



City of Wylie
Public Information Office

PRESS RELEASE

Smith Library Receives Achievement of Excellence Honor

Wylie, Texas, Feb. 26, 2018 – Wylie’s Smith Public Library has been awarded the 2017 Achievement of Excellence in Libraries Award from the Texas Municipal Library Directors Association.

In order to qualify for the honor, the library had to provide proof that they meet a wide range of criteria. These included: providing services to underserved populations; increasing service or making a change in type of services provided; creating marketing materials highlighting basic services and publicity about specific library programs; providing cultural, topical, and educational programming for adults and families; providing literacy support for all ages; conducting a summer reading program; collaborating with community organizations; supporting workforce development; supporting digital inclusion by providing public internet access, digital literacy training, and offering library services online; and establishing professional staff training at all levels.

Library Director Rachel Orozco said she is very pleased to have won the award. “We are fortunate to have a great group of library employees who are creative, talented, and dedicated to library service to the community.”

“We are so proud to see the amazing staff at Smith Public Library be recognized,” said City Manager Mindy Manson. “They consistently provide excellent services to our community and go above and beyond with their creative, thoughtful, and diverse programs.”

The library is part of the Wylie Municipal Complex, located at 300 Country Club Rd.

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About Smith Library – Founded in 1970 by Rita and Truett Smith, the library serves the informational, cultural and recreational needs of the over 44,938 Wylie residents. In 2014, the library checked out over 500,000 items and hosted almost 190,000 visitors. More than 35,000 citizens have library cards, and the library offers 459 programs, attended last year by over 25,000 participants. Wylie was incorporated in 1887 and is home to an outstanding school district, a low crime rate, and an ISO-1 fire rating. One of the fastest-growing communities in the state, Wylie has had a 220-percent increase since 2000. Realtor.com named Wylie the second hottest suburb in the country in February 2017. In 2017, Wylie was named the 20th Best Place to Live in the Country by *Money Magazine*, up from 25th in 2015.