

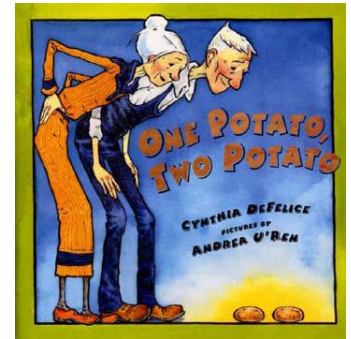


# Texas Bluebonnet Award

Feb. 2009/TBA Winner

Read Five **Then** Decide

## Congratulations to “One Potato, Two Potato” Author Cynthia DeFelice and Illustrator Andrea U’Ren



**This year’s winner of the 2009 Texas Bluebonnet Award!**

### TBA Mission

To Encourage  
Texas Children to:

- Read more books
- Explore a variety of current books
- Develop powers of discrimination
- Identify their favorite books

“One Potato, Two Potato” received the votes of over 23,000 school children to win the 2009 Texas Bluebonnet Award. Author Cynthia DeFelice shares the award with Illustrator Andrea U’Ren. Author and illustrator will accept their awards at the Texas Bluebonnet Award Author Session. Official voting results can be viewed on page 6 of this newsletter.

## Texas Bluebonnet Award Author Session

Preparations are being made for the 29th Annual Texas Bluebonnet Award Luncheon. The luncheon will honor this year’s award winners author Cynthia DeFelice and illustrator Andrea U’Ren. You can now register for the TLA Annual Conference in Houston. When you do so, be sure to register for the TBA Author Session held Thursday, April 2, 12:00-1:50 PM. Luncheon tickets are \$35. Register at the link below.

<https://secure.txla.org/secure/forms/mtgregform.asp>

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Come join the Texas Bluebonnet Award celebration. You will dine in the company of over 2,000 fellow librarians and teachers, be served a fine meal with dessert and be present when Cynthia DeFelice and Andrea U’Ren share their acceptance of the 2009 Texas Bluebonnet Award.

During the luncheon you will meet the ten extraordinary children that proudly represent each TLA district. The children will introduce and present the 2009 TBA to our winning author and illustrator. You may also choose to be a part of the TBA Youth Participation fund raising drawing. Those who participate are eligible for prizes donated by sponsoring book publishers. You may be the lucky one who walks away with an autographed set of the 2009-10 Master List books. Bring a check or an extra five. Your five dollar donation will be used for the transportation and accommodation needs of youth participants who will attend next year’s annual conference. We are looking forward to dining in Houston with you.

Publicity Sub-Committee:  
Brad Sveter



# Texas Bluebonnet Award

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## Bluebonnet Community Garden: Cultivate Your Bluebonnet Program

TBA Pre-Conference, Houston, TX  
Tuesday, March 31, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM



Reap ideas large and small from the Bluebonnet Garden to introduce new titles, integrate Bluebonnet books into the curriculum, energize voting, and plan Bluebonnet celebrations.

The workshop will begin with sessions that focus on using Bluebonnet books to teach curriculum skills. Dr. Jane Claes, professor at the University of Houston, Clear Lake will then present information on how TBA compares to other state reading programs. She will be followed by sessions that make use of technology to promote Bluebonnet books. After a provided lunch, illustrator Mike Wimmer will be using his recent and past published works to share how his books can be used in the library setting in ways other than "storytime". He will be followed by sessions that use games to promote Bluebonnet books. Sessions will be broken up with active Think, Pair, and Share breaks. The day will be filled with activities, presentations and entertainment that will help you bring success to your 2009-10 Bluebonnet program. Participants will receive a CD of programming ideas.

Cost for a TLA member is \$100. Non-Members will pay \$115. Lunch will be included. Pre-registration is required. Educational credits include CPE#210: SBEC 6.0; TSLAC 6.0. You can pre-register using the link below.

<https://secure.txla.org/secure/forms/mtgregform.asp>

## New TBA Sales Item at TLA

The TBA will stock its sales table with supplies at TLA to help you promote your Bluebonnet program. You can pick up the items you need without paying shipping cost. You can also register your library to participate in the 2009-10 vote. Each year TBA brings a new sale item to TLA. This year, TBA is excited to introduce a Bluebonnet backpack. It is a smaller version of the classic backpack. It includes a large front pocket for extra storage, adjustable straps and side zip pockets on each side. Sales of the backpack go to the Bluebonnet Endowment which brings youth participants to the TLA conferences. The mini backpack is priced at \$15.00



Send us your Bluebonnet story. We'd like to put "Your Name in Lights" contact TBA Coordinator, Beth Thames at [carolynbeth@gmail.com](mailto:carolynbeth@gmail.com)

**Read Five Then Decide**



## Ways to Pay for TBA

From TBA Coordinator, Beth Thames regarding paying for TBA items:

If this were a perfect world TBA would accept Purchase Orders and paying for registration and Bluebonnet supplies would be so much easier. Alas, the world is not perfect. The process of completing a purchase order takes a lot of hours and is complicated by school districts using their own unique financial processes. There are simply not funds in TBA to hire someone to do that. Below are some thoughts from a few of our TBA Committee members on how they pay for TBA items.

- “I pay with my own money and then get reimbursed using the receipt and a school PO made out to myself. It is painless.”—Hilary
- “I have done personal funds, PTA, and book fair monies. Now our district does a sole source provider which allows the accounting clerk to issue a check.”—Maria
- “I pay for my supplies when I go to TLA and then I get reimbursed with my fine money when I get back. Pretty Simple.”—Pat
- “I use book fair money or ask for our PTO to pay for my registration.”—Cindy
- “My boss has a city credit card that we use to pay for the Bluebonnet supplies.”—Ofilia (public library)

I recently talked with Bluebonnet supporter, Debra Marshall. She told me how happy she was to get the Sole Source provider form that I recently sent as an attachment on a TBA listserv email. She sent it to her district accounting department and she was ready to go on TBA purchases.

Attached to this newsletter is the sole source provider form (page 7). This will usually do the trick for most districts or public libraries. Save it on your computer. Anytime it is misplaced, email Carolyn Reynolds ([carolynr@txla.org](mailto:carolynr@txla.org)) or myself and another copy will be sent to you.

Do not let the fact that TBA can't accept Purchase Orders stand in our way of full participation in the Texas Bluebonnet Award Program.

## 2007-08 TBA Member Survey



The Texas Library Association would like to thank the 590 respondents that answered the 2007-08 TBA Member Survey. The survey results will be examined and considered by the TBA committees in its ongoing effort to realize the mission of the Bluebonnet program.

Three respondents were chosen from the group to win complimentary tickets to the TBA Author Award Session. The lucky winners are: Jo Anna Patton from Fort Worth, Christa Harker from Dallas, and Dayna Dees from Round Rock. You can click the link below to view survey results.

<http://www.txla.org/temp/schoolsurveysummary.pdf>

**Read Five Then Decide**



## Meet TBA's New Committee Members

The Texas Bluebonnet Committee would like to introduce its newest members to librarians and teachers across our great state. Our new TBA Selection committee members are: Mary Helton, Andrea Naismith, Irasema Rosas, and Trina Smith. The new TBA Program committee members are: Amy Fuller and Laura Sheneman.

### Selection Committee



**Mary Helton** was born in Shepherd, Michigan. She moved to Killeen, Texas when she was five. She works as a librarian at Maxdale Elementary School in Killeen ISD, and has administered the TBA program for four years. She joined the committee because she wants to be more involved in TLA. Mary loves to read, especially juvenile fiction. She believes the TBA program is a good quality program and the right fit for her. She states, "I get to do what I love, help children find good books to read".



**Andrea Naismith** was born in Beaumont, Texas. She works as a librarian at Montclair Elementary in Corpus Christi ISD and has participated in the TBA program for seven years as a librarian, intern, and parent volunteer. She is a mother of four school age children. Andrea joined the committee because she wants to play a greater role in getting quality literature into the hands of readers. She states, "I love the enthusiasm and pride that kids feel when they become part of choosing an award. The fact that they are among more than 150,000 students who read and select the best book is one of the highlights of my year".



**Irasema Rosas** was born in Illinois. She has lived in Fort Worth for 15 years. She is currently the librarian at Oakhurst Elementary in Fort Worth ISD and has administered the Bluebonnet program for five years. Irasema appreciates the TBA's commitment to selecting titles that reflect diverse cultural and personal experiences. She states, "Not only is love for reading a priority in my library but respect for my students' cultural and personal experiences is of utmost importance and this is reflected in my library collection". She is excited to be a part of TBA's effort to introduce diverse titles to its participants.



**Not Pictured**

**Trina Smith** was born in Baltimore, Maryland. She is a Children's Librarian with the San Antonio Public Library. Trina joined the committee to learn more about children's literature, and the process of how the nominees are selected in the TBA program. She is a recent graduate from the University of North Texas. After attending the TBA luncheon last year in Dallas, she was motivated to become part of the program.

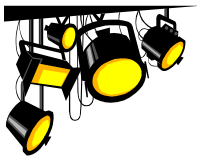
## Program Committee



**Amy Fuller** was born in Fort Worth, Texas. She works as the librarian at Ginnings Elementary in Denton ISD and has administered the Bluebonnet program for eleven years. Amy co-chaired the decoration committee for the Bluebonnet luncheon in 2008. She joined the TBA program committee because she wants to become a more active participant in TLA. Amy had a wonderful experience with TBA in 2004. She brought a youth participant to the TBA luncheon who introduced the winning author. She states, "Talk about super exciting! ... to see my student stand before the audience and do his part...I got tears in my eyes!"



**Laura Sheneman** was born in Houston, Texas. She is currently the librarian at Jefferson Elementary in Harlingen CISD, and an adjunct instructor at Sam Houston State University. She has administered the Bluebonnet program for six years. Laura joined the committee out of a desire to have a greater impact on the program and its participating librarians and students. She was bitten by the TBA "bug" as a first year librarian. Her students helped select the 2004 TBA winner, authored by Phil Bildner, who she later met. She states, "Not only did I get my picture made with him at the author's table, but he even recognized me on the street later in the week! I was so excited!!"



## "Names in Lights": Aldine, Levelland, and Corpus Christi ISD's



Stacie Archie, librarian at Odom Elementary in Aldine ISD, "Your Name is in Lights." Stacie held a Bluebonnet contest for the 3rd and 4th grade students on her campus. The students chose their favorite Bluebonnet book and designed a bookmark or a poster for that book. The winners had a bookmark designed especially for them and distributed to their entire grade level. She used ALA's READ CD to create the bookmarks. She writes,

"They came out so well. The kids loved them (and so did the teachers)!"



Cristal Isaacks, librarian at South Elementary in Levelland ISD, "Your Name is in Lights." Cristal advertised her student's involvement in the Bluebonnet program with her local newspaper. Pictured here is a proud student ready to vote for his favorite Bluebonnet book.

Edna Gonzalez, librarian at Weldon Smith Elementary in Corpus Christi ISD, "Your Name is in Lights." Edna shared some pictures of her students enjoying their 2009 Bluebonnet experience.





# Texas Bluebonnet Award

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## Texas Bluebonnet Award Voting 2009 Official Statistics

**FINAL**

Number of Registered  
Schools  
2154

Total Number of Schools  
Reporting Votes  
1717

Total Number of Students  
Reported By Grade Level  
151631

Total Number of Schools  
Reporting Student Grade Level  
1717

3rd	47012	5th Grade	44113
4th Grade	48395	6th Grade	12111

Book Title and Author	Total Votes	Percent of Total
One-Handed Catch (Auch)	8503	5.60%
Atherton: the House of Power (Carman)	6309	4.15%
The Middle of Somewhere (Cheaney)	1825	1.20%
Tall Tales (Day)	3755	2.47%
One Potato, Two Potato (DeFelice)	23168	15.25%
Comets, Stars, the Moon, and Mars (Florian)	5911	3.89%
The Thing About Georgie (Graff)	6893	4.54%
Just Grace (Harper)	7064	4.65%
Gabriel's Horses (Hart)	2930	1.93%
Toys Go Out (Jenkins)	9677	6.37%
What You Never Knew About Beds, Bedrooms (Lauber)	3659	2.41%
Marvelous Mattie (McCully)	3666	2.41%
How to Steal a Dog (O'Connor)	19257	12.67%
The Winner's Walk (Patterson)	4281	2.82%
Lawn Boy (Paulsen)	11455	7.54%
The Invention of Hugo Cabret (Selznick)	17062	11.23%
This is Just to Say (Sidman)	5318	3.50%
Team Moon (Thimmesh)	1396	0.92%
Crossing Bok Chitto: A Choctaw Tale (Tingle)	7009	4.61%
Way Down Deep (White)	2825	1.86%
Total Votes	151963	100.00%

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# Texas Bluebonnet Award



Feb. 2009/TBA Winner

# *texlas* **TEXLAS** **LIBRARY** *association*

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Texas Bluebonnet Award is a non-profit reading program sponsored by the Texas Library Association. We are a **SOLE SOURCE VENDOR** for the registration and supplies that go along with the program. Competition is precluded by the existence of a copyright. We do not accept purchase orders.

Please submit all registrations and orders with payment. Let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Yours truly,

Carolyn Reynolds  
Texas Bluebonnet Award

**Read Five Then Decide**