



Virtual

Autograph Series 2021

FRIDAY, APRIL 16TH 7-8:30 PM

VIP HAPPY HOUR 6-7 PM

Featured Author

New York Times Bestselling Author **Ben Fountain**

Honorary Chair

Secretary **Julián Castro**

Autograph Series Committee

Zinnia Bayardo, Lyn Belisle, Tiffany Jenkins, Steven G. Kellman,
Patricia Portales, Andrew Porter, Patricia Pratchett, Barbara Ras,
Bonnie Reed, Josie Seeligson, Alexandra van de Kamp, Eddie Vega

Autograph Series 2021

Featuring *New York Times* Bestselling Author Ben Fountain

Autograph Series presents writers of national and international stature in free public performances. This year's virtual event has been re-imagined with a **lunchtime event designed especially for San Antonio High Schoolers** and a **free public evening reading and Q&A**. We have created an unforgettable evening celebrating a major voice in American Literary Arts—*all viewable from the front row seat of your home!*

Don't miss this chance to get up close and personal with *New York Times* bestselling writer **Ben Fountain**. Known for his "wicked sense of humor" and "razor-sharp insight," Fountain interrogates every aspect of American life, from presidential campaigns to NFL Sunday, food fads, and our media glorification of war.

A former practicing attorney, Fountain is the author of ***Brief Encounters with Che Guevara***, which won the PEN/Hemingway Award and the Barnes & Noble Discover Award for Fiction, and the novel ***Billy Lynn's Long Halftime Walk***, winner of the National Book Critics' Circle Award and a National Book Award finalist. Adapted into a feature film by director Ang Lee, *Billy Lynn* has been called the "The *Catch-22* of the Iraq War." Fountain's series of essays published in *The Guardian* on the 2016 U.S. presidential election became his 2018 masterpiece: ***Beautiful Country Burn Again***. Fountain's work has been translated into over twenty languages.





Julián Castro



Ben Fountain



Gilbert Garcia

AT THE EVENING PUBLIC READING:

Hear from our Honorary Chair Secretary **Julián Castro** and *San Antonio Express-News* columnist **Gilbert Garcia**

Experience a reading from
New York Times Bestselling Author
Ben Fountain

Don't miss our VIP Happy Hour with Ben Fountain and a line-up of San Antonio writers! Enjoy our signature cocktail—the "Fountain of Inspiration" or your beverage of choice—as you listen to a lively pre-event discussion!

Autograph Series 2021

Sponsorship Levels

Epic(\$5,000)

- Underwrite 20 San Antonio high schoolers to enjoy a lunchtime virtual event with Ben Fountain on April 16th featuring an interview with Yvette Benavides. Secretary Julián Castro will kick off the event with a warm welcome! This sponsorship includes a swag bag for each student with a signed copy of a book by Mr. Fountain and a boxed lunch or luncheon voucher. Inspire our high schoolers in these challenging times!
- 12 tickets to our evening VIP pre-event happy hour featuring an engaging discussion with Ben Fountain and three San Antonio literary stars.
- Sit back and enjoy our evening reading with Mr. Fountain followed by a Q&A moderated by journalist Gilbert Garcia. A special appearance by Secretary Julián Castro will be a part of the night!
- Premiere sponsor recognition on website, social media, and print materials for one year.
- Safely delivered "event bags" for you and 11 friends. This includes Tito's Vodka, a signature recipe for our "Fountain of Inspiration" cocktail, and a ticket for a chance to win our Autograph raffle prize.*

Autograph Luncheon for High Schoolers
Fri, April 16, 2021
11:30am-1pm
Sponsor a high schooler!



Yvette Benavides
Professor of English and creative writing at Our Lady of the Lake University and host of Texas Public Radio's *Book Public* podcast will interview Ben Fountain at the luncheon.

Novel (\$3,500)

- Underwrite 10 San Antonio high schoolers to enjoy a lunchtime virtual event with Ben Fountain on April 16th featuring an interview with Yvette Benavides. Secretary Julián Castro will kick off the event with a warm welcome! This sponsorship includes a swag bag for each student with a signed copy of a book by Mr. Fountain and a boxed lunch or luncheon voucher. Inspire our high schoolers in these challenging times!
- 10 tickets to our evening VIP pre-event happy hour featuring an engaging discussion with Ben Fountain and three San Antonio literary stars.
- Sit back and enjoy our evening reading with Mr. Fountain followed by a Q&A moderated by journalist Gilbert Garcia. A special appearance by Secretary Julián Castro will be a part of the night!
- Premiere sponsor recognition on website, social media, and print materials for one year.
- Safely delivered "event bags" for you and 9 friends including Tito's Vodka, a signature recipe for our "Fountain of Inspiration" cocktail, and a ticket for a chance to win our Autograph raffle prize.*

Autograph Series 2021

Sponsorship Levels

Novella (\$2,500)

- Underwrite 10 San Antonio high schoolers to enjoy a lunchtime virtual event with Ben Fountain on April 16th featuring an interview with Yvette Benavides. Secretary Julián Castro will kick off the event with a warm welcome! This sponsorship includes a swag bag for each student with a signed copy of a book by Mr. Fountain and a boxed lunch or luncheon voucher. Inspire our high schoolers in these challenging times!
- 8 tickets to our pre-event evening VIP virtual happy hour featuring an engaging discussion with Ben Fountain and three San Antonio Literary Stars.
- Sit back and enjoy our evening reading with Mr. Fountain followed by a Q&A moderated by journalist Gilbert Garcia. A special appearance by Secretary Julián Castro will be a part of the night!
- Premiere sponsor recognition on website, social media, and print materials for six months.
- Safely delivered "event bags" for you and 7 friends including Tito's Vodka, a signature recipe for our "Fountain of Inspiration" cocktail, and a ticket for a chance to win our Autograph raffle prize.*

Short Story (\$1,500)

- Underwrite 10 San Antonio high schoolers to enjoy a lunchtime virtual event with Ben Fountain on April 16th featuring an interview with Yvette Benavides. Secretary Julián Castro will kick off the event with a warm welcome! This sponsorship includes a swag bag for each student with a signed copy of a book by Mr. Fountain and a boxed lunch or luncheon voucher. Inspire our high schoolers in these challenging times!
- 6 tickets to our pre-event evening VIP virtual happy hour featuring an engaging discussion with Ben Fountain and three San Antonio Literary Stars.
- Sit back and enjoy our evening reading with Mr. Fountain followed by a Q&A moderated by journalist Gilbert Garcia. A special appearance by Secretary Julián Castro will be a part of the night!
- Premiere sponsor recognition on website, social media, and print materials for three months.
- Safely delivered "event bags" for you and 5 friends including Tito's Vodka, a signature recipe for our "Fountain of Inspiration" cocktail, and a ticket for a chance to win our Autograph raffle prize.*

Autograph Series 2021

Flash Fiction (\$500)

- Underwrite 5 San Antonio high schoolers to enjoy a lunchtime virtual event with Ben Fountain on April 16th featuring an interview with Yvette Benavides. Secretary Julián Castro will kick off the event with a warm welcome! This sponsorship includes a swag bag for each student with a signed copy of a book by Mr. Fountain and a boxed lunch or luncheon voucher. Inspire our high schoolers in these challenging times!
- 4 tickets to our pre-event evening VIP virtual happy hour featuring an engaging discussion with Ben Fountain and three San Antonio Literary Stars.
- Sit back and enjoy our evening reading with Mr. Fountain followed by a Q&A moderated by journalist Gilbert Garcia. A special appearance by Secretary Julián Castro will be a part of the night!
- Premiere sponsor recognition on website, social media, and print materials for 1 month.
- Safely delivered "event bags" for you and 3 friends including Tito's Vodka, a signature recipe for our "Fountain of Inspiration" cocktail, and a ticket for a chance to win our Autograph raffle prize.*

*If you prefer, you may forego the option for event bags for you and your guests, and we will direct those funds towards support of Gemini Ink's programs.

Donate to the Cary Clack Scholarship Fund
The Cary Clack Scholarship Fund will give a fellow literary lover access to our public classes.

Help someone bring their story to life.

Our strategic vision is to teach 12,000 people how to bring their stories to life by 2022.

www.geminiink.org