

CTLS Newsletter

December/January 2013 No. 119

IN THIS ISSUE:

**Advocating for Texas
Libraries**
Page 1-3

News You Can Use
Page 4

Youth News
Page 5-6

What's Happening
Page 7

**CTLS Calendar & Staff
Directory**
Page 8

Workshop Flyers
Page 9

From the Executive Director

By Pat Tuohy

Advocating for Texas Libraries

The Texas Legislature convenes for its biennial session on January 8, 2013 and libraries all over the state have a big stake in the outcome of these deliberations. The devastating results of the 2011 legislative session are still with us. Libraries across this state took a disproportionate cut in money for programs, services, and materials. This time library supporters must be ready to tell our elected officials with clear and unapologetic voices how we feel about the State's responsibility for funding the needs of our users.

Grass roots advocates like you and your patrons need to take charge of this direct effort to influence what happens in Austin. We as a library community need everyone to participate in and lead the push for better funding for vital library services. State elected officials must hear from constituents back home about why they need to support libraries. Call up your state senator and representative and request that they actively support enhancing the State Library's budget. Ask your legislators to talk with their colleagues who serve on the House Appropriations or Senate Finance Committees to support new initiatives for libraries.

This is the time and this is the legislative session to act

If you are uncertain about what to say or how to approach a legislator, TLA and CTLS are here to help. Use the information, resources, and services easily available from the Texas Library Association for leading the charge for better funding for our libraries. Contact Pat at the CTLS office if you want to explore some ideas about how you can do this in your community.



Here is what we want

Ask your legislators to support the State Library's entire Legislative Appropriations Request (LAR), *especially* the **Exceptional Items** requests for library programs.

1. Shared Digital Content – \$9.25 million over the biennium for digital (electronic) materials for all types of libraries. Resources include online homework help, college preparation, academic research, job searching, career and test preparation, and other assistance in helping people reach their economic goals.



CTLS

Larry Ringer
Chair

Larry Ringer
Vice Chair

Lyle Thormann
Secretary

Eileen Altmiller
Treasurer

Barbara Crossno
Lynne Holle
Gretchen Pruett
Larry Koeninger
Jean Phipps

2. Innovation Partnership Grants – \$3.4 million/ biennium for training and programming built on local partnerships and innovative practices to advance educational attainment, workforce development, and written and digital literacy.

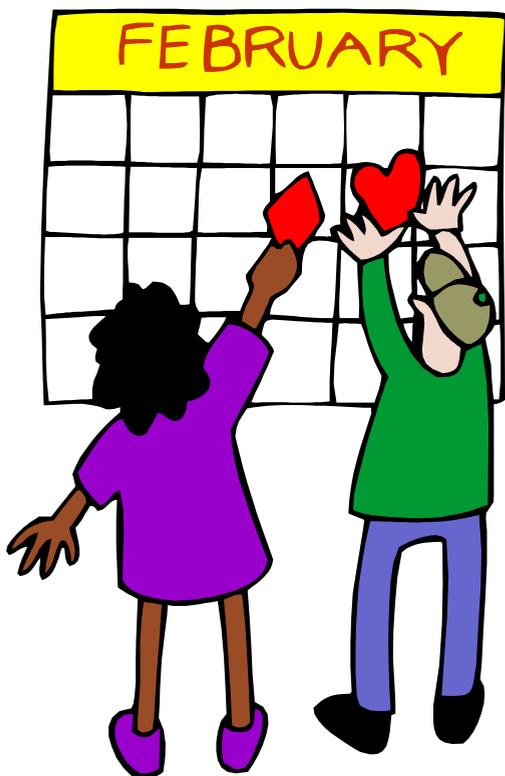
Here is why we need this funding

Texas libraries have struggled significantly since the devastating loss of statewide funding in 2011. This partial restoration of state funds will help libraries deploy the workforce and educational resources Texans have come to rely upon. Without more state general revenue, the State Library may be unable to make a successful petition to the federal government for continuation of crucially needed federal dollars to match state dollars for Texas libraries. Last session, legislative cuts to library programs totaled near **\$30 million**. Texas may lose up to **\$9 million more** in federal funds in 2015 if state dollars are not added to the State Library's budget. These additional cuts will affect every community, school, and institution of higher education in the state.



Don't take NO for an answer

Legislators will plead poverty, or higher priorities for state revenues, or be pledged to cut governmental spending. Whatever the excuses they may have, let them know that you are an important constituent and it is their job to represent you and this is what you want. We are fully aware of the big money dynamics going forward this session. A quick read of any newspaper lays out the issues and the players for all to see. Don't be sidetracked by the cacophony at the state capitol. Rather than be drawn into a spurious debate over library funding vs. everything else on the agenda, let your legislator know that this is important to the communities they represent. It is up to them to come up with the money libraries need, not you. Ask them to do the job you elected them to do.



Here is what you can do right now to make a difference

Be part of the VIRTUAL ADVOCACY FROM HOME! movement. Circle February 12 on your calendar to take part in this Legislative Action Day. TLA is asking supporters to conduct a virtual campaign in support of libraries on February 12, 2013. Rather than hosting a traditional Legislative Day, this year TLA wants to emphasize grassroots action. While some library supporters may opt to come to Austin for in-person visits, the focus on Legislative Virtual Action Day will be to have statewide advocacy occurring within your own community and from the comfort of your own office or home.

Participating in Virtual Action Day

Take the time to call your state senator and representative this week and every week for the next 4 months. Tell them about the incredible services your library provides to their voters. Make a commitment to get as many people as you can to write and communicate with legislators about critical statewide library issues. Organize a letter-writing campaign, tweet-up, and launch other virtual campaigns and activities to get people talking about libraries. Recruit friends groups, spouses, students, faculty, and supporters to join the effort. It is particularly important to have administrators, city or county officials, and parents contact elected officials on behalf of libraries and library users.

The key to success is to get *as many people as possible* in your community to call, email, write, tweet, or post to legislative offices. The purpose of all of these activities is to create **communication traffic** at legislative offices. Your state senator and representative need to hear from you and hundreds of other local constituents about your desire for those legislators to proactively support library funding initiatives. It is critical this session to focus on grassroots activities and have advocates make strategic visits at home districts prior to and throughout the session. TLA will organize opportunities for library supporters to visit with legislators during strategic times throughout the session. If the TLA office calls and asks for your help getting the message to your key legislator, be ready to say YES! **If you still want to come to Austin** on February 12 and would like to bring fellow supporters, please contact Gloria Meraz (gloriam@txla.org) for more information.

Do you know a local Champion for Libraries?

Great grassroots advocacy begins by having passionate people speaking out on behalf of libraries. As librarians and library supporters, you know of many people in your community who love and are ready to defend libraries. Having influential local people in your community willing to talk to decision-makers about the value of your library is at the heart of developing a solid and broad base of support. Who do you know in your community who is influential and disposed to speak for libraries? TLA would like to help you reach these individuals. With your assistance identifying library champions, we can work together to provide them the support to speak out for libraries.

If you personally know of a library champion, let us know! Go to <http://www.txla.org/champions-report-form> and fill in the information. Together, we can create a strong statewide network of library champions. Call or email Pat (pat.tuohy@ctls.net) at the CTLS office with your questions or to just kick around some ideas about how to do this in your community. This will be a tough session but with the enthusiasm and persistence of people who care about libraries, we can make this a much better session for us all.

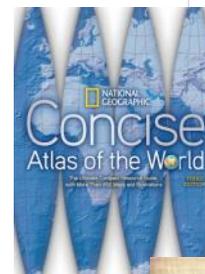
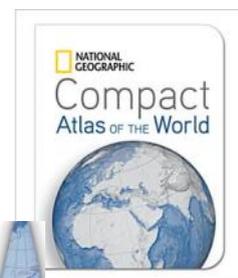


News You Can Use

By Laurie Mahaffey

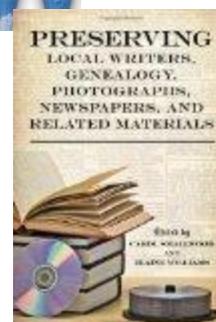
New Atlas Published

In spite of the proliferation of online map services, a good atlas is worth having in your reference collection. Nothing else shows the “big picture” like an atlas. National Geographic produced two atlases this summer, National Geographic Compact Atlas of the World (4” by 6” in size and \$14.95) and National Geographic Concise Atlas of the World (14” high, \$26.95, and paperback). Maps are in full color and range from satellite views to time-zone maps. The review in the November 1 *Library Journal* indicates the Concise Atlas is “significantly larger and quite up-to-date.” The United States gets the most coverage, with maps on population density, watersheds, federal lands, and more.



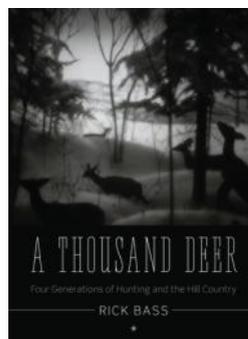
Preservation of Local Materials

Preserving Local Writers, Genealogy, Photographs, Newspapers, and Related Materials is a new book from Scarecrow Press edited by two experts in the field. Thirty-three contributors wrote “practical how-to essays, complete with charts, diagrams, sample proposal letters, policies, and best practices” to help guide librarians, museum staff, archivists, and historical society members. Reviewed favorably in the August 2012 *Library Journal*, the book is \$55 and is paperback.



Two For Texas

Rick Bass, prolific Hill Country author, has compiled twelve essays on the outdoors in A Thousand Deer: Four Generations of Hunting and the Hill Country. Published by University of Texas Press, the book was reviewed in the September 1 *Library Journal* and is \$24.95. The essays “form a seamless celebration of family, tradition, and nature as seen through the scope of deer-hunting.” Now that the season is over, provide the hunters in your community with something new to read.

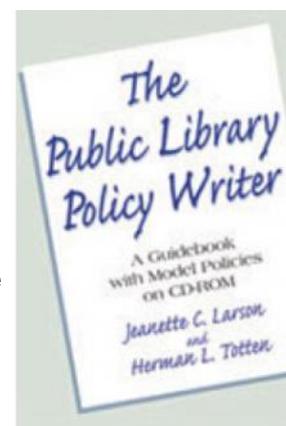


If you already own Texas Furniture Volume One, you will want Texas Furniture Volume Two, another University of Texas Press offering. Subtitled The Cabinetmakers and Their Work, 1840-1880, the book is \$65 and was written by Lonny Taylor & David B. Warren. “Highlights in the new volume include desks by Dietrich Bremer of Rehburg; a safe by Christian Lindemann of Comfort; and wardrobes by Christoph Feuge of Frederickburg and Wilhelm Clemens of New Braunfels.” Reviewed in the December 16, 2012 issue of the Austin American-Statesman, the book is a must for area libraries. The first volume is back in print and is available on the UT Press website, www.utexas.edu/utpress, at a 33% discount.



Start the New Year

The first of the year is a good time to do a policy review. Look over your library’s policies and see if any of them need updating. It’s always a wise idea to prepare a preliminary policy for your board to review. For examples to follow, look at some of our member library websites. Call me if you don’t see what you are seeking. Our professional collection has Jeanette Larson’s book, Public Library Policy Writer, which provides wonderful templates and points to consider when crafting policies. Contact us to borrow it or but a copy from Amazon.



Youth News

By Kim Lehman

2013 Texas Lone Star Reading List

The Texas Lone Star List is a recommended reading list developed by public and school librarians from the Young Adult Round Table. The purpose of the list is to encourage students in grades 6, 7 or 8 to explore a variety of current books. The Lone Star List is intended for recreational reading, not to support a specific curriculum. Due to the diversity of this age range, Texas librarians should purchase titles on this list according to their individual collection policies.

[An annotated list and other resources](#)

- Bardugo, Leigh. *Shadow and Bone*. Henry Holt, 2012.
Barnes, Jennifer Lynn. *Every Other Day*. Egmont USA, 2012.
Bauer, Joan. *Almost Home*. Viking, 2012.
Blumenthal, Karen. *Steve Jobs: The Man Who Thought Different*. Feiwel and Friends, 2012.
Bragg, Georgia. *How They Croaked: The Awful Ends of the Awfully Famous*. Walker & Co., 2011.
Carvell, Ted. *Planet Tad*. Harper Collins, 2012.
Davies, Stephen. *Outlaw: A Novel*. Clarion Books, 2011.
Flinn, Alex. *Bewitching*. HarperTeen, 2012.
Kincaid, S.J. *Insignia*. Katherine Tegen Books, 2012.
Kindl, Patrice. *Keeping the Castle: A Tale of Romance, Riches, and Real Estate*. Viking, 2012.
Levine, Kristin. *The Lions of Little Rock*. G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2012.
Lu, Marie. *Legend*. G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2011.
McCall, Guadalupe Garcia. *Under the Mesquite*. Lee & Low Books, 2011.
Meyer, Marissa. *Cinder*. Feiwel and Friends, 2012.
Morpurgo, Michael. *An Elephant in the Garden*. Feiwel and Friends, 2011.
Nielsen, Jennifer A. *The False Prince*. Scholastic Press, 2012.
Palacio, R.J. *Wonder*. Alfred A. Knopf, 2012.
Petruca, Stefan. *Ripper*. Philomel, 2012.
Sonnenblick, Jordan. *Curveball: The Year I Lost My Grip*. Scholastic Press, 2012.
Strohmeier, Sarah. *Smart Girls Get What They Want*. Balzer + Bray, 2012.

Best Children's Music of 2012 as Announced by Fids and Kamily

[Best Children's Music of 2012 as Announced by Fids and Kamily](#)



The Fids and Kamily Poll is the first compilation of year-end kids and family music "best of" lists from critics, writers, radio programmers, and others involved in the music industry. The poll was launched in 2006 and was inspired by the Village Voice's long-running "Pazz and Jop" music poll.

1. The Okee Dokee Brothers - Can You Canoe?
2. Various Artists - Science Fair
3. Recess Monkey - In Tents
4. Lunch Money - Spicy Kid
5. Elizabeth Mitchell and You Are My Flower - Blue Clouds
6. Secret Agent 23 Skidoo - Make Believers
7. Randy Kaplan - Mr. Diddie Wah Diddie
8. Dog on Fleas - Invisible Friends
9. Lucky Diaz and the Family Jam Band - A Potluck
10. Ozomatli - Ozomatli Presents OzoKidz
11. The Pop Ups - Radio Jungle
12. Gustafer Yellowgold - Gustafer Yellowgold's Year in the Day
13. Elena Moon Park - Rabbit Days and Dumplings
14. Sugar Free Allstars - All on a Sunday Afternoon
15. Elizabeth Mitchell and You Are My Flower - Little Seed

Using the iPad as a Tool in Storytimes

Thank you Karen Ellis for sharing this information!

Karen and Betty at the Taylor Library will be working on integrating children's books downloaded to an iPad in their Storytimes. There's an app called [Reflector](#) which mirrors your iPad onto a PC. The [Reflector](#) program has to be installed on a single computer and it's just \$15. Then turn on your iPad, connect wirelessly to the network that the computer is on, and everything you do on your iPad is mirrored on the computer desktop. So, if there is an interactive children's book like Cat In The Hat, I can be projected onto a 12 foot screen. When you interact with the story on the iPad, all the movement, sound effects, etc., are projected onto the screen and the sound runs through the meeting room speakers.

Free Science Activity Guide for K-1 from Curious George

The team that produces the Curious George series on PBS and online has a new activity booklet (PDF) that invites parents to join their children in exploring science, engineering, and math through play. The booklet could be used as a handout for children to bring home and share with their parents and siblings or as the basis for afterschool programming.

[Curious George Science Activities](#)

[Curious George Family Activity Booklet](#)

[Article in Education Weekly](#)—'Curious George' Boosts Children's Science, Math Skills, Study Finds

Great Websites For Kids

The Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), a division of the American Library Association, has added more outstanding websites to Great Websites for Kids, its online resource containing hundreds of links to exceptional websites for children.

The newly added sites are:

Bedtime Math - www.bedtimemath.org

Butterflies and Moths - www.butterfliesandmoths.org/

Climate Kids - climate.nasa.gov/kids/

Computer Science Student Network (CS2N) - www.cs2n.org/

Fred Rogers Center Early Learning Environment - ele.fredrogerscenter.org/

Jet Propulsion Laboratory - www.jpl.nasa.gov/education/videos/

KidsThinkDesign - www.kidsthinkdesign.org

SciJinks - scijinks.nasa.gov/

[Great Websites for Kids](#)

[American Libraries Magazine Article](#)



[Sign up for Teen Tech Week](#)

The theme for Teen Tech Week 2013, March 10–16, is “Check In @ your library,” which was designed to encourage libraries to showcase the outstanding technology they offer for teens and their families, services such as online homework help, digital literacy–focused programs, ebooks, movies, music, audio-books, and databases.

Feb. 1: STEM It Up! Lose Your Fears and Jump into Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math in Your Library!

As part of its participation in [Digital Learning Day](#), YALSA will offer a webinar on STEM. The first 98 Teen Tech Week registrants will be invited to participate live via email on Jan. 31. All other registrants will receive a complimentary copy of the recording.

What's Happening



Holiday Bazaar at Edinburg

Holiday Bazaar at the Dustin Michael Sekula Memorial Library a great success!

On Saturday, December 15 from 9 am to 4 pm, the Edinburg library hosted a very successful Holiday Bazaar in the Library. This indoor event included vendors selling original art, special crafts, unique gift items, personalized items, handmade jewelry, boutique items, antiques, and more! This was the first year of the event and it was such a success that the library plans to do it again just prior to Valentine's Day 2013.

Local artists from across the Rio Grande Valley were invited to display their wares. The event had the full support of the City, the Chamber of Commerce, & the Edinburg Economic Development Corporation in an effort to promote local artists, artisans, and merchants. In addition to providing a great venue to support local artisans and artists, the Library made about \$500 from the rental of the booths. The event brought in other community organizations and generated a lot of good will for the library in Edinburg.

Bastrop Gingerbread Houses

A delicious, fun program was held at the [Bastrop Public Library](#) recently. Thanks to Bonnie Ueckert and Carey Kittrell for these photos! If your library has done a unique program, send us your photos!



Graduation Announcement

Veronica Grooms, library director at the [Madison County Library](#) in Madisonville, graduated in December from [Texas Woman's University](#) with a Master of Library Science degree. We are extremely proud of her accomplishment!



Puppet Shows

In December, the youth staff at the Round Rock Library presented seven puppet shows. A cow comes in from the cold and helps one of Santa's helpers rediscover his Christmas spirit in the [Round Rock Public Library's](#) puppet show *Criss Cross the Cross Christmas Elf*.

Youth Services staff

Front: Janette Johnston

Back left to right: Susan VanDeWater, Jane Dance, Andrea Warkentin, Virginia Hadley

CTLS Calendar of Events

- February 1, 2013 Programming Ideas from the Collaborative Library Summer Programs
Temple Public Library, 9:00 am—3:30 pm
- February 4, 2013 Programming Ideas from the Collaborative Library Summer Programs
Pasadena Public Library, 9:00 am—3:30 pm
- February 7, 2013 Programming Ideas from the Collaborative Library Summer Programs
New Braunfels Public Library, 9:00 am—3:30 pm

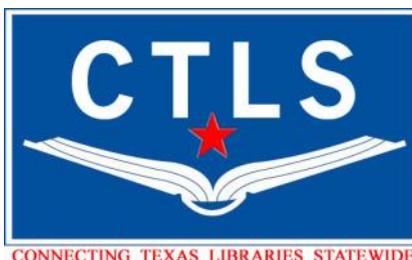
Register for CTLS workshops and events online at www.ctls.net!



CTLS, Inc. Connecting Texas Libraries Statewide

CTLS Staff Directory

Patricia Tuohy, Executive Director	pat.tuohy@ctls.net
Laurie Mahaffey, Deputy Director	laurie.mahaffey@ctls.net
Kim Lehman, Youth Services Specialist	kim.lehman@ctls.net
Katelyn Patterson, Office Coordinator	katelyn.patterson@ctls.net



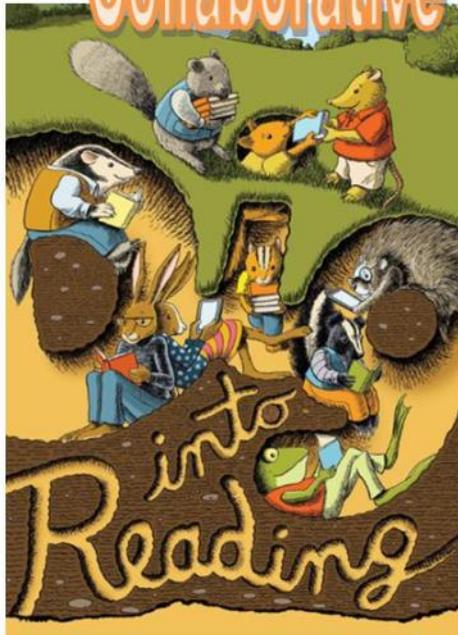
CTLS, Inc
5555 North Lamar Blvd,
Suite L-115,
Austin, TX 78751
Toll Free (800) 262 - 4431
Office (512) 583 - 0704
Fax (512) 583 - 0709

We look forward to hearing from you!

Programming Ideas from the



Collaborative Summer Library Programs



Friday, February 1, 2013

Temple Public Library
100 W. Adams Ave.

Monday, February 4, 2013

Pasadena Public Library
1201 Jeff Ginn Memorial Drive

Thursday, February 7, 2013

New Braunfels Public Library
700 E. Common St.

Daily Schedule

8:30—9:00 Registration

9:00—12:00 Children's Programs

12:00—1:00 Lunch

(Bring your own, order a sandwich or on your own)

1:00—3:30 Teen Programs and Sharing

REGISTER NOW @
WWW.CTLS.NET

Dig into programming ideas from the new summer reading program with presenter and facilitator Kim Lehman.

The morning will be focused on early literacy and elementary programs while the afternoon will be tweens, teens and participant sharing time.

COST: \$40 /person for member libraries
\$65 /person for non-member libraries

SPONSOR: Connecting Texas Libraries Statewide
5555 N. Lamar Blvd., Suite L-115
Austin, Texas 78751

QUESTIONS: Kim Lehman, 512-583-0704 or
kim.lehman@CTLS.net

5.5 hours CE credit

