

SPOTLIGHTS

Only 12 Days Remaining in Legislative Session

The 85th Legislative Session adjourns May 29 and time is now a key variable in determining whether or not a bill will pass. May 11 was the last day for House bills to be passed by the House. Senate bills have to get out of House committees by May 20, and be passed by the House by May 23.

The 10 members of the budget conference committee continue to work on reconciling the Senate and House spending priorities. The Texas State Library and Archives Commission's total budget includes a 5% reduction in state funds, which TSLAC will be able to absorb without having to cut programs or services. That, in this political and economic climate, should be seen as a win!

Neither of the budget bills includes TSLAC's requests for an additional \$8.4 million to purchase new STEM e-resources for TexQuest and TexShare, and \$1 million to increase broadband access for public libraries. We continue to contact members of the conference committee to ask that they support library services by adding these additional funds to the TSLAC budget.

Other legislation:

SB 196 by Sen. Sylvia Garcia requiring schools to notify parents if there is not a full time librarian, school counselor or nurse on campus during instructional hours has been referred to the House Public Education Committee. TLA members are contacting members of the committee, particularly the chairman, Rep. Dan Huberty to ask that the bill be scheduled for a hearing soon.

SB 803 by Sen. Kel Seliger requires the Higher Education Coordinating Board to conduct a feasibility study on requiring researchers to submit an electronic copy of each original research paper that is accepted for publication in a peer-reviewed journal. This bill has been referred to the House Higher Education Committee.

SB 810 by Sen. Lois Kolkhorst relating to the use of open educational resources has been referred to the House Higher Education Committee. This bill has been referred to the House Higher Education Committee.

SB 902 by Sen. Brian Birdwell would prohibit TSLAC from adopting library standards related to local operating expenditures, collections based on publication dates, hours of operation, and the number or classification of library employees. This bill is dead.

HB 1847 by Rep. Garnet Coleman is the companion bill to SB 196. It was placed on the House calendar May 10 but was not considered by the full House so is dead.

Thank you to everyone that has called, emailed, written, and Tweeted their elected officials!

Federal Library Funding Update

On May 1, congressional negotiators reached an agreement on a bill to fund the U.S. government through September. The "omnibus" bill included \$231 million for the Institute of Museum and Library Services – a \$1 million increase over FY2016. This is great news for the library community. Now our

attention turns to the FY2018 budget process, which promises to be very challenging. May 19 is the deadline for U.S. Senators to sign on to the “Dear Appropriator” letters backing \$186.6 million in FY 2018 funding for LSTA and \$27 million for IAL. ALA’s Office of Government Relations is maintaining an up to the minute [online tracker](#) showing which Senators have signed which letter(s). Texas Senators John Cornyn and Ted Cruz have not signed either letter.

CONFERENCE RECAP

We Owned Our Profession!

Thank you to everyone that helped make the 2017 TLA Annual Conference a tremendous success! More than 7,000 registrants participated in four days of learning, networking, and fun.

Here’s what a few attendees had to say:

“Everything really is bigger in Texas! We learned so much in our short visit. These lessons will influence our daily work and our planning for our own conference.” *New York school librarians* ([read the complete letter](#))

“The conference was great and Cory Doctorow’s general session speech was excellent!”

“The exquisite authors that spoke were wonderful and made the TLA conference a highlight of my year – relighting my enthusiasm for library services and reminding us all why what we do is so important.”

Overall the presenters are amazing! Thank you for your efforts to elevate the profession.”

We must thank our 2017 Annual Conference sponsors and exhibitors for their support which enriches the event experience. In addition to helping fund travel stipends, awards, prizes, refreshments, meals, and entertainment, they contribute to the overall quality, content, and experience of the conference.

We also thank all attendees, presenters, and authors for making the TLA Conference a success. Lastly, we must give a big shout out and thank you to the hundreds of volunteers and the library community for their hard work. See you next year in Dallas!

Post-Conference Survey

TLA values your feedback on the 2017 Annual Conference. We use your input to assist in planning next year’s conference. **Please complete the [online survey](#) by June 2.**

Congratulations to our Prize Winners!

The New Braunfels Public Library is the lucky winner of the TLA 2017 Member Grand Prize, a Performance Curved Mobile Shelving Unit by Brodart. Kyla Schooling of Grand Prairie ISD and Elizabeth Gross of Sam Houston State University were the winners of the Coloring Book Prizes valued at \$250 presented by Living Language. The winner of the Power Up Prize Pack, valued at \$5,000, sponsored by PolyPrinter was Stephanie Biggs of Milam Elementary, Wichita Falls ISD.

Powered Libraries at TXLA17

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Power Up at Your Library Week Pledge in San Antonio. The Powered Libraries [Year One Report](#) was distributed at the 2017 Annual Conference. The report covers the time period of April 1, 2016-March 31, 2017 and offers an overview of the campaign's first year with a focus on stories, analytics, and a look at this year's goals and activities. You can view and download the report [here](#).

By the end of conference, over 325 people pledged their participation via social media, using the #poweredlibraries hashtag, endorsing their support and involvement in Power Up at Your Library Week, October 1-7, 2017. Thousands of librarians were among the first to see video spotlights on three libraries ([Austin Community College](#), [San Antonio's Bibliotech](#), and the [Austin Public Library](#)). This summer, the campaign will hit the road and tour Texas libraries to compile additional stories from Texas libraries.

Post-Conference Information

Access program and session handouts are on the conference mobile app (or the [web version](#)) under "Sessions" in each program entry following the list of speakers. Handouts will be added to the app as speakers submit them.

Continuing Education Certificates are available for attendees to print at their convenience. Printing [instructions](#) are found on the conference website, or log in to the [Conference Continuing Education Credit Form](#) to access the forms.

If you are looking for a lost article from conference, please [email](#) TLA or call 800.580.2852. To follow-up with TLA 2017 exhibitors, visit the online [Buyers Guide](#). Check out TXLA17 highlights in our [Facebook](#) album, and share and tag these moments with your colleagues and friends.

2018 TLA Annual Conference

Perfecting your game is a win for your community! Mark your calendar for next year's [conference](#), April 10 – 13 in Dallas. Housing [reservations](#) are already available via OnPeak. The deadline for program submissions is June 30. To propose a program, use the online [form](#) or contact the [chair](#) of the appropriate TLA division or round table.

TLA NEWS

Update on Executive Director Search Process

The TLA Executive Director Search Committee, chaired by TLA 2016-2017 President Walter Betts, received more than 40 applications. Of the seven candidates selected at the first screening stage, four submitted Phase 1 materials which included a writing piece and a webinar. A focus group of 14 TLA membership representatives and the Search Committee participated in the Phase 1 evaluation. Following their assessment, the Search Committee conducted in-person interviews with two candidates prior to TLA Annual Conference, and chose the finalist who unfortunately withdrew shortly after the conference. This concluded the first search process for the Executive Director.

2017-2018 TLA President Ling Hwey Jeng has assumed the role as chair of the Executive Director Search Committee to continue the search process. TLA Immediate Past-President Walter Betts stepped down from the Search Committee and has been replaced by President-Elect Jennifer LaBoon. Additional committee members include Sharon Amastae, Yvonne Chandler, Susan Mann, Gloria Meraz, and Dana Rooks.

The committee is confident the process will be speedy yet thorough. Pat Smith has agreed to delay her retirement until the new Executive Director is identified. Please refer any questions related to the Executive Director search directly to Ling Hwey Jeng or any member of the committee. The position has been reposted on [JOBLINE](#).

2017 Annual Assembly July 6 – 9 at the Hyatt Regency in Austin

At Annual Assembly, TLA officers and committees gather to plan the year's activities and events. Conference planning at assembly includes program proposals and scheduling. In addition to the work meetings, Assembly offers several programs and special activities. All members of the association are encouraged to attend to learn more about unit activities and to participate in TLA's programs.

Visit the [Annual Assembly Highlights](#) page to book your hotel, and check back often for more information. Registration will open later this month.

Officers should submit their Annual Assembly Meeting Request and Budget Request Form via the [Members' Only](#) section of [txla.org](#). Once logged in, you'll find the meeting request form link under Meetings, and the budget request form link in the officer only section under Membership.

Please submit the Budget Request Form by June 10. Use the prior two years for guidance, consider your unit's goals and objectives for the upcoming year, estimate your revenues and predict the group's expenses.

Continuing Education at Assembly

\$ = program carries a registration fee of \$10 for TLA members / \$25 for nonmembers

Friday, July 7

Ten Things Every Librarian Needs to Know about Copyright (\$) | 9:30 – 10:50am

Copyright is a complex topic, yet being knowledgeable about copyright is increasingly important for all librarians. Learn ten things that make copyright make sense! Knowledge of these ten principles will make the pieces fall smoothly into place as you continue to learn about and use copyright in the future. *Gretchen McCord, Copyright Interest Group*

TexShare – ProQuest | 9:30 – 10:50am

Learn about ProQuest's new and improved eBooks platform: eBook Central, which will be available to TexShare member libraries by mid-June 2017. Learn about how it's different from ebrary and how to get usage reports and other custom information. If you had any issues with the migration, we'll be happy to answer your questions. *Danielle Plumer and Russlene Waukechon, TSLAC*

Reading Lists Boot Camp: What Do We Do Now? | 11am – 12pm

Once the books start rolling in, what do you do? How do you organize? How are conflicts resolved among committee members? How do you ensure a list that meets the needs of our diverse audience? Don't miss this crash course on the "nuts and bolts" of being a reading list committee member. Both experienced and incoming new members will learn tools and tricks that have worked for others. *Sharon Amastae and Mary Jo Humphreys, co-chairs, TLA Reading List Coordinating Committee*

Google Drive (\$) | 11am – 1:50pm

Google Drive is everywhere, but not everyone is familiar with this tool. Learn the basic features of this popular program. *Lauren Kluck, Round Rock ISD*

Introduction to TLA Finances | 12:00 – 12:30pm

Officers are invited to learn about TLA budgeting, financial policies, and practices that impact units and committees. *Sherra Bowers, director of administration, TLA*

Be an Effective & Efficient Reading List Chair | 1 – 2:20pm

Learn how to work with publishers and your committee members to provide a diverse, powerful and engaging reading list. Discussions and topics will include: a brief history of TLA's reading lists, publisher do's and don'ts, conflict resolution, providing diverse titles, shared marketing strategies, and a Q and A. *Sharon Amastae, Mary Jo Humphreys, co-chairs, TLA Reading List Coordinating Committee, Sara Ortiz, marketing and communications specialist, TLA*

Digital Patron Privacy | 1 – 2:20pm

Using materials and exercises from the [Data Privacy Project](#) attendees will deepen their understanding of privacy and security and learn about tools and practices to protect their libraries and learn how to share this information with their patrons. *Cindy Fisher and Henry Stokes, TSLAC*

Top Challenges for New Senior Administrators | 2:30 – 4:20pm

Come hear what your fellow directors have said were some of their thorniest challenges at their first position and get strategies for how to address them successfully. *Tine Walczyk*

School Library Standards | 2:30 – 4:20pm

This session will highlight the proposed revised State School Library Program Standards. We will share the feedback and comments already received and their effect on the final document. The attendees will be introduced to each proposed strand in the standards and asked to discuss and comment on how they can be used to evaluate and improve Texas School Library Programs. *Liz Philippi, TSLAC; Donna Kearley, Denton ISD; Sonja Schulz, Nacogdoches ISD*

Fill Your Bucket List: Create a Retirement Game Plan | 4:30 – 5:20pm

Get key tips as you plan for retirement (either sooner or later) including how to take control of your health, learn new skills and travel. *Sharon Amastae and Mikail McIntosh-Doty, RLTR*

Google Docs and Slides (\$) | 4:30 – 5:20pm

Learn the more intermediate secrets of Google's Docs and Slides applications. *Lauren Kluck, Round Rock ISD*

Saturday, July 8

Train the Trainer at Battledecks Speed (\$) | 8 – 9:30am

Delivering a training class can be a little more intense than giving a presentation. Come spend the morning addressing all of the challenges of preparing and giving a training session. This fast paced session will cover: how to think on your feet, transitions in topics, using visuals, not getting distracted, pacing, timing and the overall mechanics of preparing yourself and your content. *Tine Walczyk*

Preventing a Lifetime of Trouble: Hiring the Right People (\$) | 10 – 11:30am

A Chinese master states, "A single inappropriate appointment means a lifetime of trouble." In addition to improving organizational practices and question generation, how else might search committees perfect the hiring process? Discover effective hiring practices and interviewing processes to make the best hire, including decoding both verbal and nonverbal cues. *Julie Todaro*

Annual Report Mayhem (\$) | 2:30 – 3:30pm

Every year you face submitting those year-end reports, whether you're in public, academic, school, or special libraries everyone wants to know how the year went. We will look at what data you will need, where you will pull it from, how to set yourself up from the start of the year to make the end of the year easier, and reusing it in a variety of other ways to promote your library. *Tine Walczyk*

Persuasive Rhetoric (\$) | 4 – 5:30pm

Now more than ever, librarians are called upon to present and persuade with pedagogical precision. Learn the secrets of classic rhetoric and get a sample of the advanced communication skills taught at TLA's Executive Leadership Immersion. *Julie Todaro*

2017 TLA Awards

TLA congratulates all of the individuals, institutions, and projects that were nominated for recognition this year. Hundreds of colleagues, teachers, and librarians worked tirelessly to help students, co-workers, friends, and fellow library workers receive attention and honor for their work.

[Libraries Change Communities:](#) Grand Prairie Public Library System

[Librarian of the Year:](#) Cynthia Cooksey, librarian, Dr. Pablo Perez Elementary School, McAllen ISD

[Lifetime Achievement:](#) [Elizabeth Polk](#), assistant director, library media services, Austin Independent School District; Patricia Helm Smith, executive director, Texas Library Association

[Outstanding Services to Libraries:](#) Audrey Dearing, Pflugerville Public Library

[Wayne Williams Library Project of the Year:](#) Potranco Branch Library, San Antonio Public Library

With many association-wide and unit awards, TLA's awards program allows us to say thank you and cheer on the best work occurring in Texas libraries. A full write-up of these winners is available in the [TLA Media Room](#), and a full list of all unit awards (as reported to TLA publication staff) is available [here](#).

Visit TLA at ALA Annual Chicago

TLA is exhibiting (booth #1114) at the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago (June 23 – 27). Bring your library-loving colleagues to the TLA booth to pick up a Texans Love Libraries button, purchase the TLA Coloring Book benefiting the TLA Disaster Relief Fund, learn about TLA's reading lists, and enter a chance to win a free registration for the 2018 TLA Annual Conference.

Exhibit Hall Schedule:

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|-------------------|------------|
| Friday, June 23 | 5:30 – 7pm |
| Saturday, June 24 | 9am – 5pm |
| Sunday, June 25 | 9am – 5pm |
| Monday, June 26 | 9am – 2pm |

If you are attending the ALA Annual Conference and are interested in volunteering your time to help at the TLA booth, please contact Sara Ortiz (sarao@txla.org) and reserve a time to volunteer. We hope to see you there!

Corporate Members

We thank our [corporate members](#) for their investment in TLA and Texas libraries. See some [examples](#) of initiatives facilitated through our corporate partnerships that are making a large contribution to Texas libraries.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Continuing Education Corner

All webinars will be recorded. A link to the recording will be sent to all registrants (i.e. you may want to register even if you know you cannot attend the live event). All webinars will carry Continuing Education credit, some also have CE credit available for viewing the recording. See individual descriptions for details.

May 24 | 2:00 pm | Visualizing (and Finding!) Funding for Libraries

Presented by Amanda Dillon and Kate Tkacik of the Foundation Center

This free online training will introduce participants to a dynamic and freely available data-visualization tool, Visualizing Funding for Libraries that enables library professionals and supporters to search for institutional funding for libraries at national, state, and local levels. Participants will learn pro tips on navigating the tool and as well as next steps on how to pursue new funding opportunities. Data visualizations such as maps, network constellations, and partnership pathways showcase key networks of funders and recipients, as well as individual grants that highlight the library services and programs

that are winning grants. [Visualizing Funding for Libraries](#) is a Knight Foundation News Challenge winning project.

[REGISTER](#)

June 13 | 1:00 pm | You Can Coordinate Others but Can You Lead Them?

AZ webinar series for support staff, presented by ALA President Julie Todaro

We've learned in our last series how to supervise, and coordinate and manage others. And while these are always the most necessary management tools, learning to lead is critical to both leader and follower employee success in libraries. This webinar will articulate the differences among supervising, coordinating, managing and leading and the role that leadership plays in libraries among all levels of employees and library workers.

[REGISTER](#)

June 15 | 1:00 pm | Financial Protection for Older Americans

Presented by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau

Older Americans face many financial challenges as they age. They have opportunities to travel, explore new fields of work or hobbies, or spend time with family and friends. But often scam artists or bad advice take away these opportunities. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's information and tools help seniors navigate safely through financial challenges. Learn how to prevent elder financial exploitation using the Money Smart for Older Adults – Prevent Financial Exploitation curriculum.

[REGISTER](#)

LIBRARY NEWS

Power Up at Your Library Week (Power Up Week), October 1-7, is a time to celebrate libraries and librarians and to promote library use and support. Each day during the week, TLA will be supporting local efforts with social media giveaways and videos featuring various libraries around Texas. Choose one or choose all. Customize your participation to fit your library. All types of libraries – academic, public, school, and special – can participate. Register and share your plans with us [here](#).

Celebrations during Power Up at Your Library Week include:

Pre-game Sunday | October 1

A day for libraries and librarians to share photos or posts about how they are preparing for Power Up Week. Pre-game checklist: schedule social media dispatches, temporarily change Facebook profile photo and Twitter avatars, use the #poweredlibraries hashtag.

Advocacy Monday | October 2

A day for stakeholders, administration, and dignitaries to demonstrate support toward libraries and librarians – e.g. regional and local proclamations, school and campus announcements, posters, etc. Powered Libraries will release an advocacy video spotlight.

Tinkering Tuesday | October 3

A day highlighting technology, tinkering, and maker spaces – whether it’s robotics, 3D printing, computers, laptops, or mobile devices. Powered Libraries will release a video spotlighting technology.

Web Widget Wednesday | October 4

A day featuring all things web related (virtual scavenger hunts, escape rooms, surveys, eBooks, audiobooks via Overdrive, databases, Zinio books & magazines, etc.) in the library. Powered Libraries will release a new video.

Powerful Partnership Thursday | October 5

A day celebrating partnerships with organizations, associations, groups, cultures, and storytellers in our community (e.g. authors, Veterans’ groups, dance troops, architecture groups, scientists, heritage and multicultural organizations, literacy organizations). Powered Libraries will release a video spotlighting a Powerful Partner in the Texas community.

Innovative Impact Friday | October 6

A day demonstrating how libraries impact communities (campus, city, neighborhood, school, town) through both subtle and dynamic strategies. (E.g. Bookmobiles, homeless outreach, working with underserved populations, improving literacy, book displays on campus and in schools, etc.) Powered Libraries will release a video spotlighting innovation in the library.

Offline Saturday | October 7

A day showcasing creative programming that doesn’t require much (any) electricity or technology. (E.g. reading to therapy dogs, building with Legos or blocks, bicycle-powered libraries, teaching a dance class, second language lessons, hosting a string quartet/piano/acoustic musicians, etc.)

Get highlights, updates, and news from Powered Libraries online through the [website](#), [Twitter](#), or [Facebook](#).

The Eyes of Texas are Upon Libraries!

The Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC) invites you to share your thoughts and suggestions for the future of the agency and information services in Texas. TSLAC is scheduled for legislative Sunset Review, a statutorily-required examination of an agency, its functions, and rationale for continuation, in 2019. As part of that process they are seeking input from stakeholders. Please complete this [online survey](#) and make your voice part of the process to shape library services.

Four Texas Public Libraries Selected as NASA@ My Library Partners

Seventy-five public libraries across the country were selected to receive resources, training, and support through *NASA@ My Library*, a STEM education initiative that will increase and enhance STEM learning opportunities for library patrons.

Congratulations to the Texas public libraries - City of Laredo Public Libraries, Harris County Public Library, Tom Green County Library System, and Wichita Falls Public Library who were selected through a

competitive application process from a pool of more than 500 applicants to participate in the 18-month project, with an opportunity to extend for an additional two-year period.

The [project](#) is offered by the *National Center for Interactive Learning* (NCIL) at the Space Science Institute (SSI) in partnership with the American Library Association (ALA) Public Programs Office, the Pacific Science Center, Cornerstones of Science and the Education Development Center. Support comes from NASA's Science Mission Directorate.

Rio Grande Valley Libraries Receive 3D Printers

The Dustin Michael Sekula Memorial Library in Edinburg, Texas, along with seven other public libraries from Hidalgo and Star Counties each received a 3D printer to provide patrons with printing services. The printers were acquired through a grant from the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services, the Texas State Library and Archives Commission, and Central Texas Library System Inc.

NAMES IN THE NEWS

- **Naomi Bates** (Northwest ISD, Justin, TX) was selected as the inaugural "Program Pioneer" 2017 AASL Social Media Superstar.
- **Aranda Bell** was promoted to library adult services manager at Zula B. Wylie Public Library in Cedar Hill.
- **Carter Cook**, Fort Worth ISD, **Carolyn Foote**, Eanes ISD, and **Ann Vickman**, South Texas ISD were selected as three of 22 school district library leaders to participate in the 2017-2018 Lilead Fellows Program.
- **Lindsay Cronk** was elected as LITA Director-at-Large (ALA Elections).
- **Rebecca Lesley Denham** was elected to ALA's YALSA Margaret A. Edwards Committee.
- **Camila Fiorillo** was honored with Professor Emeritus status by the Alamo Colleges Board.
- **Kelli Getz** was elected as ALCTS AS Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect (ALA Elections).
- **Dorcas Hand** and **Liz Philippi** were elected to the American Library Association Council.
- **Barbara A.B. Gubbin**, past-president of the TLA and director of the Jacksonville (FLA) Public Library was awarded the 2017 Ernest A. DiMattia, Jr. Award for Innovation and Service to the Community and Profession by the American Library Association.
- **Martin Halbert**, current dean of the University of North Texas libraries has accepted the position of Dean of Libraries at the University of North Carolina, Greensboro beginning late this summer.
- **Geeta Halley**, public services manager at Round Rock Public Library received Small Business Week's Small Business Champion of the Year award.
- **Lisa Kulka**, library specialist at Northside ISD in San Antonio received the ALA's New Member Round Table Shirley Olofson Memorial Award.
- **Molly Kyle**, librarian at Amarillo ISD, was named AISD's 2017 Elementary Teacher of the Year.
- **Julie Anne O'Brien** was elected as GAMERT Director-at-Large (ALA Elections).
- **Sara Ortiz** was elected to ALA's YALSA 2019 Non-Fiction Award Committee.

TLACast Newsletter

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- **Pam Spooner** of Austin Community College announced her retirement effective May 31.

Deceased

- **Karl T. Gruben**, former TLA executive board member, passed away.
- **Donna Hotho**, owner and CEO of Hotho & Company and a generous supporter of TLA and libraries passed away.