

Texas Library Recovery

Six and a half weeks have passed since Hurricane Harvey, the most powerful hurricane to hit the state in 50 years, devastated the Gulf Coast and southeast Texas. The numbers are staggering:

- 858,716 individuals have applied for FEMA assistance
- 1,000 Texans remain in seven Houston-area shelters
- 62,032 individuals are still living in hotels paid for by FEMA's Transitional Sheltering Assistance
- 84,032 people have visited Disaster Recovery Centers for assistance
- 176,100 Texas homes were damaged or destroyed
- 200 – 300 million cubic yards of debris left behind
- 1.4 million K-12 students were directly impacted by the storm

Governor Greg Abbott appointed John Sharp, the chancellor of Texas A&M University to chair the [Governor's Commission to Rebuild Texas](#) which is tasked with using state resources to help communities impacted by the hurricane, and advocating for those communities at the state and federal levels. Both Speaker Joe Straus and Lt. Governor Dan Patrick issued Harvey-related interim charges to committees, and hearings are being held around the state.

Many libraries and librarians around the state were impacted by the hurricane. Some experienced total devastation, while others were able to open after a brief closure. Those in affected areas are providing essential information and services to their damaged communities, while supporting staff and family who may have lost everything.

TLA has been inspired by the outpouring of support for libraries from around the country. As of October 4, more than 1040 corporate and individual donors have contributed \$129,283 to the TLA Disaster Relief Fund. Thank you all for your generosity!

Monday, October 16 is the deadline to apply for a [TLA Disaster Relief Grant](#). Academic, public, school and special libraries are eligible for financial assistance, and you do not have to be a TLA member to apply or receive assistance. A total of \$100,000 has been earmarked to support Texas libraries damaged by the hurricane, and grant amounts will range from \$2,500 to \$5,000. Grants will be announced November 3.

The [Texas Library Recovery Connection](#) is an online information sharing system to connect those offering assistance to libraries in need. If you work at a library damaged by Hurricane Harvey, please add your information to the [Google spreadsheet](#) so that those individuals and organizations offering assistance can reach out to you directly to coordinate help.

Recovery is going to be a very long process and the library community is here to provide support and assistance!

Financial Assistance for Damaged Libraries

[TLA Disaster Relief Grant](#): All library types eligible, application deadline October 16

[Laura Bush Foundation for America's Libraries](#): School libraries eligible

[TSLAC Rebuilding Texas Libraries Grant](#): All library types eligible, deadline October 16

[Humanities Texas](#): Fast-track grants for cultural institutions, including libraries

Annual Conference

Teacher Day @ TLA

Do you know a classroom teacher who would enjoy the TLA Annual Conference? Our annual conference – made up of books, authors, technology integration, makerspaces, curriculum connections, and supportive librarians – may very well be the stuff of teachers’ dreams. They unquestionably have to experience it to believe it.

Now is your chance to make a teacher’s dream come true! On Thursday, April 5, 2018, classroom teachers will have the opportunity to experience a special one day event during the TLA conference, comprised of speakers, activities, and pricing designed just for them.

We are excited to announce that [Teacher Day@TLA](#) attendees this year will be treated to a special visit from Newberry Medal and Coretta Scott King award-winning author Christopher Paul Curtis! Here is your chance to help. You, as a sponsoring school librarian, will play a crucial role by identifying interested teachers, helping them secure permission and funding for their attendance, guiding them through the registration process, and ensuring our guest teachers have a positive experience.

Planning is underway for a fun, interactive day for teachers who attend, as well as librarians who sponsor them. Participants are welcome to stay for the full conference. Now is the time for interested librarians to:

- a) Identify motivated classroom teachers and
- b) Start to lay the groundwork for conference attendance and travel funding.

The program’s goal is for classroom teachers who experience a TLA conference to return to their districts as library advocates and collaborators - or perhaps become librarians themselves. Details about Teacher Day @ TLA, an event that has become an annual highlight, may be found at www.txla.org/teacher-day.

Official TLA Housing Now Available

When the 2018 Annual Conference dates were changed to April 3 – 6, TLA worked closely with onPeak, our official housing provider, to accommodate those who had already made reservations for the prior conference dates and to ensure hotel availability for the new dates.

If you booked your hotel prior to the date change, you should have received an updated confirmation from onPeak that your reservation was updated to the new Annual Conference dates.

If you have not booked your hotel, you'll find the lowest rates and most convenient hotels available through [onPeak](#). Don't waste any time or money searching the internet for the right fit for your April trip. [Book](#) your hotel today!

Registration & Rates

2018 TLA Annual Conference registration will open in December, and you can view rates [here](#). TLA members always save on conference registration. Not a member? [Join and save now](#). We look forward to seeing everyone April 3-6 in Dallas!

TLA NEWS

Greetings from our New Executive Director

Hello and thank you for the welcome! It's a tremendous pleasure to be a new Texas resident and serve as your TLA executive director. During my first week I had the opportunity to attend the District 3 and District 9 Fall Meetings and it was wonderful to experience first-hand the excitement and commitment members have for libraries across the state. I look forward to meeting more members in the coming months, and supporting the great work that you do. And of course I'll see you all at the TLA Annual Conference, April 3 – 6 in Dallas!

Renew Your TLA Membership Today

What a year this has been! From advocating for Texas libraries during the 85th Texas Legislative Session and the July Special Session, to overcoming the threat of a \$0 budget for the Institute of Museum and Library Services, and Hurricane Harvey's devastation, Texas libraries faced challenges on a myriad of fronts. No matter what the challenge, however, TLA members came through in force to advocate for the essential services libraries provide to all Texans. The strength of your combined voices helped protect state library funding, achieve an increase in federal library funding, and provide hope and resources to libraries around the state impacted by the hurricane.

More than 7,000 librarians of all types gathered at the 2017 TLA Annual Conference to share information, learn from industry leaders, and be inspired by new ideas. Hundreds took advantage of extensive online continuing education opportunities, and networked with colleagues. Libraries around the state Powered Up and shared their unique programming with communities.

None of this would happen without our members. Please renew your membership today. We look forward to a fantastic 2018! [RENEW TODAY!](#)

90 Cities Power Up Across Texas

Thanks to all of the libraries across Texas that participated in Power Up at Your Library Week from October 1- 7. TLA praises the outstanding contributions of Texas librarians. From the panhandle to the port and everywhere in between, 90 Texas cities offered approximately 300 programs and media events designed to broaden the awareness of library services in public, academic, and school libraries.

Get inspired by following the #poweredlibraries hashtag, visiting the [Ideas Shared](#) page, downloading the [Power Up Toolkit](#), or by watching [video vignettes](#) showcasing dynamic programming and special collections from around the state.

Join TLA at the Texas Book Festival November 4 & 5

Over 280 authors are scheduled to appear at the 22nd annual Texas Book Festival November 4 and 5 in and around the Capitol grounds. Show your library love at the **TLA Booth #313** all weekend long! Pick up the latest Texas Bluebonnet Award Master List, pin on a Texans Love Libraries button, get the

complete all ages TLA reading lists, and **DONATE** to libraries recovering from Hurricane Harvey.

While you're marking your calendar, make plans to celebrate with TLA at these special events:

Nov. 4 | 10:00 – 10:30 am | Texas Tent, Congress & 8th St.
New Texas Bluebonnet Award Master List Announced

Nov. 4 | 7:30– 8:30 pm | Flat Track Coffee, 1619 E Cesar Chavez St.
LitCrawl Event: Cuba Libro featuring Margarita Engle and Emma Otheguy

Volunteer with TLA at the ALA Midwinter Booth | Denver, CO

TLA is exhibiting at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Denver (February 9 – 13). If you are attending the event and are interested in volunteering a couple hours at the TLA booth, please contact Sara Ortiz (sarao@txla.org) to reserve a volunteer block.

Exhibit Hall Hours:

Friday, February 9 5:30 – 7pm
Saturday, February 10 9am – 5pm
Sunday, February 11 9am – 5pm
Monday, February 12 9am – 2pm

TLA Executive Board and Council Actions

The TLA Executive Board met twice during the 2017 TLA Annual Conference the week of April 19-22, 2017, and the following actions were taken. Copies of the full minutes may be requested from the TLA office.

- Accepted the audit report as presented.
- Accepted the report of the TBA Coordinator outlining accomplishments for the past year and goals for the next year.
- Moved that the TLA Executive Board deny a request to receive a copy of the TLA recording of the Book Cart Drill Team Competition.
- Moved that a policy be proposed that addresses the issue of the sharing of recordings.

The Executive Board met twice during the 2017 TLA Annual Assembly the week of July 6-9, 2017, and the following actions were taken. Copies of the full minutes may be requested from the TLA office.

- Approved the motion for Joe Jack of Dunagan and Jack, LLP, to be engaged for the 2017 TLA annual audit and federal tax return.
- Approved a motion that the audit requirement in Article X of the TLA Bylaws will be satisfied in full by an outside financial review performed by the TLA Treasurer Edward Melton in cooperation with TLA Director of Administration Sherra Bowers, CPA.

The Executive Board met by conference call on August 29, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. to approve the appointment of Dana Braccia as TLA's new executive director pending the successful outcome of background checks and negotiations.

The TLA Council met twice during the 2017 Annual Conference during the week of April 19-22, 2017, and the following actions were taken. Copies of the full minutes may be requested from the TLA office.

- Approved the recommendation to substitute discussion groups for interest groups in the TLA Bylaws and Standing Rules in numerous sections. This action must be ratified by the membership in the spring election before it goes into effect.
- Amended TLA Bylaws, Article IX to update the list of standing committees.
- Amended TLA Standing Rule 9 related to standing committee charges and names, as per the following:
 - Changed the name of Texas Media Awards to Texas Youth Creator Awards and updated the committee charge.
 - Changed the name of the Scholarship and Research Committee to the Scholarship Committee.
 - Revised the deadline date for the Awards Committee.
 - Revised the charge for the Intellectual Freedom Committee to provide and update annually a link to the current ALA Intellectual Freedom Handbook and other pertinent materials and to delete reference to a grant that is no longer given.
 - Approved the request to make the Reading List Coordination Committee a standing committee and to approve its charge.
 - Based on the committee's recommendation, require members of the Tejas Star Reading List Committee to be bilingual.
 - Approved the Texas Topaz Nonfiction Reading List Committee as a standing committee of TLA and approved its charge.
- Approved a resolution from the Legislative Committee to oppose SB 902, 85th Legislature introduced by Senator Brian Birdwell.
- Approved a resolution in support of federal library funding.
- Approved by acclamation the proclamation in honor of retiring Executive Director Patricia Smith.

The TLA Council met twice during the 2017 Annual Assembly during the week of July 6-9, 2017, and the following actions were taken. Copies of the full minutes may be requested from the TLA office.

- Approved a resolution honoring State Representative Garnet Coleman.
- Approved a resolution honoring Senator Sylvia Garcia.
- Approved a resolution honoring State Representative Oscar Longoria.
- Approved a resolution honoring State Representative Toni Rose.
- Approved the 2017-2018 budget.
- Accepted a resolution wishing the Executive Director best wishes and gratitude.

Assisting a Friend of TLA

Shawn Brumley, past chair of the Exhibitor Round Table and a long term exhibitor representative of Bibliotheca (formerly 3M) had a serious accident in March, 2017 which resulted in a traumatic brain injury. While he continues to make great progress and looks forward to working again, recovery is long, challenging and expensive. His family established a [GoFundMe](#) page to assist with expenses. We all send well-wishes to Shawn and look forward to his return.

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

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.

October 13 - Fabulous Friday! Leadership Launchpad trainings in Texarkana, Houston, and San Antonio

TLA's newest leadership program is designed for librarians with less than five years of experience. Participants will discover their own leadership styles, learn critical persuasive and communication, and design a career plan based on their new perspective. Each session will be taught by TALL Texan Leadership Development Institute alumni using curriculum designed by TALL Texans trainer Maureen Sullivan. The \$125 registration fee covers all instruction and classroom materials.

Leadership Launchpad Texarkana (District 5)

8:30am – 4:30pm

Palmer Library, Texarkana College

1024 Tucker Street, Texarkana

[REGISTER](#)

Leadership Launchpad Houston (District 8)

8:30am – 4:30pm

Harris County Library Administration Building

5749 South Loop East, Houston

[REGISTER](#)

October 14 - Super Saturday! District meetings in Texarkana, Houston, and San Antonio

[District 8 Fall Meeting](#)

MD Anderson Library, University of Houston

4333 University Drive, Houston

[District 10 Fall Meeting](#)

Harlan High School

14350 Old FM 471 West, San Antonio

October 17 | 9am – 4:30pm | Free Financial Literacy Resources

McAllen Public Library, 4001 N 23rd Street, McAllen

Do you receive requests from patrons for help on financial matters? At this meeting, learn about several local and national organizations, with a Texas presence, providing free financial literacy tools and resources. Topics covered include: Personalized Financial Education (Pro-Bono Financial Planning); Resources for the Hispanic Community; Financial Fraud Prevention; The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's (CFPB) Libraries Project; Credit: What Consumers Need to Know; Investing 101; and Retirement Strategies. The Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas is sponsoring a continental breakfast and lunch, and the

meeting is presented as part of the TLA partnership with the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

[REGISTER](#)

October 18 | 8:30am-4pm | Moolah Palooza: Financial Literacy Educator Fest 2017

Education Service Center One, 1900 West Schunior Road, Edinburg

Looking for financial literacy resources to incorporate into day to day lessons? This one day symposium provides educators, administrators and counselors with a one-stop shop for their financial literacy curriculum needs. Presenters include: The Texas Council on Economics Education, The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, FDIC, and many more local, state and government agencies that will be on hand to showcase financial literacy resources through interactive breakout sessions and networking opportunities. Sessions addressing personal financial literacy for educators will also be available. This event is part of the TLA partnership with the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. (\$25, refer to workshop #64684)

[REGISTER THROUGH ESC ONE](#)

October 20 | 8:30am-4:30pm | Leadership Launchpad El Paso (District 6)

Dorris Van Doren Regional Branch, El Paso Public Library, 551 Redd Road, El Paso

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[REGISTER](#)

October 20-21 | [District 6 Fall Meeting](#)

Reception (Oct 20): 501 Bar & Bistro Place, El Paso

Conference (Oct 21): Northwest Campus, El Paso Community College,

November 2 | 9am-5pm | Leadership Launchpad Pharr (District 4)

Pharr Memorial Library, 121 East Cherokee Avenue, Pharr

TLA's newest leadership program is designed for librarians with less than five years of experience. Participants will discover their own leadership styles, learn critical persuasive and communication, and design a career plan based on their new perspective. Each session will be taught by TALL Texan Leadership Development Institute alumni using curriculum designed by TALL Texans trainer Maureen Sullivan. (\$125 registration fee covers all instruction and classroom materials.)

[REGISTER](#)

November 2-3 | [District 4 Fall Meeting](#)

Reception: Dustin Michael Sekula Memorial Library, 1906 Closer Blvd., Edinburg

Conference: Edinburg Campus, UT Rio Grande Valley, 1201 W University Drive, Edinburg

November 8 | 2-3pm | How to Apply to the TALL Texans Leadership Institute

The nationally-known TALL Texans program is a transformational seminar which enhances and empowers up-and-coming library leaders from all types of institutions. This webinar goes step by step through the application form to give everyone the best chance for success. (Free webinar)

[REGISTER](#)

November 10 | 8:30am-4:30pm | Leadership Launchpad Amarillo (District 2)

Amarillo Public Library, 413 SE 4th Avenue, Amarillo

TLA's newest leadership program is designed for librarians with less than five years of experience. Participants will discover their own leadership styles, learn critical persuasive and communication, and design a career plan based on their new perspective. Each session will be taught by TALL Texan Leadership Development Institute alumni using curriculum designed by TALL Texans trainer Maureen Sullivan. (\$125 registration fee covers all instruction and classroom materials.)

[REGISTER](#)

December 7 | 1-2pm | Financial Literacy Training: Getting an Auto Loan

Whether you're a first time borrower or a pro, getting an auto loan can be complicated. Learn how to prepare so you can save money, reduce stress, and get the auto loan that's right for you. This free webinar is part of the TLA partnership with the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. (Free webinar)

[REGISTER](#)

December 12 | 10-11am | The Real Deal: Getting Past Misconceptions, Rumors, and Fake News About Tocker Foundation Grants

Every year, the Tocker Foundation awards thousands of dollars to small community libraries. Darryl Tocker and Karin Gerstenhaber will share how to apply for their many grant programs. (Free webinar)

[REGISTER](#)

December 14 | 2-3pm | How to Apply for Texas Book Festival Collection Enhancement Grants

Lea Bogner and Sarah Northam from the Texas Book Festival will share how to apply for the TBF Collection Enhancement Grant - categories, application, deadlines, and tips for success! (Free webinar)

[REGISTER](#)

LIBRARY NEWS

25th Annual Letters About Literature: Read. Be Inspired. Write Back

Tens of thousands of students from across the country enter [Letters About Literature](#), a Library of Congress reading-writing contest for 4th – 12th grade students. The literary competition encourages students to write to an author (living or deceased) about how his or her book affected their lives.

“The Letters About Literature contest makes a lasting literary connection between an author’s work and the lives of young readers” said Texas State Library and Archives Director and Librarian Mark Smith. “The contest bridges a direct partnership between students, librarians, educators and parents, and lays the foundation for a life-long love of reading.”

State winners receive \$100 and a trip to the Texas Library Association Annual Conference. National winners receive \$1,000 and travel assistance to the National Book Festival in Washington D.C.

The entry deadline is January 8, 2018. Visit the Letters About Literature [website](#) for more information and to access the Letters About Literature [Teaching Guide](#).

Are You Game for Libraries?

You are invited to [participate in a survey](#) about current or future video gaming programs at your library. This study is being conducted by two university professors and game researchers, Sandra Schamroth Abrams from St. John's University in New York and Richard Van Eck from the University of North Dakota. The purpose of the research project is to better understand the role of videogames in libraries, the value and challenges such programming brings, and the factors that influence adoption and implementation of videogame programming. The [survey](#) should take no more than 10 minutes to complete and will help inform library science educators and librarians nationwide in regard to videogame programming.

NAMES IN THE NEWS

- **Joel Bangilan** is youth services and outreach librarian at Harris County Public Library.
- **Tamika Brown**, librarian at Ed White E-STEM Magnet School in El Lago, was named the [2017 School Librarian of the Year](#) by *School Library Journal*.
- **Marianne Crandall**, former librarian at Valley Ranch Library – Irving Public Library System, relocated to California to become youth services manager for the Placentia Library District.
- **Cody Gregg**, formerly at South Texas College, is the new dean of Learning Services at Del Mar College.
- **Billy Hoya**, former TLA information technology specialist, is now a digital resource professional at Lone Star College – North Harris.
- **Renee Newry** is now the library services coordinator at Irving ISD.
- As of August 21, **Kamesh Patel** is the new information technology specialist at TLA.
- **Jodi Philbrick** is senior lecturer at the University of North Texas effective September, 2017.
- **Deidre (Dede) Rios**, director of optometric and clinical library services at the University of the Incarnate Word, was named a 2018 National Library of Medicine/Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries Leadership Fellow.
- **Brittney Laurenn Washington** is leaving Texas Woman's University's Blagg-Huey Library to move to Washington, D.C. for a residency at the Folger Shakespeare Library.

Deceased

- **Sherry Gragg**, retired Dallas ISD librarian, passed away in August.