

- (4) Dr. Li-chuan Ou from the Department of Chinese Literature of National Taiwan University lectured on “Marriage and Love in Tang Poetry.” (March 27)
- (5) Dr. Siu-Hung Lau from the Department of Chinese Literature of National Taiwan University lectured on “What I Think of You Is What You Think of Me: On a Type of Longing in Love Lyrics from the Tang and Song.” (April 10)
- (6) Dr. Wen-hui Cheng from the Department of Chinese Literature of Chengchi University lectured on “Teaching through Rites and through Emotion – Women’s Bodies, the State System – Gendered Politics: Love Poetry in the Yuan and Ming Dynasties.” (April 17)
- (7) Dr. Shu-ling Hung from the Department of Chinese Literature of National Taiwan University lectured on “Gentleness and Pain in Modern Love Poetry.” (April 24)

NCL has been holding the Four Seasons Reading Lecture for years, which has been highly appreciated and enjoyed by the public. Even though that the pandemic has caused restrictions to our life, attendance at each session was still high. The 2021 Spring Poetry Reading Festival “What Is Affection? -- Lecture Series on Sensational Reading of Historical Love Poems”, been held during the enchanting spring season, came to a poetic and beautiful end after the seven outstanding lectures given by experts and all have received passionate participation by attendees.



Poster of the “2021 Spring Poetry Reading Festival” lecture series.



Many participants are in attendance, with no empty seat in the hall.

■ National Central Library Continues to Promote a Series of Reading and Learning Options

With the COVID-19 pandemic is still persistent, library services are facing must changes. In March 2020, NCL began promoting two new services: “Knowledge Express Services” and “Online Reference Expert Service”. These will help those who need to use NCL’s resources, especially its journals, theses, and dissertations, by allowing them to determine if they want to pick up the requested items at the library or have them mailed to a designated address. The Online Reference Expert Service arranged professional reference librarians to provide instant online answers and guidance on how to use the great array of library’s online resources. These will allow users to make use of the NCL’s resources nonetheless of the library closure due to the strict regulations.

From the beginning of 2021 when the pandemic has caused concerns, the NCL has been trying to promote online reading materials and digital resources as a backup for patrons to continue acquiring knowledge. The comprehensive e-resource lists are available on the Website named “Digital Resource Services for Study and Learning at Home While Preventing the Pandemic.” The e-resource lists could guide patrons to watch movies, listen to lectures, and read e-books at home. Learning at home can greatly reduce the risk of being infected by the virus, and even more importantly it can reduce anxieties of people and enable them to have good time at home on one hand, and help our government

to get control of the pandemic on the other.

Beginning in May, NCL Director-General Tseng guided the planning to place all of NCL's databases created over the years and its diverse audiovisual contents under the aforementioned Website. The available digital resources include digital resource services across disciplines for different age levels and different needs which including Library to Your Home, Free e-resources Websites, Booklists on the Pandemic, the Digital Audiovisual Archive System, Taiwan Memory (including exhibitions), and NCL E-learning Campus online courses. The aim of the Website is to bring together all of NCL's digital resources to make it convenient for users to find e-books, watch movies, learn English, or take online courses at home. Users of all ages are invited to well utilize these resources to learn and grow, get prepared for the time when schools resumed after the pandemic been controlled.

NCL's Reading Is Power website: <https://isp.ncl.edu.tw/site-readingispower>



"Working together to fight the pandemic" poster.

■ "Easy Selection of Infant Age-based Themed Books" Website and Touring Exhibition on Themed Infant Books

In September 2019, the National Central Library invited scholars and experts in infant reading materials to work in collaboration with front-line librarians working with children readers to develop a thematic framework for recommendation of infant books. In 2020, the Infant Books Age Classification Theme Table was successfully developed, and in the same year, Cultivating Key Abilities Through Reading—Guide to Choosing Children's Picture Books and related promotion materials were published and sent to public libraries island wide for joint promotion.

To enable librarians of public libraries to use the Infant Books Age Classification Theme Table as a reference tool to help parenting book selection,

and to make effective use of the content of thematic picture books to enhance children's learning and subtly trigger their creativity and expression ability, the NCL established the Website of Easy Selection of Infant Age-based Themed Books (<https://isp.ncl.edu.tw/infant-promote>) and planned for the associated touring exhibition between April and June 2021. This exhibition was conducted jointly with the regional resource centers of 12 public libraries. The activity mainly consisted of two parts, the first of which was the thematic book exhibition. The exhibition was curated by the collaborating libraries which tried to use more than 300 books believed to be related to the growth and learning steps of infants, carefully selected from the "Good Books Website" (haoshuya.com) by parents. The second part was a voting activity for the favorite library, inviting readers attending the exhibition to visit the voting website and vote for their favorite exhibition. The purpose of this voting activity was to find out the reliability of librarians' book selection. From the voting result librarians can reconsider about if their book selections were adequate enough to meet parents' needs, thereby reduce the gap between the librarians and parents.



On April 7, 2021, NCL Director-General Tseng delivers remarks at the opening ceremony.

The dedicated touring exhibition webpage was created under the website Easy Selection of Infant Age-based Themed Books to promote the activity and to handle the online voting activity. It happened that, during the activity, the Covid-19 alert was raised up to the third level. All county and city libraries had to comply with the Central Epidemic Command Center's disease prevention policy and,