



October 18, 2023

Dear Potential Book Vendor:

It is our pleasure to invite you to participate as a vendor at the First Tampa International Book Fair, from Thursday evening March 7<sup>th</sup> to Sunday evening March 10<sup>th</sup>, in Ybor City (Tampa, Florida). The actual book expo portion of the Fair will take place from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. on both Saturday March 9<sup>th</sup> and Sunday March 10<sup>th</sup>.

The history of Tampa, like that of so many cities in this country, is extraordinarily multiculturally rich. For this reason, it deserves to have International Book Fair that becomes a yearly readers' festival—a place for the entire community to gather and celebrate the city's unique history, present, and future.

The Tampa International Book Fair (TIBF) is an initiative of the Tampa Lector Consortium in collaboration with the Círculo Cubano of Tampa (the Cuban Club), Hillsborough Community College, several professors from academic institutions in Tampa and Miami, Florida, and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, as well as other Tampa-area professionals who have committed their time and talent to the project.

The Festival's main objective is to foster reading and encourage all sorts of readers through the creation of spaces that endorse the value to books and culture through these three fundamental activities:

- Creating spaces that promote reading;
- Designing an agenda that includes national and international guests who will speak on varied topics and for different audiences, and activities for children and youth;
- Offering a varied exhibit that will include publishers, distributors, bookstores, and authors that have a presence in Florida and elsewhere.

Given its increasing urban renewal, the TIBF will help Ybor City return to its origins, a tobacco town that virtually put Tampa on the global map and surpassed even Cuba in its cigar production in the 1930s. It was in its factories that tobacco workers hired and paid readers (*lectores*) who read them both news and great classics of literature while they worked.

The Tampa International Book Fair is conceived within this legacy and in its first year celebrates those and all readers, books, and book lovers. For this purpose, we will be offering different

opportunities in diverse spaces so that visitors can enjoy multiple experiences involving books and reading.

What will you find at the first Tampa International Book Fair is a varied program organized by cultural organizations for all audiences. Among these activities will be:

- Book presentations (both in-person and virtual)
- Talks by international and national authors (both in-person and virtual)
- Public readings by actors in their role as cigar factory *lectores*
- Tours of Ybor City's historic district
- Activities for young children and adolescents
- A networking event for national and international publishers, editors, and authors (closed to the public)

Access to the TIBF for the general public will be entirely *free of charge*

All of the Tampa International Book Fair's face-to-face and virtual events, and books sales, will take place from Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup> to Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

As a vendor, you will be able to promote and sell any of your products keeping 100% of your profits (all vendors, with the exception of food vendors, must have a direct correlation with the book industry).

There are two booth sizes available, a 10x10 (approximate) space or two side-by-side booths. Each booth comes with an eight-foot table with tablecloth and two chairs.

Individual authors are also encouraged to share a booth with another author and split the price. We can assist you in pairing up with someone, if you'd like.

<b>Registration Period</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Single booth / Double booth</b>	<b>Tent</b>
Early registration	December 15, 2023	\$ 200 / \$350	\$70/per tent
Regular registration	January 15, 2024	\$ 225 / \$375	\$80/per tent
Late registration	February 1, 2024	\$ 250 / \$400	\$90/per tent

To confirm your interest in participating in the 2024 First Tampa International Book Fair, please write to <[info@tampainternationalbookfair.com](mailto:info@tampainternationalbookfair.com)> or call/text (813) 370-0759 or (813) 325-0599.

We look forward to hearing from you and to your help in making the Tampa International Book Fair Tampa's premier book event.

Cordially,

The TIBF Organizing Committee