

■ The NCL Holds Lecture on “The Socio-educational Role of the 21st Century Library”

On September 6, 2018, National Central Library (NCL) and the German Cultural Center of the Goethe-Institut in Taipei held a lecture entitled “The Socio-educational Role of the 21st Century Library” at NCL. The NCL Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng hosted the event, and Goethe-Institut Taipei Director Jens Rösler was in attendance.

Invited to lecture was Ms. Barbara Lison, the Director of the Bremen City Library in Germany. She spoke on the educational and cultural activities they have put on to aid the refugees and immigrants in Germany. The idea is to allow the library to become the “third place” that German people will go do, apart from their homes and workplace or school. In addition, in an effort to deepen the exchange of experience between libraries in Taiwan and Germany, NCL also invited three directors from Taiwan public libraries to attend the discussion and share what Taiwan public libraries are doing regarding policy and services for senior citizens, rural areas, and immigrants. The presentations included the Director of the Taipei Public Library Shih-chang Horng, who spoken on “Taipei Public Library's Experience in Facilitating Active Aging for the Senior Citizens;” the Director of the New Taipei City Library Chin-hua Wang, who spoken on “The Social Education Function of the Library- A Case Study of New Taipei City;” and the Director of the Tainan Public Library Yu-chen Hung, who spoken on “The promotion of Social Education Promotion in Tainan Public Library”.



Director-General Tseng (from right) poses with the speakers Director Barbara Lison, Director Shih-chang Horng, Director Chin-hua Wang, and Director Yu-chen Hung.

■ The NCL Holds 2018 Fall Reading Lecture: Discussing Ancient and Modern Martial Art Theory

The National Central Library (NCL) and Lam Research co-hosted 2018 Fall Lecture themed on “Discussing Ancient and Modern Martial Art Theory.” It is being held Saturday afternoons between August 4 and October 13, for a total of six sessions. Six renowned martial art scholars were invited to lecture and take *kungfu* novel enthusiasts into the literary world of the “great out there.” Topics and speakers for each session are as follows:

August 4 “The Cultural Aesthetics of Violating Bans through Knights-errant.” Ming-chang Lin, Associate Professor of Department of Chinese Literature and Application at Fo Guang University.

August 18 “Knights-errant and Assassins.” Pao-chung Lin, Professor of Department of Chinese at National Taiwan Normal University.

September 8 “*Kungfu*, the Study of Martial Arts, Martial Art Skills, and Knights-errant: Esteeming Chivalry and the Martial Art Craze among Ming Literati.” Hung-tai Wang, Research fellow, Institute of History and Philology at Academia Sinica.

September 15 “Tales of the Strange, *Kungfu* Novels, and Movies: Using Drama to Understand the World-wise King Hu, Ang Lee, and Hsiao-hsien Hou.” Hsiang-yin Chen, Associate Research fellow, Institute of Chinese Literature and Philosophy at Academia Sinica.

October 6 “How *Kungfu* Novels Became Classics: Beginning with Characters and Plots.” Fu-chang Hsu, Professor of Department of Chinese Literature at National Taiwan University.

October 13 “Endless Trouble in Martial Art World, But an Unbroken Dream of Chivalry: An Introduction to Contemporary and Modern *Kungfu* Novels by Famous Authors.” Tsao-min Tsai, Associate Professor and Chair of Department of Taiwanese Literature at Aletheia University.



Prof. Pao-chung Lin (seated) signs the books for participants after the Reading Lecture.

■ “Touch Your Dreams,” an Exhibition of the Work of Czech Illustrator Tomáš Řízek Held at the NCL

On the afternoon of June 30, 2018, the opening ceremony for “Touch Your Dreams,” an exhibition of the work of Czech Illustrator Tomáš Řízek, was held at the National Central Library (NCL) from June 29 to July 29, 2018.

Mr. Tomáš Řízek is a well-known contemporary Czech illustrator who has illustrated over 50

children’s books, including editions of *Ali Baba and the 40 Thieves*, and *Grimm’s Tales*. He has been awarded the Italian Hans Christian Anderson Prize for his work.

Around 40 of the artist’s illustrations featuring a variety of brush techniques were on display at the exhibition, of which the majority were illustrations of indigenous Taiwanese stories, such as *Atayal Warriors’ Journey* and *Lukai Pearl*. During the opening ceremony, Mr. Řízek also presented a piece named *Moon Mirror* to the NCL, which was accepted by Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng on behalf of the Library.

After the opening ceremony had concluded, Mr. Řízek gave a personal guided tour of his works to those attending. He then led a painting workshop in Conference Room 301 of NCL, in which he demonstrated watercolor and egg tempera painting techniques. In a room that was filled to capacity, the enthusiastic exchanges between Mr. Řízek and the attendees provided the perfect conclusion the event.



Mr. Řízek (left) presents Director-General Tseng with the piece named *Moon Mirror*.

■ Research Starts with a Question: the NCL Holds 2018 Young Scholars Cultivation Camp

The National Central Library (NCL) held a customized Young Scholars Cultivation Camp