



Ink & Insight

Brigham Young University-Idaho Literary Festival

November 4th, 2023

A Message from the Director

Dear Esteemed Guests, Faculty, and Beloved Students,

Welcome to *Ink & Insight*. As the director of this event, I'm thrilled to see your love for language and literature in action. This festival celebrates the enduring power of stories and the art of communication. At its core are our students, the heartbeat of our Department of English, who inspire us with their passion.

To our students, I'm profoundly grateful. Your enthusiasm, creativity, and knowledge-seeking drive propel humanity to new heights. Your words bring magic to the pages of books. I urge you to keep writing and reading. Your words have the power to heal, inspire, and change the world. As you explore this literary treasure trove, remember that every story is a new world, and every poem is a glimpse into someone's soul. Embrace diverse voices, cultures, and ideas—for literature unites us. Engage in discussions, share your work, and connect with fellow enthusiasts. Make our department a nurturing community.

I extend my heartfelt thanks to our faculty, staff, volunteers, sponsors, and partners who made this festival possible.

Let this festival remind us of the beauty and power of language and literature. Together, we'll keep exploring, creating, and sharing the magic of words.

Warmest regards,

G. Palmer Thorne

Event Director

Keynote Speakers



Brandon Mull is an American author known for his contributions to the young adult and middle-grade fantasy genres. He was born on November 8, 1974, in Alexandria, Virginia. Mull is best known for his imaginative and adventurous storytelling, which has earned him a dedicated fan base. He is best known for writing the Fablehaven and Beyonders series. Mull is passionate about his faith, saying that it has given him the drive and motivation to pursue his dreams, and that writing and creating has brought him closer to God. Mull will be speaking on morality in writing, how to navigate faith and the demands of the public, how to be true to yourself as you encounter success in your creative career, and how to promote your work (and yourself!) in a world that might hold opinions and values that are different from yours.



John Green is an American author born on August 24, 1977, known for his popular young adult novels, including “Looking for Alaska,” “The Fault in Our Stars,” and “Turtles All the Way Down.” His writing explores themes of love, identity, and self-discovery, and they have touched millions. Green is also famous for his YouTube channel with his brother Hank, where they engage with a wide online audience on subjects of literature, writing, and science. Green will be speaking on his experience as an author; how he has turned out so many books, what helps him in his story crafting, how to interact with agents, publishers, and editors, and how he keeps his motivation and creativity high.

These wonderful authors have a wide range of experience in the literary field and they have a lot of wisdom to share! There will be a Q&A session after each presentation; please prepare your questions beforehand to keep everything moving along quickly and smoothly. We want everyone to get a chance to ask a question!

Schedule of Events

Opening Remarks 9:00

Keynote Speaker, Brandon Mull 9:30

Personal Values in Storytelling 10:30

This workshop encourages participants to explore their personal values and beliefs and how they can infuse them into their storytelling. It emphasizes the power of using one's values to create compelling narratives.

Luncheon 12:00

Play-giarism: Ripping Off Your Ideas As Soon as You Say Them 1:00

Come witness a true melding of the written and performed arts! Special Guest Traci Hunter Abramson, local author known for her exciting action-adventure novels, and Rexburg Community Theater team up for a wild event of hilarity. Ms. Abramson will be onstage, riffing and inventing a new short story off the top of her head, while the Theater group must do their best to act it all out in real-time! No prep for either side, but both are very talented! How will It all go down? Come and find out!

Publishing Industry Insider Workshop 1:30

Offers insights into the traditional publishing industry, including how to approach literary agents, submit manuscripts, and navigate the publishing process.

Writing for Social Change Workshop 3:00

Focuses on using storytelling to address social issues and change perspectives. Participants learn how to write stories that raise awareness and promote positive change in society.

Keynote Speaker, John Green

4:30

Self-Publishing and Indie Author Workshop

5:30

Focuses on the practical aspects of self-publishing, including book formatting, cover design, marketing, and distribution. It provides insights into the world of independent authorship.

What Are Your Words Worth? : A Game Show to Prove Your English Degree is Worth Something!

7:00

Dinner Served

Hosted by beloved local Author, Sarah M. Eden, writer of “Seeking Persephone,” amongst many other regency romances, this event will test your knowledge of poetry, from early American writers to now! Students who wish to participate must sign up by 3pm today at Rigby 123 to be placed into a bracket. When the event begins at 5 pm, the students will all be pitted against one another until only one is left standing. The grand prize? A leather bound edition of A Treasury of Classic Poetry!

Luncheon & Dinner

Luncheon

Sponsored by IBC

Sandwiches and wraps

The IBC company “Go Ham or Go Home” gives a wide selection of wraps and sandwiches (beyond just ham!). Their classic and most popular variety for both sandwiches and wraps is the ham and cheese with spinach. Other favorites include the Mediterranean wrap with roasted peppers and tomatoes, pesto and feta or the provolone and salami sandwich (grilled options available!

Tacos

The IBC company, the “Taco Teasers,” debuts their newest taco variety: carne asada with fresh lime! This adds on to their already mouth-wateringly flavorful menu.

Churros

The IBC “Cheeky Churros” company adds a sweet hit to the end of your meal with chocolate dipped, fried glory or options for caramel, sprinkles, or nerds. Or if you’re feeling particularly brave, they have a chili chocolate churro to provide a punch for your taste buds.

Dinner

Rotisserie Chicken

Charcuterie Board

Secret Garden Salad

Spiced Apple Cider

(Vegan options available upon request)

Dessert

Chocolate Chunk Cookies

Dutch Oven-Cooked Peach
Cobbler

Pumpkin Chocolate Bread

Thank You to Our Sponsors

We extend our sincerest gratitude to our sponsoring IBC companies “Go Ham or Go Home,” “Taco Teasers,” and “Cheeky Churros” from BYU–Idaho’s excelling business students for their generous support and delectable contributions to our literary festival. Your culinary offerings add a remarkable dimension to our event, delighting our attendees.

Thank you for helping make our festival memorable.



