

TLA CAST

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Topaz, Lariat Reading Lists Released

Check out our new 2022 lists! Thank you to everyone involved in selecting these books; we appreciate all your hard work.

[Texas Topaz Reading List](#) (recommended nonfiction for children, teens and adults)

[Lariat Reading List](#) (25 outstanding fiction titles)

Look for the new 2x2 list (age 2 to grade 2) the first week of February!

Call for Proposals for TLA Summit

TLA Summit is our one-day, virtual conference that will take place June 2, 2022. We're currently seeking proposals. Is your library doing something innovative? Have the past two years changed the way you think about the way you do business? Over 50 general education sessions will be offered at TLA Summit. [More information here.](#)

RAND Corporation Research on Digital Citizenship in Middle Schools

RAND is looking for middle schools interested in participating in research about digital citizenship. [Learn more](#) about the study and sign up to participate.

TLA Awards Deadline Extended to January 31, 2022

Honoring excellence in, and contributions to, the library profession, TLA's awards celebrate individuals and organizations which inspire us all. [Nominate a deserving librarian today!](#)

TLA Scholarship Deadline is February 1

TLA's scholarships support library education and encourage future librarians. Applicants must be Texas residents and current TLA members. [Apply today!](#)

Texas Bluebonnet Award Voting Deadline Extended to Feb. 12, 2022

Voting for the Texas Bluebonnet Award will take place January 4 – February 12, 2022. If you have not registered your school yet, you can [register here](#). Here is [the current list](#) and a [guide to voting](#).

Branding Iron Award Deadline February 15

TLA's Branding Iron Awards honor the inspiring and creative marketing efforts of all types of libraries with awards presented in several categories, and one overall Best of Show winner. [Share your best work with us!](#)

Sam Whitten Intellectual Freedom Award; Jack Alton Strawn Standing TALL Award

Nominations are open for the [Sam Whitten Intellectual Freedom Award](#), which recognizes an individual or organization in the library community who actively promotes intellectual freedom in Texas. The Jack Alton Strawn Standing Tall Award recognizes outstanding leadership demonstrated by a librarian who is an active or retired member of the Texas Library Association; [nomination form and info here.](#)

FY 2023 TSLAC Grant Opportunities Applications are Open

The FY23 TSLAC Competitive Grant Programs are open! The 2023 [TSLAC grant](#)

[offerings](#) include Texas Reads, TexTreasures, Special Projects, and Regional ILS Cooperative grants. Applications due March 4.

TLA Elections

In 2022, members will elect a president-elect and a representative-at-large to serve on the Executive Board. TLA elections will open on February 16 and close March 16, 2022. Your participation in the election process is critical as these leaders will help set the course for the association for the coming year. To vote, you must be a current TLA member by January 31, 2022 (you can [renew your membership here](#)). [Learn more about the candidates.](#)

Names in the News

Judith Kuykendall, former director of the Temple Public Library, passed away on Dec. 31, 2021.

Yuliana Aceves of Arlington Public Library and **Arnulfo Talamantes** of Sul Ross Middle School in Northside ISD were selected for the prestigious [#lovemylibrarian award](#) from the American Library Association.

TLA 2022

General Session I Speaker: Dr. Ibram X. Kendi

We are thrilled to announce that Dr. Ibram X. Kendi will be the General Session I speaker at #txla22! Dr. Kendi is one of America's foremost historians and leading antiracist scholars. He is a National Book Award-winning and #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of eight books. [Register for TLA 2022 today](#) before rates increase Feb. 1.

Upcoming Events

[LibLearnX: The Library Learning Experience](#) will spotlight the innovative work being pioneered in the Lone Star state. "**Innovative Approaches to EDI in Texas Libraries**," Sunday, Jan. 23, 10:45 a.m. – noon CT. Panelists include TLA members **Tamiko Brown**, **Dean Hendrix** and **Ramiro Salazar**, and TLA Executive Director **Shirley Robinson**.

TLA TALKS: Legal & Policy Issues Related to Materials Challenges

January 25 | 3:30 - 4:30pm | Free for TLA members, \$25 nonmembers
Experts will provide information on legal precedents, how librarians can protect themselves, and their students' and patrons' right to read, when materials are challenged; [register here](#).

TLA Launch Leadership Program: Register Today

Designed for library professionals with less than five years of experience, Launch will be February 13 - 14, 2022 at the Westin Austin at the Domain. Sessions will be taught by dynamic leaders in the field. For more information and to register, [go here](#).



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