



TX REGIONAL LITERACY SYMPOSIUM PANHANDLE



FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 2026 | AMARILLO AREA FOUNDATION



Scan for a venue map, along with detailed descriptions of the sessions and to find out more about each presenter

8:15 AM – 8:45 AM **CHECK-IN for pre-registered attendees**

8:45 AM – 9:00 AM **WELCOME, opening remarks**
Jacqueline Aguilera, Literacy Texas

9:00 AM – 9:30 AM **OPENING ADDRESS (30 min)**
“Emma to the Rescue: How Amarillo Uses AI to Support Information Literacy”
Rich Gagnon, City of Amarillo

9:30 AM – 10:00 AM **NETWORKING (30 min)**
“Real People. Real Needs. Real Opportunities.”
Jacqueline Aguilera, Literacy Texas

10:10 AM – 11:40 AM **WORKSHOP (90 min)**
Building Belonging: How Cultural Understanding Transforms ESL Programs
Betty Reyes-Medina, Refugee Language Project
Ryan Pennington, Ph.D., Refugee Language Project

11:45 AM **FAREWELL, door prizes**

Don't forget to visit special guests:

- ✦ *Aztec Software*
- ✦ *Burlington English*
- ✦ *Cambridge University Press & Assessment*

Special thanks to:

- ✦ *The Texas Workforce Commission*