



FESTIBA FACTS

- The UTPA College of Arts and Humanities created FESTIBA in 2006 with the goal of increasing South Texas children's interest and appreciation for reading in order to better prepare them for secondary and postsecondary education.
- FESTIBA was modeled after UTPA's Hispanic Engineering, Science and Technology (HESTEC) Week, a year-round leadership program that aims at increasing the participation rates of Hispanics in STEM fields.
- Located in the southernmost tip of Texas, the Rio Grande Valley has a population that is 90% Hispanic, representing 2.5% of the total U.S. Hispanic population. FESTIBA is the perfect venue to reach out to the fastest growing ethnic group in the country.
- One of the nation's oldest and largest nonprofit children's literacy organizations, Reading is Fundamental Inc. (RIF), is a vital FESTIBA partner. The partnership distributes more than 300,000 books among students in grades Pre-K 6th at local South Texas schools during FESTIBA Week.
- Through their participation in FESTIBA, the South Texas Literacy Coalition seeks to enhance learning opportunities for all of South Texas (Region One Education Service Area) by ensuring all children and families have access to strong integrated literacy services and resources.

CONTACT INFORMATION

DR. DAHLIA GUERRA, DEAN
College of Arts and Humanities
guerrad@utpa.edu • (956) 665-2175

JESSICA IDY SALINAS, MBA
Exec. Dir. for Community and Economic Development
lopezi@utpa.edu • (956) 665-3361

FESTIBA SPONSORS



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

1-888-432-4033 • WWW.UTPA.EDU/FESTIBA



The University of Texas-Pan American presents:

FESTIBA
FESTIVAL OF INTERNATIONAL BOOKS & ARTS

*Reading along
the Rio Grande*

March 28-April 2, 2011



The University of Texas-Pan American presents:



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OVERVIEW

The Festival of International Books and Arts (FESTIBA) was created in 2006 to promote an interest and appreciation for reading and early literacy, celebrate and appreciate the arts and humanities, and broaden cultural awareness within the South Texas community.

Through the support of its steadfast sponsors and supporters, including the South Texas Literacy Coalition and Reading is Fundamental, FESTIBA has evolved into a regional event. With the lowest achievement and attainment rates, as well as the highest dropout rate of any minority group, Hispanics are the only group in the U.S. whose literacy scores have decreased in the past decade (U.S. Department of Education, 2007). By bringing together outstanding scholars, authors, and educators in their disciplines to UTPA and the surrounding community to contribute their expertise, encourage intellectual inquiry and exchange, and improve the capacity to teach and understand the humanities, FESTIBA strives to enhance literacy in South Texas.

By means of the theme "Reading Along the Rio Grande," FESTIBA not only seeks to reduce the deficient literacy rates of Hispanics at the regional and national level, but also to benefit South Texas, an area that is predominantly Hispanic, through events that introduce insightful ideas and creativity. FESTIBA hopes to inspire the pursuit of higher education, as well as preserve the musical and artistic heritage of the region.

Join us in our efforts to promote literacy to our South Texas youth!

Monday, March 28, 2011

EDUCATOR AND LIBRARIAN DAY

This event showcases hands-on literacy workshops for educators and librarians to inspire their students' love for reading and features expert keynote speakers on early childhood literacy.

CONGRESSIONAL ROUNDTABLE

Hosted by Congressman Rubén Hinojosa (TX-15), the Congressional Roundtable brings together renowned guest authors, educators, exceptional scholars, and high-profile key community figures to discuss the importance of fostering literacy from the onset of early childhood.

Tuesday, March 29, 2011

"READING ROCK STARS"

Sponsored by the Texas Book Festival and UTPA, famous authors visit public schools to distribute books to children across the Valley and interact with them through storytelling.

FESTIBA HOT SPOTS

From storytelling to an astonishing light show, groups of students from elementary schools throughout South Texas visit various educational exhibits and see neat shows at UTPA!

Wednesday, March 30, 2011

"READING ROCK STARS" FESTIBA HOT SPOTS

TBEC DINNER

UTPA honors South Texas schools named as the 2010 Honor Roll Schools by the Texas Business and Education Coalition (TBEC).

Thursday, March 31, 2011

GEAR UP DAYS AT UTPA FEATURING REGION ONE GEAR UP

500 Region One Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP) students visit the campus on a day that promises an exciting, educational, and inspiring lineup of activities and presenters.

Friday, April 1, 2011

GEAR UP DAYS AT UTPA FEATURING UTPA GEAR UP

500 UTPA GEAR UP students spend the day on the UTPA campus attending educational and inspiring presentations and participating in exciting activities.

Saturday, April 2, 2011

FESTIBA COMMUNITY FESTIVAL

This event is the culmination of a week of cultural and educational exchange. The day features top of the line entertainment with musical performances by internationally acclaimed musicians, a book fair with book displays and children's plays, a mariachi competition, art exhibits, storytelling, author signings, and a variety of artistic vendors.

All Week

FACULTY AND STUDENT PERFORMANCES, PRESENTATIONS AND EXHIBITS

Our own UTPA faculty and students present, perform, and exhibit their research and areas of expertise.

"BORDER HEROES" ACADEMIC CONFERENCE

In collaboration with the Museum of South Texas History, "Border Heros" celebrates the important contributions of those who shaped South Texas border cultures, while also building models of multicultural understanding, tolerance and productivity for the entire nation.