

## ■ National Central Library's Multipurpose Performance Hall Unveiled

In welcoming the new year of 2021, on January 5 National Central Library and Trend Education Foundation collaborated in holding the Multipurpose Performance Hall Opening Ceremony, which was held at the NCL's Culture & Art Center. In attendance at this grand occasion were officials from the Ministry of Education, artists, and dignitaries from the education communities, as well as the media and reporters.



*NCL Director-General Tseng (right), Administrative Deputy Minister of Education Lin (center), and Trend's CEO Chen (left) cut the ribbon to begin use of the Multipurpose Performance Hall.*

NCL Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng stated, "NCL and Trend Education Foundation began collaborating in 2005 with the first event 'A Salute to the Literary Giants' (including Pai Hsien-yung, Chen Ying-zhen, Huang Chun-ming, Yang Mu, Yaxian, Florence Chia-ying Yeh, and Lin Wen-yueh). In recent years, we have cohosted several reading promotion lectures and events, which were well received and attended by the general public." The old stage had many limitations, therefore, performance had to rely on delicate stage designers to overcome these limitations. With the generous support of the Trend Education Foundation, the performance hall was possible to have a massive renovation. Now it is suitable for speeches, poetry recitation, plays, concerts, and even traditional operatic performances. It can seat nearly 500 people and meets the nowadays

international trends of library development. It also allows the public greater opportunities to join cultural and arts events. NCL will work with various institutions in the future to provide patrons with even more of such events from different fields. To thank the Trend Education Foundation for sponsoring the renovations, a special plaque of appreciation was given to its CEO Jenny Chen.

Trend's CEO Jenny Chen said, "I'd like to thank Director-General Tseng for her open-mindedness and resolution. We quickly came to an agreement, where we would contribute to the renovation, including refurbishing the stage, and increasing illumination control, improving sound quality, changing the stage carpet, and putting up a curtain. As we welcome a new year, we can also showcase various artistic events in this newly-renovated hall."

Deputy Minister of Education Teng-chiao Lin attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony and gave his remarks. He first thanked the Trend Education Foundation, those from the performing arts world, collaborating partners in reading promotion programs, and reporters in attendance at today's event. On behalf of the Ministry of Education, he thanked the Trend Education Foundation for paying attention to public participation in the cultural and arts activities and their desire for spiritual learning. They took actions and made a generous donation to renovate NCL's performance hall. In addition, they have been actively promoting reading, cultural lectures, exhibitions, and performances to provide an audio-visual feast for the public. Such cultural and arts events surely will guide the public to become more interested in and fond of literature and the arts. This will also expand Taiwan's influence internationally.

Following the opening ceremony was a gorgeous performance of traditional opera on the brand-new stage. The performance was directed by the 'national treasure figure' in Peking opera Lu-Hao Zhu, and the performers including the young Peking opera actor Ting-fang Hsu and students from the Department of the Jing Ju (Peking Opera) of National Taiwan College of Performing Arts.



*Group Photo of the dignitaries attending the opening ceremony for the Multipurpose Performance Hall.*



*Group Photo of the dignitaries and attendees of the opening ceremony.*

■ **NCL and the Ministry of Science and Technology Cohost Symposium on “Rating Humanities and Social Science Journals & the Publicizing of Scholarly Publications” on February 26**

As a way to encourage journal publishers in Taiwan to provide full text access and to increase the dissemination and visibility of scholarly research, National Central Library and the Ministry of Science and Technology’s Research Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences teamed up to host a symposium on “Rating Humanities and Social Science Journals & the Publicizing of Scholarly Publications” on February 26, 2021.

Deputy Minister of Science and Technology Minn-tsong Lin said during his remarks at the opening ceremony that this symposium was an opportunity for everyone to begin thinking about the issue of publicizing scholarly publications. Through making scholarly resources public, research findings in Taiwan can be better promoted and disseminated. This could be a positive driving force for Taiwan’s scholarly research, and could effectively increase international visibility. Deputy Minister Lin emphasized that the humanities and social sciences research are special in nature and research outcomes

in Chinese are very useful for other researchers. He hoped that through this symposium it is possible to gather suggestions from the publishing industry to help bring about a consensus on how to push forward the idea of making scholarly resources open to the public in the near future.

During NCL Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng’s remarks, she echoed what Deputy Minister Lin said. She explained that the Taiwan Citation Index - Humanities and Social Sciences (TCI-HSS) was co-created by NCL and the Ministry of Science and Technology’s Department of Humanities and Social Sciences. Through creating a database of scholarly works, constructing metadata records for journals, dissertations and books, and their citations, the number of times a journal article, a dissertation, a book, or a book chapter have been cited could be revealed. The TCI-HSS database can then generate so-called “5-year impact factor.” This could serve as objective reference data for the Ministry of Science and Technology in conducting journal ratings, and for the Ministry of Education in doing scholarly evaluations for colleges and universities. NCL is the legal depository for publications in Taiwan and shoulders the responsibility of acquiring, organizing, and preserving publications in Taiwan. The NCL has created several primary databases for different kinds of deposited materials and provide for use. Such endeavors undoubtedly are helpful to strengthen scholarly communications. Furthermore, NCL’s databases are reliable databases constructed by national government agencies. They provide publishers a guarantee of archiving and preservation. This means that whatever changes might happen in the management of private companies, the materials deposited will not be lost or become inaccessible.



*NCL Director-General Tseng gives remarks.*