

into two parts: self-assessment and initial outside assessment. Five major criteria are looked at, including Basic Facilities and Services, Operation Plan, Library Resource Management, Reader Services, and Promoting Services and Public Relations. The self-assessment looks at a library's operational conditions, while the initial assessment done by a group of scholars looks at a library's operational efficiency.



*Posters of Library of the Year*

Awards for top-performing libraries were also outlined, including (1) libraries that have high grades on effectiveness of library operations, followed by re-assessment by the national assessment committee are designated as Outstanding Libraries; (2) a Library of the Year Award is presented to those libraries that have exceptional results in the following five categories: Basic Facilities and Services, Operation Plan, Library Resource Management, Reader Services, and Promoting Services and Public Relations; (3) libraries that make unique contributions in the following areas are awarded a Unique Library Award: innovative services, building space, quality management, reading promotion, digital services, library resources, reader services, and community involvement.

The results showed that 190 libraries received “Outstanding Library” ratings, with 10 being selected as Library of the Year and 19 receiving the Unique Library Award. The NCL held a 2013 award ceremony “Lighthouses Navigating

Happiness in a Sea of Books” on December 30 to announce the results of the assessment and to issue awards and commendations.

### ■ *2013 Taiwan Reading Festival : Reading Makes You Soar*

The Taiwan Reading Festival is a unique celebration that began in 2013. It was held with activities and events held all around the country and publishers, bookstores, libraries, and public and private entities joining in. It encouraged the public to establish the three golden rules of books: buy books, read books, and share books. Several events were held, including “100 Great Reads, As Recommended by Famous People,” “Reading Is Awesome,” and “Let Books Float; Soar with Books,” which gave life to another wave of reading in Taiwan.

NCL's Director General Tseng stated that Taiwan Reading Festival is something unique to Taiwan. Its purpose is to increase more people's passion for reading, to find joy in books and reading, and to create a unique brand for Taiwan that can be shared with other countries, so that these countries can see a new powerful side of Taiwan.



*Director General Tseng photographed with the children in the event.*

For “100 Great Reads, As Recommended by Famous People,” the Minister of Education, the president of the Central Bank, wowprime's chairman, the mayor of Taichung, several county

magistrates (from Yilan, Pingtung, etc.), and over 50 authors, participated. During the books exhibition associated with “100 Great Reads,” the public was able to come to the library to obtain and read the books on the list. They could also attend lectures hosted by libraries and meet these famous people. “100 Great Reads” was definitely the first choice in selling, reading, and sharing books during the festival.

To encourage the public to purchase and share more books, the “Reading is Awesome” event brought together 7 online bookstores and 16 bookstore chains (which have a total of 154 stores among them) to provide discounts to the public, and the NCL also gave away prizes.

During the reading festival, another event was held called “Let Books Float; Soar with Books,” which encouraged the public to start collecting good books at home, and to share the joys of reading with others.

To kick off the Taiwan Reading Festival, NCL held a “Reading Makes You Soar” press conference on November 29. It was a wonderful start to the 2013 Taiwan Reading Festival.

### ■ *The NCL Honorably Obtains the iTaiwan Wireless Internet Service Award*

iTaiwan wireless internet service is an innovative government measure set up for the convenient use of her citizens. Establishing “hotspots” all over Taiwan helps to establish more balanced rural and urban development, enabling everyone to experience wireless internet access and facilitate the sharing of services.

From September 12 to October 13, 2013, Research, Development and Evaluation Commission of Executive Yuan organized a campaign called “Share the iTaiwan Experience for Prizes”. This not only increased the number and frequency of internet users of iTaiwan to more than 30 million, it also increased the favorable visibility of the various government organizations which improved their respective service quality.



*The Director of Digital Knowledge System The Division, the NCL, with the iTaiwan trophy.*

On October 21, an awarding ceremony took place at the Mayor’s official residence art salon in recognition of the various agencies and institutions’ collaborative efforts to continuously promote the quality of service. Awards were given to organizations with outstanding performance, with the most number of users, having excellent quality service as well as those who assisted extensively government agencies to widely distribute the iTaiwan hotspots.

To offer readers an easy free wireless internet access, the NCL equipped all reading rooms with iTaiwan wireless internet access. The present “Excellent Performance Award” refers to online service until September 2013 since its establishment. It lists the names of the top ten institutions that established “hotspots.”

## **NCL Publications**

### ■ *Bibliography of Research on the Classics 1998-2002*



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