



THE STATE OF TEXAS

GOVERNOR

 *To all to whom these presents shall come,
Greetings: Know ye that this official recognition is presented to all observing*

World Braille Day

January 4, 2024

The American worldview rests on the notion that all people, regardless of their circumstances, have the potential to change the world for the better. To this end, we have, today, many tools at our disposal, and the braille alphabet, in particular, enables people with visual impairment to participate fully in virtually every facet of public life.

The Braille alphabet, a tactile symbolization of language, unlocks the written word for the visually impaired through a standardized configuration of raised dots, and its expressive capacity equals that of the printed alphabet. From timeless literary classics to cutting-edge contemporary research, any written message can be conveyed through Braille. The ability to read printed material is crucial in education, employment, and health care, and in that light, Braille helps people rise above their challenges and lead productive, fulfilling lives.

Celebrated since 2019, World Braille Day commemorates the birth of the alphabet's inventor and namesake: Louis Braille. This year's observance, moreover, carries added significance, as it marks two hundred years since the alphabet's completion in 1824. Having stood the test of time, his invention remains an uplifting force in nations around the globe, and we acknowledge its profound impacts.

First Lady Cecilia Abbott joins me in encouraging all Texans to observe World Braille Day with befitting programs and activities.



In testimony whereof, I have signed my name and caused the Seal of the State of Texas to be affixed at the City of Austin this the 29th day of December, 2023.

Greg Abbott
Governor of Texas