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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Vegas Valley Book Festival Features Children’s Activities, Entertainment & Authors

Bring The Family For Best-Selling Authors, Pulitzer Prize Winners, Book Signings And Special Events

LAS VEGAS – Sept. 26, 2016 -- The 15th annual Vegas Valley Book Festival, set for Saturday, Oct. 15, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., will offer plenty of authors and activities to interest and entertain children, as well as everyone in the family. The event will celebrate literacy and foster a love for reading and the written word at the Historic Fifth Street School, located at 401 S. Fourth St. All Vegas Valley Book Festival events are free and open to the public.

The children’s side of the Vegas Valley Book Festival features live music, crafts, performances, special bilingual entertainment, bookmaking and presentations from renowned authors and illustrators of children’s books. Children will be able to meet and greet costumed characters throughout the day, 10 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., including Clifford the big red dog, Babar the elephant, Daniel Tiger of “Daniel Tiger’s Neighborhood,” and Jet from “Ready, Jet, Go.”

Children can have story time with some of their favorite authors/illustrators at the Storytime Tent, including Megan McDonald (“Judy Moody,” “Stink” and “Sisters Club” series), Chris Van Dusen (“With Mr. Magee” series), Stephen Savage (“Where’s Walrus”), Nathan Hale (“Hazardous Tales” series), Kory Merritt (“Poptropica” series), Amy Ignatow (“The Popularity Papers” series) and husband-and-wife team Sean Qualls and Selina Alko (“The Case for Loving”). Authors will sign their books after each story time. [See the schedule for details.](#)

Local celebrity DJ Tony will keep the kids engaged at the children’s main stage with music and activities between other entertainment that will include bilingual 2015 Latin GRAMMY Award winner for Best Children’s Album, Mister G (Ben Gundersheimer). The Bushwick Book Club of Seattle will entertain with their passion for music and books, Doug Mishler will perform as Theodore Roosevelt, and DISCOVERY Children’s Museum will share an interactive performance of “Are My Eyes Playing Tricks?” [See the schedule for details.](#)

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Adult and young-adult fare will include a mix of workshops, panels and author presentations on a wide variety of genres, including fiction, non-fiction, romance, LGBTQ, mystery, thriller, crime, suspense, humor, history, comic/graphic novels, banned books, poetry and more. Celebrity authors across genres, ages, and cultural backgrounds will share their work and creative processes starting at 10 a.m.

Then at 6 p.m., the Festival's *After-Dark* event moves to the Inspire Theater, located on the corner of historic Fremont Street at 107 Las Vegas Blvd. South, for an evening of libations, a mind-opening talk with MacArthur Genius Award recipient Katherine Boo, and lively conversations into the night.

This year's festival offers a rare opportunity to meet and mingle with best-selling authors, a Latin GRAMMY Award winner, an acclaimed graphic novelist, children's book authors and illustrators, anime and historical characters, and other creatives. Attendees will enjoy books signings, readings, workshops, vendor exhibits, and other special programs. Local food trucks also will be on hand to sell refreshments.

About the Vegas Valley Book Festival

This uniquely Las Vegas event is produced through a collaboration of local public sector and nonprofit partners who work each year to enrich and expand the city's cultural life by hosting great writers, thinkers and imagineers. Now in its 15th year, the Vegas Valley Book Festival is free and open to the public, thanks to support from its producing partners: city of Las Vegas; Las Vegas-Clark County Library District; Las Vegas-Clark County Library District Foundation, Inc.; the Las Vegas Chapter of AIGA, the professional organization for design; the Las Vegas Review-Journal; Nevada Humanities; the Beverly Rogers, Carol C. Harter Black Mountain Institute at UNLV; Vegas PBS and El Tiempo. For information on volunteering, author appearances, and much more, please go online to VegasValleyBookFestival.org/. Keep up with festival news on [Twitter](#) #VVBF, [Facebook](#), [Google+](#), and [Pinterest](#), or call 702-229-5902 with questions.

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Editor's Note: Comic strip creator **Stephan Pastis** has canceled his participation in the festival due to a schedule conflict.

Photos and short biographies of participating authors and entertainers are available for download at ftp://ftp.lasvegasnevada.gov/ls/files/2016_Vegas_Valley_Book_Festival/; no password is required. High-resolution photos of the Historic Fifth Street School are available for download at ftp://ftp.lasvegasnevada.gov/ls/files/Historic_Fifth_Street_School/; no password is required.



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