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Texas Book Festival announces public library grant winners

More than \$60,000 awarded to 19 Texas public libraries

The Texas Book Festival announced the winners of its 2013-14 Public Library Grants at the Texas Library Association conference in Fort Worth last week. Nineteen Texas public libraries received grants totaling more than \$60,000.

The Texas Book Festival awards grants annually to public libraries to support collection enhancement and innovative literacy and technology programs. Since its founding in 1996, the Texas Book Festival has donated more than \$2.6 million to nearly 600 libraries across Texas. This year's grant recipients and award totals are:

Collection enhancement grants, totaling \$31,813.91

- Winters Public Library— \$2,500
- Mesquite Public Library System— \$2,500
- George Washington Carver Branch Library (Austin)— \$2,500
- Schleicher County Public Library (Eldorado)— \$2,200
- East Branch Library (Arlington)— \$2,494.33
- Lakehills Area Library— \$2,300
- Live Oak County Library (George West)— \$2,500
- City of Presidio Library— \$2,500
- Fannie Brown Booth Memorial Library (Center)— \$2,500
- Kirbyville Public Library— \$2,338.67
- Sterling County Public Library— \$2,500
- Olton Area Library— \$2,500
- Tyler Public Library— \$2,500

Technology grants, totaling \$14,394.08

- Leander Public Library— \$4,799.53
- Alpine Public Library— \$4,650
- Dublin Public Library— \$4,944.55

Literacy initiative grants, totaling \$14,017.75

- Elgin Public Library— \$4,844.15
- Dallas West Branch— \$5,000
- Comfort Public Library— \$4,173.60

The Texas Book Festival’s mission has always included the promotion of Texas libraries and literacy. The Festival’s Public Library Grants are funded through individual, corporate, and foundation sponsorships, its generous members and donors, the annual First Edition Literary Gala, and book sales at the annual fall Festival.

“We are committed to supporting the important work of Texas public libraries,” says Lois Kim, executive director of the Texas Book Festival. “Public libraries continue to adapt to meet the needs of their communities and we are proud that we can help them make a difference.”

Applications for the 2014-15 public library grant cycle will be available in November 2014. For more info, visit http://www.texasbookfestival.org/Library_Grants.php.

About the Texas Book Festival

The Texas Book Festival celebrates authors and their contributions to the culture of literacy, ideas, and imagination. Founded in 1995 by first lady Laura Bush, Mary Margaret Farabee, and a group of volunteers, the nonprofit Texas Book Festival promotes the joys of reading and writing through its annual Festival weekend, the one-day Texas Teen Book Festival, the Reading Rock Stars program, grants to Texas libraries, youth fiction writing contest, and year-round literary programming. The Festival is held on the grounds of the Texas Capitol each fall and features more than 250 renowned authors, panels, book signings, live music, cooking demonstrations, and children’s activities. Thanks to generous donors, sponsors, and nearly 1,000 volunteers, the Festival remains free and open to the public. www.texasbookfestival.org, www.facebook.com/TexasBookFestival, www.twitter.com/texasbookfest, #txbookfest, www.texasteenbookfestival.org