

■ 2022 Taiwan Reading Festival Held on December 3 and 4

The 2022 Taiwan Reading Festival (Happy Reading Carnival), organized by the National Central Library, took place amid noise and excitement on December 3, 2022 in the grounds of the Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall. The children's band from Juguang Elementary School, New Taipei City, kicked off the event. Taiwan Reading Festival is a brand that promotes reading in Taiwan. In 2020, it was awarded the American Library Association (ALA) Presidential Citation for Innovative International Library Projects by the American Library Association. In 2022, it entered its tenth year. It is an annual event for exchanges within the library world.

Minister of Education Wen-chung Pan delivered remarks in which he said that the National Central Library and other public libraries played a leading role during the pandemic, and that it was an honor for Taiwan that the NCL had been recognized by the American Library Association International Relations Round Table (IRRT) for best practices among world libraries during the pandemic prevention period in 2022.

Minister Pan and distinguished guests from all walks of life at home and abroad jointly launched the event ceremony, and presented certificates of appreciation to the library community, organizations stationed in Taiwan, international librarians, government departments and museums, schools at all levels, publishing houses, non-governmental foundations and other co-organizers. They also expressed gratitude to partners promoting reading in various fields throughout the nation.

Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng of the National Central Library, said that this “Happy Reading Carnival” boasted the features of “launching a two-day event for the first time,” “emphasizing international exchange and observation,” “integrating important national policies,” “the largest scale of diverse topics,” “emphasizing adaptive learning Knowledge” and a further five strong points, in line with the new curriculum and the STEAM education trend and combined with issues such as bilingual education, multiculturalism, local language and food and agriculture education. She invited multinational organizations stationed in Taiwan and international libraries to come to Taiwan to share their experience of reading promotion. In addition, she said, three activity

learning sheets had been developed for elementary and middle school students, guiding students to learn new knowledge by participating in various booth activities, and creating reading activities suitable for all ages.

On December 3, the endless joy of reading, in the Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Park, Classic activities ensued, such as Happy Gathering, When Bubbles Meet Science, Antiquity and Modern Fun, Happy Story Village, World Sharing and Reading, and Little Book Lovers. Friends who like to go window shopping were able to enjoy themselves to their heart's content at the stalls of Book Bazaar, Museum Fun Island, Map Trail, Youth Academy, English Reading Club, Hongtu Exhibition-Mobile Book Cart Display and Library Magician. The International Libraries Poster Reading Exhibition, the local language theme area and the food and agriculture education theme area were also full of excitement.

On December 4, at the National Central Library and in its surrounding squares, in addition to the fun of exchanging good books, the literary market, rap stories and street performances, there were also “Picture Books Over the Years,” “Every Day in Sichuan is a Good Day,” “New Book Sharing Session” and “Literary Practice and Enthusiasm—Ching-hsia Lin’s Writing Journey from ‘Outside the Window’ to ‘Ching-hsia’s Essays,’ two wonderful new book launch events bringing a rich reading feast to everyone; reading to see “Brave New World” and “Read a New Future.”



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Minister Pan welcomes international librarians.