**Love Great Books and Great Authors?**

**Go inside the Los Angeles Times Festival of Books with LIVE, exclusive author interviews from PBS Books and The Great American Read**

**Live online coverage this Saturday and Sunday!**

**April 21-22 from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. ET!**

**PBS Books brings you up close with the world’s great and emerging authors and celebrity writers at the largest event for books in the U.S.**

**Watch two days of coverage this week online at**

[**pbsbooks.org**](http://pbsbooks.org/) **or on** [**Facebook Live**](https://www.facebook.com/PBSBooks1/)

PBS Books has staked out a prime spot to sit down with dozens of the world’s greatest authors and celebrity writers this weekend at the venerable **Los Angeles Times Festival of Books**.

Get up close and in-depth with bestselling authors including Junot Diaz, Diana Gabaldon, Jason Reynolds and Rick Riordan, as well as award-winning and emerging authors like Robin Coste Lewis and Gabriel Tallent, plus iconic celebrities such as Moby, Gabrielle Union, Leslie Odom, Jr., Ed Asner and many more.

The 10 hours of live coverage kicks off tomorrow and includes two days of live-streamed, exclusive one-on-one interviews with featured festival authors online at [PBSBooks.org](http://www.pbs.org/book-view-now/live-stream/) and on [Facebook Live](https://www.facebook.com/PBSBooks1/) from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. ET (11 a.m. to 4 p.m. PT) both days.

Partnering with PBS Books on this year’s coverage of the Los Angeles Times Festival of Books is **The Great American Read**, a new series coming to PBS stations this year. *The Great American Read* will launch a national conversation about what we love to read and why, culminating in the first-ever national vote to choose “America’s Best-Loved Book.”

PBS Books executive producer **Rich Fahle** hosts the broadcast, along with **Jeffrey Brown**, PBS NewsHour correspondent for Arts, Culture & Society – and they are joined this year by **Ashley C. Ford**, cultural writer and author of a soon-to-be-published memoir who made the Forbes’ 30 Under 30 in Media list in 2017. Each host will interview a diverse lineup of writers to learn more about their current and upcoming projects, their inspirations, writing process and other insights.

Here is a sampling of the authors they will be talking to in Los Angeles. For the times of the interviews and the complete schedule, please check [pbsbooks.org](http://pbsbooks.org/)

**Saturday, April 21, 2018**

**Diana Gabaldon**, author of the award-winning #1 New York Times-bestselling Outlander novels

**Gabrielle Union**, activist and New York Times-bestselling author

**Caroline Fraser**, winner of the 2018 National Book Critics Circle Award for Biography

**Dan Egan**, two-time Pulitzer Prize finalist for explanatory reporting and Great Lakes reporter

**Sunday, April 22, 2018**

**Junot Diaz**, Pulitzer Prize-winning author and National Book Award finalist

**Luis Alberto Urrea**, 2005 Pulitzer Prize finalist and member of Latino Literature Hall of Fame

**Leslie Odom, Jr.**, professional actor/singer, star of Hamilton and debut author

**Maria Shriver**, Peabody and Emmy Award winning journalist/producer and bestselling author

The Los Angeles Times Festival of Books began in 1996 with the goal to bring together the people who create books with the people who love to read them. Since then, the festival has grown into a celebration of all the arts, and of the Los Angeles metropolis. Each year, over 150,000 people come to the University of Southern California campus to experience a gathering of writers, poets, artists, filmmakers and musicians. The Los Angeles Times Festival of Books is the largest festival of its kind in the United States.

Another estimated 2 million people will enjoy the proceedings digitally, thanks to PBS Books.  You can join in the conversation about your favorite authors at [PBS Books on Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/PBSBooks1/) using the hashtags #BookFest #LATFOB18.

Enjoy and share with your book-loving community!

Rich Homberg

President and CEO

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Reif Larsen - The New York Times

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