



Press Release

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Texas State Library and Archives Commission

Robert Schaadt, Director

Sam Houston Regional Library and Research Center

(936) 336-8821, rschaadt@tsl.state.tx.us

Or Derick Hackett, Communications Officer

(512) 463-5514, dhackett@tsl.state.tx.us

Sam Houston Regional Library and Research Center Receives Conservation Bookshelf

Lorenzo de Zavala
State Archives and
Library Building

P.O. Box 12927
Austin, Texas
78711-2927

1201 Brazos St.
Austin, Texas
78701

www.tsl.state.tx.us

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*Making
information
work
for all
Texans*

LIBERTY, Texas – Treasured objects and artifacts held by the Sam Houston Regional Library and Research Center will be preserved for future generations with help from the *IMLS Connecting to Collections Bookshelf*, a core set of conservation books, DVDs, and online resources donated by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the primary source of federal funding of the nation's museums and libraries.

IMLS and its cooperator, the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH), will award a total of 3,000 free sets of the IMLS Bookshelf by the end of 2009.

"Due to its dedicated staff and historical treasures, the IMLS choose the Sam Houston Center as one of its recipients," stated Sam Center Director Robert Schaadt. "We appreciate this honor and it is most beneficial to have an updated technical library that will be used to facilitate our conservation and preservation work with our historical houses and our 15,000 plus artifacts."

"We are very pleased to announce the recipients of the IMLS Bookshelf in the second round of competition. These libraries, museums, and archives are in the forefront of our call to action on behalf of America's collections," said Anne-Imelda Radice, Director of IMLS. "According to a recent national survey, our important collections are at great risk, and without them, the American story simply cannot be told to future generations."

The Sam Houston Center is being awarded this essential set of resources based on an application describing the needs and plans for care of its collections. The IMLS Bookshelf focuses on collections typically found in history or art museums and in libraries' special collections, with an added selection of texts for zoos, aquaria, public gardens, and nature centers. It addresses such topics as the philosophy and ethics of collecting, collections management and planning, emergency preparedness, and culturally specific conservation issues.

The IMLS Bookshelf is a crucial component of *Connecting to Collections: A Call to Action*, a conservation initiative that the Institute launched in 2006. IMLS began the initiative in response to a 2005 study by Heritage Preservation documenting the dire state of the nation's collections. The multi-faceted, multi-year initiative shines a nationwide spotlight on the needs of America's collections, especially those held by smaller institutions, which often lack the human and financial resources necessary to adequately

care for their collections. For more information on the conservation initiative, please go to www.ims.gov/collections.

About the Institute of Museum and Library Services

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation's 122,000 libraries and 17,500 museums. The Institute's mission is to create strong libraries and museums that connect people to information and ideas. The Institute works at the national level and in coordination with state and local organizations to sustain heritage, culture, and knowledge; enhance learning and innovation; and support professional development. To learn more about the Institute, please visit www.ims.gov.

The Sam Houston Regional Library and Research Center, a part of the Archives and Information Services Division of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission, is located three miles north of Liberty at 650 FM 1011, off of State Highway 146. The Center is open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free.

For further information, telephone (936) 336-8821 or write to P. O. Box 310, Liberty, TX 77575-0310.

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ABOUT THE TEXAS STATE LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES COMMISSION

TSLAC helps Texans find the information they seek. The people of Texas utilize TSLAC services and programs to effectively use information and materials that improve their lives, the lives of their families, and their communities. Since 1909, TSLAC has carried out a commitment of making information work for all Texans by providing history and genealogical services, federal and state government documents, electronic research, and library services to Texans of all ages who are unable to read standard print material due to visual, physical, or reading disabilities. For more information, go to <http://www.tsl.state.tx.us> or email pio@tsl.state.tx.us.