



Distinguished guests tour the exhibition.



Group photo with distinguished guests at the opening ceremony.

Events

■ **Never Stop Reading: the Embassy of St. Lucia Presents the National Central Library with 15 Archetypal Works** **Never Stop Reading: the Embassy of St. Lucia Presents the National Central Library with 15 Archetypal Works**

On May 30, 2023, in the International Conference Hall on the third floor of its arts and culture center, the National Central Library conducted Book Donation Ceremony: Embassy of Saint Lucia. The Embassy of St. Lucia donated a total of 15 volumes, including works by the country’s Nobel Prize winners and books recommended by the embassy. Distinguished guests in attendance included Ambassador Dr. Robert Lewis from the Embassy of Saint Lucia, Ambassador Dr. Andrea Bowman, Dean of the Diplomatic Corp from the Embassy of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Ambassador Dr. Candice Augusta Pitts from the Embassy of Belize, Ambassador Donya Lynex Francis from the Embassy of Saint Christopher and Nevis, Deputy Minister Alexander Tah-ray Yui of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and representatives from other embassies and from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Ambassador Dr. Robert Lewis from the Embassy of Saint Lucia mentioned as he delivered remarks that he was grateful to the National Central Library for accepting the donation and hoped that the Nobel Prize winners’ books donated to the library would record and depict St. Lucia’s social development, economic changes and cultural dynamics. He hoped, he said, to invite Taiwanese and foreign friends in Taiwan to immerse themselves in the world of books, shorten the distance with Taiwanese readers, and let “reading never stop”. Delivering his own remarks, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Alexander Tah-ray Yui said that it was an honor to witness the ceremony in which the embassy donated books to the National Central Library. He mentioned that amid the current vigorous development of science and technology and at a time of the publication of a large number of e-books, it seemed extremely precious to be able to read physical books.

Ambassador Lewis noted that three of the donated books were by Nobel laureates, including Derek Anton Walcott, while one was by politician Calixte George Sr. He said he hoped the donations would enhance the Taiwan people’s understanding of the people of St. Lucia. They should also help to foster friendship and cooperation between the two peoples, he said. They should serve as instruments of “cultural diplomacy,” and a token of the ever-growing friendship between the two diplomatic allies.

The Ambassador of St. Lucia’s book donation ceremony coincided with National Central Library Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng’s absence overseas promoting inter-library cooperation between the library and European countries, as well as with exchanges in sinological research in Taiwan. Deputy Director-General Chih-tsung Weng accepted Ambassador Lewis’s immensely kind donation. Deputy Director-General Weng said that the 15 volumes of donated books included the works of the country’s Nobel Prize-winning authors in literature and economics, as well as various books on history, culture and political issues, children’s books, novels and works in various other academic fields. He believed, he said, that the National Central Library’s cooperation and promotion of reading were bound to deepen cultural exchanges and in-depth understanding between the peoples of the two countries.

Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Alexander Tah-ray Yui said as he delivered his remarks that it was an honor to witness the ceremony in which the embassy donated books to the National Central Library. He mentioned that amid the current vigorous development of science and technology and at a time of the publication of a large number of e-books, it seemed extremely precious to be able to read physical books. He thanked the embassy for being willing to donate books and enable the public to enjoy greater opportunities to read.

The books donated to the National Central Library on this occasion included works by two Nobel Prize winners from St. Lucia: Arthur Lewis, who won the Nobel Prize in Economics in 1979, and Derek Walcott, winner of the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1992. An introductory video about St. Lucia's May Reading Month event, as well as a video recorded by the books' authors and co-authors, were played at the book donation event to guide the guests in reading their contents.



The ambassador of St. Lucia donates books to the National Central Library.



Group photo on the occasion of the Embassy of St. Lucia's donation of books to the National Central Library.

■ National Central Library and Taiwan Soka Association Co-host SDGs X Seeds of Hope and Action

The National Central Library and the Taiwan Soka Association co-hosted SDGs X Seeds of Hope and Action. The opening ceremony was held on April 12 at NCL's Briefing Room. Dignitaries in attendance at the opening ceremony included NCL Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng, Taiwan Soka Association Deputy Director Yi-hsiao Lu, TSA Editorial Director Li-fang Li, Professor Ching-piao Tsai from National Chung Hsing University, Professor Tse Lin from National Taiwan University's Department of Electrical Engineering, and Principal Chia-tuan Wu from Affiliated Experimental Elementary School of University of Taipei.

Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng said during her remarks that NCL was extremely happy to be able to participate in this event, as well as to work with the Taiwan Soka Association to strive for more sustainable development globally. The library world began some time ago to work on sustainable management of the earth. During her time at the Taipei Public Library in 2006, Director-General Tseng created Taiwan's first green public library. This was later selected as one of the world's 25 most beautiful libraries.



A group photo of attendees.

NCL has expended no small effort in promoting the U.N.'s SDGs. In terms of space planning, physical facilities, services design, etc., NCL has actively worked with cultural institutions, schools, and community organizations to establish a variety of partnerships. These partnerships have strived to achieve the various aims of SDGs.