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# News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Library's innovative programs win excellence award

LITTLE ELM (April 20, 2018) In recognition of the work accomplished by the staff and volunteers of the Little Elm Public Library during 2017, the Texas Municipal Library Directors Association has awarded the library its Achievement of Excellence in Libraries Award.

"We are very proud of this accomplishment," says Library Manager Lynette Roberson. "Our programs are for the benefit of our patrons, and it's the community's support that is most important. However, being recognized by our peers with this award means that we are employing the best practices in our industry."

Of 550 public library systems in Texas, Little Elm Public Library is one of only 52 libraries to receive the award for 2017.

The award highlights several areas in which the library demonstrated best-in-class practices, including providing services to underserved populations through outreach, special programs, collaborations with other libraries or organizations, special classes and special collections.

Also recognized were the library's enhanced services to the public through innovative and unique services; cultural, topical and educational programs for adults and families; literacy support for all ages; a summer reading club; workforce development support; providing internet access, digital literacy training and other online services; and professional staff training.

"On any given day, you'll see people here involved in a wide variety of programs and activities," she said. "Our community room is in use with special programs and events almost constantly. We are always looking for ways that we can increase our value with our patrons and our community."

Partnerships with local organizations have allowed the library to expand its reach to populations that may not have otherwise interacted with the facility.

"The library is a gathering place for reading, learning, interacting and accessing services beneficial to our community members," she added. "This award is a testament to the hard work of the staff and volunteers to ensure our mission is followed."

The library staff and volunteers were recognized at the Town Council meeting of April 17 with the formal presentation of the award.

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**ABOUT LITTLE ELM** – Little Elm is one of the state's fastest growing communities. Nestled on the shores of Lake Lewisville, the Town was incorporated in 1966, adopting the Council/Manager form of government. The population increased dramatically over the last several years, growing from under 4,000 in 2000 to over 30,000 today. Little Elm's population exceeds the state average in education and income, and is increasingly trending younger and technologically proficient. The Town's footprint is just over 21 square miles and boasts some 66 linear miles of shoreline within its boundaries.