

and gratitude for the ambassador's kindness and her efforts at promoting cultural and academic exchange.



NCL Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng gives her remarks.

After the dissertation donation, Her E. Ambassador Candice Augusta Pitts from Belize explained her reasons for donating her Ph.D dissertation to NCL. She stated that in the previous visit of NCL, she learned about the work NCL has done collecting and promoting student dissertations, and expressed her strong approval, therefore deciding to donate her own dissertation as a concrete action supporting NCL's ideals. Dr. Pitts also gave a brief introduction to the contents of her dissertation. The dissertation is entitled "From Nationalism to Landscapism: Spaces-Between, Marronage, and the Literary I-mage-Nation of Zee Edgell (Belize), Jamaica Kincaid (Antigua and Barbuda), and Margaret Cezair-Thompson (Jamaica)." It expounds a reflection and critical discourse on so-called "states," which are male-centered and subjugate women into various forms of disadvantage.



H. E. Ambassador Dr. Candice Augusta Pitts from Belize donates her Ph.D Dissertation to NCL.

H. E. Ambassador Candice Augusta Pitts stated that it might be worthwhile to conduct comparative

research on Taiwan's indigenous women in literature and Belize women in literature as well as the historical development of the two. After the dissertation donation ceremony, the ambassadors and guests engaged in enthusiastic discussion. At the end of the event, NCL Director-General Tseng and colleagues led the ambassadors and other honored guests to visit NCL's current exhibition "Exploring and Reading France @NCL- Books and Special Collections Exhibition." The ambassadors and honored guests showed great interest in the exhibition and the day's events came to an end amidst an atmosphere of elated friendly exchange.



Director-General Tseng takes a photo with the ambassadors and honored guests.



Group photo of Director-General Tseng with the ambassadors and honored guests in front of the electronic poster wall that greeted event guests.

■ Books Donation Ceremony: Embassy of Saint Christopher (Saint Kitts) and Nevis to National Central Library

In an effort to promote cultural exchange between the two countries, as well as help Taiwan promote English learning and reading, the ambassador from Saint Kitts and Nevis, H. E. Ambassador Jasmine E. Huggins donated books to NCL on June 30. An oral reading performance was also arranged and done by Ambassador

Huggins. For this event, NCL invited many to come to witness this exchange and sharing activity, including elementary and middle school teachers and university professors that teach and promote English reading, besides, officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Culture, and Ministry of Education. This event had the attendance of the following dignitaries: Her Excellency Ambassador Jasmine Huggins from the Embassy of Federation of Saint Christopher and Nevis, Her Excellency Ambassador Andrea Clare Bowman from the Embassy of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Her Excellency Ambassador Candice Augusta Pitts from the Embassy of Belize, Vice Minister Alexander Tah-ray Yui from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Bureau Director George Chiou from the Office of the President (former Ambassador to Saint Christopher and Nevis), Director General Tom Lee from the Department of Protocol, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (former Ambassador to Saint Christopher and Nevis), Director Achilles Yeh from the Embassy of the Kingdom of Eswatini, Director-General Yu-Chuan Lee from the Department of Lifelong Education in the Ministry of Education, Deputy Director-General Ms. Shu-Jung Chen from the Department of Latin American and Caribbean Affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Deputy Education Counselor Kao-Hsien Liao from the Department of International and Cross-strait Education in the Ministry of Education.

The five donated books from the Embassy of Saint Christopher and Nevis by Ambassador Jasmine Huggins include books suitable for young children, for middle school students, and for adults. There are two books by Carol Ottley-Mitchell, one with Saint Christopher's Carnival custom as background, *The Masquerade Dance*, which is suitable for young children or beginning English learners, another one is an adventure story with the UNESCO designated World Heritage Site—Brimstone Hill as background, *Adventure at Brimstone Hill*. The three books for adults were written by a famous author Caryl Phillips. The books *Crossing the River* and *The Final Passage* are stories about the hard life of black people who left their African homeland. Another novel, *A Distant Shore*, which was selected as the Best Book of the Year, centers at the issues of individual and national identity. These books are indeed very helpful in the education of English learning and racial history of humankind, and advocate for the respect of all peoples. The NCL

cherishes this special book donation, and, in the coming two months, will display these books at the “Saint Kitts and Nevis Corner” to increase awareness of these books.



H. E. Ambassador Huggins donates books to NCL.

NCL Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng said of this donation that in terms of future efforts to promote cultural and educational exchange, it is significant as an important indicator of tangible exchange. To promote these good books and to help teachers use them more in English reading education, NCL invited many English teachers come to learn in person. NCL invited Professor Chao-jen Chen, the project manager for the National Reading Education Program of the Ministry of Education, and Professor Chiu-hui Chou, who has been helping NCL in carrying out the English Teaching Program for Remoted Schools. As the NCL collaborates with Lam Research Company to offer books and on-site teaching for remote schools, NCL will include these donated titles in the purchasing list for remote schools, in addition, will make these titles target resources when NCL recruit teachers to produce Online English Learning courses, so that teachers can implement them into their projects and curricula.



NCL Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng gives remarks.

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 Huggins and two children perform an oral reading together.



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



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.



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