Proposal for Federal Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment Program Open for Public Comment
The Texas Broadband Development Office (BDO) has released its draft of the BEAD Initial Proposal, Volumes 1 and 2, for public comment. Texas has been allocated $3.3 billion to bring last-mile connectivity to unserved and underserved households across the state. The BDO has been planning for efficient use of this funding through the development of the Initial Proposal.

The BDO is accepting public comment on the Initial Proposal through Dec. 4, 2023. The public comment process is open to all Texans, and the BDO encourages residents, local governments, community-based organizations and others to provide feedback. To read the Initial Proposal, Volumes 1 and 2, and provide comments, please use this form.

Register for the TLA 2024 Annual Conference!
The TLA 2024 Annual Conference is here to inspire library community members with heartfelt stories, fresh perspectives, innovative education and more. The TLA 2024 Annual Conference will be held at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center, in downtown San Antonio, 900 E. Market St, from April 16-19. Early bird rates until January 31. Register for TLA 2024.
You must be a TLA 2024 member to receive member registration rates. Join or renew today!

Book your Hotel for TLA 2024
Make your hotel room reservations now as hotels are starting to fill. It is very important that you book your hotel room within the TLA block. Booking within the block supports TLA, ensures a competitive rate, can ease the challenges with reservation changes, and encourages networking as you'll be staying near other conference attendees. When you reserve a room with an official TLA hotel, you are helping to keep costs down and support not only TLA in 2024, but also for future meetings. Reserve your room.

Order your TLA 2024 Merchandise
Get ready to show your Texas Library Association pride with our exclusive TLA 2024 Annual Conference merchandise! We’ve got T shirts (including tie dye), tote bags and mugs. (These will not be available onsite at conference.) Order yours today.

TLA Awards and Scholarships - Applications Open
Calling all librarians! It’s time to honor brilliance in our community. Nominate exceptional librarians and library programs for the coveted TLA Awards. Deadline Feb. 1. Learn about the TLA Awards here. TLA scholarship applications are open too. More information about scholarships can be found here. Share this information with the library students you know!

Laura Bush Foundation School Library Collection Grants: Application Open
The Laura Bush Foundation for America’s Libraries provides funds to schools in need so that they can extend, update, and diversify the book and print collections in their libraries. Deadline Nov. 27. Eligibility requirements and link to application here.
TLA Grants
Applications for the J. Frank Dobie Library Trust Grant (for public libraries serving communities of 20K or less); the Jeannette and Jim Larson Grant (for public libraries, for mystery genre) and the Woll Memorial Fund (collection development grant, children’s literature, for school and public libraries) are open. Dobie Grant deadline is December 15; Larson Grant and Woll Fund deadlines are January 31. Apply today!

Texas Bluebonnet Award Registration
Don’t forget to register your school or public library for Texas Bluebonnet Award voting! Register online here. If you are unable to make your payment online, you can register by mailing in a paper check and this form. You can find the current TBA list here; and this is the guide to voting.

Texas Digital Library Call for Proposals & Award Nominations
The Texas Digital Library (TDL) is a consortium of higher education institutions that builds capacity for preserving, managing, and providing access to unique digital collections of enduring value. They are hosting the Texas Conference on Digital Libraries in Austin, May 21 – 23, 2024 and are seeking presentation proposals on a wide range of topics. Learn more. TDL is also seeking nominations for their annual TDL Awards which honor Texas-based individuals and groups that have made outstanding contributions to the advancement of digital libraries. Nominations are open.

Grant to Attend ALA Conference
Would you like to attend this year's ALA conference, but don't have the means to do so? Apply for the NMRT Professional Development Grant award by 12/1/23. The award offers $3K to one person to offset costs and expenses to attend this year's Annual Conference in San Diego, California on June 27-July 2, 2024. You must be a current ALA and NMRT member to apply. Apply here.

Names in the News
Ada Jane Brooks of Pollak, TX, near Lufkin, passed away in September. She was a librarian at Central ISD, Hudson ISD and St. Cyprian’s School.

UPCOMING EVENTS
If you have not already done so, you will need to create a new password for the Members-Only area and TLA Engage in order to register for an event. Directions and instructional video here

TLA Talks: Kittens in the Library - Building Community Partnerships at the Georgetown Public Library
November 14, 3:00 - 4:00 pm (CT)

The staff of the IMLS Medal-winning Georgetown Public Library will discuss how they foster, develop, and launch community-based partnerships and events. GPL staff will break down their annual kitten adoption event with their local shelter as a case study. Hear all about the success and the pitfalls of programming with outside partners and organizations. Free for TLA members. Register.

District 4 Fall Meeting & TLA Digital Conversation
November 10, 9:00AM - 5:00 PM
Where: University of Houston, Victoria, 3007 N Ben Wilson St, Victoria, TX 77901
Cost: $30 in person, $20 for virtual. More info Register

District 3 Fall Meeting
November 30, 8:30 AM - 3PM
Where: Austin Public Library Special Events Center, 710 W. Cesar Chavez St., Austin, TX 78701
Cost: $15 members, $25 non-members
Keynote speaker is Dr. R. David Lankes from the University of Texas School of Information. Also: learn about AI in the library world and the four corners of the library
District 6 Fall Meeting
December 2, 2023
Where: El Paso Community College Northwest Campus, 6701 South Desert Blvd. El Paso, Texas 79932
Cost: $25 member, $30 non-member
Schedule: Keynote speaker is YA suspense author Leslie Lutz. Full agenda and speakers Register

TLA Self-Paced Learning
TLA Self-Paced Learning is a chance for you to earn CE credit from the comfort and convenience of your home or office. These on-demand learning sessions cover topics including management, user services, librarianship, literature, and technology. How it works: You select the sessions you would like to view. You make the purchase and view the sessions. You can purchase sessions one at a time, or bundled. More information and prices here.

Thank You 2023 Sponsors!

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