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Midland Visitors Bureau



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PRESS RELEASE

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MIDLAND & ODESSA RECOGNIZED AS THE #2 BOOKISH DESTINATION IN TEXAS

Midland, Texas - In a community known primarily for oil and gas, it may come as a surprise to hear that Lone Star Literary Life, one of Texas' most popular literary websites has ranked The Permian Basin as the number two literary destination in the state.

<http://www.lonestarliterary.com/top-texas-bookish-destinations-2015.html>

How did the Permian Basin come out ahead of Dallas, San Antonio and Houston? The publication cited Midland County's American Library Association award-winning Centennial Library and 2014 Texas Librarian of the Year John Trischitti III, visits by Former First Lady Laura Bush and Tommy Franks, the George W. Bush Childhood Home's literary initiative that delivers free books to children, a host of notable local authors, 2014's Books in the Basin, the largest book festival in West Texas' history, and Neil Gaiman's upcoming May 20 visit to the Permian Basin.

The literary community in the Permian Basin has flourished in recent years with each of the aforementioned initiatives growing and telling their own unique story about the West Texas experience.

Missing from the piece is mention of Project Literacy an annual weeklong collaboration between the Midland Reporter Telegram and Wells Fargo that delivers a free book to each 1st grader in the Midland ISD.

About the Midland County Public Libraries

Directed by the Texas Library Associations' 2014 Librarian of the Year, the Midland County Public Library system defines mid-size library excellence. The library system has no late fines, and is the only system in the state of Texas to have transitioned to a fine-less borrowing policy. The library system contains the largest Genealogical research collection in Texas west of I-35, and the only free audio and video recording studio in West Texas' over 250,000 square miles. The Centennial Library is the winner of the American Library Association and International Interior Design Associations' bi-annual Interior Design award for Public Libraries over 30,000 square feet, and is distinguished as the "tech-iest" library in Texas. Technological components in the Centennial Library are complemented by an exhibit space that has premiered numerous Texas, United States and International exhibits, and broken nationally touring exhibit attendance records. Midland County has the only public libraries with American Alliance of Museum membership in the state of Texas.

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About the Midland Convention and Visitors Bureau

The mission of the Midland, Texas Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB) is to encourage economic growth by developing, promoting, enhancing and supporting Midland as a vibrant visitor destination. For more information on the Midland CVB, or to request a free Midland Experience Guide and Map, call (800) 624-6435 or visit www.VisitMidlandTexas.com.

The above information has been provided by Midland County Public Libraries and distributed by the Midland Convention & Visitors Bureau.

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Additional Sources

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