

Location	Title	Description	Panelists
7:00 AM - 7:55 AM Preservation Hall Foyer Floor 2	Hospitality Suite: Sponsor Atria	Atria Authors will be in attendance. Coffee and snacks will be available: 7 am - 10 am or as long as it lasts. All Refreshments on a first come, first served basis.	Sharon Murphy
7:00 AM - 7:55 AM Acadia Ballroom Floor 3	Book Store	Book Sellers, Author Signings after each panel session, Silent and Live Auction items, and Vendor Merchandise for sale.	Donald Longmuir
7:00 AM - 7:55 AM Carondelet Ballroom Floor 3	Debut Mystery Author Breakfast: Sponsored by Andrew Child, Lee Child and Michael Connelly	The Debut Mystery Author Breakfast is a lively and engaging event featuring 35 debut mystery authors, each given one minute to introduce themselves and their book. It's a fast-paced, exciting way to discover fresh voices in the genre.	Tom Andes, Faye Arcand, Valerie Biel, Andrew Bridgeman, Elise Burke Brown, Hunter Burke, Michael Connelly, Chelsea Conradt, John Dingle, Laurie Dove, Leigh Dunlap, Wendy Gee, Amran Gowani, Walter Horsting, R.L. Carpentier, III, Elle Jauffret, Georgia Jeffries, Joshua Kendall, Nick Lavin, Andrew Ludington, Josh Mendoza, Joseph Millar, Jennifer K. Morita, MARK NUTTER, Mark Oneill, Ryan Pote, Jenny Ramaley, R. C. Reid, Michael Rigg, Jennifer Sadera, Diane Schaffer, Amie Schaumberg, Rob D. Smith, Suja Sukumar, Mark Thielman, Brian Tracey
8:00 AM - 8:55 AM Balcony K Floor 4	Quiet Room	Relax and Rejuvenate	
8:00 AM - 8:55 AM Preservation Hall Foyer Floor 2	Information Table	Questions for what to do in New Orleans...just ask	
8:00 AM - 8:55 AM Galerie 4 Floor 2	Media Room: Sponsor Outliers Writing University	Interviews, Podcasts, Roundtables and More!	Kathleen Antrim, DP Lyle
8:00 AM - 8:55 AM Acadia Front Floor 3	Anthony Awards Voting Table	Online Voting Available - Table is not open during panels	John Purcell
8:00 AM - 8:55 AM Preservation Hall Foyer Floor 2	Registration	Pick up your name badge, tote, T-Shirt and free books	Teresa Wilson

8:00 AM - 8:55 AM Preservation Hall Floor 2	Book Bazaar	Attendees pick out books for their tote bags with tickets received from registration.	Patricia Walker
9:00 AM - 9:55 AM Salon F-G-H Floor 2	Panel 14-6: Balancing Fact and Fiction in Historical Mysteries and Thrillers	How many liberties can you take when setting your story in a bygone era?	Dana King(M), Lou Berney, Diana R Chambers, Tracee de Hahn, Claire M. Johnson, Boyd Morrison
9:00 AM - 9:55 AM Galerie 1-2 Floor 2	Panel 14-1: POV: Creating the Right Voice for Your Narrative	First? Second? Third? How do you choose?	Edward Y. Tanner(M), Brendan Flaherty, Stacy Johns, Karen Odden, Matthew Sullivan, Michael Wiley
9:00 AM - 9:55 AM Galerie 5-6 Floor 2	Panel 14-3: Military Thrillers: From the Frontline to the Printed Page	Combining the thrill of suspense with the high stakes world of military operations.	John Stamp(M), Peter Colt, Mark Greaney, T.R. Hendricks, Jeffrey James Higgins, Geri Krotow
9:00 AM - 9:55 AM Galerie 3 Floor 2	Panel 14-2: Humor: Laughter in the Midst of Chaos	Humor can be a welcome addition to a story filled with darkness and suspense.	James Lincoln Warren(M), Eric Beetner, William Boyle, Gini Koch, Jeff Markowitz, Elizabeth Rose Quinn
9:00 AM - 9:55 AM Salon E Floor 2	Panel 14-5: Traditional/Indy/e- book/Hybrid/Self: Choosing the Best Publishing Path in an Evolving Industry	How do you decide what's the right publishing path for you?	Shawn Reilly Simmons(M), Annamaria Alfieri, Chris Gillespie, Kirstyn Petras, Zelly Ruskin, Jessica Tastet
9:00 AM - 9:55 AM Salon A-B-C- D Floor 2	Panel 14-4: Marketing and Promotion: Getting Exposure	Marketing and promotional ideas to maximize your exposure.	Jeff Circle(M), Valerie Biel, Maddee James, Riley Mack, Julia O'Connell, Sonya Sargent
10:00 AM - 10:55 AM Acadia Ballroom Floor 2	Author Signings	Limit of five items to be signed at one time.	Annamaria Alfieri, Eric Beetner, Lou Berney, Valerie Biel, William Boyle, Diana R Chambers, Jeff Circle, Peter Colt, Gini Koch, Tracee de Hahn, Brendan Flaherty, Chris Gillespie, Mark Greaney, T.R. Hendricks, Jeffrey James Higgins, Maddee James, Stacy Johns, Claire M. Johnson, Dana King, Geri Krotow, Riley Mack, Jeff Markowitz, Boyd Morrison, Julia O'Connell, Karen Odden, Kirstyn Petras, Elizabeth Rose Quinn, Zelly Ruskin, Sonya Sargent, Shawn Reilly Simmons, John Stamp, Matthew Sullivan, Jessica Tastet, James Lincoln Warren, Michael Wiley, Edward Y. Tanner
10:30 AM - 11:25 AM	Panel 15-5: Sweet Tea with a Splash of	The American South: a rich and sweeping source of extraordinary	Pamela Ebel(M), Ace Atkins, Scott Blackburn, S.A. Cosby, Mark

Salon E Floor 2	Crime: The Southern Influence	crime fiction.	Westmoreland, Henry Wise
10:30 AM - 11:25 AM Salon A-B-C-D Floor 2	Panel 15-4: The Razor's Edge of True Crime TV: Telling Great Stories while Keeping it Real	Join an experienced panel of television producers and writers as they explore the surprisingly complex process of crafting stories for true crime television. The discussion will include the writing process, creating dramatic arcs, choosing appropriate stories, and the emotional weight of telling real stories that happened to real people.	Heather Graham(M), Gina Long, David O'Donnell, Maggie Sharbel, Wendy Whitman
10:30 AM - 11:25 AM Galerie 1-2 Floor 2	Panel 15-1: Creating Suspense: Anticipation, Twists and Cliff Hangers	How to keep your reader on the edge of their seat.	Clay Stafford(M), Tracy Clark, Andrew Klavan, J.H. Markert, Brian Panowich, Rob D. Smith
10:30 AM - 11:25 AM Galerie 5-6 Floor 2	Panel 15-3: Going Under the Knife: Medical Mysteries and Thrillers	A lab, a clinic, a hospital, no place is immune when exploring the dark side.	Ronda Wells MD(M), Jennifer Dornbush, Tammy Euliano, N.L. Lavin, Audrey Lee, Manju Soni
10:30 AM - 11:25 AM Carondelet Ballroom Floor 3	Interview: Steph Cha	Suspense Guest of Honor	Megan Abbott(M), Steph Cha
10:30 AM - 11:25 AM Galerie 3 Floor 2	Panel 15-2: No Passport Required: International Mysteries and Thrillers	No need to pack your suitcase, these international mysteries and thrillers transport you out of your living room into foreign lands.	Mark Ellis(M), Barbara Gayle Austin, Cara Black, Joseph Finder, J.L. Hancock, Jeffrey Siger
10:30 AM - 11:25 AM Salon F-G-H Floor 2	Panel 15-6: Beyond the Conference: Write, Learn, Connect	Stay connected, stay inspired! Tapping into writing communities and resources post-conference.	Kathleen Antrim(M), Allison Brennan, Harry Hunsicker, Shirley Jump, DP Lyle, Douglas Pratt
11:30 AM - 12:25 PM Acadia Ballroom Floor 3	Author Signings	Limit of five items to be signed at one time.	Megan Abbott, Steph Cha, Steve Steinbock, Charles Todd
11:30 AM - 12:25 PM Acadia Ballroom Floor 2	Author Signings	Limit of five items to be signed at one time.	Kathleen Antrim, Ace Atkins, Barbara Gayle Austin, Cara Black, Scott Blackburn, Allison Brennan, Tracy Clark, S.A. Cosby, Jennifer Dornbush, Pamela Ebel, Mark Ellis, Tammy Euliano, Joseph Finder, Heather Graham, J.L. Hancock, Harry Hunsicker, Shirley Jump, Andrew Klavan, N.L. Lavin, Audrey Lee, Gina Long, DP Lyle, J.H. Markert, David O'Donnell, Brian Panowich, Douglas Pratt, Maggie Sharbel, Jeffrey Siger, Rob D. Smith, Manju Soni, Clay

Stafford, Ronda Wells MD, Mark Westmoreland, Wendy Whitman, Henry Wise

12:00 PM - 12:55 PM Carondelet Ballroom Floor 3	General Members Meeting	Vote on a future Bouchercon and amendments to by-laws. All attendees are members and welcome to vote.	Cheryl Head
1:30 PM - 2:25 PM Salon F-G-H Floor 2	Panel 16-6: Getting Inside Your Character's Head: ID, Ego, or Super Ego	Reflecting your characters' subconscious on the page.	Donald Maass(M), Kat Burnette, Georgina Cross, Stephanie Gayle, Heather Levy, J. M. Redmann
1:30 PM - 2:25 PM Galerie 5-6 Floor 2	Panel 16-3: The P. I.: A Different Breed of Character	Cynical, hardened, morally ambiguous, the P.I. in fiction is an icon.	Nora McFarland(M), Cheryl Bradshaw, Marco Carocari, JD Allen, Delia Pitts, John Shepphird
1:30 PM - 2:25 PM Galerie 1-2 Floor 2	Panel 16-1: Mysteries That Dabble in the Paranormal	Mysteries with magic and more!	Elle Hartford(M), Stephanie Black, Olivia Blacke, Lynn Cahoon, Rena Mason, Susan Van Kirk
1:30 PM - 2:25 PM Preservation Hall Floor 2	Hospitality Suite: Sponsor Outliers Writing University	Outliers Writing University Authors will be in attendance. Refreshments on a first come, first served basis. Coffee and snacks will be available: 2 - 5 pm or as long as it lasts.	Kathleen Antrim, DP Lyle
1:30 PM - 2:25 PM Salon E Floor 2	Panel 16-5: Ripped From the Headlines: True Crime Inspires Fiction	True crime as inspiration for your next book, even when you can't believe that really happened.	Francesco Paola(M), Mariah Fredericks, Deborah Levison, Rick Mofina, Charles Salzberg, Stephen Terrell
1:30 PM - 2:25 PM Galerie 3 Floor 2	Panel 16-2: Never Too Young for a Good Mystery!	A significant number of YA books are purchased and read by adults. What makes YA mysteries so popular for any age group?	Marie Whittaker(M), Fleur Bradley, Tara Ellis, Nicole Maggi, Chris Mullen, Suja Sukumar
1:30 PM - 2:25 PM Salon A-B-C- D Floor 2	Panel 16-4: Book to Screen: Worth the Journey?	Whether it's the small screen or large screen, any regrets or would you do it all over again?	Jeff Ayers(M), Michael Connelly, Tony Eldridge, Craig Johnson, Michael Koryta, Dennis Tafoya
2:30 PM - 3:25 PM Acadia Ballroom Floor 2	Author Signings	Limit of five items to be signed at one time.	Jeff Ayers, Stephanie Black, Olivia Blacke, Fleur Bradley, Cheryl Bradshaw, Kat Burnette, Lynn Cahoon, Marco Carocari, Michael Connelly, Georgina Cross, Tony Eldridge, Tara Ellis, Mariah Fredericks, Stephanie Gayle, Elle Hartford, Craig Johnson, Michael Koryta, Deborah Levison, Heather Levy, Donald Maass, Nicole Maggi, Rena Mason, Nora McFarland, Rick Mofina, Chris Mullen, Francesco Paola, JD Allen, Delia Pitts, J. M. Redmann, Charles Salzberg, John Shepphird,

			Suja Sukumar, Dennis Tafoya, Stephen Terrell, Susan Van Kirk, Marie Whittaker
3:00 PM - 3:55 PM Salon E Floor 2	Panel 17-5: Who? What? When? Where? Why? How? Solve and Report or Report and Solve?	Journalist authors discuss journalist crime-solvers.	John DeDakis(M), Cindy Fazzi, Lori Duffy Foster, Elise Hart Kipness, Thomas Kies, Lawrence Light
3:00 PM - 3:55 PM Salon F-G-H Floor 2	Panel 17-6: Predicting Trends: Is It Ever Possible?	Market shifts, changing technologies, evolving reader preferences, and more all affect publishing. Is there ever a crystal ball?	Donus D. Roberts(M), James Farner, Ali Karim, Zoe Quinton, Julie McCarron, Otto Penzler
3:00 PM - 3:55 PM Galerie 5-6 Floor 2	Panel 17-3: Screenwriting: Unlocking the Mystery	Screenwriting is an art form all its own. These author experts will share their insights.	T.D. Donnelly(M), Paul Guyot, Josh Mendoza, Gerald Petievich, Ruth Knafo Setton, Alexandra Sokoloff
3:00 PM - 3:55 PM Galerie 3 Floor 2	Panel 17-2: Murderous Melodies - Weaving Music into Your Mystery	Does music soothe the savage beast or inspire murder and mayhem?	Lawrence Allan(M), Michael Amos Cody, Michael Ferreter, D.R. Ransdell, Brian Silverman, James D.F. Hannah
3:00 PM - 3:55 PM Carondelet Ballroom Floor 3	Interview: Charles Todd	Special Guest of Honor	Steve Steinbock(M), Charles Todd
3:00 PM - 3:55 PM Salon A-B-C- D Floor 2	Panel 17-4: Don't Pull Your Punches: Writing Exciting Action Scenes	Learn the basics of writing exciting action scenes from the pros.	James Rollins(M), John Gilstrap, Ox Devere, Steven Konkoly, Ryan Pote, Brad Thor
3:00 PM - 3:55 PM Galerie 1-2 Floor 2	Panel 17-1: Mirth and Mayhem: Balancing Humor and Crime	Adding humor to the mix: how much is too much?	Don Bruns(M), Barry Fulton, Michelle Gagnon, Matt Goldman, Bruce Johnson, Tim Maleeny
4:00 PM - 4:55 PM Acadia Ballroom Floor 2	Author Signings	Limit of five items to be signed at one time.	Don Bruns, Michael Amos Cody, John DeDakis, T.D. Donnelly, James Farner, Cindy Fazzi, Michael Ferreter, Lori Duffy Foster, Barry Fulton, Michelle Gagnon, John Gilstrap, Matt Goldman, Paul Guyot, Elise Hart Kipness, Ox Devere, Bruce Johnson, Ali Karim, Thomas Kies, Zoe Quinton, Steven Konkoly, Lawrence Light, Tim Maleeny, Julie McCarron, Josh Mendoza, Otto Penzler, Gerald Petievich, Lawrence Allan, Ryan Pote, D.R. Ransdell, Donus D. Roberts, James Rollins, Ruth Knafo Setton, Brian Silverman, Alexandra Sokoloff, Brad Thor, James D.F. Hannah

4:30 PM - 5:25 PM Bissonet Ballroom Floor 3	Discovery Zone: Sponsor William Kent Krueger	Celebrate the spirit of discovery and support your fellow mystery writers! Come meet emerging and under-the-radar authors who are ready to become your next favorites. The Discovery Zone is your chance to explore fresh voices in crime fiction, chat with new talent, and pick up a signed copy of a book that just might surprise you. Everyone is encouraged to purchase a book and support a rising star. Who will you discover?	Shawn Reilly Simmons
6:10 PM - 7:05 PM Carondelet Ballroom Floor 3	Live Auction	Going Once, Going Twice... Get ready for thrills, laughter, and fierce bidding at the Blood on the Bayou: Case Closed Live Auction—one of the most anticipated events of our New Orleans 2025 convention! Our Auctioneer will once again bring their own signature charm and wit raising the stakes and keeping the crowd on their toes. From exclusive author experiences to rare literary treasures, you won't want to miss a single moment. Best of all? Every dollar raised goes directly to benefit the Jefferson Parish Public library, supporting literacy, learning, and community access to the power of stories. Sharpen your bidding skills and bring your generosity—this is your chance to give back and take home something unforgettable!	Janice Jones, Thomas Jones
7:00 PM - 7:55 PM Carondelet Ballroom Floor 3	Special Announcement / Press Conference: Brad Thor	Special Guest of Honor, Brad Thor Ward Larson, Emily Bestler Books SVP and Publisher Emily Bestler, Atria Books Director of Publicity and Marketing David Brown	Emily Bestler, David Brown, Ward Larsen, Brad Thor
8:00 PM - 8:55 PM Acadia Ballroom Floor 3	Author Signing	Special Guest of Honor	Ward Larsen, Brad Thor
8:30 PM - 9:25 PM Carondelet Ballroom Floor 3	Anthony Awards	The Anthony Awards Ceremony is the grand finale of Bouchercon—our moment to celebrate the very best in mystery and crime fiction. Named in honor of legendary writer and critic Anthony Boucher, these awards are voted on by attendees and recognize excellence across multiple categories, from Best Novel to Best Short Story. Join us as we applaud the nominees and reveal the winners in a night filled	John Purcell

with excitement, gratitude, and community. It's a celebration of storytelling, talent, and the enduring power of the mystery genre.

The evening kicks off with a special 30-minute feature. If Jack Reacher Could Sing -- a unique exploration of what might happen if the iconic character found his voice. The film features Americana duo Naked Blue bringing Jack Reacher to life through music, in collaboration with best-selling author Lee Child. Stick around... there just might be a surprise waiting when the lights come up!

10:00 PM -
10:55 PM
Carondelet
Ballroom
Floor 3

Late Night Movie &
Music with Naked
Blue

Lee Child