



Achievement of Library Excellence Award Application 2021

Section 7

Invest in collaborative efforts with community organizations.

Many of our large, yearly events require collaboration and teamwork throughout all city departments. Due to Covid-19, some of the biggest events were held virtually, but our Big Machines Expo was the first large event to be held in-person within the city. Due to the “opening” of the city, following the shutdown during Covid, a lot of our collaborative events had turnouts that were much larger than anticipated because people in our community are ready to get back out and doing things in-person.

One of our strongest community relationships is with our CHISD (Cedar Hill Independent School District). This year we collaborated with them on many events and projects such as the Back to School Rally, the Teacher Convocation, PTA Ice Cream Socials, a Virtual Resource Fair, and much more.

During February 2021, a massive snowstorm hit our community causing power outages lasting for days, water lines to burst, and homes became unlivable. During this time the library became a warming shelter. Fire, police, library staff, parks and rec staff, administration, and representatives from most every department came together to take shifts at the library, so that our community could have a warm place to stay. Meals were delivered to people, house calls were made, phone calls to check on seniors, and so much more was done to care for the citizens of our city. This was the most monumental collaboration for the library as well as the city during the fiscal year 2021.

Another partnership that the library values deeply is that of a local business, Ruiz Financial Solutions. They have a mission to serve small business, local business, and entrepreneurs and leaders within Cedar Hill and the surrounding area. Over several years, the Zula B. Wylie Public Library has helped to create a Business and Leadership conference called Shifting the Paradigm of Business and Leadership. This year, our collaboration offered the largest, hybrid conference yet.

The spirit of Cedar Hill is community. The library collaborates with the Parks and Recreation Department, Senior Center, and nearly all other City Departments to serve the community, especially during this year. 2020-21 has brought a greater need for

community togetherness, extra resources, and a little bit more to smile about. Some of the programs or events that has come from city collaboration are:

- Party in the Park through May, June, and July allowing communities to gather and engage with one another, as well as city departments. This was a lot of fun and people were eager to get out of their homes in a safe way to gather.
- Scare on the Square, a Halloween celebration. This year, Oct 2020, the event looked much different than normal. The library did not want to cancel, knowing how much everyone loves this event, so we made it a drive through event.
- Neighborhood Walks, throughout the year our Cedar Hill PACT Unit leads walks through the community as community outreach and service.
- Earthfest was a virtual collaboration this year with multiple departments including our environmental team.
- Heroes and Helpers Storytime involved people like the mayor, the city manager, the chief of police, military veterans, staff from the animal shelter, etc. reading stories (recorded and posted on social media) to help families connect to the heroes around them. Heroes and Helpers went from strictly virtual to a hybrid version this year.
- Senior Luncheons throughout the years seniors have had special luncheon events, most drive through. The library often serves during these events.
- Senior Wellness Calls - Departments within the city called the seniors in Cedar Hill each week to check on them and their needs during the COVID-19 quarantine, as well as during the snowstorm in February.
- We now have a new Best Southwest Partnership library card in collaboration with Lancaster, DeSoto, Duncanville, and Cedar Hill public libraries.
- The library was able to help support Bridges Safehouse in Cedar Hill by providing them with 200 mother-kits including diapers, socks, pacifiers, etc. to moms in need.
- The library also enjoys a strong partnership with the Dogwood Audubon Society. Not only do their personnel help by doing programming within the garden and for the community, they also volunteer in our community garden, and help with planning garden events.



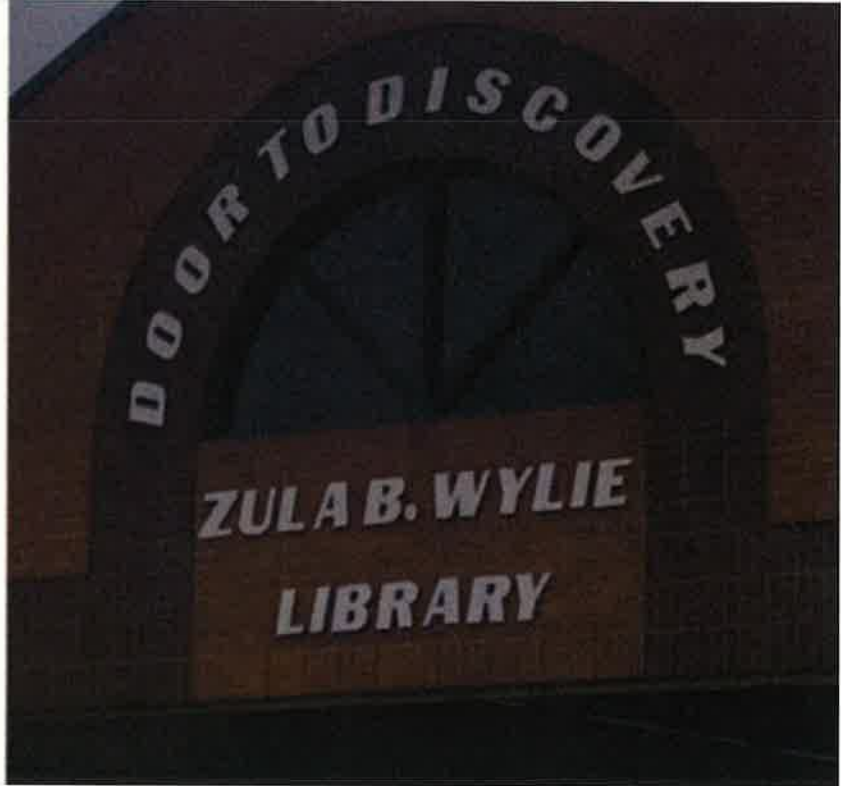
Zula B. Wylie Public Library in Cedar Hill, Texas

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****TEMPORARY WARMING STATION****

We are now open as a temporary warming station for residents who need to get out of the elements and get warm. This is for temporary warming and charging of your devices, not shelter purposes. Please register at the door when you arrive. We are doing temperature checks and following all CDC guidelines in regards to COVID-19.



2,601
People reached

189
Engagements

-
Distribution score

[Boost post](#)

26

3 Comments 36 Shares

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CEDAR HILL

SCARE IN *the*



PARK



DRIVE-THRU TRUNK-OR-TREAT EVENT
ENJOY HALLOWEEN FUN WHILE STAYING IN YOUR VEHICLE!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 6-8 PM
AT VALLEY RIDGE PARK 2850 PARK RIDGE DR.
CEDAR HILL, TX 75104




CEDAR HILL

PRESENTED BY THE ZULA B. WYLIE PUBLIC LIBRARY

CEDARHILLTX.COM/SCARE

 **Methodist**
CHARITON MEDICAL CENTER



Zula B. Wylie Public Library in Cedar Hill, Texas

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Come by the library to get a Best Southwest partnership card if you are a resident of Cedar Hill, Lancaster, DeSoto, or Duncanville! This brand new library card makes it easier than ever to checkout materials from all four libraries 🎉 Woohoo! #LibraryCardSignUpMonth #GetCarded

