



# News Release

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## TSLAC awards \$614,543 in cooperation, special projects, competitive systems grants to libraries

**AUSTIN, Texas** – The Texas State Library and Archives Commission approved \$614,543 in competitive grants to 10 libraries and regional library systems across the state that support library collaboration, literacy and educational achievement initiatives and resource sharing.

The grant programs are administered by the Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC) and are funded by the federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) through the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

TSLAC's three LSTA granting categories include Library Cooperation, Special Projects and Competitive Library Systems. The grants will support the following projects from September 1, 2009, to August 31, 2010.

Library Cooperation Grants promote the development of public and private partnerships between libraries and other agencies and community-based organizations:

- **“Parker County Library Association” Project** (\$56,468) to Weatherford Public Library (near Tarrant County) to maintain and expand an integrated library system that allows the libraries of Parker County to share resources.
- **“HeirLoom: Something Worth Saving, Something Worth Sharing” Project** (\$72,866) to Texas A&M University – Commerce. The oral history and archives project will target African-American WWII veterans and increase the participation of African-Americans in the collection, preservation, and sharing of local community history.
- **“Libraries for Literacy – Learning Express Consortium” Project** (\$75,000) to the North Texas Regional Library System (NTRLS) to build stronger communities through literacy instruction.
- **“Bridging the Gap: Healthcare Need to Healthcare Access” Project** (\$15,565) to Houston Academy of Medicine – Texas Medical Center Library to promote effective health information-seeking behavior in the population of Harris County.

Special Projects Grants fund programs that expand library services to all members of the library's community and enable libraries to develop programs for populations with special needs:

- **“Ready to Read (RTR)” Project** (\$50,000) to Central Texas Library System (CTLIS) to impact the school readiness of disadvantaged children by providing early literacy classes to parents and teachers.

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- **“La Familia Leyendo Juntos; The Family Reading Together” Project** (\$75,000) to Dallas Public Library to create and expand a highly successful English literacy instruction program for parents and K-3 children at branches with large Hispanic populations.
- **“Expanding Accessibility” Project** (\$75,000) to North Texas Regional Library System (NTRLS) to remove barriers to accessibility for individuals with special needs and disabilities in NTRLS member libraries.
- **“Teen Tech 2.0: Technology Training on the Go” Project** (\$20,000) to Harris County Public Library to offer mobile and special information technology programming and instruction after school for preteens and teenagers.

Competitive Library System Grants assist regional library systems to plan and develop programs that support collaboration and cooperation among public libraries, public school libraries or institutions of higher education:

- **“Shared Integrated Library System (SILS) Model” Project** (\$113,644) to West Texas Library System (WTLS), in collaboration with Northeast Texas Regional Library System (NETLS), to provide library users across the region with access to an integrated online library catalog searchable from home, school, or office.
- **“Joint AALS-CTLS Automation” Project** (\$61,000) to Central Texas Library System (CTLS), in collaboration with Alamo Area Library System (AALS), to enhance local patron access to electronic and printed resources in predominately rural communities by leveraging public and private dollars to benefit the patrons in the two library systems.

For more information about the Texas State Library and Archives Commission’s LSTA competitive grant programs go to [www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/funding/lsta/](http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/funding/lsta/)

#### **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](mailto:pio@tsl.state.tx.us).*