

H. E. Ambassador Huggins stated that through sharing works by authors from Saint Kitts and Nevis, the distance between the people of both countries is lessened. She emphasized that her country is a formal ally of Taiwan, and as such she hopes that through sharing the stories written about her country that elementary and secondary schools, and even universities in Taiwan will be able to enjoy more English literature. This event showcases a small taste of what she envisions. H. E. Ambassador Huggins wishes that through this action to help the Republic of China's government to continue pushing toward its goal of creating a dual language country and to help achieve its 2030 goal of increased English proficiency. H. E. Ambassador Huggins also made special arrangements for a performance called "Reading is fun; books come alive," wherein the ambassador and two children read aloud the book *Masquerade Dance*. After that, three performers from Saint Kitts and Nevis favored attendees with a traditional drum dance, infusing the hall with the passionate feelings of the Caribbean.



*H. E. Ambassador Jasmine Huggins from the Embassy of Federation of Saint Christopher and Nevis gives remarks.*

During the various speeches given, a common theme was the acknowledgement of how this donation by our ally helps in Taiwan becoming a dual language country and the significance of this cultural exchange. The ceremony came to a wonderful ending with a series of group photos of those in attendance.



*H. E. Ambassador Huggins and two children perform an oral reading together.*



*Group photo of Director-General Tseng with the ambassadors and other dignitaries.*



*Group photo of the dignitaries and attendees of the ceremony.*

## ■ Best Practices of “Global Libraries as Agents of Leadership in Our Post Pandemic World:” Collected Endeavors of National Central Library and Other Public Libraries Services Selected as 2022 Best Practices of World Libraries During the Pandemic

Services offered by the National Central Library as well as public libraries in the six counties and cities of New Taipei, Miaoli, Taichung, Tainan, and Taitung were selected as “IRRT Chair’s Program: 2022 Best Practices of World Libraries.” Descriptions

and images of the selected services were published in the gallery on the American Library Association's website, to be shared with library professionals throughout the world. The 2022 Best Practices from World Libraries Photo Gallery showcases featured photographs from all around the world at: <https://sites.google.com/view/icc-programs/2022-photo-gallery>. The library services and projects included are the best demonstration of this year's theme for the association's initiative: "Global libraries as agents of leadership in our post pandemic world." This global selection of library services and practices was curated by the American Library Association's (ARA) International Relations Round Table (IRRT). The concept comes from the 2018 IRRT Emerging Leaders' Project: *Towards increasing Engagement of International New Professional Leaders in ALA* program, which identified "sharing innovative services and best practices" and "promoting the concept of a global community of libraries" as the highest priorities. The services selected by the committee best illustrate libraries' innovation and impact in building strong communities around the world. These services demonstrate ALA's core values of librarianship in promoting democracy, diversity, social responsibility, lifelong learning and professionalism.

NCL Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng stated that when Taiwan's COVID-19 pandemic was identified as a dangerous period in May of 2021, libraries across the country had to comply with the pandemic control policy to close. Although libraries could not remain open to the public, library services did not come to a halt as a result. Public libraries across counties and cities still actively provided readers with all kinds of reading services, including book shipping, reading bags, and online story times, lectures, learning classes, as well as mobile libraries. Even when libraries began to open with the ease of the pandemic situation, they provided a safe reading environment by using the best pandemic prevention protocols so that members of the public could safely read in the library and participate in reading events, thereby fully demonstrating the power of libraries to bring comfort to people's spirits, fulfil social responsibility, and play an important role in the community.

In addition to submitting photographs demonstrating NCL's services to participate in the selection, NCL also helped in reviewing the excellent experiences of public libraries throughout Taiwan promoting reading and offering services during the pandemic, and tried to select services from six libraries to apply to the American Library Association International Relations Round Table for inclusion in the publication of the 2022 Best Practices from World Libraries Photo Gallery. The entirety of the submissions was approved in the selection process, allowing the endeavors and innovative service alternatives taken by these Taiwan libraries could be shared with library professionals throughout the world. The photographs included in this year's selection include the following four NCL services:

1. The year is enjoying an auspicious, festive and peaceful start
2. Libraries are the backbone of autonomy and lifelong learning
3. Come! Let's read together with peace of mind
4. NCLibTV Services Delivered to Your Home

The selected city and county public library services are:

1. Facing a world of infinite imagination through reading/ The Public Library of Miaoli County, Miaoli County Government in Taiwan, Miaoli County, Taiwan
2. Children's reading bags/ New Taipei City Library, New Taipei City Government in Taiwan, New Taipei City, Taiwan
3. Boxes of selected books are ready to be dispatched! /Hsinchu County Public Library, Hsinchu County Government in Taiwan
4. Parkour Mobile Library has arrived! / Taichung Public Library, Taichung City Government in Taiwan
5. Coral is Busy—Marine Education Touring Exhibition/ Library of Cultural Affairs Department, Taitung County Government in Taiwan
6. Online Story House/ Tainan Public Library, Tainan City Government in Taiwan



*NCL Project: Libraries are the backbone of autonomy and lifelong learning.*

## ■ NCL Participates in the 2022 ALA Annual Conference & Exhibition, Sharing Experiences of Taiwan

The American Library Association (ALA) is one of the largest library and information organizations in the world. In addition to including American members in the association, their annual conference is an important event open to library professionals from around the world. The 2022 ALA Annual Conference & Exhibition was held in Washington, D.C. from June 22nd to 28th and it was the first on-site conference held in the two years since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic.

For this year's conference, NCL Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng, Division Director Yi-rong Lee, and Editor Ling-fang Wei submitted the poster "Keep it Moving During Pandemic: The Hybrid Research Instructions for High School Students by National Central Library in Taiwan" to participate in the poster exhibition and it was selected for participation in the conference in competition with poster proposals from countries around the world. Editor Hong-hsu Liang represented NCL at the event, providing face to face introductions and responded to commentaries. Taiwan has demonstrated outstanding performance in library development in recent years and conference participants were much impressed by the way NCL has continued to work hard to provide services during the pandemic. Editor Liang has also received feedbacks on the measures and ideas of other libraries in confronting the pandemic.



*ALA 2022 Annual Conference Opening Ceremony.*

Editor Liang also took the chance to visit the Library of Congress which was inaugurated in 1800, and is an important model library in the development of a modern library. Furthermore, Editor Liang feels much honored to have a chance to meet Ms. Carla D. Hayden, the Librarian of the Library of Congress during the conference events.



*Editor Hong-hsu Liang represents NCL, introducing about the NCL poster that was selected to share in the ALA Annual Conference.*

## ■ Renovation Commencement Ceremony Held for the National Central Library Multimedia Creative Experiment Center

Responding to advancements in technology and the diversification of user needs, NCL has taken advantage of the relocation of the Art and Audiovisual Information Center to transit the services offered in the available new space, creating the "Multimedia Creative Experiment Center" to provide quality, user-oriented services so as to realize the value of creative services. This new center will be an open, interdisciplinary, digital, young, and creative OPENLAB, committed to provide innovative friendly services.

On April 13th, NCL Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng led a team of NCL colleagues, architects, and representatives from contracted company in