

The event utilized a flash mob approach, not having a set place for performances. Readers and performing groups were in various spots in the reading room. The atmosphere was created through lighting, giving those present a surprised and novel feeling. Performances included: Poem Vocal Band used their splendid voices to interpret “Chrysanthemum Terrace” and “The Seasonal Joys of Reading;” renowned authors Yindi, Han Hsiu, Yu-xiang Hao, and Chi-feng Liao each read some of their works; the Crimson Hall Poetry Society from Taipei Municipal Jianguo High School read modern poems; and as a finale, Prof. Yi-kang Feng, founder of Comedians Workshop, read Cao Cao’s “Short Song Style,” causing the event to come to an impassioned climax. In the short hour the event was held, those present were immersed in this unique and memorable literary feast.



The finale performer of “The Voice of Literature: Oral Reading Night at NCL”, Prof. Yi-kang Feng takes a photo with Director-General Tseng (left) .

■ Children’s Day Celebrated with Polish Dancing: Polish Children’s Rights Exhibition at NCL



Distinguished guests toast the opening of the exhibition.

National Central Library (NCL) and the Polish Office in Taipei, in an effort to promote children’s rights and to encourage related ideas, cohosted “Polish Children’s Rights Exhibition.” The event ran from May 28 to June 16 at NCL’s exhibition hall on the first floor. The opening ceremony is specifically scheduled on June 1, which was also International Children’s Day.

Maciej Gaca from the Polish Office in Taipei stated in his remarks that Poland has long given attention and focus to issues related to children’s rights. This exhibition was planned to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the United Nation’s Convention on the Rights of the Child. Primarily on display are the concepts of the Father of Children’s Rights in Poland, Janusz Korczak, contributions during his life for children, and achievements in Poland in promoting children’s rights.

NCL Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng stated that each year NCL works with various country offices in Taiwan to host a variety of exhibitions, lectures, and other events. Hosting

these events at NCL and making use of its vast resources and holdings, it hopes that the public can come to better understand the culture and customs of other countries throughout the world.

The opening ceremony included a book exhibition on issues related to children's rights, as well as other amazing events, such as oral readings of children's classics from Poland, traditional Polish dances, and games. In addition, NCL made special arrangements for Library tour robot to come and interact with children of all ages. All of this brought a lot of fun and enjoyment to the opening ceremony and provided attendees with a deeper understanding of children's rights and wonderfully happy weekend.



The NCL tour robot interacts with attendees.

■ Rector Ulrike Sych of the University of Music and Performing Arts, Vienna Speaks at NCL

National Central Library (NCL) and the Ministry of Education cohosted the Ministry of Education's 53rd session of the 2019 Cross-culture Ambassador Lecture on the afternoon of May 31 at NCL. Invited to speak was Rector of the University of Music and Performing Arts, Vienna (mdw), Ulrike Sych. She spoke on "The Social Impact of Musical Education on Children

and Adolescents." The discussant at this lecture was renowned pianist and Assistant Professor of Music at National Taiwan University of Arts, who also happens to be an accomplished alumnus of mdw, Yi-chih Lu. Director Roland Rudorfer from the Austrian Office Taipei and NCL Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng were also in attendance for the lecture.

The University of Music and Performing Arts, Vienna has a wonderful tradition in cultural music. Not only is it the largest university of the arts in Austria, it is also ranked with Julliard School in the US as the top performing arts school in the world. Rector Sych's expertise is in vocals and piano, and she has vast experience as a musician and music educator. During the lecture, Rector Sych not only shared her efforts over the years in artistic performance and education but also explained from various angles the importance and positive influence that music education has on children and youth. Music education can train children and youth in their ability to feel and to create, as well as improve their memory and ability to learn, and strengthen their self-confidence and social abilities.



Speaker Rector Sych (center) pictured with NCL Director-General Tseng (2nd right), Director Rudorfer (2nd left), and Prof. Lu (1st left).