

# **History of the Tayshas Reading**

The original idea for what would develop into the Tayshas Reading list came from Dallas area librarians, Gracelyn Shea, YART Chair, and Monta Skaggs, YART Chair-Elect. They knew they wanted a high school reading list for the State of Texas and they knew just the man to get the job done. In 1996, they approached San Antonio librarian, Jack Alton Strawn and asked him to bring their idea to life. Mr. Strawn was given just a couple of months to create the program, develop guidelines, design a logo, name the program, and find committee members. In fact, he was even given the daunting task of selecting the first list by himself so it would be ready to feature at that year's conference.

The Tayshas Reading List was developed to motivate young adults, grades 9-12, to become lifelong readers and to participate in the community of young adult readers throughout Texas.

## **Year first list was published**

1996

## **TLA President at time of committee formation**

Gleniece Robinson

## **YART Chair at time of committee formation**

Gracelyn Shea