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DATES ANNOUNCED FOR SEVENTH ANNUAL TEXAS TRIBUNE FESTIVAL SEPTEMBER 22-24 ON THE UT-AUSTIN CAMPUS

AUSTIN, TEXAS (FEB. 7, 2017) – The seventh annual <u>Texas Tribune Festival</u> will return to the University of Texas at Austin campus the weekend of Sept. 22-24, 2017, The Texas Tribune announced today. The Festival is The Texas Tribune's signature annual event.

The Festival's crowd-pleasing format will go unchanged, featuring three days of political debate and dialogue with some of the biggest names and brains in the world of politics and public policy. Attendees can look forward to panel debates and discussions on topics such as public education, criminal justice, energy, the environment, transportation, immigration and more — all alongside unparalleled networking opportunities, fun receptions and delicious bites from Austin's famous food trucks.

The 2016 Festival shattered previous records attracting 87,000 combined in-person attendees and livestream viewers throughout the weekend. High-profile speakers from the event included U.S. Sen. **Ted Cruz**, R-Texas; **Wendy Davis**, 2014 Democratic Candidate for Texas Governor; Lt. Gov. **Dan Patrick**; **John Kasich**, Governor of Ohio and Republican candidate for president in 2016, **Phil Collins**, Musician and Alamo Enthusiast; **Katharine Hayhoe**, Director of the Climate Science Center at Texas Tech University; **Gary Johnson**, 2016 Libertarian Candidate for President, **Sylvester Turner**, Mayor of Houston; **Mike Rawlings**, Mayor of Dallas; Texas Supreme Court Justice **Eva Guzman**; former U.S. Sen. **Kay Bailey Hutchison**; U.S. Reps. **Joaquin Castro**, D-San Antonio, and **Will Hurd**, R-San Antonio; **Mike Morath**, Texas Education Commissioner; **Chris Cillizza**, Founder of The Fix and Reporter for The Washington Post and **Donna Bahorich**, Chairwoman of the State Board of Education.

Registration information, initial speaker lineup and programming details for the 2017 Festival will be announced in the coming months. Receive Festival updates, including advance notice of registration and speakers, at texastribune.org/festival.

The presenting sponsor of the Texas Tribune Festival is The University of Texas at Austin. Sponsors include AARP, Accenture, the Annette Strauss Institute for Civic Life, AT&T, the AT&T Executive Education and Conference Center, Austin Community College, the Beer Alliance, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas, The Boeing Company, CenterPoint Energy, Deloitte, Educate Texas, the Greater Texas Water Company, the Hatton W. Sumners Foundation, IBC Bank, JPMorgan Chase, Lockheed Martin, the Meadows Center for Water

and the Environment, the Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute, Messina Hof Winery & Resort, Methodist Healthcare Ministries, The Mitchell Foundation, The Nature Conservancy, Oldcastle Materials, Oncor, Pearson, Quest Diagnostics, South by Southwest, Teladoc, Texas Central, Texas Exes, Upbring, The University of Texas Press, Valero and Vistra Energy.

More information about the Festival is available online at <u>texastribune.org/festival</u>, on Facebook at <u>facebook.com/texastribune</u> and on Twitter at <u>@TexasTribune</u>.

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ABOUT THE TEXAS TRIBUNE:

The Texas Tribune is a nonprofit, nonpartisan public media organization whose mission is to promote civic engagement and discourse on public policy, politics, government and other matters of statewide interest. For more information on The Texas Tribune, please visit texastribune.org. You can also follow The Texas Tribune on Facebook, Twitter, SnapChat (username texastribune) and Instagram.