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U.S. SEN. AL FRANKEN TO OPEN
THE 2017 TEXAS TRIBUNE FESTIVAL WITH DISCUSSION OF
NEW BOOK

Sept. 22-24 on the University of Texas at Austin campus

AUSTIN, TEXAS (EMBARGOED UNTIL 6:30AM on Aug. 15, 2017) – The 2017 Texas Tribune Festival announced today the addition of best-selling author and U.S. Sen. Al Franken, D-Minnesota, to the list of more than 250 speakers and prominent figures set to take the stage during the three-day event. The full program and registration are available at texastribune.org/festival.

Franken will open the event in conversation with Evan Smith, co-founder and CEO of the Tribune, to discuss his best-selling memoir, Al Franken: Giant of the Senate. The book covers his decision to run for office and his unlikely 2008 campaign. It also examines our “deeply polarized, frequently depressing, occasionally inspiring political culture, written from inside the belly of the beast.” Before entering politics, Franken was an award-winning comedy writer for Saturday Night Live, an author and a radio talk show host. Franken is a graduate of Harvard University.

The three-day Festival brings together thousands of Texans for 50-plus interactive sessions on the biggest challenges in the areas of politics, policy and government in Texas and beyond. Information on and registration for the 2017 Texas Tribune Festival is available at texastribune.org/festival. Festival badges may be purchased until Sept. 4 for $250 and provide full access to three days of debate, discussion and dialogue on the UT-Austin campus.

Attendees can customize their schedules with the official Texas Tribune Festival app, now available for download for iOS and Android devices.
The Festival is now accepting press credential requests. The schedule is subject to change, and additional speakers are likely to be added prior to the Festival.

The presenting sponsors of the 2017 Texas Tribune Festival are Walmart and The University of Texas at Austin.


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 (texastribune) and Instagram.