COMMITTEE III:  
SPIRIT OF TEXAS READING PROGRAM

A.  **Purpose**

The Spirit of Texas Reading Program is a recommended reading list developed by public and school librarians from the Young Adult Round Table (YART). The purpose of the list is to encourage youths in grades 6-12 to explore a variety of current, quality books with a Texas connection, develop critical reading skills, and to encourage greater interaction between authors and illustrators, Texas librarians, and Texas youth. Due to the diversity of this age range, Texas librarians should purchase titles on this list according to their individual collection policies. Each author featured on the list has had at least one book favorably reviewed for grades 6-12 in a professional review source. Eight authors will be featured bi-monthly with all programming available year round.

B. **Chair**1. Qualifications

a. The Chair is selected from past or present members of the Spirit of Texas Reading Program Committee.

b. The Spirit of Texas Reading Program Committee Chair must be a current member of YART, must work directly with youths from grades 6-12, and must not be currently under contract or employed by a publishing company in any capacity that might interfere with the integrity of this committee.

2. Term of Office

a. The Chair shall serve a two-year term.

b. If the Chair cannot serve out the full term, the YART Chair shall appoint an interim Chair to serve the remainder of the term of office.

3. Responsibilities

a. Guide and direct the educational focus of the Spirit of Texas Reading Program.

b. Review the goals, objectives, guidelines, policies and procedures of the Spirit of Texas Reading Program Committee and recommend improvements in the general operation of the program total and YART Executive Board.

c. Attend the TLA Annual Conference, the TLA Annual Assembly, YART Executive Board meetings, and the voting Spirit of Texas Reading Program Committee meetings.

d. Maintain/update the Spirit of Texas Reading Program “Operating Procedures” and make it available upon request.

e. Schedule meetings, plan agendas, oversee the preparation and dissemination of meeting minutes, set and ensure that programming deadlines are met, etc.

f. Monitor the use of the Spirit of Texas Reading Program trademark/logo and keep the TLA Executive Board apprised of any known infringements associated with its use.

g. Publish and maintain nominations, and submit the updated nomination list to the committee members and the YART webmaster for posting on the TLA website.

h. Send final list to YART Webmaster within one week of voting.

C.**Membership**

1. The Spirit of Texas Reading Program Committee shall be comprised of the Chair, advisor (past-chair), fifteen members, and a non-voting administrative assistant who are members of the Young Adult Round Table.

2. Ex-officio, non-voting members shall be the Texas Library Association (TLA) Executive Director and a liaison from the TLA Executive Board, who shall be appointed by the TLA President.

D. **Committee Members**

1. Qualifications

a. Members shall be appointed by the YART Chair-Elect from a list of YART volunteers. Committee members and the administrative assistant shall serve a three-year term to commence at the start of the Annual Conference of TLA.

b. A Spirit of Texas Reading Program Committee member must be a current member of YART throughout their term of appointment, must work directly with youths in grades 6-12 throughout their term of appointment, and must not currently be affiliated with an author, illustrator, or publisher in any capacity that might interfere with the integrity of this committee.

c. Members may not serve two consecutive terms as committee members but may be appointed Chair or Administrative Assistant.

d. If a committee member cannot serve out the full term, the YART Chair will appoint a replacement from a list of YART volunteers to serve the remainder of the term of office.

2. **Spirit of Texas Reading Program Committee Responsibilities**

a. Guide and direct the educational focus of the Spirit of Texas Reading Program.

b. Participate in selecting eight books with a Texas connection annually to highlight on the Spirit of Texas Reading Program website and oversee programming for at least one of the authors selected.

c. Attend all meetings. Members who are not able to attend all meetings may be asked to resign their position. The following meetings are required: the TLA Annual Conference, the TLA Annual Assembly, and the voting Spirit of Texas Reading Program Committee meetings.

d. Create programming for the Spirit of Texas Reading Program featured with a Texas connection and promote the program throughout the year and at TLA’s Annual Conference.

e. Monitor the production and distribution of all publicity and promotional materials associated with the program.

f. Assist in monitoring the use of the Spirit of Texas Reading Program trademark/logo and apprise the TLA Executive Board of any infringements associated with its use.

E. **YART Executive Board Responsibilities**

1. Guide and direct the educational focus of the Spirit of Texas Reading Program.

2. Review the goals, objectives, guidelines, policies and procedures of the Spirit of Texas Reading Program and make recommendations for program improvements.

3. Establish guidelines for the selection of Spirit of Texas Reading Program Committee members.

4. Assist in monitoring the use of the Spirit of Texas Reading Program trademark/logo and apprise the TLA Executive Board of any known infringements associated with its use.

F.  **TLA Responsibilities**

1. The TLA Executive Board will monitor the use of the Spirit of Texas Reading Program trademark/logo and take legal action against infringements associated with its use. This board will also set the fee and guidelines for use of the trademark.

2. The TLA Office will assist in the distribution of the Spirit of Texas Reading Program each year.