

schools, parents to bring their children to come and give the child a different art experience, to read together the fairy tale from other parts of the world, and to come in contact with different cultures.



*Group photo at the opening ceremony*

### ■ NCL Holds Lecture Series on Ming & Qing Classic Novels

The Ming and Qing dynasties were a time of prolific development for Chinese novels. To highlight this, the NCL invited six renowned scholars from Taiwan to lecture from May 2 to July 4, covering *Romance of the Three Kingdoms*, *Journey to the West*, *Water Margin*, *Scholars*, *Dream of the Red Chamber*, and *Strange Tales from a Chinese Studio*. The aim is to renew interest in reading these classic novels. The six lectures saw standing room only, with the scholars giving moving portrayals of the stories. Attendees were taken across space and time to a better understanding of the unique characteristics of each work and its characters. The charms of these classics were once again made apparent, with the lectures ending in roaring applause.



*Director General Tseng presents the lecturers*



*Each lecture is filled to capacity.*



*Book signings by the lecturers*



*Raffles are held after the lectures.*

### ■ NCL Hosts Lecture and Performance of the Chinese Traditional Opera

As a way to showcase the rich and multifaceted nature of Chinese culture, the NCL teamed up with Trends Education Foundation and the GuoGuang Opera Company to host a lecture and traditional play, both entitled “Taiwan’s Recreation of Chinese Culture.” The lecture was

given by novelist Xian-yong Bai and playwright An-chi Wang. In addition, the five famous actors from the GuoGuang Opera Company were invited to perform mini skits, as well as share how to combine tradition and innovation to make traditional plays more appealing. The activity helped people better understand Kunqu opera, Beijing opera, and their transformation in Taiwan.



*Actors demonstrate acting skills*

## ■ Opening of New Taipei and Taitung Area Regional Resource Centers

To help public libraries integrate resources and develop services, the NCL started the “Project for the Resource Integration and Development of Public Libraries” in 2013. Four Regional Resource Centers in the northern, central, southern, and eastern regions of Taiwan and eight Area Regional Resource Centers will be established over four years.

The New Taipei Area Regional Resource Center was established in the main branch of the New Taipei Public Library. It opened on June 4. Director General Tseng expressed in her remarks that the New Taipei Regional Resource

Center combines local features and youth-themed holdings, with the hope that it can embolden more talented youths to become involved in creative works, increase creative inspiration, and encourage youths and other county residents to make use of the abundant resources available.



*Group photo at the New Taipei Area Regional Resource Center*

The Taitung Area Regional Resource Center, located in the Taitung County Government building, opened on June 3. The Center’s holdings focus primarily on cultural creative books. Books can be accessed via an interlibrary loan system to increase the use of these library resources.



*Group photo at the Taitung Area Regional Resource Center*

## ■ “A Tribute to Ya Hsien” Series of Activities

The NCL and Trend Education Foundation co-sponsored “A tribute to Ya Hsien” series of activities focusing on the works and literary contributions of the poet Ya Hsien. Exhibitions, seminars and many other activities were organized in view of a sustained dissemination of the seeds