



NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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TSLAC BUILDING REDEDICATION TO FEATURE H.W. BRANDS, TOURS, DISPLAYS ON NOV. 12

Lorenzo de Zavala
State Archives and
Library Building

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

1201 Brazos Street
Austin, Texas
78701

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Peggy D. Rudd

Assistant State Librarian
Edward Seidenberg

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information
work
for all
Texans*

AUSTIN – The Texas State Library and Archives Commission will celebrate completion of \$20 million in renovations to the Lorenzo de Zavala State Archives and Library Building with a formal rededication on Friday, Nov. 12, at 11 a.m.

Noted author and historian H.W. Brands will speak at the ceremony, which will take place on the front steps of the de Zavala building, at 1201 Brazos St., across from the east side of the State Capitol.

The building will be closed from 8 a.m. to noon, but will reopen at noon following the ceremony. Visitors will have the opportunity to tour the building, view historical documents, peek into the stacks of the Texas State Archives and learn more about the commission's work. Tours will be offered from 12:20 to 3 p.m.

The renovation, which took nearly two years to complete, gives visitors a more comfortable and easily navigable environment. The formerly dark lobby space has been opened with glass walls, allowing more natural light to flow into first-floor reading and archives research areas, the second-floor Texas Family Heritage Research Center and a second-floor commission meeting room. The majestic, 45-foot-wide Peter Rogers mural, "Texas Moves Toward Statehood," which spreads along the lobby's rear wall, also can be viewed for the first time from these vantage points.

Renovations also include the addition of a new, state-of-the-art conservation lab, installation of new digital recording studios for the Talking Book Program and upgrades in our reading and research areas. Infrastructure improvements include updated wiring, plumbing and HVAC. Storage for precious state documents also has been increased and enhanced.

"We want to invite everyone to take part, tour and experience the wonderful new environment that now is available to the public. This is our way of saying thank-you to so many who helped create this first-class facility for the treasures that it holds and protects," says Peggy D. Rudd, TSLAC director and state librarian.

Brands, who holds the Dickson Allen Anderson Centennial professor of history chair at the University of Texas at Austin, is a two-time Pulitzer Prize finalist and the author of "Lone Star Nation: The Epic Story of the Battle for Texas Independence" (Anchor, 2005). The 2010 Texas Writer Award winner's latest book is the just-released Doubleday title, "American Colossus: The Triumph of Capitalism, 1865-1900." In June, Penguin Press published the prolific Brands' "American Dreams: The United States Since 1945."

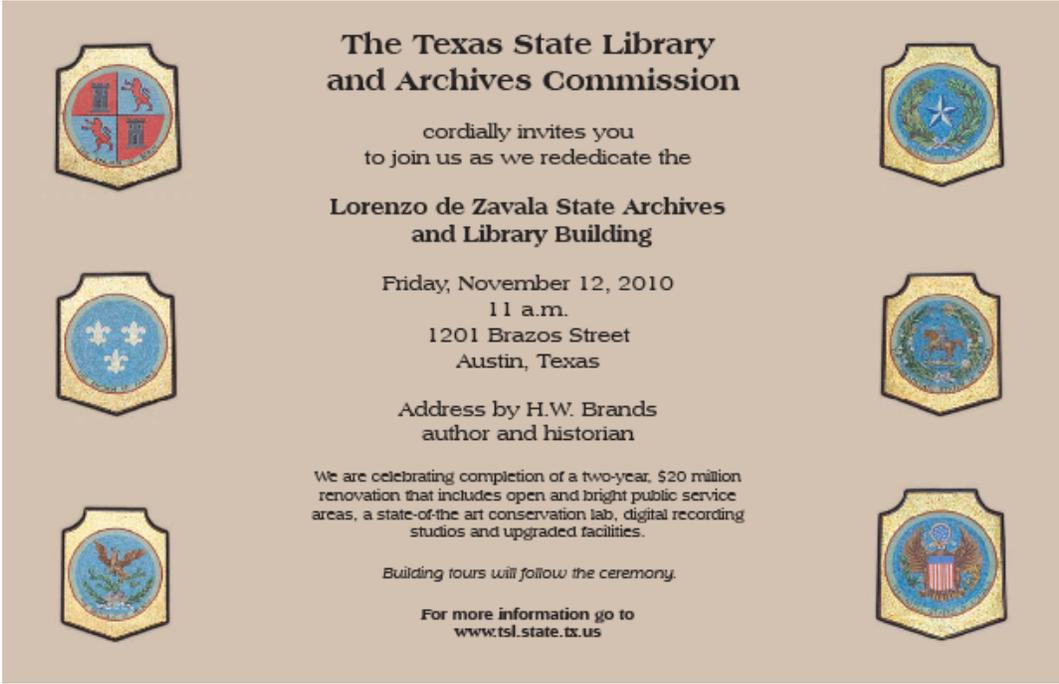
Completed in 1961, the Lorenzo de Zavala State Archives and Library Building was built to house the Texas State Library and Historical Commission, which was given its

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current name in 1979. One of only four structures in Texas to receive a national Literary Landmark designation, it was dedicated in 1962 and renamed in 1973 to honor Lorenzo de Zavala, the first vice president of the Republic of Texas, translator between Sam Houston and Santa Anna.

Built with funds secured by Gov. Price Daniel, the de Zavala building was considered a marvel of modern design. A companion to the Capitol, it features granite, limestone, terrazzo and bronze surfaces, and provides a fitting edifice for the protection and storage of Texas' historical treasures. However, there were no major upgrades to the building until now. The Texas Legislature funded the majority of the project with supplemental funds raised by TSLAC's nonprofit support group, the Friends of Libraries & Archives of Texas.

With 21st-century upgrades, the agency is ready to continue its mission, embodied in a new slogan, "preserving yesterday, informing today, inspiring tomorrow."



**The Texas State Library
and Archives Commission**

cordially invites you
to join us as we rededicate the

**Lorenzo de Zavala State Archives
and Library Building**

Friday, November 12, 2010
11 a.m.
1201 Brazos Street
Austin, Texas

Address by H.W. Brands
author and historian

We are celebrating completion of a two-year, \$20 million renovation that includes open and bright public service areas, a state-of-the-art conservation lab, digital recording studios and upgraded facilities.

Building tours will follow the ceremony.

For more information go to
www.tsl.state.tx.us

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ABOUT THE TEXAS STATE LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES COMMISSION

Formed in 1909, TSLAC is committed to giving Texans access to information and programs they can use to improve their lives and communities. We provide historical and genealogical search assistance, federal and state government documents, electronic research and library services to all Texans, including those who are unable to read standard print material because of physical or reading disabilities. For more information, visit www.tsl.state.tx.us.