

NEWS RELEASE
Arizona Professional Writers – non-profit

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Payson Book Festival receives AZ Humanities grant

The Payson Book Festival, which takes place in July, is one of only four Arizona projects recently named to receive a mini-grant from Arizona Humanities.

This free community event brings more than 70 Arizona authors to Payson to help foster interest in reading among children and book-lovers of all ages. It is presented by the Rim Country chapter of Arizona Professional Writers.

“We are honored to receive this \$2,000 grant which will help pay for some expenses of this annual event that started in 2015. But we also encourage local businesses and organizations to continue sponsoring this community literacy project,” said Connie Cockrell, Festival Director. This year’s event will take place on July 22 in the ballroom of Mazatzal Hotel and Casino. More information is available at www.paysonbookfestival.org.

Last month the festival received national attention when it was mentioned during a congressional U.S. House Appropriations Committee meeting. The book festival was cited as a successful effort to address literacy problems in rural Arizona. It is among many community-based programs that benefit from funds distributed through the National Endowment for the Humanities and the National Endowment for the Arts.

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