

Calendar

Studio Closings
Friday, July 3
Saturday, July 4
Monday, September 7

Studio Statistics

January 273.5 hours
January 50 active volunteers
February 328 hours
February 45 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 Heather Bailey, TBP Public Awareness Coordinator at hbailey@tsl.texas.gov

Talking Book Program

Texas State Library & Archives Commission
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Volunteer Recording Studio News

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Talking Book Program



Volunteer: Ruth Borinstein

Ruth Borinstein is special to the Volunteer Recording Studio, not only because she is the oldest volunteer, but because she is also one of the longest volunteering members of the recording studio with 24 years experience. A talented artist, Ruth began volunteering for the Talking Book Program when she saw an ad in the newspaper in 1991 after moving to Austin from Beaumont, Texas. Her father had been a member of TBP when he was diagnosed with macular degeneration. She has fond memories of her father listening to the recorded discs sent to him through the mail.

Ruth and her husband owned two art galleries—selling reprints of famous works in Austin and Beaumont—for years while Ruth painted and sold her work all over the world as well as practiced art therapy. Ruth began with the Volunteer Recording Studio as a reviewer and monitor and eventually was asked if she would like to audition for a narrator spot. A self-described “frustrated actor / singer,” narration allows Ruth to expend her “acting energies.” During her time with TBP, Ruth has registered over 1300 hours and narrated 29 books to date. With a youthful voice and energy that belies her age, Ruth Borinstein will continue to volunteer for the studio until “I no longer have a voice.”

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Talking Book Topics and Braille Book Review:
Locally produces books featured in May / June

DBC00045 *Pat Garrett: The Story of a Western
Lawman*

Narrator: Ev Lunning

DBC00048 *Outlaw Tales of Texas: true Stories
of the Lone Star State's Most
Infamous Crooks, Culprits, and
Cutthroats*

Narrator: Ev Lunning

New Studio Volunteers

These volunteers joined the
Talking Book Program dur-
ing the months of

January: Danny Sutedja,
Heather O'Donnell, Julie
Spaulding,
Kim Sorin, Anna Clare Hicks

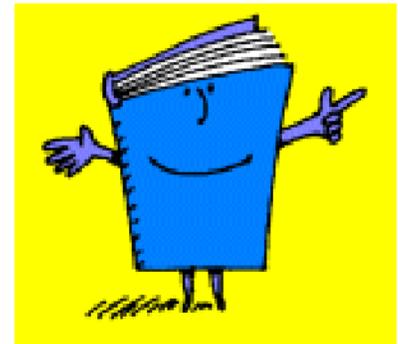
February: Nora Edwards

Welcome aboard!

Need a Speaker for Your Group?

TBP's Public Awareness Coordinator, Heather Bailey, travels around the state promoting TBP through outreach events and programs, including the Austin area.

If your group or organization would like to book a speaking engagement, contact Heather at (512) 463-5452, or



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Narration Tips

For our narrators, we know there are days when the words on the page won't form in your mouth correctly. And there are days when your voice is hoarse or you are tired— but you are dedicated to narration for TBP and for that we have compiled a list of tips to help you through those rough patches and remind you how much your voice is needed!

- Sitting down? Make sure you are sitting up straight or try some stretches to loosen up your body and diaphragm. You may even try standing up while reading and see if words will flow more smoothly.
- Relax. After reading through the passage to be recorded, relax yourself and voice and pretend you are reading to someone rather than just reading a script. Make sure you don't rush while reading—keep to a steady pace with your words.
- Be confident! When you read with confidence the words will follow and there will be less trip ups or mistakes.
- Know your material. Look up everything in the book you don't know then look up everything you think you know just to be sure you are pronouncing words correctly.
- Visualize the story as you narrate. Keep a picture of the place and time of the story in your mind while you narrate and you will give authenticity to your reading.
- Avoid “p-pops” or “plosives” with just a tilt of your head or change of your body position.
- And, as always, Have FUN!

