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August 20, 2026

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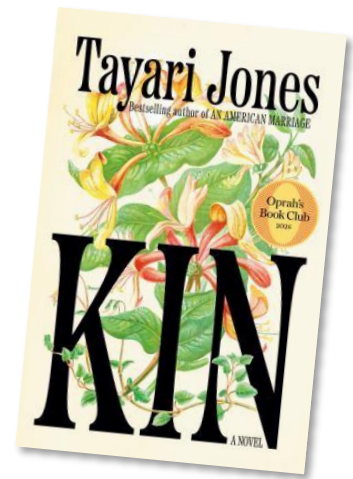


Heartland Book Festival Returns October 2–3

Local Libraries Host Bestselling Authors, Podcasters, and Illustrators During Free Two-Day Festival

Kansas City, Mo. – For the fourth consecutive year, the Heartland Book Festival will return to Kansas City, offering metro readers an opportunity to meet some of the nation’s most acclaimed writers and artists right in their own backyards.

Made possible in part by Missouri Humanities and Missouri Center for the Book, the festival will kick off on **Friday, October 2**, at Mid-Continent Public Library’s Woodneath Library Center (8900 NE Flintlock Road, Kansas City, Mo.) with award-winning author **Tayari Jones**. Jones’ novel *An American Marriage* was a 2018 Oprah’s Book Club selection and won the 2019 Women’s Prize for Fiction. Her most recent book, *Kin*, has also been met with widespread acclaim, featured among Oprah’s Book Club selections as well as former President Barack Obama’s 2026 reading list.



The Heartland Book Festival will continue on **Saturday, October 3**, at the Kansas City Public Library’s Central Library with free workshops, panels, local vendors, and activities for children. Featured presenting authors include:

- *The New York Times* bestselling author **Tessa Bailey** will discuss her latest novel, *Broken Rival*, with Kansas City-based romance author **Sierra Simone**.
- Bestselling authors **Victoria Aveyard** and **Soman Chainani** record an episode of their podcast *Plot Twist* and discuss Aveyard’s novel, *Tempest*.
- **Daniel Miyares**, critically acclaimed author-illustrator of numerous books for young readers, will talk about his graphic novel, *How to Say Goodbye in Cuban*.

For more information, visit www.heartlandbookfest.org. Free tickets will be available starting August 27.

The Heartland Book Festival is made possible in part by the Missouri Arts Council and the City of Kansas City, Missouri Neighborhood Tourist Development Fund.

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About Us

Missouri Humanities (MH) is a 501c (3) nonprofit organization that promotes a thoughtful, informed, and civil society through educational public programming and grants to Missouri organizations. MH is funded through grants and donations, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the state of Missouri. For more information, visit www.mohumanities.org or follow MH on Facebook/Instagram (@MoHumanities).

The Kansas City Public Library system consists of a central library, nine physical branches, a digital branch, and an outreach services program serving a community of over 250,000 people in Kansas City, Missouri. In addition to providing library services to residents, the Library also serves as a resource for the 1.7 million metropolitan residents of greater Kansas City.

Founded in 1965, [Mid-Continent Public Library](#) is the largest library system in the Kansas City metropolitan area, operating 34 branches and serving more than 850,000 residents in Jackson, Clay, and Platte Counties. MCPL is an award-winning library system that strives to inspire, empower, and connect its patrons and community members. Connect with the Library on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).