

Calendar

No Studio Closings

Studio Statistics

278 Jan hours
47 Jan active volunteers
312 Feb hours
49 Feb active volunteers

Studio Hours

Mon-Thur 8:00 am–8:00 pm
Fri 8:00 am–6:00 pm
Sat 9:30 am–1:30 pm

This newsletter is a bi-monthly publication of the Texas Talking Book Program for recording studio volunteers and staff. If you have comments or suggestions, please email Saidah Ochoa, TBP Public Awareness Coordinator at sochoa@tsl.texas.gov

Talking Book Program
Texas State Library & Archives Commission
P.O. Box 12927
Austin, TX 78711-2927

Volunteer Recording Studio News

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Texas Talking Book Program

Texas State Library and Archives Commission · Austin, TX



Welcome New Studio Volunteers

These volunteers joined the Talking Book Program during the months of January and February: Raul Zigelboim, Marta Blumenthal, Gerald Muller, Karen Kalerges, Peter Harrell, Jr., Louis Garcia, Jill Frisbie, Leticia Lee, Liz Froehlich, Louise Torrance, Julianna Wright, Daniel Lopez, Jacqueline Forsyth, Victoria Estrada, Jim Porter, Betsabe Rodriguez, Victoria Perez, and Diana Wagner. Welcome aboard!

Badge Reminder

Don't forget to wear your badge each time you come to volunteer. If you are no longer able to volunteer, please return your badge to Janice Jones. Thanks!

TBP Visits

The Recording Library of West Texas

Since the seventies, the Talking Book Program has recorded more than 6,000 books and magazines to lend its patrons, and to share with other NLS-affiliated state libraries. Do you ever wonder how TBP has managed such a task? One of the many reasons is that we have a partnership with the Recording Library of West Texas in Midland (previously called the Recording Library for the Blind & Physically Handicapped www.recordinglibrary.org)

The RLWT records audio-books for people with visual, physical, or learning disabilities in the Permian Basin area. Their collection has over 1000 audio-books and their materials are free to those who qualify. As partners of TBP, they provide about half of the TBP titles recorded in Texas in any given year. They also record Texas Monthly magazine for distribution at TBP.

In order to be successful in this collaboration both studios are regularly in contact with one another. This April, our Recording Studio Manager, Miles Lewis, will be visiting the RLWT. He will meet with ↓

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March / April 2014

Executive Director Trish Speight, Recorded Books Manager Stephanie Childs, and Station Manager Michael Todd to tour the facilities and exchange valuable information on recording studio activities. Last year Mr. Todd produced a two-part interview with TBP Director, Ava Smith (Part 1) and Miles Lewis (Part 2) where they talk about TBP services, the Disability Information Referral Center, the TBP Book Club, and the BARD Mobile app, among other topics. Listen to the interview at:

- [www.recordinglibrary.org/Audio/Connections - TBP Part 1.mp3](http://www.recordinglibrary.org/Audio/Connections-TBP-Part-1.mp3)
- [www.recordinglibrary.org/Audio/Connections - TBP Part 2.mp3](http://www.recordinglibrary.org/Audio/Connections-TBP-Part-2.mp3)

Monitors Needed!

The TBP Recording Studio is in great need of volunteer monitors. If you can commit to working with one of our narrators as a monitor, please contact Miles Lewis or Janice Jones at (512) 463-5546.

TBP to Test HABC Software

TBP is proud to announce that it will be testing the HABC (Hindenburg Audio Book Creator) software from Hindenburg Systems, as 1 of 5 state recording studios working with NLS on the assessment of this new program. We hope HABC will improve recording quality and overall audio-book experience for our patrons, as well as for our narrators. We are looking forward to it. •

New / Digitized Books Completed and Circulating

Blessed McGill by Edwin Shrake. Narrated by Leslie Rogers. Monitored by Cindy Johnson.

Cat's Claw by Susan Wittig Albert. Narrated by Dell Davis. Monitored by Cindy Johnson.

Hank the Cowdog 56: The Case of the Coyote Invasion by John R. Erickson. Narrated by Lori Brix. Monitored by Tom Johnson.

MoonPies and Movie Stars by Amy Wallen. Narrated by Dorothy Blair. Monitored by Stephanie Childs.

Southtown by Rick Riordan. Narrated by Timothy Englert. Monitored by Leanna Englert.

Get the Most Out of Your Voice

Do you have a long recording session ahead of you? Are you narrating a book that presents a particular voice challenge? Below are some tips and exercises to always keep your voice healthy, strong, and ready for any project.

- Stay hydrated. It keeps your throat tissues from drying out and it diminishes mouth noises.
- Stay in shape. Regular exercise will help you avoid running out of breath.
- Avoid huge meals before doing voice work.
- Stay away from cigarettes. Smoke dries out your vocal chords.
- Do tongue twisters with only your lips, while softly holding top and bottom teeth together.
- Vocalize through a straw a few minutes every day, as seen in this video: youtu.be/asDg7T-WT-0

Sources:

<http://raiseyourvoiceacting.com>

HENNY, JOHN. "Voiceover Vitality." *Back Stage* 52.17 (2011): 14.

Miles Lewis is TSLAC's Employee of the Quarter

Please join us in congratulating TBP Recording Studio Manager, Miles Lewis on his selection as Employee of the Quarter. He will be honored at the EOQ ceremony on May 1, at 2:00 p.m. Congratulations, Miles!•

