WHAT IS WORLD BOOK AND COPYRIGHT DAY?



World Book and Copyright Day is a United Nations day observed by UNESCO to promote the enjoyment of books and reading.

This day commemorates all book-related activities such as: reading, writing, publishing and translation.

This is the time to celebrate the value of reading, to encourage the growth of children as writers, and to encourage a passion for literature and its incorporation into the world of work for a lifetime.

https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/worldbookday

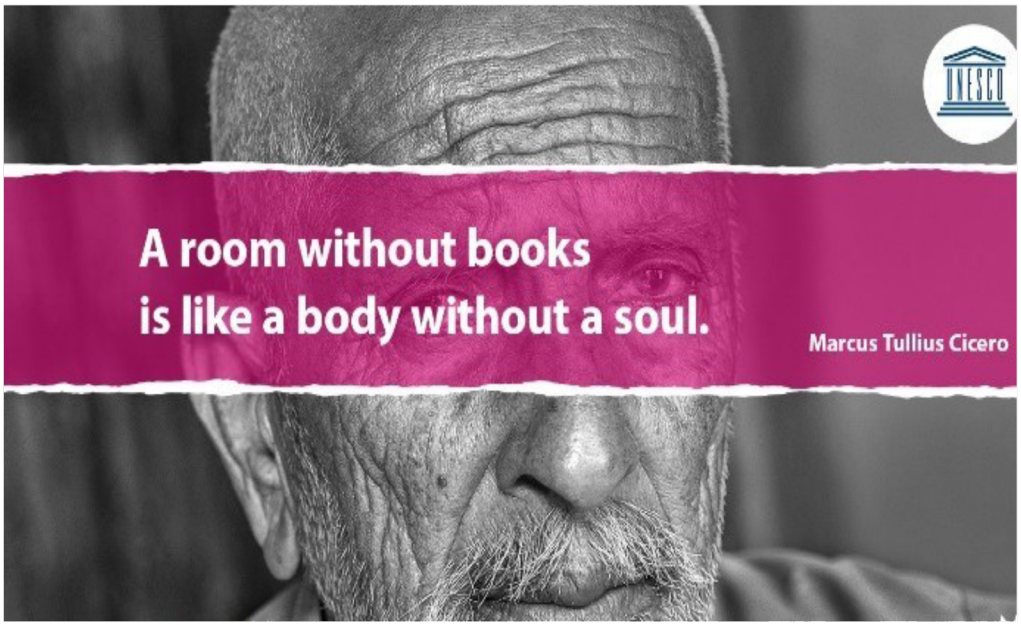
https://swikblog.com/world-book-and-copyright-day-2020-theme-and-importance/

WHY READING IS MORE IMPORTANT NOW THAN EVER!

At a time when most schools around the world are closed and people are having to limit their time spent outdoors, the power of books should be leveraged to combat isolation, reinforce ties between people and expand our horizons, while stimulating our minds and creativity.

World Book and Copyright Day, celebrated on the 23 April, can open ourselves to others despite distance, and we can travel the world and beyond using our imaginations.

From April 1st to 23rd, UNESCO will share quotes, poems and messages to symbolize the power of books and encourage reading as much as possible.



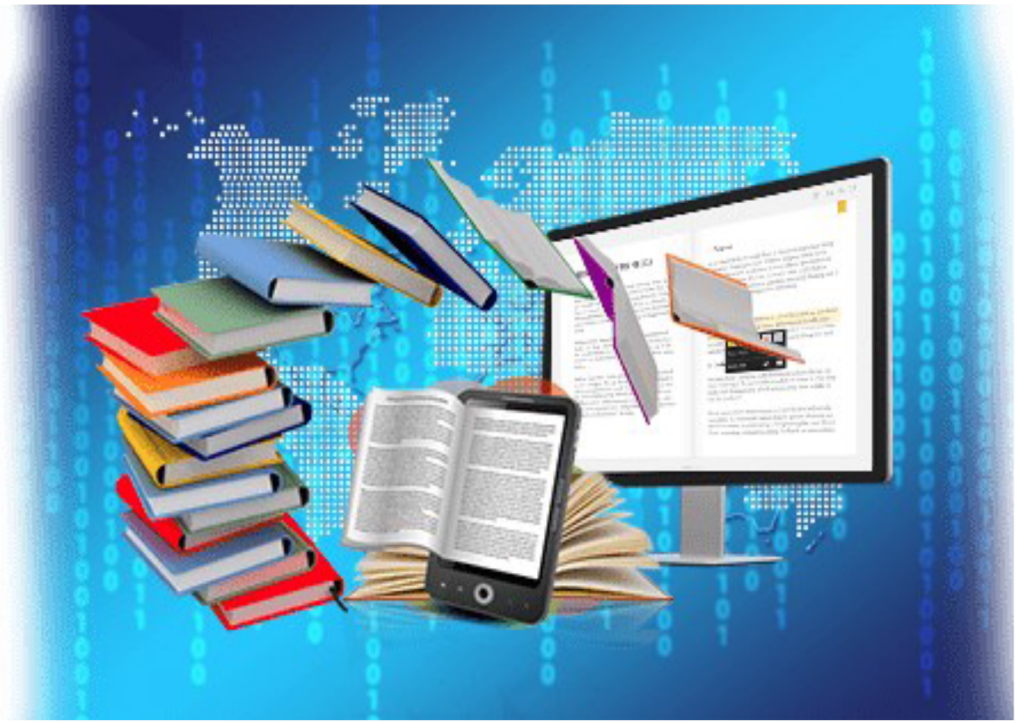
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Digital libraries can ensure continuity as Covid-19 puts brake to academic activity

UNESCO has launched the Global Education Coalition to help countries scale up their best distance learning practices.

Digital libraries and publishers have risen to the occasion, offering more and more free content and curating personalized collections so that people can continue to read and learn without disruption.

Indeed, as the demand for credible e-resources surges, digital libraries have emerged as vital pathways to high -quality e-books, journals and educational content.



https://en.unesco.org/news/digital-libraries-can-ensure-continuity-covid-19-puts-brake-academic-activity

Manifesto for Digital Libraries

UNESCO and the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) point out that 'the mission of the digital library is to give direct access to information resources …in a structured and authoritative manner and thus to link information technology, education and culture in contemporary library service.'

Digital libraries are helping us achieve certain key targets of the Sustainable Development Goals. In particular, their power to 'ensure public access to information', to 'safeguard the world's cultural heritage', and to provide 'safe, inclusive and effective learning environments for all'.

Statistics from the world's leading e-libraries testify to their cultural significance. For instance, Europeana, a pan-European-Union virtual library, grants its half-a-million users access to almost 58 million pieces of digital content every year.



https://en.unesco.org/news/digital-libraries-can-ensure-continuity-covid-19-puts-brake-academic-activity



Welcome to the Bocas Lit Fest, celebrating books, writing, and writers in Trinidad and Tobago.

Bocas Lit Fest is a registered non-profit company incorporated in Trinidad and Tobago. It is a dedicated to year-round writing and literary arts development, with numerous initiatives forging links and opportunities between writers, readers, publishers and others.

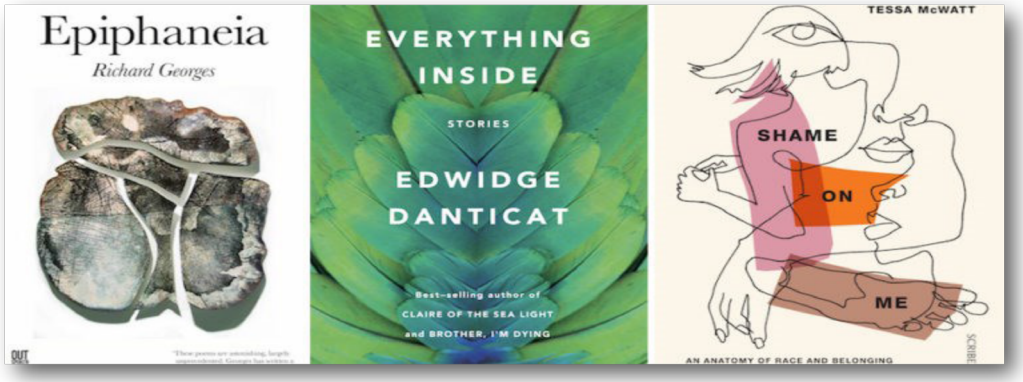
The NGC Bocas Lit Fest, Trinidad and Tobago's annual literary festival (named as one of the world's best literary festivals), administers major regional writing prizes which provide crucial support for Caribbean writers, including the prestigious OCM Bocas Prize for Caribbean Literature and The Johnson and Amoy Achong Caribbean Writers Prize.

The Writers Centre, home to the Bocas Lit Fest and the 2 Cents Movement is dedicated to writers and literary programmes in Trinidad and Tobago.

https://www.bocaslitfest.com/about/

Goals of the NGC Bocas Lit Fest

- To celebrate the Caribbean's literary achievements in a festive atmosphere
- To broaden our cultural capital into an area in which we have already excelled, and to which many aspire
- To foster interest in reading and writing
- To help demystify books and improve literacy
- To help sustain the book industry, which supports this
- To expand our idea of literature by including performance poetry and rapso
- To exploit and enhance our presence on the world stage
- To administer annual prizes for Caribbean writers



THE 2020 OCM BOCAS PRIZE SHORTLIST

Books by three writers spanning the region and its diasporas have been shortlisted for the 2020 OCM Bocas Prize for Caribbean Literature.

https://www.bocaslitfest.com/about/

https://www.bocaslitfest.com/2020/04/02/announcing-the-2020-ocm-bocas-prize-shortlist/



First Citizens National Poetry Slam

Open to all ages, the First Citizens National Poetry Slam is T&T's national spoken word competition, sponsored by First Citizens in collaboration with the Bocas Lit Fest and the 2 Cents Movement. Participants go through a three-round process: auditions, semi-finals, and finals (the finale event of the NGC Bocas Lit Fest).

Every year, hundreds of poets compete for a grand prize of $50,000.00 — the largest spoken word prize offered in the region — plus a second prize of $20,000 and third prize of $10,000.

In 2020, The First Citizens National Poetry Slam Presents: Slamageddon! Slam auditions were in January 2020, and the Semi-Final round originally planned for March 2020 have been postponed to later in the year. The Grand Slam finale will remain as the closing event of the NGC Bocas Lit Fest, now carded 20 September, 2020.

https://www.bocaslitfest.com/2019/spoken-word/

Secondary Schools Tour

At the core of Bocas Lit Fest's partnership with the 2 Cents Movement is the development of youth and outreach programs in schools. Since 2013, their secondary schools spoken word tour has visited at least 50 secondary schools every year in the first term (September to December) and has produced some very impactful work. The tour promotes art and literacy and actively engages students in critical thought, while offering a stimulating and entertaining experience of poetry. Many of the students then go on to participate in Raise the Bar, a spoken word school festival and competition.

Raise the Bar

RTB (Raise the Bar) is a school festival where secondary school students from around the country showcase their talents in an intercollegiate spoken word competition. In 2019, 18 secondary school teams vied for the top title and trophy, with South East Port-of-Spain Secondary placing first, Arima North Secondary placing second and St George's College placing third.



https://www.bocaslitfest.com/2019/spoken-word/

What is the 2 Cents Movement?

The 2 Cents Movement is a youth-focused non-profit organisation that uses performance art in youth outreach aimed at creating confident, socially-conscious, responsible young citizens.

U.WE Speak and USC Speak

The oldest existing open mic in Trinidad and Tobago, U.WE Speak was established at the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus by Muhammad Muwakil and Nku Davis in 2005 as a space for students to explore societal issues through arts and discussion. Currently, both U.WE Speak and USC Speak (at the University of the Southern Caribbean) are produced by the 2 Cents Movement, in collaboration with the Bocas Lit Fest, and remain a compelling part of campus life and a space for creative discourse.

https://2centsmovement.com/