

in implementing transformative services, providing the industry they serve reliable and forward-looking information services.

The year 2021 awards ceremony is believed to move the leaders of local governments to place importance on library development, elevate the professional image of librarians, and set up a more stable foundation on which move toward a more internationally competitive and optimized library system for librarianship in Taiwan.



Minister of Education Dr. Pan with winners of the Model Library Award.



Minister of Education Dr. Pan with the Outstanding Library Supervisor Award recipients.



Minister of Education Dr. Pan with the Outstanding Librarian Award recipients.

Events

■ “Reading Youth Create Their Lives” Reading Image Posters Are Announced

The “Reading Youth Create Their Lives” reading image posters were announced on November 21, 2021 at 10 am in the International Conference Room of the Arts and Culture Center at NCL. The event was hosted by famed MC Ethan Liu. It started off with a passionate performance by Taipei Yongle Elementary School called “Reading, GO GO GO!” NCL Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng and the department head of the Ministry of Education’s Lifelong Learning Department Shu-chuan Lee both spoke. Chih-chun Tang, Yu-cheng Deng, Yung-wei Yang, Wen-huei Chen, Chia-ling Lo, and the other reading ambassadors unveiled the image posters together, which brought a strong energy for reading to the venue.

“Exercise Lets Me Stand on the World Stage – Reading Makes My Mind More Active”

In an effort to promote reading nationwide, NCL extended a special invitation to Olympic athletes from the Tokyo Games to be reading ambassadors, including Chih-chun Tang, Yu-cheng Deng, Yung-wei Yang, Wen-huei Chen, Hsiao-wen Huang, Tzu-yun Wen, and Chia-ling Lo. They had photoshoots for 6 sets of reading image posters, which used the youthful image of these Olympic athletes to encourage the nation’s youth to exercise more and read more. The volumes of printed reading posters will be sent to public libraries, junior high schools, and high schools for display. The purpose is to encourage the youth, and the public in general, to read more, so as to bring about a societal important on exercising and reading in activating the brain.

NCL Director-General Tseng stated that exercise and reading can activate brain cells. While exercise can train and strengthen our bodies, reading can nourish our mental ability and mind. Both are important leisure activities in our life. NCL has for some time been focused on promoting reading and bringing together those in the education and cultural circles, such as schools, public and private libraries, and publishers, wishing to improve reading habit through collective efforts. Director-General

Tseng explained that in order to encourage reading habits among the youth, the NCL extended a special invitation to Olympic athletes to make reading image posters. It is hoped that through the diligence and youthful vigorous promotion of reading by these athletes, it is possible to have positive influences to young students' reading and learning habits.

Head of the Department of Lifelong Education at the Ministry of Education Yu-Jiuan Lee expressed that she was pleased to represent the Ministry of Education to attend this image poster announcement which emphasizes reading as well as exercise. She specifically quoted British essayist Joseph Addison: "Reading is to the mind, what exercise is to the body." This is the same message that these posters are portraying. In recent years, the Ministry of Education has actively promoted multifaceted policies and measures with the aim to strengthen reading habits, and to help students to gain greater learning ability through reading, besides, to encourage students and people doing exercise habitually in their life. That way, citizens can become healthier and enjoy happier lives. In the future, the Ministry of Education will continue to support reading promotion programs. It also invites everyone nationwide to love reading and love exercise and create a happy and healthy life together.

The athletes who attended the poster picture shoot all agreed that making the posters to promote reading was both novel and meaningful. They were happy to be able to play the role of reading ambassadors. Chun-heng Wei, Chih-chun Tang, and Yu-cheng Deng expressed their love of fantasy and classical pictorial cartoon. Reading is one way for them to relax and get prepared for the next competition. Wen-hui Chen mentioned that any kind of exercise can help brain development, and reading habit is an important avenue for acquiring knowledge. Yung-wei Yang feels that the way his poster brings together judo and reading is really amazing. He likes reading self-growth inspirational books to help him develop more a positive attitude. Reading can help settling one's thoughts and calm down one's mood. A positive attitude toward strict training means a better possibility of performance. Tzu-yun Wen is happy to have this chance to promote reading. She loves to read books on various topics and believes

that reading is a wonderful thing. It is a wonderful medium for reaching knowledge. Hsiao-wen Huang says that in addition to her regular training, she likes reading encouraging miscellaneous essays and self-development books. She says that such books can help her get relaxed and are important nourishment for her mind after exercising. Chia-ling Lo was happy to have the opportunity to shoot pictures for a reading poster. She began learning kickboxing (also known as taekwon-do) from a young age. She said that each day she would have to continuously practice for hours. That is the only way one can progress in taekwon-do, likewise, reading also has to be a habitual activity so that one could get the benefit from it, therefore, can replenish one's mind with joy at any time and having positive energy for oneself each day.

The announcement meeting ended with the Olympic athletes and fans taking pictures together and getting posters signed. Reading helped these athletes be full of confidence before each competition. NCL invited them to be reading ambassadors in the hope that the public will gain motivation to read more from these posters!



NCL Director-General Tseng (4th from left in front) and dignitaries at the unveiling of the "Reading Youth Create Their Lives" Reading Image Posters.

■ The 8th Xuanlan Forum on "Poetic Charm: The Heritage and Admiration of Chinese Paintings with Poems" Held Online

The cross-strait Xuanlan Forum, with promoting Chinese culture as its aim, had its 8th forum held on December 15, 2021. The date was coincident with the so-called World Strengthened Immunity Day.