



California Authors' Award-Winning Children's Book and Bestselling Novel Chosen to Represent California at the Library of Congress' National Book Festival

"Roadmap to Reading" Celebrates Local Literary Heritage of the States and Territories

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[Sacramento, Calif.] - The California Center for the Book and the California State Library have selected two groundbreaking and evocative books set in the Golden State to represent the state at the [2023 National Book Festival](#) of the Library of Congress, taking place on August 12 in Washington, D.C.

Wake, Sleepy One, written by Lisa Kerr and illustrated by Lisa Powell Braun, and *Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow*, by Gabrielle Zevin, will be featured at the California Center for the Book's table in the Festival's Roadmap to Reading exhibition.

"It's such an honor to represent California at this year's National Book Festival," said author Lisa Kerr. "As a native Californian and nature lover, *Wake, Sleepy One* was born out of my love of our great state's parks and nature trails. This book's publication—and honor—is a true testament to the festival's theme "Everyone has a story."

The Roadmap to Reading, sponsored by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), features displays from each of the 54 Centers for the Book: one for each state as well as the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and the Northern Marianas.

Every year, each state's Center for the Book selects both a children's book and another for a general adult audience, creating a list of books called [Great Reads from Great Places](#). Books may be written by authors from the state, take place in the state, or celebrate the state's culture and heritage. Kerr and Zevin are both California-based authors who selected the state as locations in their works.

Festival attendees can visit each state and territory table and learn about their state's literature, including their "Great Reads" selections. *Wake, Sleepy One* author Kerr will appear at the California Center for the Book booth to sign books and talk to readers. She also participated in a panel discussion with other "Great Reads" authors, which can be viewed [online](#).

Kerr's [Wake, Sleepy One](#), published by West Margin Press, an imprint of Turner Publishing Company, follows California's state flower (the California poppy) on an incredible journey, from seed, to flower, to the rare super bloom. *Wake, Sleepy One*, was the 2023 recipient of the California Library Association's (CLA) John and Patricia Beatty Literature Award in Children's and Young Adult Literature. The Beatty Award honors the author of distinguished books that best promotes an awareness of California and its people.

Zevin's novel [Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow](#) spans 30 years, from Cambridge, Massachusetts, to Venice Beach, California, examining identity, games as artform, disability, failure, the redemptive possibilities in play, and above all, the need to be loved and to love.

The 23rd Annual Library of Congress National Book Festival will be held at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Washington, D.C., on Saturday, August 12, from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. (doors open at 8:30 a.m.). The event is free and open to the public. A selection of programs will be [livestreamed online](#) and videos of all programs will be available shortly after the Festival.

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About the California Center for the Book: The California Center for the Book is California's state affiliate of the National Center for the Book at the Library of Congress in Washington, DC. The California Center for the Book works with the Library of Congress, the California State Library, and local libraries throughout the state to fulfill the center's mission of promoting our state and nation's diverse literary heritage through books, reading, libraries, and literacy initiatives. [Center for the Book website](#)

About the State Library: Established in 1850, the California State Library is the central reference and research library for state government and the legislature. The library collection includes more than 4 million titles, 6,000 maps and 250,000 photographs, and includes an extensive collection of documents from and about the state's rich history. Around the state, the State Library also serves California's local libraries, providing more than \$500 million state and federal funds to support public libraries and delivering statewide library programs and services.

In addition to acting as a steward of California's history, the State Library is investing nearly \$500 million to modernize and renovate the state's 1,127 local libraries, bringing the Dolly Parton Imagination Library to every California child under the age of 5, and building a statewide eBook library with diverse titles in 80 languages. [State Library website](#)