



Poster design for the event 2021 "Dutch Online Children's Film Festival."

This activity has attracted many adults and children to watch films together. The number of viewing counts reached 35,867. The online writing activity has received 327 submissions by deadline date. On the afternoon of June 25th, Director-General Tseng drew 30 lucky winners who would receive an exclusive, exquisite gift set provided by the National Central Library, Netherlands Office Taipei and Taiwan Public Television Service.



Author Wei-wen Li serves as reading guide ambassador.



NCL Director-General Tseng draws 30 lucky winners of the "Write About What You Learnt and Win a Lottery Prize" activity.

## 2021 NCL Spring Poetry Reading Festival "What Is Affection? -- Lecture Series on Sensational Reading of Historical Love Poems"

Love is an eternal theme in literature. From ancient times to present, poetry has been written about love in the very sincere and touching ways. Indeed, it has an important place in literary history and elicits the most fanciful thoughts the heart can conjure up. In an effort to encourage the public to engage in in-depth reading, National Central Library has continued in 2021 its tradition of a springtime reading lecture series. This time the theme is love. Many renowned scholars were invited to give lectures, guiding attendees to understand the touching poems, deepening their understanding about the poets' emotional world, and to appreciate the richness of emotions and passions in the poems. NCL Director-General Tseng said that as the pandemic persists, the past year has been tough for people all over the world. In contrast, people can still come to the library to attend the NCL reading events, listen to special lectures by renowned experts, thereby actively and effectively cultivate themselves. This is definitely a source of positive energy for every participant.

The theme of the 2021 Spring Poetry Reading Festival was "What Is Affection? -- Lecture Series on Sensational Reading of Historical Love Poems." From February 20 to April 24, seven scholars were invited to give lectures:

- (1) Dr. Kunyang Yan from the Department of Chinese Literature of Fu Jen Catholic University lectured on "Uncovering Layer upon Layer of Clothing: Letting Love Return to Its Primary Heart—A Lively Reading of Love Poetry in Pre-Qin Times." (February 20)
- (2) Dr. Min-min Wu from the Department of Chinese Literature of National Taiwan University lectured on "Separation, then Understanding Love More: On Han Dynasty Love Poetry." (March 13)
- (3) Dr. Yu Tsai from the Department of Chinese Literature of National Taiwan University lectured on "Tao Yuanming's Illusory Affection and Rational Love." (March 20)

- (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