Sixth Annual Pgh Book Fest

PGH BOOK FEST 2027

Saturday, June 5, 2027
Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh – Main (Oakland)
4400 Forbes Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Pgh Book Fest is a free event that celebrates Pittsburgh's literary community and love of reading. Organized by Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, the festival features locally and nationally recognized authors and poets, children's activities, independent bookstores, publishers, and more.

Noteworthy Names From Previous Years:

Judy Collins
Grammy award-winning artist and author of her 2025 poetry collection, *Sometimes It's Heaven*

Toi Derricotte
Co-founder of Cave Canem; Pegasus, Wallace Stevens, and Frost Medal award winner; author of six poetry collections, including *"I": New and Selected Poems*

Sony Ton-Amie
Poet and Executive Director of Pittsburgh Arts & Lectures, author of *Konbit*

Bonita Lee Penn
Managing Editor of Soul Pitt Quarterly, author of *When the Trees Finally Testify* and *Every Morning a Foot is Looking for My Neck*

Gary Jackson
Toi Derricotte Endowed Chair of English at the University of Pittsburgh; Director of the Center for African American Poetry and Poetics; author of *Small Lives*



2026 By The Numbers:

10,000+ ATTENDEES	25 POETS	47 VENDORS
75 AUTHORS	64 PROGRAMS	45 MODERATORS

pghbookfest.org

Poet Information

Panels, Programs, & Readings

Poets will have the opportunity to participate in:

- An all-day reading in a 15-minute slot
- Presenting workshops on how to write and/or read poetry, or engage with the poetry community

Stipend, Travel, & Lodging – Poetry Reading

All poets participating in a reading will receive a $100 stipend, regardless of their home locations.

Stipend, Travel, & Lodging – Poetry Programs

Poets presenting a workshop or otherwise participating in a program will be awarded a stipend based on travel distance, provided in addition to their poetry reading stipend:

Poets who live within 50 miles of the Festival will receive a $150 stipend.

Poets who live within 51-100 miles of the Festival will receive a $300 stipend.

Poets who live within 101-500 miles of the Festival will receive a $300 stipend and two nights of lodging in a hotel selected by the Festival.

Poets who live over 501 miles from the Festival will receive a $500 stipend and two nights of lodging in a hotel selected by the Festival.

Transportation from the hotel to the Festival will be paid and arranged by the Festival.

Stipends will be mailed the week after the event or hand-delivered at one of the Festival events.

Pre-Festival Poet Responsibilities

Poets must provide signed contracts by March 1, 2027. Poets are encouraged to promote the Festival through their own channels. Toolkits will be provided for each poet.

Each poet will be asked to provide a sample of up to three poems they plan to read at the Festival, including an audio/video sample.

Online Promotion

Confirmed poets will be promoted on the Festival website, across social media channels, and in the monthly newsletter following the completion of the official Poet Promotion Form.

Book Signings & Sales

Confirmed poets with published books will have the opportunity to participate in a book signing after their session. On-site book sales will be coordinated and led by local bookstores and booksellers.

Self-published poets are welcome to apply to sell their books at the Festival's *Writer's Row*.

Video & Photography

Video footage and photography will be taken during the entire duration of the Festival. The Festival reserves the right to all photography and videography taken by its personnel. Photography and videography may be used to promote the Festival.

Hospitality

A Green Room will be set up at the Festival venue to give poets a space to relax, enjoy complimentary snacks and beverages, and take a moment for themselves.

Pre-Festival Social Events

Festival participants will have the opportunity to meet authors, poets, and moderators in a casual pre-festival social setting on Friday, June 4.

There may be a chance to participate in a ticketed fundraising event prior to the event that will benefit the Festival.

Questions?

Please contact your Festival representative or pittsburghbookfestival@carnegielibrary.org.

Follow us @pghbookfest pghbookfest.org