



# News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Monday, August 24, 2009

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## TSLAC awards \$9,760 in Texas Reads grants to library reading programs from license plates funds

**AUSTIN, Texas** – The Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC) has awarded \$9,760 to four public libraries using funds raised by the sale of specialty “Texas Reads” license plates. The funds raised support reading and literacy projects in local libraries.

The libraries that received FY2010 Texas Reads grants are the Arlington Public Library Systems, Riter C. Hulseley Public Library, Rockwall County Library and Pflugerville Public Library.

“Reading programs in Texas are a vehicle for people to continue their long journey of lifelong learning,” said Peggy D. Rudd, state librarian and director for the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. “There is no better way to show your support of reading programs at libraries across the state than by getting a Texas Reads license plate.”

TSLAC received 10 Texas Reads grant proposals. The four innovative projects that were funded are:

- **“Read and Feed” Project** - (\$1,500) to Riter C. Hulseley Public Library (Terrill, Texas) to provide a free lunch and transportation to and from a summer reading program for economically disadvantaged children, in partnership with Southwest Christian College (SWCC) and Kaufman Area Rapid Transport (KART).
- **“Reading for Adults” Project** - (\$3,000) to Rockwall County Library (Rockwall, Texas) to support literacy tutoring in ESL, GED test preparation, and U.S. citizenship test preparation for low literacy adults.
- **“Outreach Summer Reading Program”** - (\$2,260) to Pflugerville Public Library (Pflugerville, Texas) to provide a summer reading program to developmentally disabled adult residents in local assisted living facilities.
- **“MYCard Campaign”** - (\$3,000) to Arlington Public Library Systems (Arlington, Texas) to support a program to increase the number of youth aged 13-18 who have a library card and use it regularly.

“The more license plates purchased, the more support we can offer to projects that promote reading and literacy at your local public library,” said Jennifer Peters, TSLAC’s LSTA/Texas Reads Grants Administrator. “We would love for more people to purchase the license plates so we can offer more grants across the state.”

The Texas Reads specialty license plate can be purchased from each county tax assessor-collector. When ordering the Texas Reads plate, \$22 of the \$30 fee goes to

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the Texas Reads program to support reading and literacy projects at local public libraries. The Texas State Library and Archives Commission issues the grants to libraries for the purpose of implementing reading and literacy programs.

The Tocker Foundation provided the initial start-up fee to begin the production of the Texas Reads plates in 2003. Texas Reads license plates can also be ordered online from the Texas Department of Transportation's Vehicle Title and Registration (VTR) at <http://rts.texasonline.state.tx.us/NASApp/txdotrts/SpecialPlateOrderServlet?grpId=60&plateId=112> or the form can be downloaded at <http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/agency/txreadsform.html>.



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