

PRESS RELEASE



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Texas Book Festival Grants Awarded to Plano Public Library System

Plano Public Library System was recently awarded \$5,000 in grants from the Texas Book Festival that will be used to purchase graphic novels and CD books at two Plano libraries.

Gladys Harrington Library, 1501 18th Street, will purchase fiction and non-fiction adult CD books. This collection will emphasize the classics as well as audiobooks dealing with humor, business and spiritual topics. Special attention will also be given to books nominated for the Audie Award. The Audie Award is given by the Audio Publishers Association to award excellence in spoken word entertainment.

The Maribelle M. Davis Library, 7501-B Independence Parkway, will purchase fiction and non-fiction graphic novels. These novels focus on topics such as biography, history, science, art, comedy and others, with special emphasis on award winners. The graphic novel format has been gaining in popularity and readership in recent years. "Maus," a graphic novel about the Holocaust by Art Spiegelman, won the 1992 Pulitzer Prize. In 2007, Gene Yang's "American Born Chinese," was the first graphic novel to win the Printz Award.

Materials will be added to the collections at each library, but will be available to all Plano Public Library System patrons.

Founded in 1996 by Laura Bush and other volunteers, the Texas Book Festival at the State Capitol in Austin has featured over 2,000 authors speaking to more than half a million people from Texas and across the nation. The festival proceeds have funded book collections, literacy and technology programs in public libraries throughout Texas. The 2008 Texas Book Festival is scheduled for November 1 through 2.

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