



News Release

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Texas State Library and Archives Commission supports Texas Book Festival weekend

AUSTIN, Texas – The 2009 Texas Book Festival kicks off this weekend, October 31 – November 1, featuring food, music, and the readings and discussions from more than 200 accomplished Texas and national authors on the grounds of the Texas State Capitol in Austin, Texas. The two-day festival is free and open to the public this Saturday from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., and Sunday from 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

The Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC) supports the goals of the Texas Book Festival in celebrating authors and their contributions to the culture of literacy, ideas and imagination. The proceeds from The Texas Book Festival have awarded more than \$2.3 million in grants to public libraries in Texas since it was formed.

“We thank all who support the Texas Book Festival,” said Peggy D. Rudd, director and state librarian. “The proceeds of the festival support Texas public libraries and we are proud to have been a supporter of the festival since it began in 1996.”

Appearing at the TSLAC booth #213 will be artist, gardener and illustrator Joy Fisher Hein who will sign copies of the TSLAC Reading Club poster “*Libraries: Deep in the Heart of Texas*” on Saturday, from 3:30 – 4 p.m.

TSLAC will distribute 1,500 free copies of its annual 2009 Children’s Autograph and Activity Book at the Texas Book Festival. The book is free for children of all ages to use to collect autographs from their favorite authors, write their own story about the festival, puzzles, origami and color pictures drawn by Fisher Hein. The book also includes a suggested reading list from the agency’s Texas Reading Club.

More information about the about the Texas Book Festival can be found at www.texasbookfestival.org and information about the Texas State Library and Archives Commission can be found at www.tsl.state.tx.us.

ABOUT THE TEXAS BOOK FESTIVAL

Founded in 1995 by Laura Bush and a group of interested volunteers, the Texas Book Festival (TBF) is held every year on the grounds of the Texas State Capitol. It features readings and discussions from more than 200 of the most accomplished Texas and national authors. With the help of the Austin community, a statewide advisory committee and more than 900 volunteers, the organization has grown each year. In addition to being one of the most prestigious literary festivals in the nation, the TBF develops and manages year-round programs that foster literacy statewide.

ABOUT THE TEXAS STATE LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES COMMISSION

The mission of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission is to preserve the record of government for public scrutiny, to secure and make accessible historically significant records and other valuable resources, to meet the reading needs of Texans with disabilities, to build and sustain statewide partnerships to improve library programs and services, and to enhance the capacity for achievement of individuals and institutions with whom we work. Since 1909, TSLAC has carried out a commitment to make information work for all Texans by providing archival and genealogical services, federal and state government documents, electronic research databases, and library services. TSLAC is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year. For more information, go to www.tsl.state.tx.us.

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