

■ **Special Exhibition “Celebrating Life: The Day of the Dead in Mexico” Held at the NCL**

The National Central Library (NCL) and the Mexican Trade Services Documentation and Cultural Office co-hosted a special exhibition on the theme of “Celebrating Life: The Day of the Dead in Mexico,” held in the Exhibition Hall of the NCL from November 26 to December 16, 2018. The exhibition opening ceremony took place on November 26, jointly led by NCL Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng, and head of the Mexican Trade Services Documentation and Cultural Office, Mr. Martin Torres. Over 100 guests attended the occasion, including Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs José María Liu and representatives from many countries’ Taiwan offices.

The Day of the Dead is not only an important festival through which the Mexican people express their remembrance of deceased relatives, as of 2008 it has also been designated as an Intangible Cultural Heritage by UNESCO. This three-week exhibition displayed the important aspects of the culture and customs related to the Day of the Dead, including the highly decorated altars, related videos, and mask making. It made the Taiwan public can better understand the spirit and customs of this festival that has been going on for several centuries.

The audio guide for this exhibition was delivered in two different ways. Visitors could either scan a QR code to link access the audio guide web page or choose to have the positioning guide. The NCL has pioneered this location-based service, which provide visitors to this exhibition with the new audio guide experience.



*Director-General Tseng (5th right, front row), Director Torres (4th right), and Vice-Minister Liu (5th left), with distinguished guests at the exhibition opening ceremony.*

■ **NCL Donates Books to the Thai-Chinese International School**

On October 30, 2018, the NCL Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng paid a special visit to the Thai-Chinese International School (TCIS) in Thailand, to discuss ideas about running a library with Chairman of the School Board, Mr. Wei-pien Chang, and to look around the school library. Established in 1995, TCIS is the only international school in Thailand that still teaches using traditional Chinese characters. TCIS Students are taught Chinese culture and encouraged to study Eastern and Western culture and philosophy.



*Director-General Tseng presents books to the TCIS on behalf of the NCL. (from left: NCL Director-General Tseng; Chang Wei-pien, Chairman of the School Board; Dr. John McGrath, Principal )*

The NCL carefully selected 122 books suitable for young children and teenagers to donate to the TCIS, which are on display in a dedicated space in the school library. The donated books enrich the school's Chinese collection, while also giving students overseas the chance to read some of the fine books published in Taiwan.

### ■ **NCL and Lam Research Co-host the Reading is Cool Carnival and Book Donation Ceremony**

The donation ceremony of "Reading is Cool Carnival" jointly hosted by the National Central Library (NCL) and Lam Research, took place on October 20, 2018, at Hsinchu Cultural Affairs Bureau Water Plaza. The NCL and Lam Research together selected six elementary schools in the Hsinchu area to each receive a donation of 100 English-language books. In addition to the books, each school was given their own special bookshelves through the Sharing Love Through Books scheme to help them create a comfortable English reading corner in their school library. The aim of the donations was to provide effective encouragement to children to study English as early as possible in their education.

The NCL Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng stated in her remark that the smooth rollout of the Sharing Love Through Books scheme was thanks to the strong support of Lam Research in establishing ample English reading resources at schools. In his remarks, Daniel Liao, President of Asia Pacific Operations at Lam Research, expressed the hope that Sharing Love through Books would enable children to begin exploring the world through books from an even younger age.

The carnival featured wonderful English reading related activities for the public, such as a picture book story village, English music party, English game area, activities to help break through reading barriers, and also a bookstall area.



*NCL Director-General Tseng(6th right) and President Liao(6th left) at the donation ceremony of "Reading is Cool Carnival."*

### ■ **NCL Holds 2018 Technical and Services Training for School and Public Libraries**

The National Central Library (NCL) held 2018 technical and services training for school and public library staff in October of 2018. The ultimate aim of the annual training sessions is to enhance the quality of school and public library cataloguing and services. The southern region training day took place on October 5, 2018, at Kaohsiung Main Public Library, followed by the northern region training day held at the NCL on October 16. The sessions were attended by combined total of 250 library staff.

The training comprised two main units: Classification of books and Related Tools, and Cataloging of Books and Bibliographical Resources. Besides briefly and clearly explaining common regulations and important theoretical principles, the training also gave the library staff opportunity to practice using real world examples and to participate in classroom discussions. The trainees were given