

# TEXAS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION CORE VALUES

## Community

**TLA creates a community that is inclusive of and accessible to all.**

1. When we make attendance at all our events accessible, members feel welcome and valued and can gain and share knowledge — this is how we build community.
2. When we provide opportunities for all members to connect authentically, we are living our commitment to community.
3. When we intentionally seek out new and non-traditional voices to steward into leadership roles, we strengthen our community.

## Professional Growth

**TLA believes individual professional growth drives a vibrant library community.**

1. When we provide varied opportunities for professional growth, we strengthen a vibrant library community.
2. When we offer educational opportunities for members across all job types, career paths, and geographic locations, we support professional growth.
3. When we provide volunteer and leadership opportunities — along with training and support — we foster professional growth.

## Forward-Thinking

**TLA is a forward-thinking organization that ensures the future of libraries.**

1. When we prepare members to face challenges and anticipate trends, we demonstrate forward thinking.
2. When we anticipate challenges and adapt accordingly, we model proactive leadership.
3. When we run TLA intentionally and proactively, we ensure a strong future for libraries.

## Intellectual Freedom

**TLA advocates for equitable access to information and ideas for all.**

1. When we stand against censorship, we uphold the right to intellectual freedom.
2. When we collaborate with organizations and members to amplify efforts and equitable access, we advance intellectual freedom.
3. When we educate stakeholders about the freedom to read as a constitutional right, we demonstrate our commitment to intellectual freedom.

## Libraries are Essential

**Libraries and trusted library professionals are essential to all Texas communities.**

1. When we educate the public about the services all libraries provide to Texans, we demonstrate that libraries are essential.
2. When we engage members from all regions and library types across Texas, we affirm that libraries — and the people who lead them — are essential.