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50th Annual Fay B. Kaigler Children's Book Festival

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Southern Miss School of Library and Information Science is pleased to announce that the 2017 Festival will be held April 5 – 7 with Medallion winner Kate DiCamillo! Keynote speakers include Kwame Alexander, Louise Borden, Bryan Collier, Pete Hautman, Colleen Salley Storytelling Award winner Pat Mora, de Grummond Lecturer Phyllis Reynolds Naylor, and Keats Lecturer Andrea Pinkney.

In celebration of the 50th birthday of the Fay B. Kaigler Children’s Book Festival, we will have additional special events and great door prizes. [www.usm.edu/childrens-book-festival/2017-general-information](http://www.usm.edu/childrens-book-festival/2017-general-information)
Copies of *Tale of Despereaux*, 2004 Newberry Award winner by Kate DiCamillo, were presented to 4th grade students in the Hattiesburg School District. Pictured above are Elementary School Principal Donna Scott; Dr. Catharine Bomhold, Director of USM Council on Community Literacy and Reading; USM student Janila Simmons; Dr. Robert Williams, HPSD Superintendent; Ms. Karen Rowell, Children’s Book Festival Coordinator; and Dr. Teresa Poole, HPSD Assistant Superintendent.

During the Book Festival in April, the 4th graders will attend an event with author **Kate DiCamillo** who will talk to them about the *Tale of Despereaux* and how it came to be written. The Children’s Book Festival donated the books and the Council on Community Literacy and Reading will be coordinating the book event in cooperation with the Hattiesburg Public School District.

For more information about the 2017 Children’s Book Festival, please visit [www.usm.edu/children-book-festival](http://www.usm.edu/children-book-festival) or call 601.266.4228.