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### **Temple Public Library Receives 2011 Achievement of Excellence in Libraries Award**

TEMPLE, TX – (August 2, 2012) The 2011 Achievement of Excellence in Libraries Award from the Texas Municipal Library Directors Association was presented to the Temple Public Library at the Temple City Council meeting this evening. TMLDA (Texas Municipal Library Directors Association) was represented by Lisa Youngblood from the neighboring Harker Heights Public Library. The award is presented to public libraries who can demonstrate that they have been active in 10 different areas of library service to their community. Of the 565 public libraries in Texas, only 26 received the 2011 award. This is the third year in a row for Temple to receive this award.

The areas evaluated include conducting a Summer Reading Program; providing services to underserved populations; providing enhanced services to the public in the past year either through increase in service or change in type of service; providing current marketing materials about the library's programs and services; revising and updating policies; providing literacy support for all ages; providing cultural, topical and educational programming to adults and families; collaborating with other entities; continuing education for the staff; and providing a library web presence.

Library Director Judy Duer reported that the process of submitting the application for this award is a valuable review of the past year, and knowing which areas will be evaluated helps the library staff to focus the planning process for the next year. She stated, "The best thing about the award is the recognition for my staff, who of course, are the ones implementing all

the activities being evaluated. They are a great group and very dedicated to providing great library service.” The notebook submission with all the supporting documentation was provided to the city manager and council for their review, and will be available for the public to view after that in the reference area of the library.

“It is good to see a state-wide organization recognize what we already know here in Temple, and that is that we have a great library and staff,” said City Manager David Blackburn.

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