOKS.COM](mailto:WIMPYKID@ABRAMSBOOKS.COM), while they last. For more information about Kinney, go to [www.wimpykid.com](http://www.wimpykid.com).

The Vegas Valley Book Festival will bring together more literary and cultural programs than ever before. The festival features more than 165 authors and 100 events, including 45 panel discussions, four keynote speakers, readings, book signings, workshops, vendor exhibits, art exhibitions, spoken word performances and other special programs for a diversity of genres, ages and cultural backgrounds. Most events are free and open to the public. This year’s festival is a featured event of the Nevada sesquicentennial celebration.

This year’s festival will present authors and events for:

- Children - in Centennial Plaza, adjacent to the Historic Fifth Street School;
- Young Adults - in two tents on the south side of the Historic Fifth Street School;
- Adults – at the Historic Fifth Street School;
- The Comic Book Fest at the Clark County Library, 1401 E. Flamingo Road; and
- Nevada Humanities Salon at the Historic Fifth Street School.

Keynote speakers will include Catherine Coulter, Robert E. Hall, Walter Dean Myers, and Luis Alberto Urrea. Author of 65 books that made The New York Times Bestseller List, Coulter alternates writing suspense thrillers with historical romances. She will open the festival on Wednesday, Oct. 30, at 7 p.m. at the Clark County Library.

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### PRODUCING PARTNERS



Robert E. Hall will lecture at 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 1, at the Charleston Heights Arts Center, located at 800 S. Brush St. Author of "This Land of Strangers: The Relationship Crisis That Imperils Home, Work, Politics and Faith," Hall delivers a wake-up call regarding a destructive trend we face – the unraveling of our relationships at home and work, in politics and faith. With compelling research, gritty stories and humor, he lays out the accumulating cost, the cause and cure of our decline.

Children's and young adult literature author Walter Dean Myers, the National Ambassador for Young People's Literature, will make the opening Saturday presentation – "Reading Is Not Optional" – at 10 a.m. Nov. 2, in the Historic Fifth Street School auditorium.

Award-winning author Luis Alberto Urrea will deliver the closing address at 5 p.m. Nov. 2, in the same location. Urrea (pronounced oo-ray-uh) is a master of language and a gifted storyteller who uses his dual Mexican/American life experiences to explore greater themes of love, loss and triumph. He has written 13 bestselling books, including Pulitzer Prize finalist "The Devil's Highway" and popular historical novels "The Hummingbird's Daughter" and "Queen of America."

For more information on the keynote speakers, go online to [www.catherinecoulter.com](http://www.catherinecoulter.com), [www.robertehall.com](http://www.robertehall.com), [www.walterdeanmyers.net/](http://www.walterdeanmyers.net/), and [www.luisurrea.com/](http://www.luisurrea.com/).

The book festival also will offer 80 young adult authors – the largest free gathering of young adult authors in the United States – for panel discussions and book signings throughout the day and a costumed "Prom through the Ages" at 8 p.m. The schedule for young adult author panels, to be held in two large tents outside the Historic Fifth Street School, is available [online](#). The festival site will host five stages with readings, entertainment and poetry; children's activities; art and vendor exhibits; interactive writing projects; and many other special programs. The children's entertainment schedule is available [online](#).

The Vegas Valley Book Festival is produced by the city of Las Vegas; Las Vegas-Clark County Library District; UNLV's Black Mountain Institute; Las Vegas Review-Journal; Las Vegas chapter of AIGA, the professional association for design; Barnes & Noble; and Nevada Humanities, a festival founder. For more festival information, call (702) 229-5902 or go online to [www.vegasvalleybookfestival.org](http://www.vegasvalleybookfestival.org).

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**Editor's note:**

High-resolution photos of the keynote speakers, participating authors and artists and last year's event are available for download at [ftp://ftp.lasvegasnevada.gov/ls/2013 Vegas Valley Book Festival/](ftp://ftp.lasvegasnevada.gov/ls/2013_Vegas_Valley_Book_Festival/). Photos of the Historic Fifth Street School are available at [ftp://ftp.lasvegasnevada.gov/ls/Historic Fifth Street School/](ftp://ftp.lasvegasnevada.gov/ls/Historic_Fifth_Street_School/). No password is required.

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