

The 3rd Taiwan Reading Festival was celebrated in a festive atmosphere on December 5, 2015 at the NCL and its surrounding area. The NCL held a press conference on November 23, wherein Director General Tseng explained the planned events to the public. The Ministry of Education (MOE) and collaborating organizations were in attendance to encourage the public to participate in the many events of the festival.

On the day of 2015 Taiwan Reading Festival, together with the reading festival was the awarding ceremony of National Public Libraries evaluation results. The celebration attracted more than 1,000 people.

The Minister of Education, Mr. Se-hwa Wu, attended this event. He congratulated the 143 public libraries who were awarded for their special features, their outstanding performance and other achievements. In his speech, Minister Wu pointed out that reading not only increases one's personal knowledge, reading every day also increases the continuous growth of brain cells and produces a more healthy life. He therefore encouraged everyone to read more and more.

Minister Wu also mentioned the present use of the library space which created an atmosphere that is different from the previous set up. He said that in the future, libraries will play a more important role expressing his hope that libraries manage further the reading community to encourage more and more people to read.



Director General Tseng (3rd left), Minister of Education Wu (center) and honored guests take a group photo at the opening ceremony.

After the awarding ceremony, Minister Wu, accompanied by Director General Tseng, visited the festival venue and the various booths giving his encouragement to both the NCL staff and the public.



A number of people are attracted to the outdoor book wall.

The NCL launched the “Donate Uniform-Invoice, Select Good Books, Donate to Charity” activity. This was well-liked and supported by book-lovers. On the day of launching, nearly ten thousand uniform-invoices were collected. These were all donated to the Eden Social Welfare Foundation to support less privileged, disadvantaged family services.

Director General Tseng remarked that it not only wants to attract popular participation in pluralistic reading activities through nationwide series of events and festive shows to promote a love for reading culture. We also hope to call on people to donate to charity their everyday shopping uniform-invoices and their quality books from publishers. In this way, we not only love books, but also give love to others.



Director General Tseng donates the collected uniform-invoices to the Eden Social Welfare Foundation.

■ “Winter Reading: A Feast of Art and Literature” Lectures

In view of enhancing the depth and breadth of the people's reading interest and ability, the NCL held a series of lectures on the theme of “Western Reading: A feast of Art and Literature” from November 2015 to January 2016. Six speakers were invited to explore with the readers: Western literature and art which included sculpture, music, theater, food, architecture, film, across classical Greece, the Renaissance and even

until the present time. Hopefully these activities will help to broaden and expand the people's horizons to Western humanities. More than 300 persons registered for each session.

■ **NCL Professional Staff Presentation on the Research Results Funded by Mr. Si-yuan Pan**

To assist in the formation of talented national libraries personnel in the fields of ancient books collection, editions, restoration and arrangement of ancient documents, and their publication with the goal of ancient books preservation, promotion and education demonstrating the research ability of Taiwan, Mr. Si-yuan Pan, president of the Pan Pacific Group funded a three-year-awarding period encouraging library professionals to receive training, make observations in Mainland China strengthening at the same time research and exchanges of ancient documents.

In the year 2015, ten researchers went to Nanjing, Shanghai, Beijing and Chongqing and other places to make research. They presented their research findings which included: the survey and classification of Dunhuang documents; the collection, spreading of wartime library ancient documents; collection and management of manuscripts; curating, preservation, restoration of ancient documents and other related matters.



A group photo after the presentation.

■ **“Joy of being with NCL” Activity**

The NCL specially organized the annual activity for elementary and preschool children on December 12 entitled: “Joy of being with NCL.” The activities included “Library Minions: Little Librarians on the spot experience,” “Walking into the wonderful Story House” and “Small hands making a Small book,

a creative DIY” These three activities were full of knowledge learning and fun.

There were 16 participants of Grades 5 and 6 from Taipei City. Starting with the NCL “General Service Help Desk” showing them how to borrow and return a book, to the Reference Counter where readers learn how to solve problems that had been raised to learning and how to take a book from the open shelves and fixing them to listening to a recording broadcasting the closure of the library.



Group photo of little librarians taken at the NCL after the event.

■ **NCL and IFII Jointly Hold “Library Watch Commons” Forum**

On December 18, the NCL and International Federation for Information Integration (IFII) jointly held the “Library Watch Commons” forum on the theme of “Future direction of libraries: Inheriting the Past and Ushering in the Future.” Director General Tseng, Professor Hong-chu Huang from Tamkang University and Deputy Director Chun-fu Shih from Cultural Affairs Bureau of Taichung City Government were invited as speakers. Both of them adopt a macro perspective and strategic thinking to specify the trends of librarianship. Using various examples, they set out the new direction and efforts needed to reach the goal of new library management. Other libraries were also invited to share their respective experiences.

In her speech, Director General Tseng pointed out that the impact of various types of libraries should be an important force in society, and should be closely related to the work of the people, their learning and personal growth. However, many people no longer need a library. Director General Tseng considered that this phenomenon brings out an important issue: what