



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Monday, August 10, 2009

Contact: Derick Hackett
Communications Officer
(512) 463-5514
dhackett@tsl.state.tx.us

Texas State Library and Archives Commission welcomes national archivists conference from August 11-16

AUSTIN, Texas – The Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC) welcomes the 2009 Society of American Archivists and Council of State Archivists Conference, to Austin, Texas, August 11-16 at the Hilton Austin. This year's theme is "Sustainable Archives: AUSTIN 2009."

The Society of American Archivists (SAA) and Council of State Archivists (CoSA) are expecting 1,200 to 1,400 attendees to this year's conference. The joint conference will feature 76 informative and educational sessions, programs on the daily challenges of archivists, innovative approaches to archives and records activities, and exhibits.

"We welcome the conference to Texas and understand the vital role archivists play across our state and country," said Peggy D. Rudd, Texas State Library and Archives Commission director and librarian. "They manage, preserve and protect the one-of-a-kind historical treasures that can never be reproduced or replaced. They are guardians of history."

The conference will include tours of repositories in the Austin area including the Texas State Library and Archives Commission, Texas General Land Office, Texas State Capitol, Austin History Center and several archival institutions at the University of Texas at Austin.

"Austin is noted for having one of the largest and most diverse groups of archival repositories in the country—including a presidential library, two state government archival repositories, two local government archives, several university archives, religious archives, film and music archives, and multiple archival collections of private manuscripts of national and international significance—so it's especially fitting that SAA and CoSA are convening here," said Chris LaPlante, State Archivist and Director of TSLAC's Archives and Information Services Division.

In Texas, under the Texas State Library and Archives Commission, the Texas State Archives preserves and documents the heritage and culture of Texas by identifying, collecting and making available for research the permanently valuable official records of Texas government, as well as other significant historical resources.

Maintaining the official history of Texas government, the State Archives includes archival government records dating back to the 18th century, as well as newspapers, journals, books, manuscripts, photographs, historical maps, and other historical resources. The holdings of the Texas State Archives provide a historical foundation for present-day governmental actions and are an important resource for Texas studies.

Founded in 1936, SAA is North America's oldest and largest national archival professional association. CoSA is a national organization comprising the individuals who serve as directors of the principal archival agencies in each state and territorial government. Future conference locations include Washington DC in 2010, and Chicago in 2011.

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

Commission Chairman
Sandra J. Pickett

Members
Sharon T. Carr
Martha Doty Freeman
Larry G. Holt
Scott McAfee
Sally Reynolds
Michael C. Waters

Director and Librarian
Peggy D. Rudd

Assistant State Librarian
Edward Seidenberg

*Making
information
work
for all
Texans*

-more-

“Its been almost 30 years since the Society of American Archivists (SAA) last met in Austin, and almost 15 years since the Council of State Archivists (CoSA) gathered here, and we’re extremely pleased that both groups decided to meet here jointly,” said LaPlante.

Previous conferences were held in San Francisco, Chicago, Washington DC, New Orleans, Boston and Los Angeles. For more conference information go to www.archivists.org/ or www.statearchivists.org/index.htm.

-30-

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.