Register for your Fall District Meeting
Registration is open for TLA's District Fall Meetings. District meetings provide regional settings for presenting continuing education, listening to updates on statewide legislation impacting the library profession, and recruiting members. The annual fall meetings are an opportunity for local librarians, para-professionals, and trustees from all types of libraries to meet, network, and set a foundation for collaborative efforts. It's a great opportunity to get to know fellow librarians and library staff in your area! Full details and link to register here.

2024 Membership & TLA 2024 Conference Registration Opening October 2
The theme for the TLA 2024 Conference is “Stories Inspire. Opportunities Await.” Take charge of your future! The TLA 2024 Annual Conference is here to inspire library community members with heartfelt stories, fresh perspectives, innovative education and more. Come find the tools to help you better serve your communities. Conference registration and 2024 membership open on October 2. We will post updates in TLA Engage and on TLA’s Facebook page and other social media accounts. 2024 membership rates; TLA 2024 registration rates.

FY 2024 Texas Family Place Libraries Grant Open for Application
The 2024 Texas Family Place Libraries Grant Program opened for application on September 1. Grant guidelines for the program, as well as specific information about the application process, past recipients, and additional resources are on the TSLAC Family Place Libraries Project page. Applications due Sunday, October 1.

TLA Awards and Scholarships Open September 15
Applications for TLA awards and scholarships will open September 15. More information about scholarships can be found here; learn about the TLA Awards here. We know there is so much amazing work being done in Texas libraries; please apply to help your work get recognized.

TLA Grants Open Sept. 15
Applications for the J. Frank Dobie Library Trust Grant, the Jeannette and Jim Larson Grant (mystery genre) and the Woll Memorial Fund (collection development grant, children’s literature) will open Sept. 15.

Ashley Bryan Award nominations open
The Ashley Bryan Award, established in 2023 by the TLA Black Caucus Round Table (BCRT), honors a Black author for their contributions to highlighting and promoting humanity, diversity, culture, and community in children’s literature. The award will be given for an author’s body of work on an odd year and a new talent Black author debut work on an even year. Winners will receive $1,000 and a plaque. Nominate here.

Upcoming book ban webinar featuring author Kelly Yang
On October 3 at 6PM CT you are invited to the webinar “Off the Shelf: Book Challenges, Bans and Promoting Inclusive Literature” with children’s author Kelly Yang (Front Desk). This conversation will feature an author, a librarian, a student and a parent discussing the latest wave of book bans and explore the importance of inclusive children's and young adult literature. This event is hosted in partnership with AASL.
Cultural & Economic Development Resources for Rural TX: Free Books, Film Digitization & How to Use Hotel Taxes for the Arts
Texas Rural Funders invites rural communities to attend this September 20 (10 AM Central) session showcasing free resources that promote cultural and economic development. Attendees will hear from experts and learn about free books for rural students through Books Beginning at Birth, free digitization of Texas films and videotapes via Texas Film Round-Up, and using hotel occupancy taxes to support the arts. Register here.

New Members Only online portal
TLA's new online member portal launched at the end of June. If you have not already done so, you will need to create a new password to enter this area as well as TLA Engage (you will use the same username and password for both areas.) Directions and instructional video on this page.

Names in the News
Rachael Welsh was honored with the Unsung Hero Award in Brazoria County for her work with the Brazoswood Library.

Richard Lee "Dick" Waters, 85, of Dallas, died August 8, 2023, of natural causes after a distinguished career as a librarian and library consultant; he was the 1970s visionary force behind the Dallas Public Library's downtown Central building.

Aldine ISD librarian and longtime TLA member Elizabeth Meeker passed away on August 14. Elizabeth was Program Director of Digital Library Services at Aldine ISD and previously an elementary school librarian; and a 2014 TALL Texans alumni.

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 District Meetings
These are held throughout the fall. Your local TLA District is hosting a conference, and you’re cordially invited. These gatherings are a treasure trove of resources, knowledge sharing, and networking opportunities designed to empower you in your professional journey. Find your district meeting and register here.

September TLA Talks: Texas Bluebonnet 101
Have you heard about the Texas Bluebonnet Award program but are not really sure how to implement it on your campus or at your public library? Does your school or public library participate, but you could really use some new and fresh ideas? Have you always thought about being on the TBA program or selection committee but are not sure where to start? Then this is the session for you! September 19, 3-4 PM. Register for TLA Talks: TBA 101

October TLA Talks: Connecting All Texans to the Internet
The Texas Broadband Development Office (BDO), located within the Comptroller of Public Accounts, is in the midst of a once-in-a-generation opportunity to connect all Texans to the Internet. Libraries are important partners in this work, both to provide direct service as well as to share the importance of internet and digital skills to stakeholders. October 16, 3-4 PM. 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
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](http://www.txla.org/tla@txla.org).