

for some time now. Each year during TiBE, it proactively seeks donations from the countries with booths. This year it received donations from Poland (the 2023 TiBE Guest of Honor), Korea, and Thailand. The donations were made on January 31 during NCL's opening ceremony for its exhibition "NCL Starts a New Chapter: A New Opportunity for Makers."

Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng stated that TiBE is the best bridge for connecting countries through reading. Each participating country gathers the best and most interesting books of all types to showcase to Taiwan readers. But because the exhibition is only a week, if the great books that represent each country could be permanently stored at NCL after the exhibition, it would be a great boon in helping Taiwan publishers in understanding publications, literature, society, economics, and art in other countries. It would also be extremely helpful for local libraries in selecting foreign books for purchase.



Great international books are found in Taiwan: NCL proactively sought out donations from Poland, Korea, and Thailand.

■ National Central Library's OPEN LAB awarded 2023 American Library Association Presidential Citation for Innovative International Library Project

Book donations received at this year's TiBE included 35 books on art and illustrated stories from the Guest of Honor Poland. The Korean Publishers Association, Darakwon, Inc., Gozknock Entertainment, and the Bombom Publishing Corporation donated around 500 literature studies,

language studies, and illustrated books. The Thai Publishers Association and Avocado Books from Thailand's booth donated around 300 novels and children's books. This will be happily made available to patrons.

The National Central Library's "Future Makers Incubator for All—A Newly Launched Open Lab Multimedia Center of National Central Library, Taiwan" is awarded "the 2023 American Library Association (ALA) Presidential Citation for Innovative International Library Project." ALA was founded in 1876. Headquartered in Chicago, it is one of the oldest and largest library association in the world. The ALA Presidential Citation for Innovative International Library Projects began as an ALA Presidential initiative of Dr. Lorlene Roy, ALA President in 2007-2008 and Notable IRRT Member. Citations are awarded each year by the ALA President at the International Relations Round Table (IRRT) International Librarians Reception during the ALA Annual Conference to recognize innovative contributions to international librarianship. IRRT is a Round Table of the American Library Association with a mission to develop the interests of librarians in activities and problems in the field of international library relations.

In 2010, IRRT was invited to collaborate with future ALA Presidents in the nomination and award process. At this time, a decision was made to change the previous title, ALA Presidential Citation for International Innovation to ALA Presidential Citation for Innovative International Library Projects. Two of the primary considerations are that the project can continue indefinitely and that it can be a model for other libraries. National Central Library previously received this citation in 2011, 2015, 2020 for its projects "E-Publication Platform System", "Taiwan Centers for Chinese Studies" (set up around the globe), "Igniting the Public's Passion for Reading" respectively. This year "2023" marks the fourth time of receiving the ALA presidential citation. OPEN LAB is one of two projects to win awards this year. The award will be presented on June 26, 2023, at America's Chicago Public Library.

The features of OPEN LAB include:

- (1) Open to all, regardless of age; young people, the

artistic and creative or travelers, everyone can find private space for reading and learning.

- (2) A practice environment and user-friendly spatial design: revitalizes old space, achieving the UN SDG's sustainable development objectives; amply utilizing circular space, guiding readers from reading space (static space) to creator space (dynamic space) by streamlined and penetrating bookshelves, accompanied by movable compartments and furniture, enabling the use of space to be adjusted flexibly in accordance with their movable character.
- (3) Establishes a platform that encourages cooperation, facilitates collaboration, and stimulates creativity: planning a diverse creative practice base and learning-sharing place, covering the four elements of exploration, experience, learning, and inspiration, and providing readers of different generations with space for exchanges and cross-disciplinary cooperation in exploration, learning and creation. Through the collection of books and activities in the library, the public can be inspired, and then stimulated to be creative, before, through diverse courses and practical experience with equipment, realizing multiple values, such as inspiration and creativity, and enhancing competitiveness.

Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng said that under the guidance and support of the Ministry of Education, the National Central Library's OPEN LAB would conform with the world trend and continue to improve and innovate, serving as a demonstration base for the construction of self-made creator spaces in public libraries in municipalities, counties and cities in Taiwan and becoming a new benchmark in domestic and international librarianship.

OPEN LAB official website: <https://open.ncl.edu.tw/>

More information about OPEN LAB activities:
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100087211959494>



NCL's OPEN LAB is awarded "2023 American Library Association Presidential Citation."

■ NCL's OPEN LAB Receives "2023 British International Property Award: Best Public Service Interior Taiwan" NCL's OPEN LAB Receives "2023 British International Property Award: Best Public Service Interior Taiwan"

Having won the ALA international innovation citation, the National Central Library received further international recognition: the British International Property Award: Best Public Service Interior Taiwan. The award ceremony was held in Bangkok, Thailand, on May 30. Architect Fufeng Li of the Tien Shih Lien-he architecture firm, the project's designer, attended to receive the award and shared his honor and joy with the National Central Library and readers.

The Open Lab space is located in the downtown area of Ximending, Taipei. It was originally an office space owned by the Environmental Protection Agency. In response to the organizational changes at the Environmental Protection Agency, the two sides exchanged premises. Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng of the National Central Library believes that, "Library management must keep pace with the times, evolve with the times, and change somewhat in the light of demand and professional developments. The National Central Library shoulders the responsibility of guiding libraries throughout the country, not only enabling domestic libraries to keep up with the pace of the world, but also enabling the public to enjoy the same progressive library services. Taking this opportunity for spatial transformation, therefore,