



TSLAC's 2026 Digital Program Overview Packet

Texas State Library and Archives Commission

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This DIGITAL PACKAGE is designed for information professionals. It offers resource guides to TSLAC programs, services, resources, and training.

TSLAC Divisions and Support Organization

The **Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC)** supports access to information statewide.

The **Library Development and Networking** Division supports academic, public, and school libraries. TSLAC provides digital resources for the public, grants to institutions, broadband development support and technology resources, and continuing education opportunities to libraries.

Through the **Texas Center for the Book**, TSLAC promotes literacy and a love of reading throughout Texas.

The **Talking Book Program** provides free library service to Texans who are unable to read standard print because they have a visual, physical, or reading disability. Books and magazines are available in English and Spanish in large print, sound recordings, computer downloads, and Braille.

The **Archives and Information Services** Division collects, preserves, and provides access to the archival records of state government. The vast collection of maps, documents, prints, photographs, audio materials, and digital collections spans Texas history from the pre-Republic Era to the present.

The **State and Local Records Management** Division offers records management services to state and local governments, including training and consulting, document imaging and preservation, and records storage in the State Records Center.

The **Texas Library and Archives Foundation** is a statewide nonprofit organization chartered to support the Texas State Library and Archives Commission.

TSLAC Overview

Our Mission is to provide Texans access to the information needed to be informed, productive citizens by preserving the archival record of Texas; enhancing the service capacity of public, academic, and school libraries; assisting public agencies in the maintenance of their records; and meeting the reading needs of Texans with disabilities.

We Partner with libraries, local and state government, schools, institutions of higher education, historical and research collections, educators, and information professionals. We believe that, working together, we promote educational attainment, economic vitality, community engagement, access to government, and quality of life for all Texans.

Our Services are broad and far-reaching, supporting libraries, historical preservation, access to state archival records, effective records management practices, literacy, and reading for people with visual disabilities.

Our Customers include information professionals, local and state government, educational and research institutions, libraries, and the public.

- Any person who accesses our resources online or in person
- More than 26 million people served by Texas public libraries
- More than 6 million K–12 students, teachers, and administrators
- 2 million students and faculty in higher education programs
- Thousands of researchers
- 10,000 units of local government and 159 state agencies
- More than 20,000 persons with visual or other disabilities

Our Facilities

Lorenzo de Zavala State Archives and Library Building, 1201 Brazos Street, Austin
State Records Center and Talking Book Program Annex, 4400 Shoal Creek Boulevard, Austin

State Records Center Annex, 4044 Promontory Point Drive, Austin

Sam Houston Regional Library and Research Center, Liberty

www.tsl.texas.gov | 512-463-5455

About the Texas State Library and Archives Commission

The Texas State Library and Archives Commission has been serving the people of Texas for more than a century. Since 1909, when the state founded the agency, we have been supporting the reading, learning, and historical preservation needs of Texas and its people.

We accomplish this mission through four main areas: archives and history (Archives and Information Services); libraries and learning (Library Development and Networking); access to public records (State and Local Records Management); and reading services (Talking Book Program).



Lorenzo de Zavala
State Archives and Library Building
Capitol Complex, 1201 Brazos St., Austin

State Records Center and
Talking Book Program Annex
4400 Shoal Creek Boulevard, Austin

State Records Center Annex
4044 Promontory Point Drive, Austin

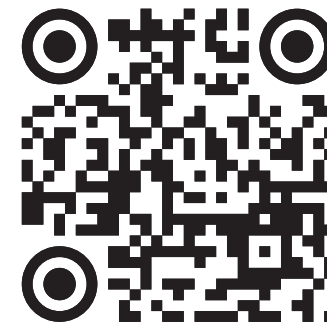
Sam Houston Regional Library and
Research Center
650 FM 1011, Liberty

TEXAS STATE LIBRARY
AND
ARCHIVES COMMISSION



www.tsl.texas.gov

512-463-5437



TEXAS STATE LIBRARY
AND
ARCHIVES COMMISSION



Serving Texas since 1909

Our mission is to ensure that
citizens have the information they
need to lead informed, productive,
and fulfilled lives.





The **Archives and Information Services Division** collects, preserves, and provides access to the archival records of state government. The vast collection of maps, documents, prints, photographs, audio materials, and digital collections spans Texas history from the pre Republic Era to the present.

The **Library Development and Networking Division** supports academic, public, and school libraries. TSLAC provides digital resources for the public, grants to institutions, broadband development support and technology resources, and training and continuing education opportunities to libraries. Through the **Texas Center for the Book**, TSLAC promotes literacy and a love of reading throughout Texas.



Our Resources

- Digital resources, books, journals, archives, and more!
- Historical documents, maps, and photographs
- Genealogical and family history research resources
- Access to the archives of Texas government
- Onsite and online reference services
- Literacy programs for all ages
- Library grants, training, accreditation, and broadband support
- Records management services, training, and consultation
- Records storage for state and local government
- Reading materials for the blind and visually disabled



The **State and Local Records Management Division** offers records management services to state and local governments, including training and consulting, document imaging and preservation, and records storage in the State Records Center.

The **Talking Book Program** provides free library service to Texans who are unable to read standard print because they have a visual, physical, or reading disability. Books and magazines are available in digital audio, braille, and large print.

Who We Serve

- Any person who accesses our resources online or in person
- More than 27 million people served by Texas public libraries
- More than 6 million K–12 students, teachers, and administrators
- 2 million students and faculty in higher education programs
- Thousands of researchers
- 10,000 units of local government and more than 150 state agencies
- More than 25,000 persons with visual or other disabilities





TEXAS
STATE SYMBOLS

Check out all the Texas State Symbols on TSLAC's website!



Texas State
Large Mammal



Texas State
Amphibian



Texas State
Horse



Texas State
Insect



www.tsl.texas.gov

Check out all the Texas State Symbols on TSLAC's website!



Texas State
Pepper



Texas State
Dish



Texas State
Pie



Texas State
Waterlilly



www.tsl.texas.gov

About the Texas Center for the Book

The mission of the Texas Center for the Book (TCFB) is to celebrate the written word and literary heritage of Texas, while highlighting the importance of books, reading, literacy, and libraries. Established in 1987, the Center builds partnerships with library professionals, educators, authors, publishers, and booksellers who provide support to our shared mission of promoting a love of literature throughout the Lone Star State.

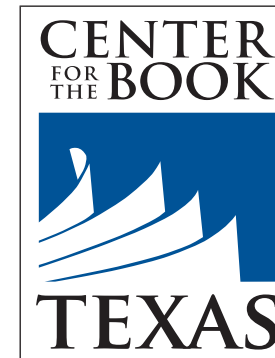
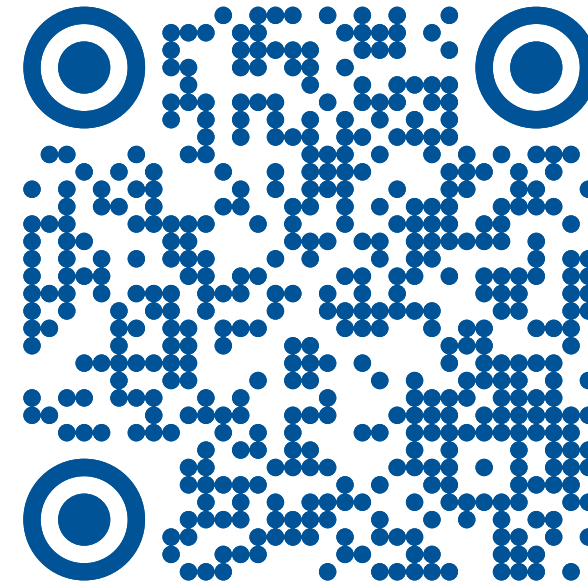
One of 50 state centers affiliated with the **Center for the Book in the Library of Congress**, the TCFB is under the direction of the **Texas State Library and Archives Commission**. The TCFB is supported in part by the **Texas Library and Archives Foundation**.

Read our blog!

Texas Bookshelf Chronicles is the monthly blog of the Texas Center for the Book. We recognize great programs from libraries and librarians and champion efforts to improve literacy and access to literature statewide.

www.tsl.texas.gov/tcfb

Learn more by visiting the Texas Center for the Book online!



TEXAS CENTER FOR THE BOOK

Celebrating books,
reading, literacy,
and libraries



Texas Book Festival

The Texas State Library and Archives Commission is proud to be a venue for the annual Texas Book Festival, which was founded by Laura Bush in 1995. The Texas Book Festival honors Texas authors, promotes the joys of reading, and benefits the state's public libraries. We hope to welcome you to the book festival's author events at the Lorenzo de Zavala State Archives and Library Building.

www.texasbookfestival.org



Letters About Literature Texas

Has a book made you laugh, brought you to tears or changed your life? Did a book help you see the world, or yourself, in a new way? Write a letter to the author. Letters About Literature Texas is a reading and writing contest for 4th–12th graders.

Winners receive prize money and travel assistance to attend the Texas Library Association Annual Conference. This program is supported by the Texas Library and Archives Foundation. Learn more at www.tsl.texas.gov/lettersaboutliterature.

#TXBookChat **LIVE** At TSLAC

We invite you to our #TXBookChat LIVE series, author interviews showcasing a wide variety of authors and books, held at our Public Event Space at the Lorenzo de Zavala State Archives and Library Building. These free events take place periodically on Monday afternoons; recordings are shared on our YouTube channel. To learn about upcoming events, follow TSLAC on social media (@tslac everywhere).

Texas Great Reads

Every year, the Library of Congress asks each state Center for the Book to select titles that represent the state's literary landscape to highlight at the National Book Festival, an event showcasing the importance of books and reading. The TCFB selects one adult and one children's title for inclusion in the Great Reads from Great Places list. Check out this year's selection at www.tsl.texas.gov/greatreadtexas.



2025 Texas Great Reads: *Matagorda Magic* (youth selection) by Kimberly Ridley, illustrated by Rebekah Raye; and *Viva Texas Rivers!* (adult selection) edited by Steven L. Davis and Sam L. Pfister.

LONE STAR LIBRARIES



Lone Star Libraries

Lone Star Libraries is our quarterly video and article series that showcases and celebrates exceptional Texas libraries, including The Wittliff Collections at Texas State University and the Armstrong Browning Library & Museum at Baylor University (seen above). Learn more at www.tsl.texas.gov/lonestarlibraries

CENTER
FOR
THE BOOK



TEXAS

2025 Texas Great Read

Adult Selection

tsl.texas.gov

tsl.texas.gov/centerforthebook



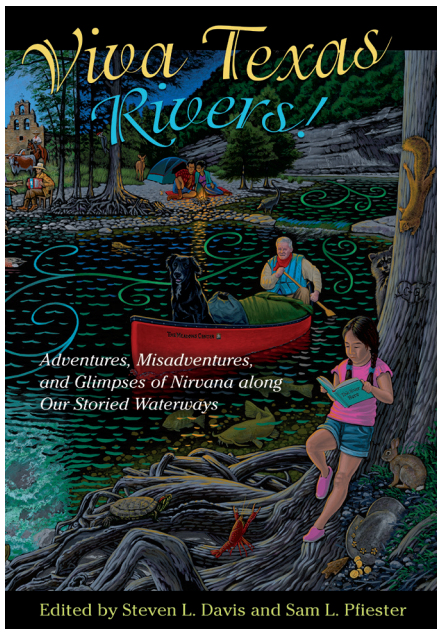
TEXAS STATE

LIBRARY

AND

ARCHIVES

COMMISSION



*Adventures, Misadventures,
and Glimpses of Nirvana along
Our Storied Waterways*

Edited by Steven L. Davis and Sam L. Pfiester

*About the Adult Selection,
Viva Texas Rivers!
Adventures, Misadventures,
and Glimpses of Nirvana
along Our Storied Waterways*

Texas rivers have nourished the human spirit for as long as people have gathered on their banks. Many of Texas' leading writers have had their hearts captured by a river, and they created sparkling accounts of the waterways they love. Editors Steven L. Davis and Sam L. Pfiester assembled the best of those works into this amazing collection.

Viva Texas Rivers! was published by Texas A&M Press in 2021.

CENTER
FOR
THE BOOK



TEXAS

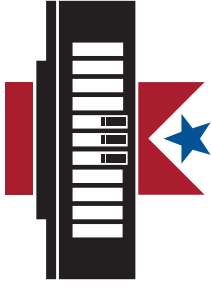
2025

Texas Great Read

Youth Selection

tsl.texas.gov

tsl.texas.gov/centerforthebook



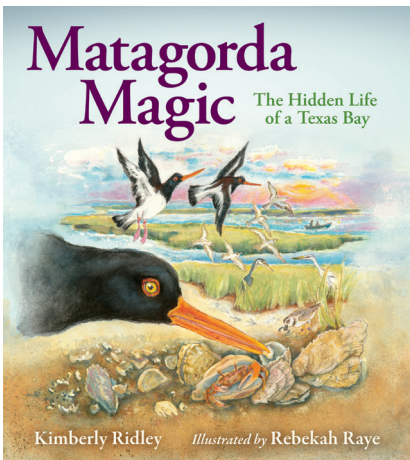
TEXAS STATE

LIBRARY

AND

ARCHIVES

COMMISSION

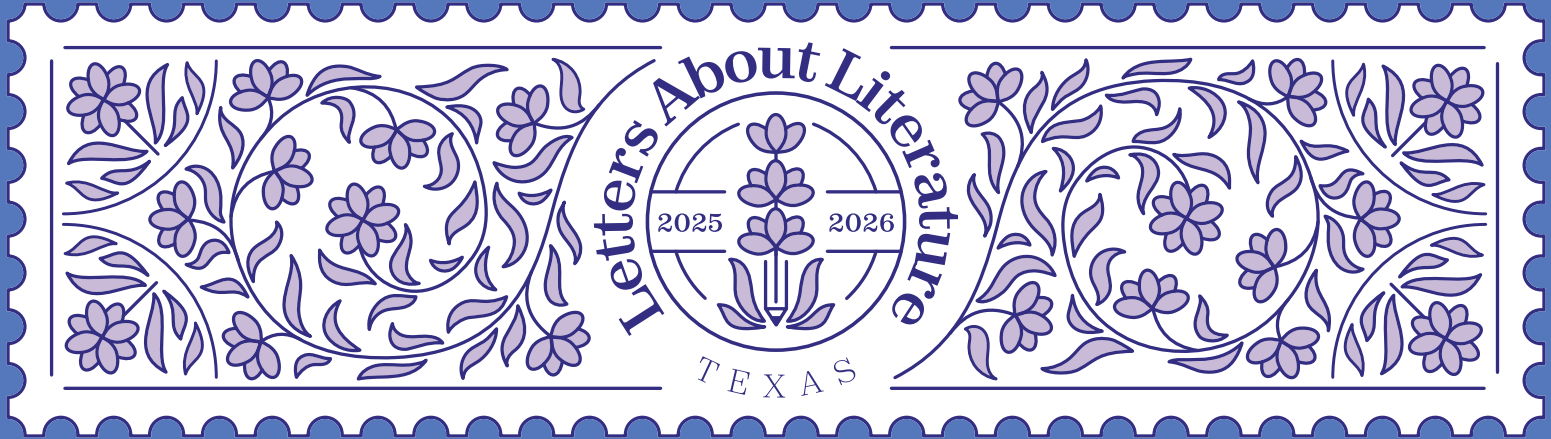


Matagorda Magic: The Hidden Life of a Texas Bay, written by Kimberly Ridley, illustrated by Rebekah Raye

Follow the lives of a resident family of American oystercatchers (shorebirds with bright red-orange bills) as you explore the diversity of an estuary, where rivers meet the sea, in Matagorda Bay.

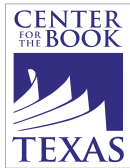
Matagorda Magic is a beautifully illustrated book that reveals the importance of estuaries as critical habitats for more than 200 species of resident and migratory birds.

Matagorda Magic: The Hidden Life of a Texas Bay was published by Texas A&M Press in 2024.



Letters About Literature
2025 2026
TEXAS





Letters About Literature

T E X A S

The Texas Center for the Book at the Texas State Library and Archives Commission invites Texas students in grades 4 through 12 to enter. Polish up your reflective writing skills and write a letter to an author—living or dead—explaining how his or her work changed your view of yourself or the world.

tsl.texas.gov | www.tsl.texas.gov/lettersaboutliterature

▶ Expanding the Scope of Texas Libraries

▶ Building the Skills of Texas Librarians



Many of these programs are made possible by a grant from the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services to TSLAC under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act.

Stay in Touch

Visit the Library Development and Networking Webpage

www.tsl.texas.gov/ldn

Library Developments Blog

www.tsl.texas.gov/ld/librarydevelopments



Learn about free projects for your library!

Submit your annual report!

Register for training!

Explore our databases!

Contact Us

ld_services@tsl.texas.gov

512-463-5465

800-252-9386



Library Development and Networking Division



To ensure that all types of libraries have the tools, training, and resources needed to meet the informational, educational, and economic needs of the people they serve.

(TSLAC Strategic Plan 2021-2025)

Visit us at:
www.tsl.texas.gov

Resources for Education and Enrichment

We provide high quality online information for Texans through licensed proprietary resources available 24/7 via institutions of higher education, public libraries, and K-12 public school libraries.



Competitive Grants

Grants support innovative services, promote reading, literacy and workforce development, improve information technology, and provide access to historic collections.



Interlibrary Loan (ILL)

The Navigator ILL program for Texas public libraries provides library users access to materials not available at their local library. ILL delivers worldwide resources to Texans.

Building a Community of Libraries

The TexShare Consortium is a statewide resource sharing program designed to enhance services provided by Texas academic, public and medical/clinical libraries. Programs include the TexShare statewide borrowing card, Courier and the TexShare e-resources program.

Professional Development

Our consultants provide in-person workshops, distance education, and in-depth consultations free of charge to librarians and other interested persons on a wide range of topics, including library technology, e-resources, library management and planning, children and youth services, grants, outreach to under served populations, and more.



Early Childhood and Youth Programs

We promote literacy and school readiness by encouraging children, teens, and families to read for lifelong learning and pleasure. Programs include Lone Star Diá, Summer Reading Program, and the Family Place™ Libraries Project.

E-Rate and Digital Equity

We provide assistance and training to help libraries access high-speed broadband and manage library technology.



Free Websites for Public Libraries

TSLAC provides a digital branch to public libraries that do not otherwise have this service.



E-Read Texas

The E-Read Texas program provides library e-books and an e-read application that will make it possible for Texans to access e-books.

Small Library Management Training Program (SLM)

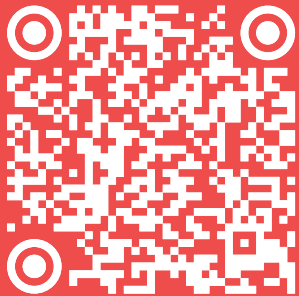
SLM provides management and foundational library skills, as well as advanced topics, to those without master's degrees in Library Science working in small libraries.

Statistics and Accreditation

We collect library data annually. that meet criteria and are designated by TSLAC and are eligible for all Division programs



STAY UP
TO DATE



LIBRARY
DEVELOPMENTS
BLOG



CEC WEBPAGE



VISIT US

LORENZO DE ZAVALA
STATE ARCHIVES AND
LIBRARY BUILDING

1201 Brazos Street Austin, TX 78701

1-800-252-9386 Toll-free in Texas

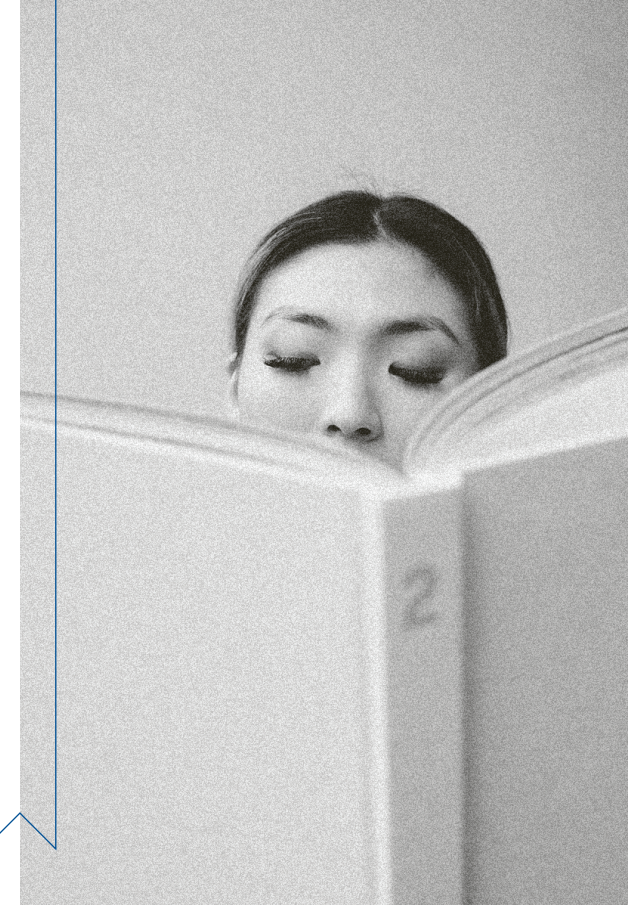
www.tsl.texas.gov

ld@tsl.texas.gov



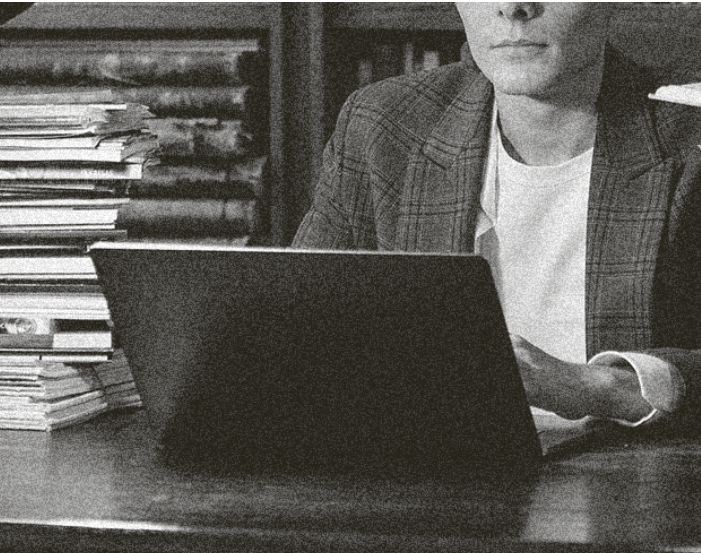
LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT
AND NETWORKING

CONTINUING
EDUCATION
AND
CONSULTING



The Continuing Education and Consulting (CEC) team provides support and professional development to Texas library staff.

CEC believes in the value of libraries to transform their communities and in the value of learning to create change.



WE'RE HERE TO HELP.

Have a question? Not sure who to contact? Please call **1-800-252-9386** (toll free in Texas) or email us at ld@tsl.texas.gov, and we'll route your question to the right consultant.

CONSULTING

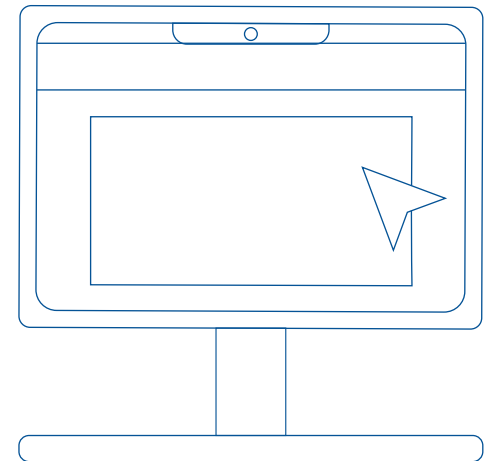
Our consultants are available to provide support to all Texas public libraries, regardless of accreditation status. Staff have a wide variety of expertise in:

- Management Services including new director resources, management training, and library governance.
- Staff Services including professional development, program implementation, community partnerships, and outreach.
- Technology Implementation Services such as Ploud library websites, E-Rate, Broadband, and emerging technologies.
- Trauma Informed Library Services.
- Workforce Development Services for library patrons.
- Youth Services including early literacy, childhood development, and teen services.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

CEC staff are dedicated to the professional development of Texas library staff. We provide a variety of ways to meet all learning needs.

- Leadership opportunities.
- Learning cohorts.
- Live webinars and self-paced learning opportunities
- No-cost in-person workshops.
- Notification of various no-cost or low-cost online library trainings.
- Trainings on TexShare and TexQuest resources.



What is TexShare?

TexShare is... for Texas Libraries



TexShare focuses on the efficient sharing of library holdings, with an emphasis on electronic resources and traditional collections of books and journals.



Community Colleges

Students at Texas community colleges have access to the same materials as those available at much larger university libraries. TexShare membership also helps each institution fulfill the requirements for continued accreditation.



Public Libraries

TexShare e-resources are a good value for public libraries, providing homework help for students, business research for entrepreneurs, and career advancement tools for Texans in every community.



University Libraries

Students and faculty take advantage of TexShare's courier, borrowing card, and up-to-date e-resources to leverage their higher education investments... even as budgets tighten.

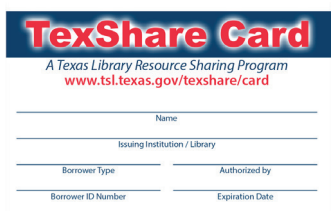


Libraries of Clinical Medicine

Doctors, nurses, and healthcare professionals across the state have access to hundreds of subscription-only medical journals at a fraction of the non-TexShare pricing.

A Great Value for Texans

Imagine a library as big as Texas! When TexShare libraries pool their investments, library patrons come out ahead... with 24/7 access to online tools that help them achieve their goals.



The TexShare Card

The TexShare Card is a reciprocal borrowing program. Local libraries issue TexShare Cards to patrons, who then can borrow materials from any other participating Texas library.

TExpress Courier Service

Texans still need access to physical materials their local libraries don't own. TExpress provides shipping between nearly 200 libraries across the state for one low monthly fee.

E-Resources

From peer-reviewed medical and scientific journals to consumer-oriented publications and popular magazines, Texas library patrons use e-resources for school, business, career development, and personal enrichment.



Find a TexShare Library!

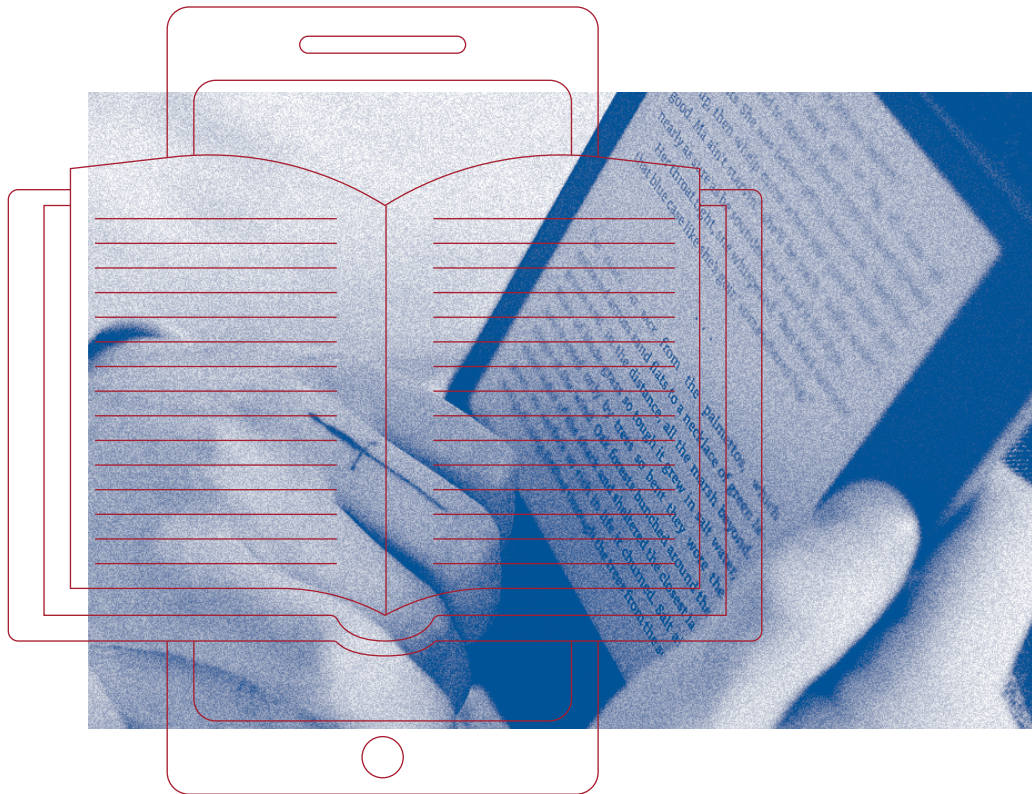
www.tsl.texas.gov/findalibrary

TexShare services are available to patrons of participating member libraries all across Texas, regardless of institution type, size, or location.



This publication was made possible by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, LS-256843-OLS-24.

www.tsl.texas.gov/texshare
texshare@tsl.texas.gov
800-252-9386

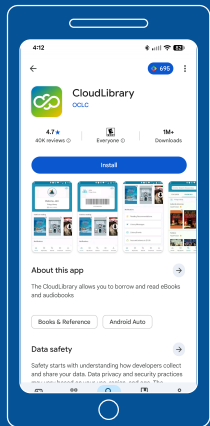


E-Read TEXAS

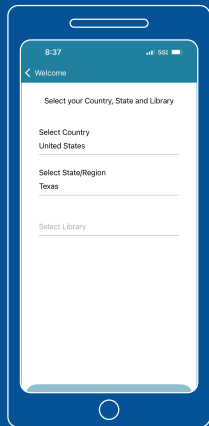


E-BOOKS AND AUDIOBOOKS. ANYTIME, ANYWHERE.

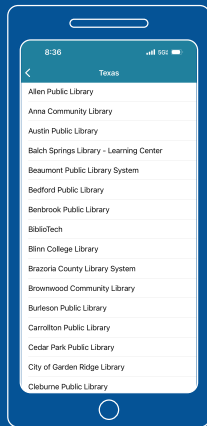
GET STARTED TODAY



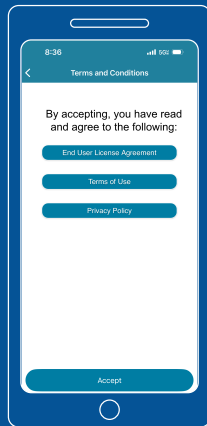
Download and open the CloudLibrary app



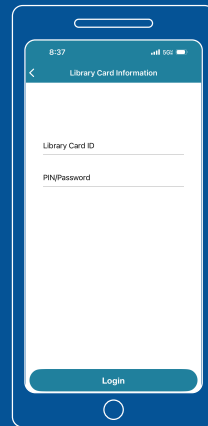
Select your Country and State.



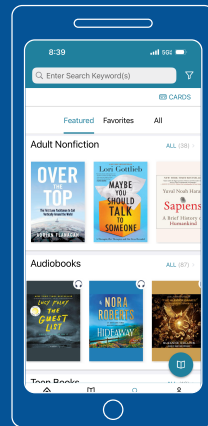
Select your library from the list.



Accept the user agreement.



Enter your library card number and password and tap Login.



You can search for and check out a book!



E-Read Texas is funded in part by a grant from the US Institute of Museum and Library Services to the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. For more information, visit www.tsl.texas.gov/ldn/ebooks



EXPLORE MORE

USERNAME

PASSWORD

**TEXQUEST
SUPPORT:**

texquest@esc20.info
1-877-719-1501



ELEMENTARY RESOURCES



Elementary

Britannica Fundamentals



Britannica Escolar

Early Elementary

EDUCATOR RESOURCES



TeachingBooks
for Schools



TEXAS STATE LIBRARY
AND
ARCHIVES COMMISSION



INSTITUTE of
Museum and Library
SERVICES

These resources were made possible in part by a federally funded grant, CFDA 45.310, LSTA State Grants.



EXPLORAR MÁS

NOMBRE DE USUARIO

CONTRASEÑA

**APOYO DE
TEXQUEST:**

texquest@esc20.info
1-877-719-1501



RECURSOS PARA PRIMARIA



Elementary

Britannica Fundamentals



Britannica
Early
Elementary

RECURSOS PARA EDUCADORES



TeachingBooks
for Schools



TEXAS STATE LIBRARY
AND
ARCHIVES COMMISSION



INSTITUTE of
Museum and Library
SERVICES

Estos recursos se han logrado en parte gracias a la subvención federal CFDA 45.310, Subvenciones estatales LSTA. 07/2024



EXPLORE MORE

USERNAME

PASSWORD

**TEXQUEST
SUPPORT:**

texquest@esc20.info
1-877-719-1501



SECONDARY RESOURCES



Britannica
School

Middle



Britannica
School

High



Britannica
Escolar



**EDUCATOR
RESOURCE**



TeachingBooks[®]
for Schools



TEXAS STATE LIBRARY
AND
ARCHIVES COMMISSION



INSTITUTE of
Museum and Library
SERVICES

These resources were made possible in part by a federally funded grant, CFDA 45.310, LSTA State Grants.



EXPLORAR MÁS

NOMBRE DE USUARIO

CONTRASEÑA

**APOYO DE
TEXQUEST:**

texquest@esc20.info
1-877-719-1501



RECURSOS PARA SECUNDARIA



Britannica
School



Britannica
School



Britannica
Escolar



RECURSOS PARA EDUCADORES



TeachingBooks[®]
for Schools



TEXAS STATE LIBRARY
AND
ARCHIVES COMMISSION



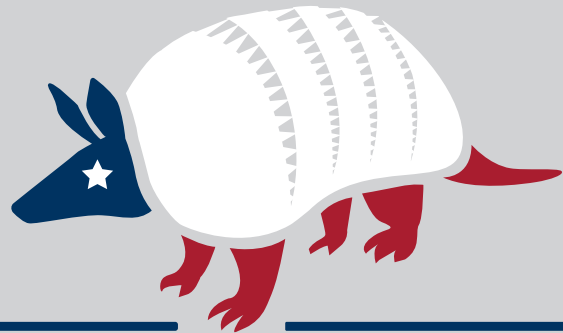
INSTITUTE of
Museum and Library
SERVICES

Estos recursos se han logrado en parte gracias a la subvención federal CFDA 45.310, Subvenciones estatales LSTA. 07/2024

SHAREit

for Statewide Interlibrary Loan

Bringing the books of Texas to you!



TEXAS ARMADILLO NETWORK



Use interlibrary loan services at your library to request materials from hundreds of Texas libraries—and beyond.

1. Search for materials in the Texas Group Catalog at www.texas.agshareit.com
2. To request an item, log in or ask library staff for assistance.



Funding for the interlibrary loan program is provided by a grant from U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services to the Texas State Library and Archives Commission under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act.

Talking Book Program

The Talking Book Program (TBP) provides digital audio, large print, and braille books and magazines to Texans who cannot read standard print due to a qualifying visual, physical, or reading disability.

TBP provides

- Thousands of titles in a variety of categories
- Digital audio players on loan
- Personalized service from reader consultants and librarians
- Free return postage

You can receive books and magazines

- By mail on digital audio cartridge, in large print, or braille
- By download to a USB flash drive or digital cartridge using the Braille and Audio Reading Download (BARD)
- By using the BARD Mobile app on smartphones or tablets



1-800-252-9605

(Toll-free in Texas)

512-463-5458

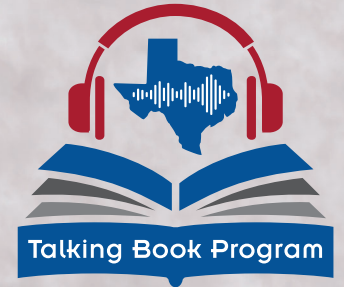
(Austin area)

P.O. Box 12927
Austin TX 78711-2927

tbp.services@tsl.texas.gov
TexasTalkingBooks.org



My other library
is the
**Talking Book
Program**



**TEXAS STATE LIBRARY
AND
ARCHIVES COMMISSION**





Support Services

The Disability Information and Referral Center (DIRC) provides information about disabilities and health-related topics. You do not have to be a member of the Talking Book Program to use DIRC services.

Staff are available to answer questions and provide resources about various disabilities, technology, independent living, and more.

Outreach and Training

TBP also provides training for technology and other aspects of its program and services.

Eligibility

- An individual who is blind
- An individual who has a visual impairment and is unable to read standard print books
- An individual who has a physical disability that makes it hard to hold or manipulate a book or to focus or move the eyes to read a print book
- An individual who has a perceptual or reading disability

How to apply

If you meet one or more of the eligibilities, complete an application and have it certified by an approved authority. More information can be found on our website or by calling or emailing us.

TBP has served Texans with disabilities since 1931 and is a regional library for the National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled, a division of the Library of Congress.



**Heard a good
book lately?**

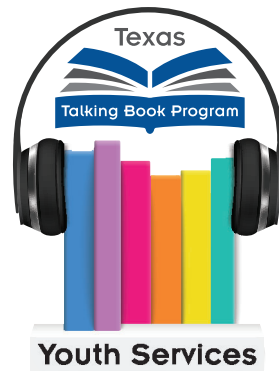


More Resources for Students with Reading Disabilities

- TBP's Disability Information Resource Center at TexasTalkingBooks.org
- Bookshare.org
- LearningAlly.org
- SightIntoSound.org
- TEA Dyslexia Handbook: <https://tea.texas.gov/academics/special-student-populations/dyslexia-and-related-disorders>



Resources for Reading Disabilities



1-800-252-9605

(Toll-free in Texas)

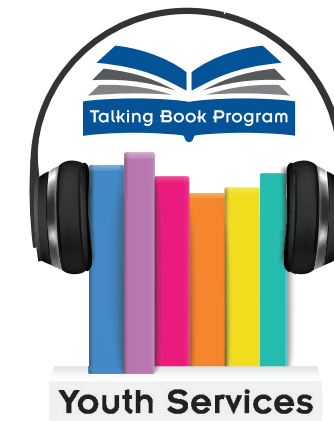
512-463-5458

(Austin area)

P.O. Box 12927
Austin TX 78711-2927

tbp.services@tsl.texas.gov

TexasTalkingBooks.org



TexasTalkingBooks.org

1-800-252-9605

tbp.services@tsl.texas.gov

For Teachers



SB 2075, passed in 2019, requires students who are diagnosed with dyslexia in public schools to be provided with information about the **Talking Book Program (TBP)**.

TBP offers students with reading disabilities a variety of reading materials, for grades from Pre-K to young adult. Digital audiobooks allow students to improve their reading skills by hearing the words they read on the page.

We hold many titles* in our collections that are commonly used in Texas curriculums.

You can also register your classroom with TBP, and we will send you a talking book machine for use in your class during the school year.

*Textbooks not included.

For Students

Borrow an audiobook from TBP and listen along to a book while reading, or just listen!

Our library uses the Braille and Audio Reading Download—BARD Mobile app for iOS, Android, and Kindle Fire. Download audiobooks for free and keep them for as long as you like.

You can read books with us for fun, too! Our Youth Services department has monthly book clubs for middle grade and teen readers.

Find us online at www.tsl.texas.gov/tbp/youthservices

Audiobooks in our collection include:

- *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*
- *Harry Potter*
- *To All the Boys I've Loved Before*
- *The Great Gatsby*
- *Pride and Prejudice*
- And thousands more!



For Parents

Listening is reading!

Students with reading disabilities who listen to their books have an advantage in the classroom.

Studies Show

Students who regularly listen to audiobooks can build better phonological awareness – in other words, they are able to connect what they hear with what they see on the page.

A study conducted by researchers at the University of Central Arkansas found that reluctant readers who participated in an audiobook club at school became more excited about reading and their test scores improved.

With TBP, a world of learning and imagination can open up for your child.



**C
A N
Y O U
R E A D
T H I S ?**

TBP CAN HELP
TexasTalkingBooks.org

BRILLE • DIGITAL AUDIO • LARGE PRINT

The Talking Book Program loans large print books **FREE** to Texans with a temporary or lifelong need due to a qualifying visual, physical or reading disability.



TEXAS STATE LIBRARY
AND
ARCHIVES COMMISSION



INSTITUTE of
Museum and Library
SERVICES

1-800-252-9605

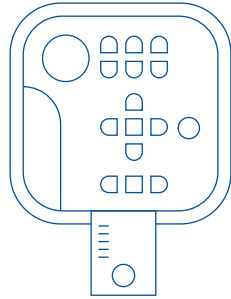
tbp.services@tsl.texas.gov

www.TexasTalkingBooks.org

Texas Talking Book Program (TBP) **LIBRARY SERVICES FOR DYSLEXIC TEXANS**



DIGITAL AUDIO BOOKS AND MAGAZINES



169,000+ FREE titles

The BARD mobile app offers files with
NO WAIT and NO DUE DATE

The Digital Talking Book Machine
(DTBM) plays cartridges that come in the
mail (60-day lending period)

PHYSICAL LARGE PRINT BOOKS AND MAGAZINES



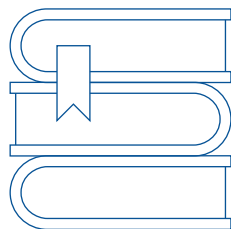
13,000+ FREE titles

Books with 14-16 point
font size

60-day lending period

TBP does not offer textbooks in large
print or audio

PROGRAMMING AND SERVICES FOR PATRONS



Author talks, book clubs, monthly
podcast, monthly e-newsletter, summer
reading program, exhibits by TSLAC

Call the Disability Information and
Referral Center (DIRC) for dyslexia
resources and information

Contact our Bilingual Call Center

Open: Monday – Friday
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Central)

Austin: 512-463-5458

Toll Free in TX: 1-800-252-9605

Email to:
tbp.services@tsl.texas.gov

Applications available:
www.texasalkingbooks.org





LEARN MORE

American Institute for Conservation
www.culturalheritage.org

Canadian Conservation Institute
www.canada.ca/en/conservation-institute

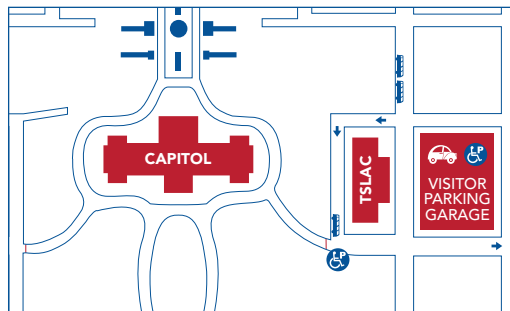
Conservation at the Library of Congress
www.loc.gov/preservation/about/conserv/



1201 BRAZOS STREET
AUSTIN, TX 78701

www.tsl.texas.gov
512-463-5455
statearchives@tsl.texas.gov

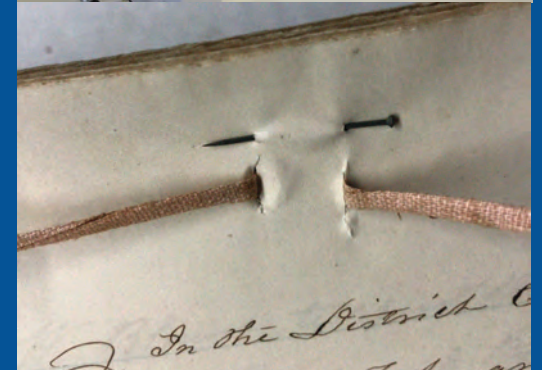
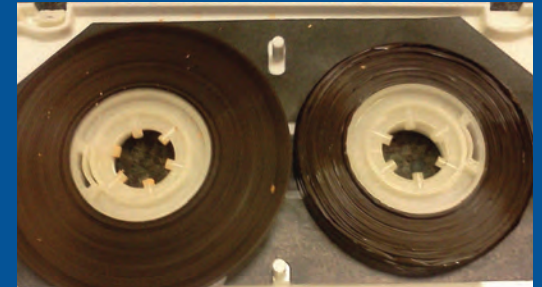
For current reading room hours and
to plan your visit, see:
www.tsl.texas.gov/visit



To support TSLAC visit the *Texas Library and Archives Foundation* at
www.txlaf.org

CONSERVATION

AT THE TEXAS STATE LIBRARY
AND ARCHIVES COMMISSION



WHAT IS CONSERVATION?

Conservation is a process that prolongs the life of cultural materials. At the Texas State Library and Archives Commission, conservation focuses on book and paper items in our archival holdings. The practice of conservation is built upon ethical foundations that balance historical integrity with future use. Conservation treatments range from simple cleaning to mending, housing, and full rebinding.



WHY CONSERVE?

Archival materials can be damaged by poor handling, improper storage, pollution, natural disasters, and the breakdown of component materials. Left unchecked, these processes can destroy valuable historical records. Conservation prolongs the life of archival holdings for research, exhibits, and digitization projects.

MATERIALS AND PRACTICE

Items in archives share a common set of materials, including paper, leather, inks, and dyes. They also share a unique set of historical craft-making practices, such as bookbinding traditions passed down through many centuries.

Conservation combines aspects of history, art, and science to preserve the materials, craft, and content of our archival holdings.



DOCUMENTATION

Conservation projects require detailed documentation before, during, and after treatment. An item's physical condition is thoroughly evaluated, sometimes at the microscopic level, in written and photographic reports.

Understanding specific treatment procedures and materials used can help librarians and archivists develop effective strategies for future care and handling.



PRESERVATION AND PREVENTION

The most effective conservation strategy is to stop problems before they start. Conservation's sister field, preservation, tackles collections-level issues like storage and handling to provide long-term stability for thousands of items.

Strong preservation practices ensure that fewer items require intensive conservation treatment.



STORAGE

Modern office supplies and archival materials do not mix. Adhesives and clips can cause staining and physical damage, while modern inks can create permanent discoloration. Pressure-sensitive tape is especially notorious for causing irreversible, disfiguring stains over time.

When preparing items for storage, consider the long-term stability of the storage materials used.

- Make needed annotations in pencil only.
- Avoid tape, stick-on notes, metal fasteners, and rubber bands.
- Contain loose pieces in folders and boxes available from archival suppliers.
- Avoid colored folders and papers.

LEARN MORE

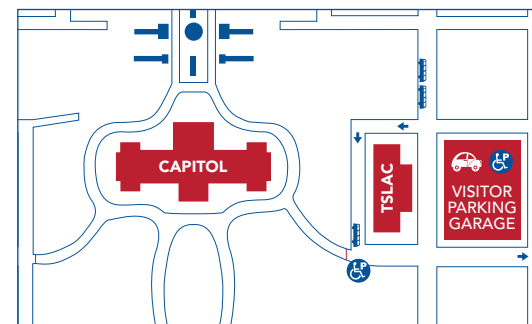
Caring for Your Treasures
American Institute for Conservation
www.culturalheritage.org

Caring for Your Collections
Library of Congress
www.loc.gov/preservation/care/



1201 BRAZOS STREET
 AUSTIN, TX 78701
www.tsl.texas.gov
 512-463-5455
statearchives@tsl.texas.gov

For current reading room hours and to plan your visit, see:
www.tsl.texas.gov/visit



To support *TSLAC* visit the *Texas Library and Archives Foundation* at
www.txlaf.org

PRESERVATION

CARING FOR YOUR HISTORICAL TREASURES



INTRODUCTION

Your personal and family heritage is part of the historical record of our state and nation.

With appropriate care and maintenance, you can help preserve your historical treasures for future generations.

This brochure outlines common deterioration problems in books and paper documents and offers solutions you can implement at home.

HANDLING

Books and paper documents can become brittle and fragile with age. Many Texas historical items were made during the mid-19th and early-20th centuries, a time period in which increased mechanization caused a decrease in paper quality.

Items from this period often have a high acid content that makes them especially susceptible to embrittlement and breaking.

Wash your hands before handling items to minimize the transfer of body oil, skin care products, and food residue that can damage paper over time.

Store documents flat and use a support to move and turn them with minimal flexing.

Open books carefully and consider supporting them with a cushion; not all books can open flat on a table.



TEMPERATURE AND HUMIDITY

Archival documents and books are extremely sensitive to environmental conditions. Temperature and humidity impact mold growth, insect infestation, warping, curling, and many other problems.

A poor environment can trigger deterioration that might not otherwise begin.

Serious damage can be caused by environmental extremes and sudden fluctuations in temperature and humidity, more precisely known as relative humidity. A stable, controlled environment is your strongest weapon against material degradation.

Store items between 65 and 72 degrees Fahrenheit and between 45% and 55% relative humidity.

Keep temperature and relative humidity stable, with changes of only a few degrees or percentage points.

Avoid uncontrolled storage environments like attics, basements, and storage sheds.

LIGHT

Light causes cumulative, irreversible damage to archival materials. Over time, light exposure will cause inks and dyes to fade and paper to become yellow, brittle, and fragile. Just like people, historical items are especially harmed by ultraviolet rays. No treatment can reverse the effects of light, but many problems can be completely avoided with proper care.

Store items away from intense light, like direct sunlight and harsh fluorescent bulbs.

Avoid long-term light exposure and permanent display. A high-quality copy may be a viable display option to help preserve irreplaceable originals.

PESTS

Insects and rodents may view your historical documents as an inviting meal. In Texas, cockroaches, silverfish, and carpet beetles pose special threats to paper and adhesives, sometimes chewing through hundreds of sheets of paper at a time. While summer is their most active season, insects and larvae may become dormant through cold months and reemerge later. Visible evidence of pests often indicates more activity behind the scenes.

Store your valuable collections in climate- and pest-controlled areas.

Inspect items regularly to guard against unwanted visitors.

Keep storage areas clean to avoid attracting further pests.

Explore Your Roots

Want to learn more?

Visit the Genealogy Resources page at: www.tsl.texas.gov/arc/genfirst or contact the TSLAC Reference Desk at 512-463-5455 or ref@tsl.texas.gov.



Unnamed African American woman, about 1880s, Tina Odum photograph collection, 2015/109. Photo available for viewing in the Texas State Archives' Reading Room.

To find current reading room hours and plan your visit, see: www.tsl.texas.gov/visit



Comments regarding our programs and services may be addressed to:

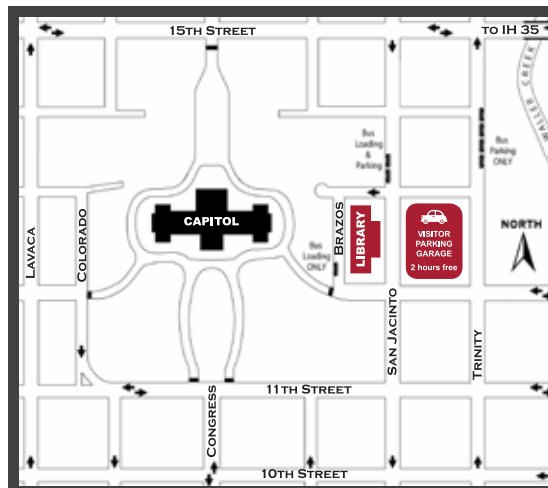
Director and Librarian

P.O. Box 12927

Austin, TX 78711-2927

info@tsl.texas.gov

To support the Texas State Library and Archives Commission, visit the Texas Library and Archives Foundation at TxLAF.org.



Published July 2024

Available in alternative formats upon request.

Researching Your Texas Family Tree

Family History Resources at the Texas State Library and Archives Commission

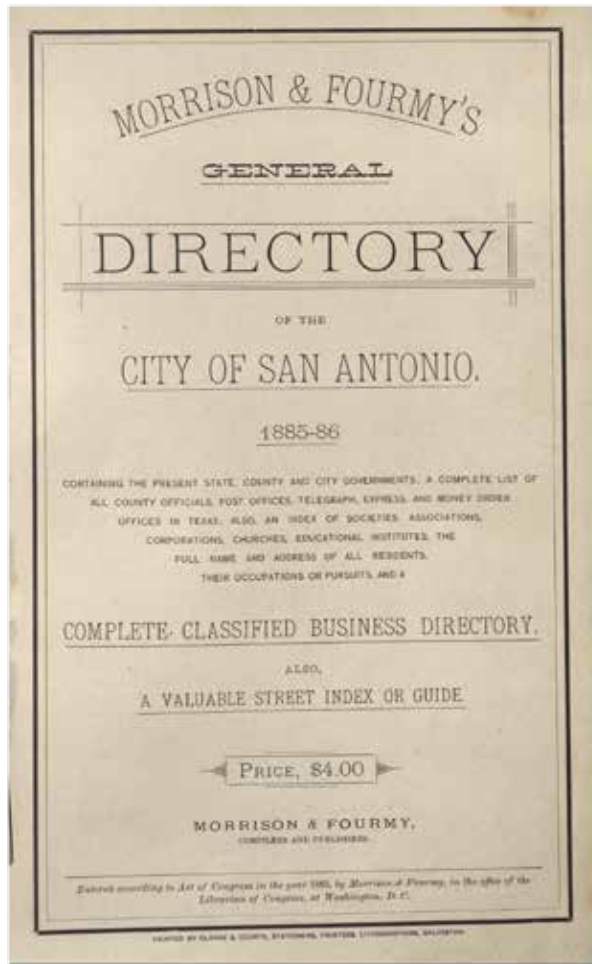


TEXAS STATE LIBRARY
AND
ARCHIVES COMMISSION

Introduction

Researching your family roots is a great way to learn about history and connect with the past. The Texas State Library and Archives Commission's holdings include some notable resources for family historians. Learn more about some key resources described below.

The brochure *Digging Deeper Into Your Texas Roots* offers additional genealogy research tools available through TSLAC.



San Antonio City Directory, 1885-86.

Vital Statistics Indexes

TSLAC's collection includes vital statistics indexes for all of the years the state has collected the data, including birth and death indexes beginning in 1903, marriage indexes starting in 1966, and divorce indexes starting in 1968. Earlier records may be found in the city, county or district clerk's office where an event took place.

Texas City Directories

City directories can be a helpful tool, and TSLAC has a large collection to aid in your research. These directories vary in what information they include, with some more basic directories having just name, address, and phone number, while others may also have information on spouses, children, occupation, and whether the individual owned their home or rented it. City directories also include an index and advertisements from local businesses. You can find a listing of our holdings on the TSLAC website.

Texas Newspapers



The Tyler Journal, Tyler, Texas, April 19, 1934.

Most of our newspaper collection is on microfilm, though there are some print indexes, and online newspaper databases are available, as well. Our collection includes some, but not all, Texas newspapers.

Texas County Records

County records on microfilm can include records of real property, probate records, vital statistics, naturalization records, and court records. TSLAC holds microfilm from select counties and can request microfilm from other libraries through Interlibrary Loan. The TSLAC Genealogy Collection also includes publications about Texas counties and other states, family histories, indexes to a variety of records including census information, and general genealogy reference material.



Uvalde County Marriage license of New Harris and Francis U. Hiler, November 3, 1890.



We are a FamilySearch affiliate library





TEXAS STATE LIBRARY
AND
ARCHIVES COMMISSION

Tools for Texas History Research



Texas Digital Archive

www.tsl.texas.gov/texasdigitalarchive



Map Database

www.tsl.texas.gov/arc/maps/introduction



Library Catalog

www.tsl.texas.gov/catalog



Descriptive Guides/Finding Aids

www.tsl.texas.gov/arc/index.html#Guides



Texas Newspapers

www.tsl.texas.gov/ref/newspapers



Online Collections

www.tsl.texas.gov/arc/onlinecollections



Exhibits

www.tsl.texas.gov/exhibits

Learn more: www.tsl.texas.gov/arc
Questions?: ref@tsl.texas.gov | 512-463-5455



Texas Digital Archive

The TDA provides access to our electronic records collections. This includes electronic records transferred by state agencies or digitized by TSLAC. TDA collections include photographs, Civil War muster rolls, signed laws, fire insurance maps, historical marker files, Governor Rick Perry's records, and papers on women's rights.



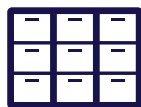
Map Database

Our map collection contains general maps of Texas, the United States, and Mexico; city and county maps; world atlases; maps detailing state resources; and plans of forts and other sites. Maps in this and other collections date from the early 1600s to the present. Some maps have been digitized and are available to view and download through the database; other maps must be viewed on site at our headquarters in Austin.



Library Catalog

Books, periodicals, Texas and U.S. government publications, and some archival materials may be found by searching the catalog. While many of the items in our collections may be borrowed through the interlibrary loan program, please note that some items do not circulate and are available for on-site use only.



Descriptive Guides/Finding Aids

Descriptive guides, also known as finding aids, help researchers to understand, access, and use archival holdings. The guides include information on the creator of the records, purpose of the records series, material types, subjects and dates covered, and box and folder listings.



Texas Newspapers

Our collection includes some, but not all, Texas newspapers. Most of our newspaper collection is available on microfilm and accessible through interlibrary loan. Print newspapers and newspaper databases are also available to use on site.



Online Collections and Exhibits

Online collections and exhibits organized around themes from Texas history highlight primary source materials from our collections, including original documents, maps, photographs, letters, and artifacts.



State Library and Archives

Open for Researchers on Second Saturdays

Public service areas—the Texas State Archives and Reference Reading Room—are open from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on the second Saturday of each month. The facility is located at 1201 Brazos Street in Austin.

Resources and services available include:

- Archival government records dating back to the 18th century
- Microfilm and original newspapers
- Books
- Journals
- Manuscripts
- Photographs
- Historical maps
- Public computers with free access to TexShare databases, Ancestry Library Edition, Newspapers.com, and Newspaper Archive Texas
- Genealogical collections
- County records and histories
- City directories
- U.S. and Texas government publications
- Digital microform reader/printers
- Self-serve book scanners
- Knowledgeable and dedicated staff



- We are a FamilySearch affiliate library

Please note: Researchers using original documents in the State Archives for the first time will be required to register. Texas residents with valid photo identification and proof of current address may register for Interlibrary Loan services and remote access to the TexShare Databases.

On Second Saturdays, all archival materials will be removed from the reading room at 3:45 p.m.

For information about regular public service hours and to learn more about the Commission's collections and agency operations, please visit www.tsl.texas.gov.

Questions concerning Second Saturdays may be sent to ref@tsl.texas.gov.

2026

January 10

February 14

March 14

April 11

May 9

July 11

August 8

September 12

October 10

December 12

TEXAS DIGITAL

ARCHIVE

WWW.TSL.TEXAS.GOV/TEXASDIGITALARCHIVE



TEXAS DIGITAL ARCHIVE (TDA)

**Online access to prints and photographs, state records, documents,
audiovisual records, manuscripts and much more!**

Discover Texas history online through a searchable digital repository of electronic records collections held by the Texas State Library and Archives Commission.

Begin your virtual exploration today!

WWW.TSL.TEXAS.GOV/TEXASDIGITALARCHIVE

For information about all the archival holdings of the Texas State Archives, go to: www.tsl.texas.gov/arc.



TEXAS STATE
LIBRARY
AND
ARCHIVES
COMMISSION





On Exhibit Now

Throughout 2026, celebrate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the US Declaration of Independence with TSLAC! Every state has a story to tell, and our *Texas America250* exhibit spotlights some of the areas where Texans' contributions shine especially bright.

Free and open to the public at the Lorenzo de Zavala State Archives and Library Building, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and on the second Saturday of each month, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

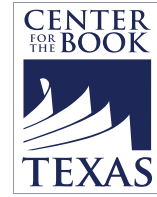
www.tsl.texas.gov/texasamerica250exhibit



Oil field with gusher, about 1890-1910. L.J. Whitmeyer glass plate negatives collection, 1997.108-34. SHC.

Cowboys, 1970s. Texas Tourist Development Agency photographs and audiovisual materials, 1991/077-419-017.

Astronaut Edwin Eugene "Buzz" Aldrin on the moon. Texas Tourist Development Agency photographs and audiovisual materials, 1991/077-0114_005.



Reading Challenge Participation Guidelines

The [Texas Center for the Book](#), headquartered at the [Texas State Library and Archives Commission](#) (TSLAC), is excited to encourage Texans to join us in the [TSLAC Texas America250 Reading Challenge](#), part of the national America250 [America Gives](#) initiative.

From January 1 to December 31, 2026, we invite Texans of all ages to log 2,500 minutes (41.6 hours) of reading, state parks visits, and/or service activity, in honor of our nation's 250th anniversary.

Participants can log their time:

- **Reading books and/or listening to audiobooks.** We especially encourage reading about Texas and American history, as well as Texas and American nature, wildlife, and space exploration topics.
- **Attending library storytimes or other library events.**
- **Volunteering in their local communities.**
- **Visiting a Texas State Park** ([Texas Parks and Wildlife](#) is a Texas America250 partner).

[Texas State Parks](#) – Find a park and plan your visit! Visit the website to make a park reservation, browse campsites and lodging, buy park passes, access maps and rules, learn about upcoming activities, download the State Park Mobile App, and much more.

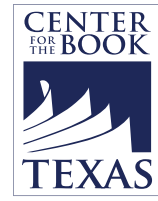
[America Gives](#) – Whether pitching in to support our veterans and military families, or restoring nature trails, or mentoring youth, or picking up litter, or anything in between—there's a way for everyone to give back. Explore volunteer opportunities near you and find the right fit for you to participate as we get ready for America's 250th anniversary.

The Texas America250 Reading Challenge is self-reported. Let your school or public librarian know when you have completed the challenge, and they can print out a certificate for you.

A FAQ, as well as printable bookmarks and posters are also available on our [Texas America250 Reading Challenge](#) website at www.tsl.texas.gov/america250/challenge.

Learn more about TSLAC and the Texas Center for the Book's Texas America250 programming at www.tsl.texas.gov/america250. Explore statewide events and initiatives at www.texasamerica250.com





Reading Challenge FAQ

What is the reading challenge?

The [TSLAC Texas America250 Reading Challenge](#) is part of the national America250 America Gives initiative. The [Texas Center for the Book](#), headquartered at the [Texas State Library and Archives Commission](#) (TSLAC), encourages Texans to join us in reinvigorating a national year-round culture of service in the United States through 2026 and beyond.

When does the reading challenge start?

January 1, 2026. It runs through December 31, 2026. Readers may participate at any time throughout 2026.

What ages may participate?

Any age. We invite Texans of all ages to log 2,500 minutes (41.6 hours) of reading, state parks visits, and/or service activity in 2026, in honor of our nation's 250th anniversary. (If you have a young child, they can participate and count time when a family member is reading to them, or when they attend storytime at the library; see other qualifying activities below.)

What activities count toward the total?

Participants can log their time:

- **Reading books and/or listening to audiobooks.** We especially encourage reading about Texas and American history, as well as Texas and American nature, wildlife, and space exploration topics.
- **Attending library storytimes or other library events.**
- **Volunteering** in their local communities.
- **Visiting a Texas State Park** ([Texas Parks and Wildlife](#) is a Texas America250 partner).

[Texas State Parks](#) – Find a park and plan your visit! Visit the website to make a park reservation, browse campsites and lodging, buy park passes, access maps and rules, learn about upcoming activities, download the State Park Mobile App, and much more.

What activities count toward the total? (cont.)

America Gives – Whether pitching in to support our veterans and military families, or restoring nature trails, or mentoring youth, or picking up litter, or anything in between—there’s a way for everyone to give back. Explore volunteer opportunities near you and find the right fit for you to participate as we get ready for America’s 250th anniversary.

How do participants track their time?

You are welcome to use our “[Mosey Along the Reading Trail](#)” [Reading Log Map](#), or you can track their hours in whatever way works best—you’re welcome to make your own reading log, use an app to track your time, or use any method that is easy for you!

Do the tracking sheets or other reading logs need to be sent to the Texas State Library and Archives Commission?

No, you do not need to submit anything to TSLAC. The Texas America250 Reading Challenge is self-reported. You can let your school or public librarian know when you have completed the challenge, and they can print out a certificate for you.

What do I receive for completing the challenge?

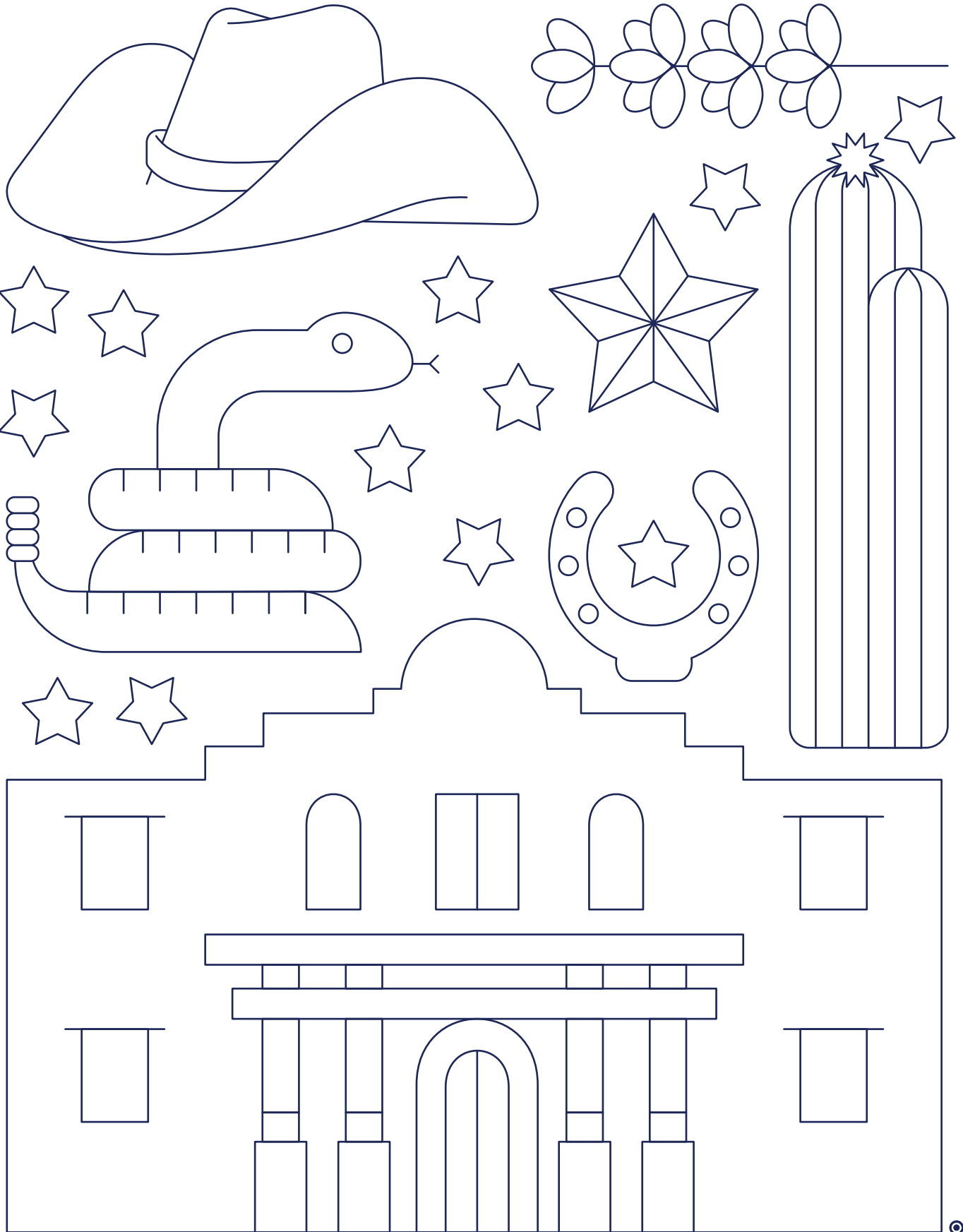
Every participant who completes the challenge and reports completion to their public or school librarian can receive a certificate with Governor Greg Abbott’s signature. We’re proud of you for participating in our challenge!

I’m a librarian, how do I register to log in and print the completion certificates?

Directions for accessing completion certifications can be found on our website www.tsl.texas.gov/america250/certificate. TSLAC will also send out a short (optional) survey for participating libraries at the end of 2026.

What other ways can I participate?

We encourage you to post photos of yourself and your friends and family members working on the reading challenge, whether you’re reading, volunteering, or spending time at a state park. Please tag us [@tslac](#) on social media, and use the hashtag [#TexasAmerica250](#). Thank you for celebrating Texas America250 with us!



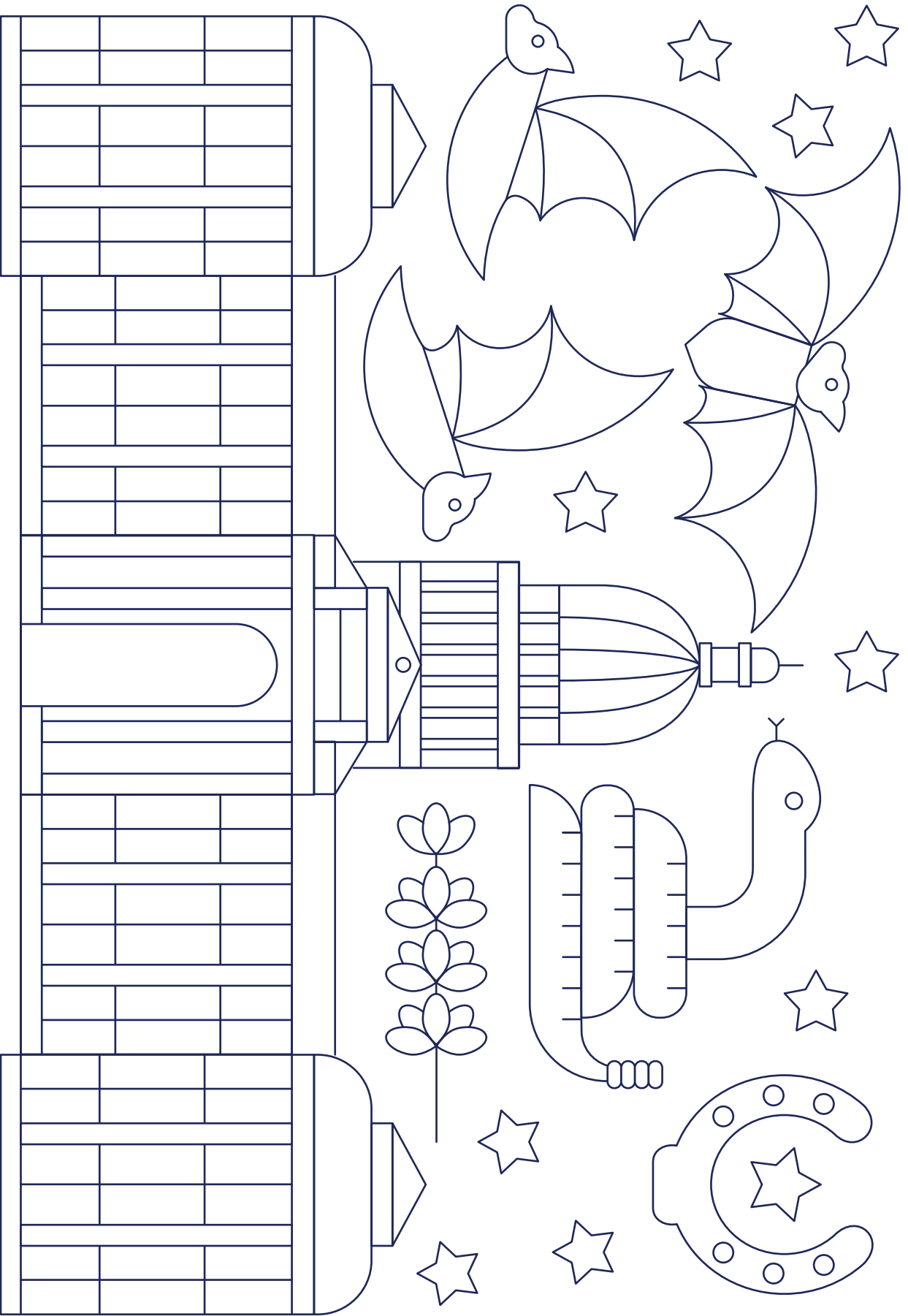


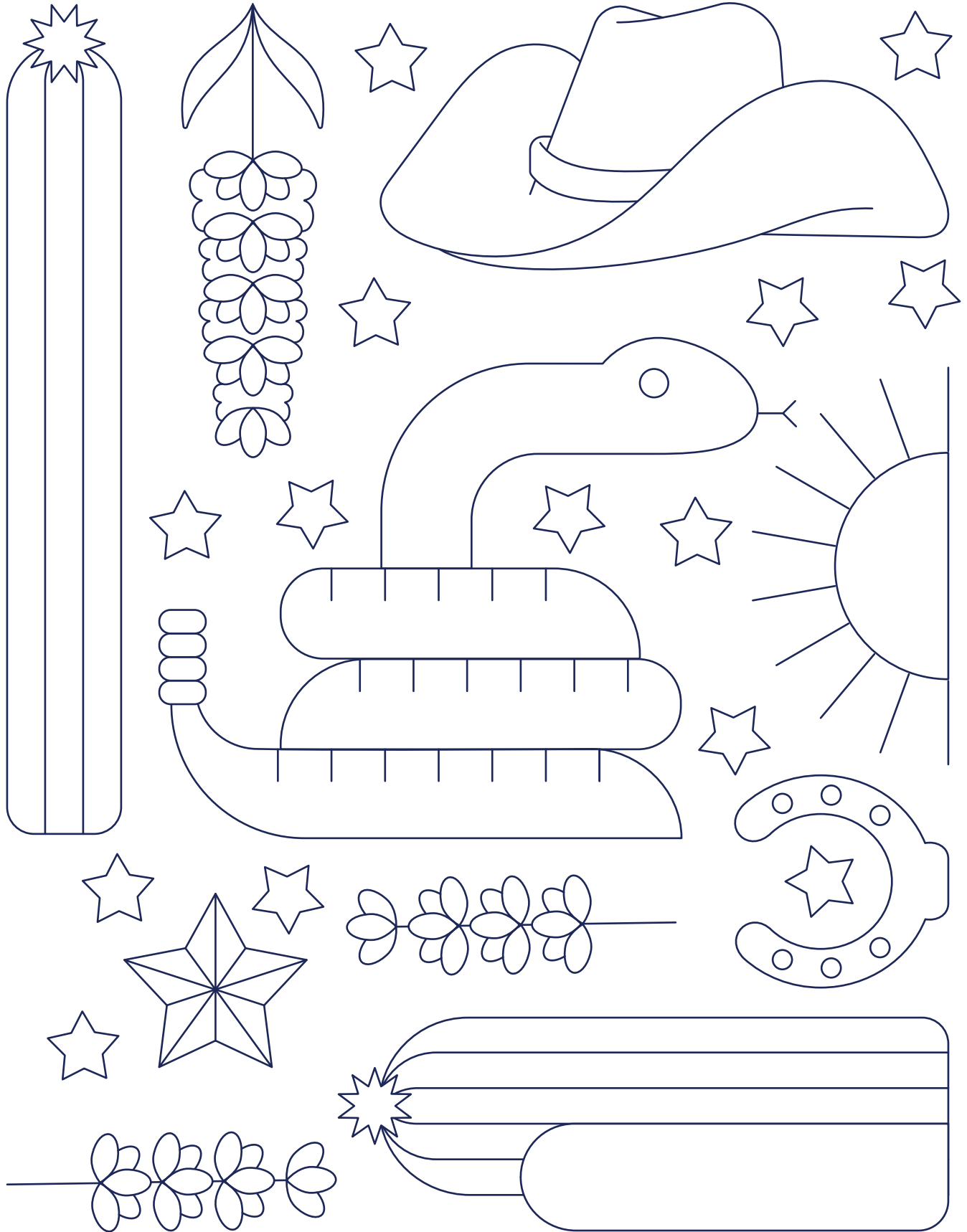
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250

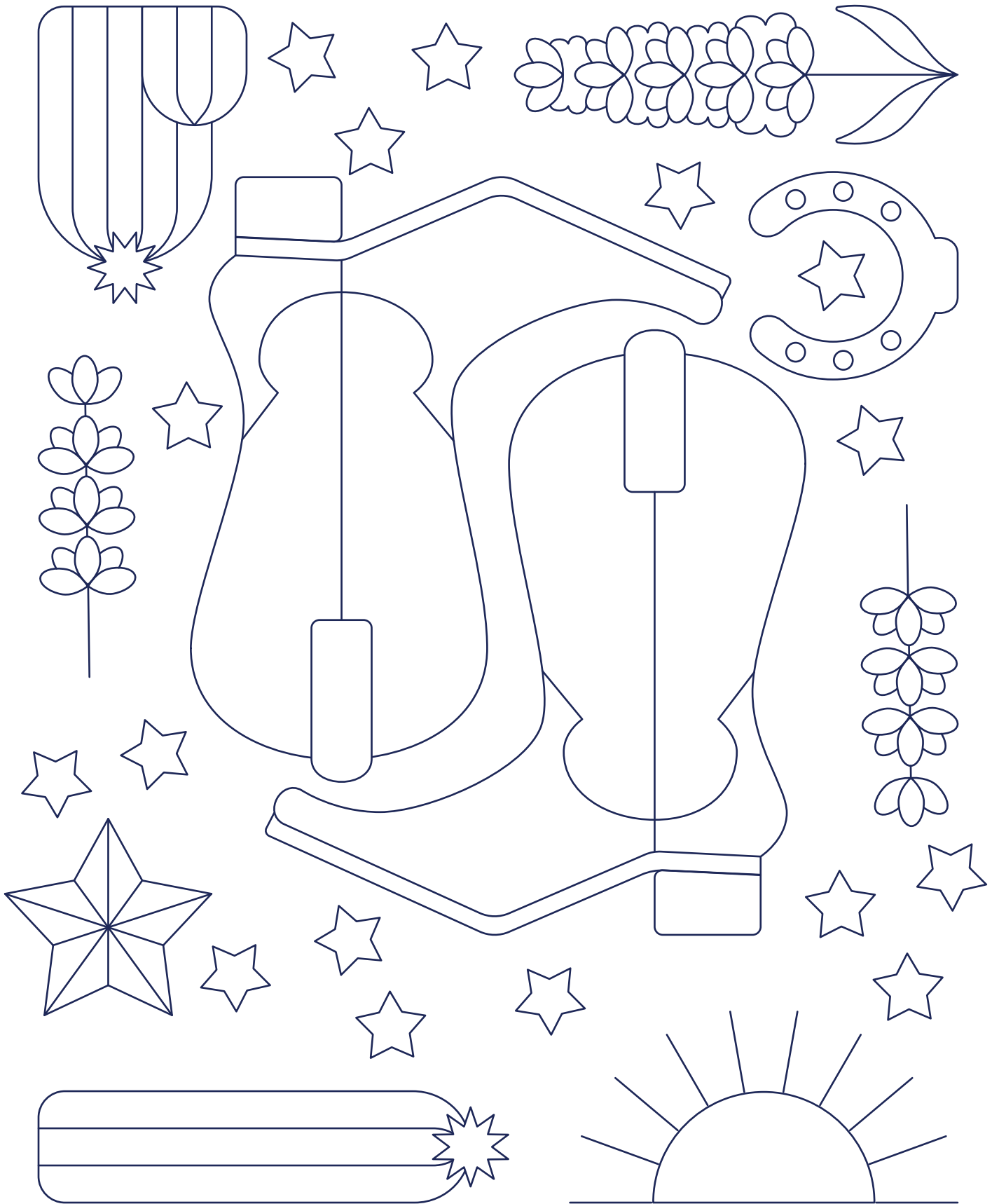


TEXAS STATE LIBRARY
AND
ARCHIVES COMMISSION

WWW.TSL.TEXAS.GOV/AMERICA250

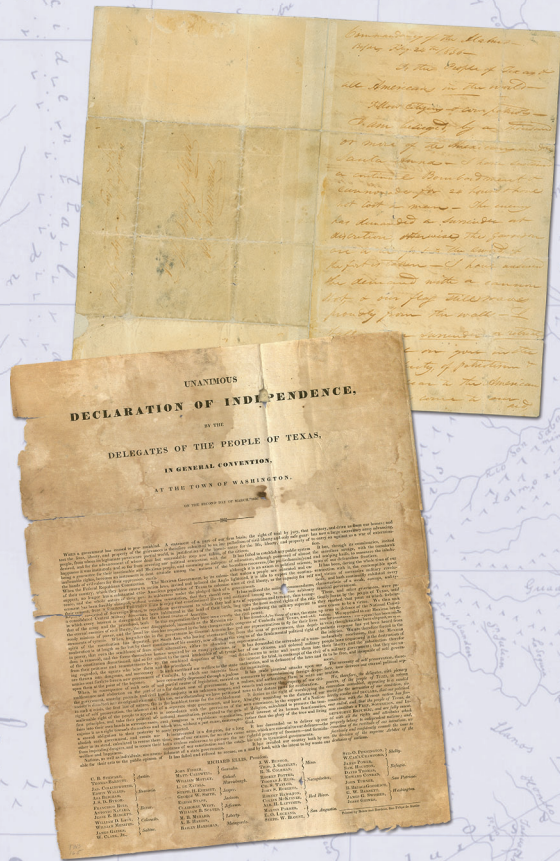






▶ From the days of the Republic

Texas has had an official library and archives since the days of the Republic. TSLAC holds the official historical record of the state and is responsible for the most iconic of Texas documents, including the Declaration of Texas Independence, the Constitution of 1876 and the William B. Travis "Victory or Death" letter written at the Alamo on February 24, 1836.



William B. Travis' 1836 "Victory or Death" Letter from the Alamo
Texas Declaration of Independence, March 2, 1836



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The Texas Library and Archives Foundation supports the work of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission and is dedicated to securing the historical legacy of the Archives of Texas as well as encouraging reading, literacy and lifelong learning for all Texans.

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Daguerreotype of Sam Houston in riding duster from the State Archives

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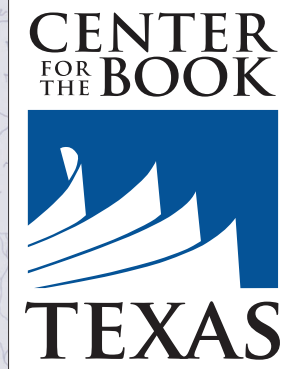
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▶ **Support the Texas Center for the Book**

An affiliate of the U.S. Center for the Book at the Library of Congress, promoting the importance of books, reading, literacy and library use for all Texans. (Any amount welcome.)

▶ **Create a lifeline to reading in the Talking Book Program**

Imagine not being able to read due to a visual impairment or physical disability. The Talking Book Program provides that link to thousands statewide. (Any amount welcome.)

▶ **Helping make libraries strong**

schools, college and university libraries. TSLAC also ensures that persons with visual impairments or physical disabilities have the

books and information they need to lead productive, fulfilled lives.

▶ **Why seek private funding?**

and Archives Commission a state agency?

Why do you need private funding?

While TSLAC's basic operating expenditures come from state and federal funds, needs far outstrip available resources. For example, the Talking Book Program, a lifeline for persons who cannot read standard print due to a visual impairment or physical disability, only reaches about 7% of eligible users.



Talking Book Program

Providing free digital audio, large print and Braille books and magazines to Texas residents of any age with qualifying visual, physical or reading disabilities.

State resources cannot be used to advertise the program.

Another TSLAC project, the Texas Center for the Book, has a great potential to support reading, library use and literacy statewide, but has no dedicated funding from state or federal sources.

The agency continues to have a backlog of several thousand cubic feet of archival documents that represent untold treasures of Texas history.