



Arizona Professional Writers

Media Contact: Carol Baxter, media@paysonbookfestival.org; 928-978-5376

FACT SHEET

AUTHORS & ARTISTS FESTIVAL – July 15, 2023

Free, family-friendly community event – Open to the public

Theme: *In Every Piece of Art There is a Story to be Told*

WHAT: Payson Book Festival is collaborating with Rim Country Artists to celebrate and promote literacy and art at our 8th annual celebration of books and art for readers and art lovers of all ages at the Authors and Artists Festival. There will be Kid Zone sessions for children. We estimate 700 visitors.

WHO: The Rim Country chapter of Arizona Professional Writers (APW), is partnering with the *Payson Roundup Newspaper*, Post Net, and Rim Country Living to present this event. Eighty authors from throughout the state will sign and sell fiction and non-fiction books of many genres. Twenty members of Rim Country Artists (RCA) will showcase and sell their traditional, mixed media, and fiber art. APW and RCA are non-profit organizations. Participating literacy groups include Gila County Library District, Rim Country Literacy, Southwest Human Development, and Dolly Parton Imaginarium.

WHEN: Saturday, July 15, 2023, from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

WHERE: Mazatzal Hotel and Casino Fireside Room and Ballroom, State Route 87, Mile Marker 251, Payson, AZ 85541

WHY: Major goals of the Payson Book Festival are to promote literacy and showcase Arizona authors and artists. The festival's mission is to enhance the love of reading by providing a friendly environment that encourages personal interaction between Arizona authors and readers of all ages. A portion of the proceeds will benefit local scholarship programs. Our collaboration with Rim Country Artists recognizes a complementary creative force.

HOW: Arizona authors will sign books and visit with readers. Arizona artists will visit with patrons. The festival's strong children's element features a Kid Zone with on demand story times, Puppet Shows with Miss Susie at 10 and 11 a.m., and Art of Storytelling sessions.

INFORMATION: Visit the website: <http://www.paysonbookfestival.org>. Photos and videos of authors are available by request. Email questions to Carol Baxter media@paysonbookfestival.org. Elizabeth Fowler, Director, Rim Country Artists <https://paysonartists.org/>.

