



# CTLS Newsletter

October 2014 No. 139

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## From the Executive Director

*By Laurie Mahaffey*

### Election Season and Advocating for Libraries

We had a wonderful Fall Membership Meeting last week at the beautiful Kyle Community Library. Among the speakers was our own Susan Mann of the Hillsboro City Library, now President-elect of the Texas Library Association. Susan is a tireless advocate for libraries; when she talks, her legislators listen!

Can you do that? Of course, you can! Who else is going to advocate for your library besides you and your board, Friends, and library supporters? Don't wait for the election results; host a candidate forum and talk to ALL the candidates! Show them the great things your library does and ask for their support. If they don't have a library card, sign them up! Invite them to tour the library and talk about all the innovative things you are doing. Some legislators may not have been in a library in quite a while. We all know how up-to-date libraries are, but do they? Show them your local history collection and prove to them that libraries are living institutions with something for everyone. We are the best bargain in town!

Another guest speaker at our meeting was Heather Bailey, Public Awareness Coordinator of the Talking Books Program of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. Heather would be happy to come out and speak to a group at your library. Call her at 512-463-5452 or 800-252-9605, or e-mail her at [hbailey@tsl.texas.gov](mailto:hbailey@tsl.texas.gov)



### **CTLS Board of Directors**

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Laurie Mahaffey  
*Executive Director*



Gretchen Pruett, vice-chair of the CTLS Board and the director of the New Braunfels Public Library, talked to the attendees about the changes in the state library's minimum criteria for accreditation and TLA's standards for public libraries. If you have questions about either of these, please call us at the

CTLS office and we will walk you through the changes. We all want to see our libraries progress; revised criteria and standards will help accomplish this.

## From the Executive Director...cont.

Welcome Karen Ellis to the Board  
At the CTLS Fall Membership Meeting at the Kyle Public Library, Karen Ellis was elected to the CTLS Board.

Karen is the director of the Taylor Public Library and has extensive experience in public libraries. Karen will serve a three-year term beginning in January 2015 and ending December 31, 2017.

The CTLS Board of Directors has 9 members who serve 3-year overlapping terms.

**Karen Ellis:** Director of the Taylor Public Library  
Education: BA in English Literature, 1984, Brigham Young University; Masters in Library & Information Science, BYU, 1985.

Born and raised in Washington State, high school years in Riverside CA. Married with one son.

Worked 2 years at BYU Library; then came to Texas after obtaining my MLIS degree. Worked 7 years at Victoria Public Library; Branch Manager of the Baldwin Boettcher Branch Library in the Harris County Public Library System for 7 years. Assistant Director for Public Service for the Nicholson Memorial Library System (Garland) for 5 years. In 2004 became the Library Director for the Taylor Public Library. Opened a new library building in Taylor in 2007. Have been a professional book reviewer since 1986 in KLIATT and Library Journal. Have served on professional, regional and local organization boards and committees—including TLA and CTLS. First female member of the Taylor Kiwanis Club, first female president of that club for two terms. Lots of grant and cooperative projects experience: archives & digitization, early childhood literacy, STEM in libraries, computer literacy for the public, etc. Has written and edited the book: Partnerships and Collaborations in Public Library Communities, c2012. Jack-of-all-trades librarian.



### Bots and Books

CTLS' very own Katelyn Patterson will be taking over the administration of the Bots and Books grant. She has worked for CTLS for over 5 years in many capacities ranging from bookkeeping to grant reporting to social media and website communications. Having recently wrapped up her Masters in Library Science at the University of North Texas and having a personal interest in science, she will step naturally and eagerly into this role. Katelyn is excited to get the opportunity to work with you to bring this exciting grant to many new and familiar libraries.

Katelyn has broad experience in traveling the state and has volunteered at one of the Austin branch libraries, in addition to her CTLS work. We are delighted that she has agreed to take on the grant. E-mail her at [katelyn.patterson@ctls.net](mailto:katelyn.patterson@ctls.net).

# News You Can Use

By Kathy Thaler

## Classification Games

Classifying books – we’re all familiar with this process. Those handy designations of E, YA, F, B, - Dewey number, genre, media type, etc. make our wonderful library collections accessible to our users and to us. Now we can go a little overboard with organizing. As a school librarian, I encountered books so generously labeled that although I quickly knew the interest level, reading level, location number or letter, and genre, I was totally ignorant of the author and title, as they were completely obscured by the cascade of labels plastered to the spine. It was a stunning consumption of label stock and protectors. However, judicious classification helps our patrons browse for the items that interest them. With that in mind, consider yet another category – NA for “New Adult.” The term was coined by St. Martin’s Press in 2009 when it issued a call for “fiction similar to YA that can be published and marketed as adult.” (Cart, 36) The age demographic for this category is roughly 18 – 30, but some librarians report that NA books are popular with all adults under 40.

What qualifies as NA? It was originally characterized as romances that were too edgy and explicit for YA. The protagonists, usually 19 – 28 years old, were often dealing with the risk taking and judgment issues inherent with the new independence of living away from home (in college or in the work force). The characters and setting were more

fully developed than in a typical YA novel. The NA designation is now “expanding to include paranormal romance and romantic suspense stories” (Cart, 11), as well as any books with characters of similar age and interest to their readers, whether male or female. Googling “NA fiction” yielded 77,600,000 pages of data. I can only conclude that there are many opinions as to what constitutes NA. (By the way, when did “google” become a verb?)

Is the emergence of the NA designation important? Is it something you would consider for your library? Would it help your users? “If you’re left with more questions than answers, you’re not alone. Some see NA as a fad that will disappear by next year. Others see it as an example of increased niche stratification of books based on age that may well lead to “Middle Age Lit” and “Empty Nester Lit.” Others think it will stick around: that, like its protagonists, it’s still coming of age.” (Brookover, 44). Let your patrons’ needs be your guide.

*Brookover, Sophie, Elizabeth Burns, and Kelly Jensen. "What's New About New Adult?" Horn Book Magazine January/February (2014): 41-44. Print.; Cart, Michael. "The New Adult; or, What's in a Name." Booklist December (2012): 36.; Cart, Michael. "YA or NA?" Booklist August (2014): 10-11.*



## Upcoming Events

[The Texas Book Festival](#) is coming up in Austin on October 24, 25, and 26. This annual gathering on the state capitol grounds hosts authors, panels, and sales tables, the proceeds from which go to fund the Texas Book Festival Grants. These grants provide \$2,500 to any size library for either library materials or technology. If you have time to volunteer, you will have a wonderful day. The panels are great, the speakers are interesting, and the books are terrific!

TLA District 3 will be held on Friday, October 17 at the Round Rock campus of Texas State University, Sign up on the TLA website at [www.txla.org](http://www.txla.org).

October 11 is Star Wars Reads Day!

# Youth News

By Katelyn Patterson

## Bots and Books

I am thrilled to be taking on the Bots and Books grant! I have been with CTLS for over 5 years now. We have seen many transitions, both in my personal duties at CTLS and as an organization as a whole. I so look forward to working with everyone in a new capacity.

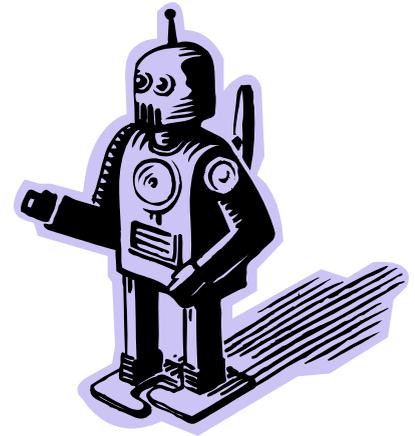
Our grant participants be getting tools and curriculum to put on amazing robotics programming for 3rd thru 7th graders in their libraries. I have created a [Pinterest board](#) to collect resources and ideas for anyone who is interested in bringing robotics to the library setting!

Since taking over the grant, I have mainly been focused on administrative tasks like ordering supplies and equipment. The next step will be setting training times and locations and finding trainers. If any of the participating libraries know of robotics organizations who might be a resource in your local communities, please contact me to let me know!

This is going to be a wonderful adventure!

### Our grant participants will be:

Sam Fore Jr Wilson County Public Library in Floresville  
Smithville Public Library  
Waco-McLennan County Library  
Taylor Public Library  
Chico Public Library, Inc.  
Haltom City Public Library  
The Colony Public Library  
Laredo Public Library  
TLL Temple Memorial Library & Archives in Diboll  
Corpus Christi Public Libraries  
Victoria Public Library  
Hamilton Public Library  
Harker Heights Public Library  
Dustin Michael Sekula Memorial Library in Edinburg  
Speer Memorial Library in Mission  
Jasper Public Library



### [Teen Read Week](#)

October 12 - 18, 2014

The continuing message of the Teen Read Week initiative is to encourage 12-18 year olds to "Read For The Fun Of It".

### [National Friends of Libraries Week](#)

October 19—25, 2014

Creatively promote your Friends Group in the community, raise awareness, and promote membership. Recognize the Friends for their help and support of the library.

### [TLA's Texas Library Snapshot Day](#)

October 31, 2014

Texas Library Snapshot Day is a great opportunity to showcase what happens in your library in a single day. The annual Texas Library Snapshot Day is officially scheduled for October 31, but libraries can select any day in



## What's Happening

Let us know what you are doing at your library!

Congratulations to the [Lake Whitney Library](#)! They are hosting the Grand Opening of their long-awaited new building on Saturday, October 4 at 10 a.m. Denise Carter is the director of this new facility.



The [Hewitt Public Library](#) is celebrating 30 years with a gala on October 16 at 7 p.m. Visit the library's website for more information.



Hewitt Public Library Summer Display

This is the 4th year the Lock-in at the [West Waco Library & Genealogy Center](#) will share 'virtual programming' with other libraries and genealogical societies from across the State of Texas. This year's participants include: Texas State Library and Archives Commission, Denton Public Library, Plano Public Library, Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research (Houston Public Library), San Angelo Genealogical and Historical Society, Amarillo Public Library, Abilene Public Library and Corsicana Public Library. Bill Buckner is the manager of the West Waco Genealogy Center.

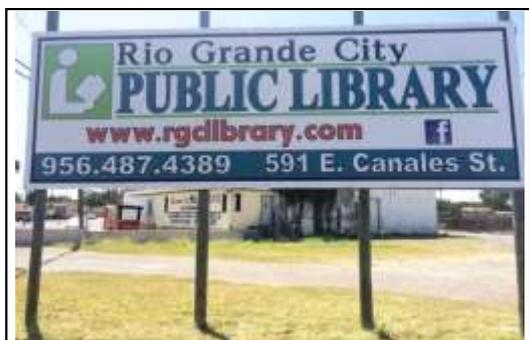


[Lago Vista Library](#) hosted a Forensic Program with a member of the Lago Vista Police. Their patrons had a wonderful time as the officer took fingerprints and talked about forensics. Lago Vista also had a record attendance of 83 at their Grand starring Bonzo Crunch!



Lisa Youngblood, director of the [Harker Heights Public Library](#) (on the right) and her daughter Sheridan celebrate "Library Day" at Barnes and Noble. They signed up people for cards on the spot and offered a variety of programs throughout the day including a Fun and Fantasy storytime. Fun was had by all!

## What's Happening ...Cont.



[Rio Grande City Public Library](#) Director Norma Gomez Fultz recently wrote to us about how committed their Friends group is to volunteering at, sponsoring, and promoting library events. Their Friends group recently put up this billboard for the library.

### Halloween Costume Swap

Drop off your gently used children's costumes at the  
**Harker Heights Public Library & Activities Center.**

Visit us again to choose different  
costumes for your children!

Drop-off Dates: October 6 - October 24  
Pick-up Dates: October 18 - October 24

400 Indian Trail  
Harker Heights, Tx 76548

For more information, please call Miss Amanda at  
254-953-5491 or email her at  
ahairston@cl.harker-heights.tx.us

A colorful illustration of four children in Halloween costumes: a boy in a white ghost costume with a red party hat, a girl in a pink ballerina costume with a crown, a girl in a black witch costume with a black hat, and a boy in a red devil costume with horns and a pitchfork.

The Harker Heights Public Library is hosting a [Kids Costume Swap!](#) Just bring your gently worn children's costumes to the Library from October 7 through October 24. Return to the Library October 18 through October 24 to pick up different costumes for your children. You are welcome to simply donate children's costumes as well. All left over costumes will be donated to Goodwill.



Clifton, Texas is full of future authors and illustrators! In addition to the summer reading program, the [Clifton Public Library](#) had the children write and illustrate their own books!

The [Liberty Hill Library](#) had a "Fancy Nancy Soiree" on September 13. Participants designed tiaras, made a sparkly necklace, created fans, made teacups, created butterflies, had tea and treats, and had a great photo "booth" area. In spite of the rain and having to condense the event, a pink, purple, and glittery good time was had by all!



# CTLS Calendar of Events

- October 17, 2014 TLA District 3 Meeting  
Texas State University, Round Rock, TX Campus  
[To register](#)
- November 7, 2014 CTLS Performers' Showcase  
Georgetown Public Library  
[To register](#)
- January 9, 2015 Programming Ideas for the Summer Workshop and Youth Share  
Elgin Public Library  
[To register](#)
- January 12, 2015 Programming Ideas for the Summer Workshop and Showcase  
Edinburg at the Dustin Michael Sekula Memorial Library  
[To register](#)
- January 15, 2015 Programming Ideas for the Summer Workshop and Showcase  
Bedford Public Library  
[To register](#)

Register with the above links or go to [www.ctls.net](http://www.ctls.net).



## CTLS, Inc. Connecting Texas Libraries Statewide

### CTLS Staff Directory

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Don't forget to follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Pinterest](#)!



# SHOWCASE !

*Featuring some of the best educational and entertaining performers and speakers for children, teens and adults*

**Do you ever need to hire an educational, entertaining performer for a school, library, museum or community event?**

**Friday, November 7, 2014**  
Georgetown Public Library  
402 West 8th Street  
Georgetown, Texas (near Austin)



**Showcase** is an annual preview event for libraries, schools, museums, PTA's and other program planners. It's your time to see in-person demonstrations from Texas performers, speakers, authors and other presenters, both educational and entertaining. Showcase is sponsored by CTLS, Inc.



**Attendees** - Take time to SEE the performers and speakers BEFORE you hire them. Visit the exhibits. Learn how to get money to pay for performers. Win door prizes! *Everyone in your community who books entertainment or educational presentations is invited to attend.*

**Time:** 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.  
Refreshments and sign-in, 8:15-8:45 a.m.

**Attendee Registration:**  
Cost is \$30 for CTLS member libraries;  
\$60 for non-members.  
Register online at [www.CTLS.net](http://www.CTLS.net).  
*Fees include refreshments; lunch is on your own.*

**SEE the talent before you HIRE!**



**For more information, contact**  
Laurie Mahaffey at [laurie.mahaffey@ctls.net](mailto:laurie.mahaffey@ctls.net) or 512-583-0704 or 800-262-4431.  
Check out over 200 entries in the **CTLS Performer's List** at [www.ctls.net](http://www.ctls.net)

**[TO REGISTER CLICK HERE!](#)**

# Programming Ideas for the Summer Workshop, Youth Share and Showcase



Be a Hero and get great ideas from the summer reading program with presenter and performer, Kim Lehman. The morning will focus on early literacy and elementary program ideas from the CSLP Manual. There will be a performers showcase in Edinburg and Bedford. In Elgin the afternoon will feature a youth share.

**Friday, January 9, 2015**

Workshop and Youth Share  
Elgin Public Library  
404 N. Main Street  
**Elgin**

**Monday, January 12, 2015**

Workshop and Showcase  
Dustin Michael Sekula Memorial Library  
1906 S. Closner Blvd.  
**Edinburg**

**Thursday, January 15, 2015**

Workshop and Showcase  
Bedford Public Library  
2424 Forest Ridge Dr.  
**Bedford**

## Daily Schedule

8:30—9:00 Registration  
9:00—12:00 Early Literacy & Children's Programs  
12:00—1:00 Lunch  
1:00—3:30 Performer Showcase or Youth Share

**REGISTER NOW @  
WWW.CTLS.NET**



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