

Tulane University best-selling authors Walter Isaacson, John Barry to host virtual discussion on April 29

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Tulane University professors, leading thinkers and best-selling authors Walter Isaacson and John Barry will host the first New Orleans Book Festival at Tulane University Virtual Discussion at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, April 29.

Isaacson, an acclaimed biographer, will interview Barry, the author of the definitive work on the 1918 flu pandemic, *The Great Influenza: The Epic Story of the Deadliest Plague in History*, and discuss how that 102-year-old pandemic mirrors the current COVID-19 pandemic, among other topics. Tulane President Mike Fitts will introduce the two authors to the audience. Sign up [here](#) to register and participate in this informative and compelling discussion. *The Great Influenza: The Epic Story of the Deadliest Plague in History* is available for purchase by clicking [here](#).

Barry is an award-winning and acclaimed best-selling author whose books have also involved him in policymaking. The National Academies of Science named *The Great Influenza: The story of the deadliest pandemic in history*, the outstanding book on science or medicine for 2004.

Barry's articles have appeared in scientific journals such as *Nature* and *Journal of Infectious Diseases* and in popular media such as *The New York Times*, *Esquire*, *TIME* magazine, and *The Washington Post*. He has also been a guest on every major broadcast network in the United States.

Isaacson is the past CEO of the Aspen Institute, where he is now a Distinguished Fellow, and the former chairman of CNN and former editor of *TIME* magazine. His most recent biography, *Leonardo da Vinci* (2017), offers new discoveries about Leonardo's life and work, weaving a narrative that connects his art to his science.