



## News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Wednesday, September 23, 2009

Contact: Derick Hackett  
Communications Officer  
(512) 463-5514  
dhackett@tsl.state.tx.us

### Texas State Library and Archives Commission to tout Texas literature at National Book Festival

**AUSTIN, Texas** – The Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC) will highlight Texas literature, authors and libraries at the Ninth Annual National Book Festival, that is organized by the Library of Congress on Saturday, September 26, 2009 at the National Mall in Washington DC. President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama will serve as Honorary Chairs of the festival that will feature 75 award-winning authors, poets and illustrators celebrating reading and lifelong literacy.

TSLAC will promote Texas at the popular Pavilion of the States. The festival is free and open to the public and will be held from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., between 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> streets in Washington D.C. The Pavilion of the States gives visitors a chance to learn about TSLAC's reading and literacy projects, its library-promotion programs as well as the literary traditions of the state. A popular pavilion feature, especially among young readers and their families, is the collection of free maps of the United States that are distributed by each state's booth. Children can collect a unique stamp or sticker representative of each state on their map.

"The Texas State Library and Archives Commission is extremely excited to share information and promote Texas literature and our authors at the National Book Festival," said Peggy D. Rudd, state librarian and director of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. Rudd and communications officer Derick Hackett are representing Texas at the Pavilion of the States.

TSLAC is expecting thousands to visit the Texas pavilion display which will give the agency a chance to tell of the talents of Texas authors, distribute posters about its reading promotion activities and bookmarks along with TSLAC's publication *Welcome To Read, Texas*, a Texas family reading guide for children of all ages.

The Texas book nominee for the 2009 National Book Festival's "52 Great Reads About Great Places," reading list is *The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate* by Jacqueline Kelly. The book tells about the not-so-easy life at the turn of the century of a spirited 11-year-old girl who loves books and science in isolated Fentress, Texas, in 1899. She explores the natural world around her with her grandfather.

This book is Kelly's debut novel that was released in May. Kelly was born in New Zealand and moved to western Canada at an early age. Years later her family moved to El Paso where she majored in biology and minored in chemistry at the University of Texas at El Paso from 1970-74. She then attended the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston. She practiced medicine and attended the University of Texas School of Law and then practiced law for several years. This Austin resident is still practicing medicine and is also a Federal Occupational Health Officer.

Families and young people unable to make it Washington D.C. can experience the event virtually with the festival's Young Reader's Toolkit. Libraries, schools and

Lorenzo de Zavala  
State Archives and  
Library Building

P.O. Box 12927  
Austin, Texas  
78711-2927

1201 Brazos St.  
Austin, Texas  
78701

[www.tsl.state.tx.us](http://www.tsl.state.tx.us)

*Commission Chairman*  
Sandra J. Pickett

*Members*  
Sharon T. Carr  
Martha Doty Freeman  
Larry G. Holt  
Scott McAfee  
Sally Reynolds  
Michael C. Waters

*Director and Librarian*  
Peggy D. Rudd

*Assistant State Librarian*  
Edward Seidenberg

*Making  
information  
work  
for all  
Texans*

-more-

communities can use the Toolkit for information and podcasts on authors who write for children and teens, teaching tools and kids' activities and interactive learning resources for educators. The Toolkit and other information about the National Book Festival can be found at [www.loc.gov/bookfest](http://www.loc.gov/bookfest).

Texas is gearing up for its own highly acclaimed Texas Book Festival that benefits Texas public libraries. More than 200 writers from across Texas and the nation will be appearing on the grounds of the Texas State Capitol in Austin, from Oct. 31 – Nov. 1. For more information about the Texas Book Festival, go to [www.texasbookfestival.org](http://www.texasbookfestival.org).

-30-

#### **ABOUT THE TEXAS STATE LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES COMMISSION**

*TSLAC helps Texans find the information they seek. The people of Texas utilize TSLAC services and programs to effectively use information and materials that improve their lives, the lives of their families, and their communities. Since 1909, TSLAC has carried out a commitment of making information work for all Texans by providing history and genealogical services, federal and state government documents, electronic research, and library services to Texans of all ages who are unable to read standard print material due to visual, physical, or reading disabilities. For more information, go to [www.tsl.state.tx.us](http://www.tsl.state.tx.us) or email [pio@tsl.state.tx.us](mailto:pio@tsl.state.tx.us).*

#### **LIBRARY OF CONGRESS**

*The Library of Congress, the nation's oldest federal cultural institution, is the world's preeminent reservoir of knowledge, providing unparalleled collections and integrated resources to Congress and the American people. Many of the Library's rich resources and treasures may be accessed through the Library's website, [www.loc.gov](http://www.loc.gov), and via interactive exhibitions on [myLOC.gov](http://myLOC.gov).*