



# TX REGIONAL LITERACY SYMPOSIUM SOUTH TEXAS



FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2025 | MEETING CENTER, McALLEN PUBLIC LIBRARY



*Scan to find a floorplan, along with detailed descriptions of the sessions and to find out more about each presenter*

**9:30 AM – 10:00 AM**

*Lobby*

**CHECK-IN for registered attendees**

**10:00 AM – 10:15 AM**

*Auditorium*

**WELCOME, opening remarks**

**10:15 AM – 10:45 AM**

*Auditorium*

**OPENING SESSION (30 min)**

Rose Benavidez, Starr County Industrial Foundation

**10:45 AM – 11:15 AM**

*Auditorium*

**NETWORKING ACTIVITY (30 min)**

**“Real People. Real Needs. Real Opportunities.”**

Jacqueline Aguilera, Literacy Texas

**11:15 AM – 11:30 AM**

*Meeting Room B*

**BREAK, collect lunch**

**11:30 AM – 1:00 PM**

*Meeting Room A*

*11:30 AM – 12:15 PM*

**LUNCH & LEARN BREAKOUT SESSION (90 min)**

**Retention vs Persistence (45 min)**

Jacqueline Aguilera, Literacy Texas

*Meeting Room A*

*12:15 PM – 1:00 PM*

**Rooted in Resilience: Building Literacy through Optimism and Emotional Regulations (45 min)**

Alyssa Guadalupe Cavazos, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

*Meeting Room B*

*11:30 AM – 1:00 PM*

**Nature’s Classroom: Embracing Curiosity & Learning from the World Around Us (90 min)**

Karla Rodriguez

**1:00 PM**

*Auditorium*

**FAREWELL, door prizes**

*Don’t forget to visit special guest Essential Education!*

*Special thanks to The Texas Workforce Commission and McAllen Public Library*