



September 2022 Youth Newsletter from Texas Talking Book Program

Welcome to our first ever Youth Newsletter! Each month you will receive something similar with interesting and helpful information, fun things to check out, and themed booklists.

We also have a new youth services webpage that you can visit at www.tsl.texas.gov/tbp/youthservices

September is Library Card Sign Up Month!

Luckily for you, we are your library—**and** you can also get a library card at your local library to access their materials, including eBooks and audiobooks!

If you want to expand your library card collection even more, there are additional options:

- Houston Public Library “My Link” card:
 - All Texas residents are eligible for a free My Link library card, which gives you access to all of their digital content.
 - Apply here: <https://houstonlibrary.org/manage-card>.
- National Teen BPL eCard:
 - Brooklyn Public Library eCard - For a limited time, individuals ages 13-21 can apply for a free BPL eCard, providing access to our full eBook/digital collection, as well as our learning databases. To apply, email booksunbanned@bklynlibrary.org.

September 15 is the beginning of National Hispanic Heritage Month!

National library and archives institutions pay tribute to the generations of Hispanic Americans who have positively influenced and enriched our nation and society. “We celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month to recognize the achievements and contributions of Hispanic American champions who have inspired others to achieve success. Discover documents, exhibits, films, blog posts and more from the National Archives and Presidential Libraries that highlight Hispanic culture.” Learn more at www.hispanicheritagemonth.gov/.

Banned Books Week is September 18-24, 2022

“Banned Books Week is an annual event celebrating the freedom to read. Banned Books Week was launched in 1982 and brings together the entire book community—librarians, booksellers, publishers, journalists, teachers, and readers of all types—in shared support of the freedom to seek and to express ideas.”

Accessible Technology Info:

- Cool Blind Tech Blog: <https://coolblindtech.com/>
 - “Your source for the best assistive tech news, reviews, and interviews from tip blind and low vision experts.”
- DAGERSystem: <https://dagersistem.com/>
 - Video game reviews based on accessibility. This website makes it easier to find video games that are playable by people with different disabilities. “The leading game journalism site for disabled gamers, featuring disability game reviews and perspectives on video game accessibility.”

September Book List

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 interests. Call us at 1-800-252-9605 or email us at tbp.ral@tsl.texas.gov to get more suggestions!

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

For Younger Readers Pre-school through about 2nd grade

¡VAMOS! LET’S GO TO THE MARKET by Raúl the Third

DB 106756

As Little Lobo and his dog, Bernabé, make deliveries, they stop to visit his friends who sell candy, comic books, and puppets in the bustling border town market.

Commercial audiobook. A Pura Belpré Award Honor Book. For grades 2-4. 2019.

SEPARATE IS NEVER EQUAL by Duncan Tonatiuh

DB 82429, BR 20998

Recounts how young Sylvia Mendez and her brothers wanted to go to the school closest to their new home in California but were told they must attend a Mexican school. Their family organized, sued, and helped end segregation in the state. For grades 2-4 and older readers. Honorary mention for the 2015 Pura Belpré and the 2015 Tomás Rivera Mexican American Children Book Award. 2014.

JULIAN IS A MERMAID by Jessica Love

DB 105725

While riding the subway home from the pool with his abuela one day, Julián notices three women spectacularly dressed up. Julián decides to dazzle the world with his own mermaid costume and uses a potted fern for his headdress! Commercial audiobook. Stonewall Book Award. For preschool-grade 2. 2018.

For Middle-Grade Readers about 3rd -7th grades

BRAVO! POEMS ABOUT AMAZING HISPANICS by Margarita Engle

DB 88894

Collection of eighteen poems that celebrate famous and lesser-known Hispanics from varied backgrounds who have faced life's challenges in creative ways and made a positive impact. For grades 3-6. 2017.

FIRST RULE OF PUNK by Celia C. Pérez

DB 89161, Spanish DB 104263

Twelve-year-old Mal reluctantly moves to Chicago and starts seventh grade with a bang. She violates the dress code with her punk rock aesthetic and spurns the most popular girl in favor of starting a band with kids like herself. For grades 4-7. 2017.

BRIDGE TO TERABITHIA by Katherine Patterson

DB 12343, Spanish DBC 17940; BR 10864

Jess finds his biggest rival and best friend in Leslie, a girl who moves to his rural Virginia community from the city. Together they create Terabithia, a secret kingdom in the woods where they reign supreme—until tragedy strikes. A haunting story for grades 5-8. Newbery Medal Winner.

For Teen and YA Readers generally high school and older

LAST CUENTISTA by Barbra Higuera

DB 105729, BR 23967 in process

Petra Peña's world is ending, and only the chosen few will journey to a new planet. Hundreds of years later, Petra wakes to discover that she alone remembers Earth. A sinister Collective has taken over the ship during its journey, bent on erasing the sins of humanity's past. Commercial audiobook. For grades 5-8. 2021.

I AM NOT YOUR PERFECT MEXICAN DAUGHTER by Erika L. Sánchez

DB 89358, Spanish DB 94934

After her older sister, Olga, dies suddenly, Julia knows she cannot live up to her sister's standards in the eyes of her traditional family. But she soon discovers that

Olga may not have been as perfect as everyone thought. Some violence, strong language, and some explicit descriptions of sex. Commercial audiobook. For senior high and older readers. 2017.

ALL BOYS AREN'T BLUE by George M. Johnson
DB 99758, Spanish DB 107445, BR 24033 in process

In a series of personal essays, prominent journalist and LGBTQIAP+ activist George M. Johnson explores his youth, and ties together the trials and triumphs faced by Black queer boys. Violence, strong language, and some explicit descriptions of sex. Commercial audiobook. For senior high and older readers. 2020.

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. Get registered so you can download books directly to your smartphone or tablet!

Email us at tbp.bard@tsl.texas.gov or call 1-800-252-9605.

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

Helpful BARD Instructions can be found online: www.loc.gov/nls/braille-audio-reading-materials/bard-access/welcome-to-bard/

Need Anything Else? Contact Us!

Website: www.tsl.texas.gov/tbp/youthservices

Email: tbpral@tsl.texas.gov

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

For the Grown-Ups

The voter registration deadline is **October 11, 2022**, for those who wish to vote in the November 8 election. If you will be 18 on or before election day, you may register!

You can download the voter registration card here: www.votetexas.gov/

Be sure to drop it in the mail ASAP. Texas does not currently offer online voter registration.

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

Voting information for people with disabilities can be found here:

www.votetexas.gov/voters-with-special-needs/index.html