City of Dallas
News Release
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Dallas Public Library receives Texas Book Festival grants;

The grants totaling $14,500 will benefit several Dallas neighborhoods

Dallas – The Dallas Public Library has received grants totaling $14,500 from the Texas Book Festival. The grants will support the Born to Read literacy program and enhance collections at four branch libraries.

“We are extremely grateful to receive these grants from the Texas Book Festival,” said Director of Libraries Laurie Evans. “The funds will enable the Library to support an important literary initiative, and help us complete collections at four of our branch libraries in Dallas."

Here are the grants received:

- Born to Read program - $5,000. The grant will benefit the “Born to Read” program and will be used to purchase books and other materials for parents in Parkland Pediatric Clinic waiting rooms. The materials show new parents the connection between brain development and reading and urges them to read to their young children

- Dunbar Lancaster-Kiest Branch Library - $2,500. The funds will be used to purchase books on career building and job searching.

- Bachman Lake - $2,000. The funds will be used to purchase 20 theme-related book kits to support the Every Child Ready to Read program and Family Literacy program at the library.

- Mountain Creek Branch Library - $2,500. The funds will be used to purchase books on gaming for youths ages 10-15 in anticipation of a newly formed Youth Gaming Group.

- Polk-Wisdom Branch Library - $2,500. The funds will be used to purchase a broad selection of books and audio books for a series of multi-generational read-ins.

The Texas Book Festival was founded in 1996 by Laura Bush and a group of interested volunteers, and has been attended by half a million people from across the nation since its inception. The Festival raises money for Texas public libraries and has given more than $2.3 million in grants to fund book collections and technology programs in libraries across the state. The 2009 Texas Book Festival is scheduled for Oct. 31-Nov. 1 in Austin.

The Dallas Public Library operates the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library, 1515 Young St., and 26 branch locations. A library card is free for any Dallas resident. For information on the many free programs and services available at the Dallas Public Library, visit: **www.dallaslibrary.org**.

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