



# Texas Talking Book Program Youth Services

## Talking Book Program Youth Newsletter

November 2022

Welcome to the November youth newsletter. This month we have information for you on Native American Heritage Month, Bluebonnet Book Award voting, and a new section from our Disability Information Reference Center (DIRC). There is also a new booklist and one last voting reminder for the grownups!

Find more information and archived newsletters on our website:

<https://tsl.texas.gov/tbp/youthservices>

### **November is Native American Heritage Month**

November is Native American Heritage Month, or as it is commonly referred to, American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month.

The month is a time to celebrate rich and diverse cultures, traditions, and histories and to acknowledge the important contributions of Native people. Heritage Month is also an opportune time to educate the general public about tribes, to raise a general awareness about the unique challenges Native people have faced both historically and, in the present, and to highlight some of the ways in which tribal citizens have worked to conquer these challenges.

More information can be found using the links below:

<https://www.ncai.org/initiatives/native-american-heritage-month>

<https://nativeamericanheritagemonth.gov/>

Books related to this topic are included in this month's book list!

### **Bluebonnet Award Voting is Coming! For 3rd – 6th graders**

The Texas Library Association offers “a unique program that encourages reading for pleasure for **students in grades 3 - 6.**” Each year a committee of librarians and teachers nominates several titles for people in grades 3, 4, 5, and 6 to read and then vote for their favorite.

## [Link to Bluebonnet Nominee List](#)

You can watch TLA's book trailer playlist on YouTube to hear more about each book to help you choose

[https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLmlp4XYo92bvwaPD56BDRj\\_ktlqbsWh66](https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLmlp4XYo92bvwaPD56BDRj_ktlqbsWh66)

Read 5, then decide!

Information on how to vote coming soon; voting begins **January 1, 2023**. In the meantime, you can keep track of what you've read by downloading a reading tracker:

- Tracking List 1:  
[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1cMKkVXKzxLVnq\\_dBwRJpYp27ykGImYur/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1cMKkVXKzxLVnq_dBwRJpYp27ykGImYur/view)
- Tracking List 2, with book covers:  
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wqRLpc4GJbddvgXYa1HMIUCcQIVD0ah9/view>

## **November Book List**

### [Link to November Book List](#)

This month's list features books by and about Native and Indigenous people.

The books listed are just a starting point. Please read whatever you and your adult think is a good choice for you, your reading level, and your interests. Call us at 1-800-252-9605 or email us at [tbp.ral@tsl.texas.gov](mailto:tbp.ral@tsl.texas.gov) to get more suggestions!

Note: DB indicates audiobooks, and BR indicates Braille books.

## **Catalog of New to the Collection Children's Books**

Follow the link below to access our bi-monthly catalog from September - October; scroll down to find the "books for children" section: <https://www.loc.gov/nls/braille-audio-reading-materials/latest-books-in-braille-and-audio/talking-book-topics-bimonthly-magazine/talking-book-topics-september-october-2022/>

(November-December becomes available in early December.)

**How to Get Books:** You can have instant access to all of the titles on the book list if you are signed up for BARD service. Link to BARD: <https://nlsbard.loc.gov> Every title on the reading lists can be found in BARD. Contact us if you are not signed up for BARD to get registered so you can download books directly to your smartphone or tablet.

Email us at [tbp.bard@tsl.texas.gov](mailto:tbp.bard@tsl.texas.gov) or call 1-800-252-9605 to set that up.

We can also send you cartridges with your book selections by mail. Call us to adjust your service.

**Helpful BARD Instructions can be found here:** <https://www.loc.gov/nls/braille-audio-reading-materials/bard-access/welcome-to-bard/>

## **DIRC Corner by Dina**

Hello, and welcome to the first DIRC newsletter column! The Disability Information and Referral Center (DIRC) is part of the Talking Book Program and can provide information and resources to anyone in Texas who has a disability or health related question.

It's only November, but almost everyone is thinking about the holidays! A fun gift for family and friends is a braille holiday card. You can find handmade braille holiday cards on online stores like Etsy or Zazzle.

Also, the Hadley Woman's Board is selling holiday cards this year. Their cards come in a pack of 25 for \$35. The Hadley cards are not Christmas-specific, so you could send one to someone who celebrates Hanukkah, Kwanza, the Solstice, or another winter holiday. Also, the cards have both braille and print on them, so anyone can read them. Contact Hadley by calling 800-323-4238, sending an e-mail to [holidaycard@hadley.edu](mailto:holidaycard@hadley.edu) or by visiting <https://brailleholidaycard.hadley.edu>.

In addition, National Braille Press is selling holiday cards this year! Their holiday cards are available as a 10 pack for \$20. Check the web site: [www.nbp.org](http://www.nbp.org) or call 888-965-8965.

Call or e-mail the Talking Book Program if you or anyone you know in Texas needs information.

## **For the Grown Ups: Voting Reminder**

Election day is **Tuesday, November 8**. Polls are open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on election day.

Non-partisan voter and ballot information can be found here: <https://www.vote411.org/>

Voting information for people with disabilities can be found here: <https://www.votetexas.gov/voters-with-special-needs/index.html>

## **Need Anything Else? Contact Us!**

Website: <https://www.tsl.texas.gov/tbp/youthservices>

Email: [tbpyouthservices@tsl.texas.gov](mailto:tbpyouthservices@tsl.texas.gov)

Phone Numbers: 1-800-252-9605 or 512-463-5458