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Best-selling authors S. Jae-Jones and David Baldacci to speak at Orlando Book Festival

ORLANDO, Fla. (March 6, 2018) - *New York Times* best-selling authors S. Jae-Jones and David Baldacci will deliver keynotes and meet with book fans at the annual Orlando Book Festival at the Orlando Public Library in April.

S. Jae-Jones, author of the *New York Times* best-seller *Wintersong* and its sequel, *Shadowsong*, will kick off the day with an opening keynote. David Baldacci, international best-selling author of over 35 novels –

several of which have been adapted to film – will deliver the closing keynote. During the festival, book lovers and aspiring authors can take part in several panel discussions and workshops led by featured authors from across the country. The day will conclude with a book signing by each author. The Orlando Book Festival is a day-long celebration, taking place on Saturday, April 21 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Orlando Public Library, 101 East Central Blvd. The festival is free, but seating for the David Baldacci keynote is limited; a limited number of wristbands will be distributed starting at 9:30 a.m. For more details and a complete schedule of events, visit www.ocls.info/obf.

When interviewed by library staff recently about becoming a writer, Baldacci said, “I was hooked. Writing wasn’t just a part of my life, it was who I was.” Baldacci and his wife have also established the Wish You Well Foundation, which supports family and adult literacy. “We have an illiteracy problem in this country and it permeates all of society,” he said. “Without that one tool, the ability to read, one can never reach their potential. I refuse to give up on people who simply need an opportunity.”

Jae-Jones, or JJ, also spoke to library staff recently about being an author. “It is simultaneously the most fun and the most difficult job I’ve ever had,” she said. When discussing the most important trait for aspiring authors to have, she stated that “tenacity is key. The ability to pick yourself up and keep going when you fall is the one thing all authors have in common.”

The Orlando Book Festival is sponsored by Writer’s Block Bookstore, Your Community Bookstore. For more information, visit www.writersblockbookstore.com.

The Orlando Book Festival is an annual celebration of literature held at the Orlando Public Library that hosts best-selling authors from around the world for panels, writing workshops, book signings and more.

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About the Orange County Library System

The Orange County Library System is a public library system that serves its patrons by providing access to collections, facilities, events and services that connect our community to the evolving world of ideas, information and technology. For more information on the Orange County Library system, visit ocls.info. Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).