

For Immediate Release
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Literacy Collection now in place at the Martin Luther King Branch; Young adults, teens, children are making good use of the collection

Dallas – *Literacy Changes Lives*, a new Literacy Collection is now available at the Martin Luther King Jr. Branch Library, 2922 MLK Blvd. The library received a \$2500 grant from the Texas Book Festival and the Texas Library Association to build a book collection for low level or problem readers.

The collection was designed to assist and encourage low-level readers to learn the fundamentals of reading with books and CDs that provide basic skills in critical reading, science, social studies, writing, language, biographies, and Literature for English. Essentials of Reading - selections from the news, focuses on three categories: supernatural/paranormal, true crime, and unexplainable events. The new Literacy Collection is also a resource for GED students and adults with low-level reading skills or wanting to learn to read. The collection includes GED manuals, readers, spelling, vocabulary word power, and books about workplace and career development.

“The Literacy Collection was created to stimulate and target the educational needs of adults, parents and their children,” said Branch Manager Lynne Craddock. “This grant allows us to build on the collection we had targeting genres that are popular and often requested at the Martin Luther King branch,” she said.

The Texas Book Festival celebrates authors and their contributions to the culture of literacy, ideas and imagination. In 1995, First Lady Laura Bush convened a task force to plan a book festival that would promote the joys of reading and benefit public libraries. Since then, the Texas Book Festival has contributed more than \$2 million to over 650 Texas public libraries, enabling them to expand their book collection and literacy programs.

The Dallas Public Library operates the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library, 1515 Young St., and 25 branch locations. A library card is free for any Dallas resident. For information on the many programs and services available at the Dallas Public Library, visit: www.dallaslibrary.org.

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