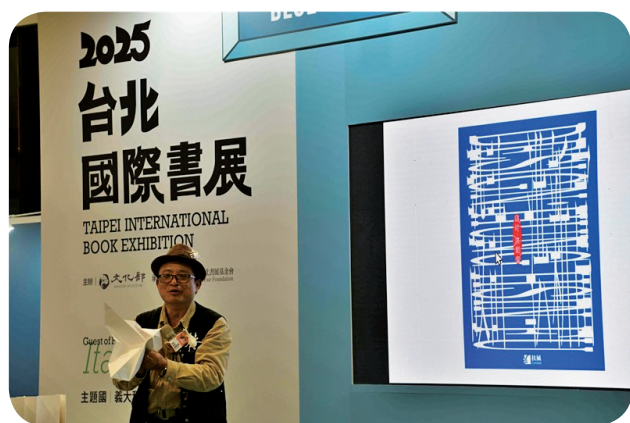


Hsin-Fu Hung has been devoted to the art of paper sculpture for over 40 years and is recognized as one of Taiwan's most distinguished paper artists. His book *Tall Tale (Tree Frog)* received the Design Award at the 2004 Taiwan Fine Craft Awards. In 2021, his book *Pop-Up Book Creation Manual* earned second place in the Meggendorfer Artist Book Prize awarded by the Movable Book Society in the United States. He has been invited to hold solo exhibitions and conduct workshops in more than 20 countries and over 100 cities, including the United States, Canada, Germany, France, Russia, Belgium, Japan, Australia, and Brazil. In 2013, he led over 200 students and teachers in Taichung to set a Guinness World Record for the world's longest pop-up book. Hung has long been dedicated to promoting paper art through educational institutions. His work spans paper sculpture creation, teaching, publishing, creative education, and outreach, nurturing many future artists in the field.

In his lecture, Hung remarked that paper art in Taiwan, much like the island's unique biodiversity, has evolved its own distinctive character—different from traditional Chinese paper cutting and going beyond the scope of Japanese origami. Just as Taiwan is celebrated for the richness of its native species, he believes paper art offers a way to express these unique creatures through creation rather than destruction—using art in place of killing, and beauty in place of bloodshed. This, he emphasized, is the true value and meaning of Taiwanese paper art. This philosophy aligns perfectly with the purpose of the National Central Library's exhibition: just as ancient texts bring stories to life, so too can a simple sheet of paper be transformed into countless narratives.



*A captivating evening with Hsin-fu Hung*

Director-General Wang stated that this year, in addition to organizing the "Browsing the Classics: Amazing Animal Sightings" exhibition, the National Central Library has curated four major thematic sections: "Browsing Treasures: A Selection of Animal Images in NCL's Ancient Book Collection," an AR experience titled "Capturing Ancient Mythical Beasts from Legendary Realms," an audiovisual showcase "Ancient Sounds of the Past," among others. The exhibition also features a range of educational

activities and games, along with a display of Hung's paper sculptures, which have proven especially popular. In addition to inviting him to deliver a lecture at the event, NCL also plans to host a dedicated exhibition of his work in the near future. Before the event concluded, Hung presented a gift to audience members who asked a question—a copy of his book *Taiwan Origami Zoo: Paper Sculpture Meets Wildlife Knowledge—Fold the Spirit of Taiwan's Native Species!* The session concluded on a warm and enthusiastic note. Even after the event ended, many attendees lingered at the NCL's booth, eager to continue interacting with the speaker and further explore the exhibition's themes, making for a heartfelt and memorable Starlight Night.



*A group photo of Hsin-fu Hung and attendees*

## ■ The Exhibition "It Begins with Paper: Entering the Wonderful World of Paper" Starts with a Bang

To explore the limitless possibilities of paper art, the National Central Library has curated the exhibition "It Begins with Paper: Entering the Wonderful World of Paper." The exhibition was held in the Reading Hall on the second floor and started with an opening ceremony on February 15, 2025, drawing numerous artists and cultural enthusiasts. The exhibition features five themed areas: "The Look of Paper," "The Subtraction of Paper," "Wandering Through Paper," "The Rise of Taiwanese Paper Art," and "Relief Dialogues." Each area presents a unique theme to showcase the diversity and creativity of paper art.



*Director-General Han-ching Wang delivering her opening remarks*

## The Opening Ceremony

An opening performance featured the Taipei First Girls' High School String Ensemble, whose graceful yet energetic music marked the beginning of the event. National Central Library Director-General Han-ching Wang then delivered the opening remarks, starting with the etymology of the word "library" — liber, meaning "book" or "bark" — to highlight the deep historical connection between libraries, pages, and tree bark. Director-General Wang went on to describe the library's recent renovations. Planning began in the second half of 2020, with initial work focusing on waterproofing and repairing the exterior walls. A major transformation of the reading spaces was launched on April 16, 2024. As part of this renovation, the library restructured its collections, relocating some open-shelf books to storage in order to free up more space for readers. On the third floor, new discussion rooms, a laptop-friendly area, and a periodicals display zone were added. The second floor now includes a collaborative learning space and an audiovisual lounge. The reference section has been relocated to the fifth floor, significantly improving both space utilization and service quality.

Following this, former Directors-General Min Gu, Wen-lu Wang, and Shu-hsien Tseng each gave speeches. Tseng emphasized the growing trend of the "museumification" of libraries — using exhibitions to connect with collections and to present library resources through displays, thereby attracting more visitors to engage with the library and learn. In recent years, many libraries have actively transformed into multifunctional spaces for experience, learning, lectures, creativity, and social interaction, moving beyond their traditional role as places solely for borrowing and reading. For example, the National Central Library has established the Open Lab Multimedia Center, which provides maker spaces and equipment to foster innovation and inspire creativity — with the hope of contributing to Taiwan's knowledge and creative capacity.

Lastly, exhibit advisors Professors Hsin-Fu Hung and Yi-Chin Tu shared their curatorial concepts and the distinctive features of the exhibited works, guiding the audience to a deeper understanding of the exhibition's core vision and the unique charm of paper art.

## An Original Opening

The opening ceremony featured a thoughtfully designed puzzle that formed the exhibition title "It Begins with Paper." Director-General Wang, former Director-General Tseng, and Advisors Hung and Tu completed the puzzle together, symbolizing the official launch of the special exhibition and marking a new beginning for the National Central Library's revitalized spaces.

## Exhibition Highlights and Artistic Works

The special exhibition brings together a wide range of pop-up book artists, collectors, and paper art creators, including Ermin Handmade Paper Design, the Taiwan Origami Association, the Department of Comic Art at Tainan University of Technology, and the Half-Sheep Pop-Up Book Laboratory. Exhibited works include handcrafted paper creations by Meng-Shu Lee of Ermin Handmade Paper Design; Lisa, a large-scale origami doll by Shih-Hao Chen of the Taiwan Origami Association; Aspiring to Become a Dragon by Chia-Hao Chuang; intricate paper-cutting works by Hsin-Hui Lee and Yen-Ting Lai; and the Taiwan Pop-Up Book Reading Zone, featuring carefully curated collections from various artists. Together, these exhibits comprehensively showcase the evolution and innovative achievements of Taiwan's pop-up book artistry.

In addition, Hsin-Fu Hung of Fufeng Culture also served as a docent artist, personally guiding visitors through the exhibition. He began by introducing the history of papermaking and origami, and spoke especially on 1936 Taiwanese pop-up greeting card on display in the Taiwan Pop-Up Book Reading Zone. This uniquely designed card features a moving element—when opened, the hands of the immortal figure inside lift in a gesture of congratulations, as if personally greeting the recipient. Notably, the card was patented during the Shōwa era by Mr. Gen Huang. This rare discovery not only showcases Taiwan's advanced pop-up paper art techniques during the Japanese colonial period but also reflects the creativity and ingenuity of the Taiwanese people.

## The Final Act — A Live Origami Demonstration

The event concluded with a captivating demonstration by Chia-Hao Chuang of the Taiwan Origami Association. Using a 6-square-meter piece of fabric without any crease lines, he collaborated with two other instructors to gradually fold a large 福 character, which means "fortune". This special performance was a heartfelt blessing dedicated to the National Central Library and the audience present. This unique demonstration not only showcased the artistry of origami but also embodied the spirit of creativity and cultural fusion.

## Interactive Zone: Try Your Hand at Origami

The exhibition also features a specially designed interactive zone where visitors can experience the joy of origami firsthand. More than just a visual and creative feast, it offers a magical journey into the limitless possibilities of paper.





*Mr. Hung giving tours*



*Mr. Tu explaining the history of pop-up books in Taiwan*



*An origami demonstration of the 福 character*

## ■ To the Eternal Memory of Bureau of International Exchange of Publications Director Teresa Wang

Former Director of NCL's Bureau of International Exchange of Publications Teresa Yen-Chiu Wang passed away on March 17th 2025 at the age of 93. We publish this obituary to commemorate Director Wang's memory and her lifetime of contribution to

international exchange among libraries, to express gratitude and to highlight her contributions during her directorship as well as her deep, lasting impacts on Taiwan's National Central Library.

Ms. Teresa Yen-Chiu Wang (1932-2025) was born in Ningguo County, Anhui Province, China, with her ancestral home in Tongcheng, Anhui. She grew up in a time of great turmoil and strife and in 1949, she found herself in Taiwan with her parents, including father Tsong-lu Wang. After settling in her new home and completing her studies at the Tamkang Junior College of English, she traveled to the USA for further studies, graduating from the Department of Languages at Washington State University in 1961.

In that same year, Ms. Wang entered into service at National Central Library, starting in a position as an English-language secretary. Over the years, in a career spanning 37 years, she held many different positions at NCL, ultimately stepping into the role of Director of the Bureau of International Exchange of Publications. She served during the terms of 8 NCL Director-Generals: Fu-tsung Chiang, Wan-li Ch'ü, Tsun-Peng Pao, Chih-chung Lee, Chia-chun Chu, Zhen'gu Wang, Chung-sen Yang, Chi-chun Tseng and 3 Interim Director-Generals: You-yu Pao, You-hwa Hsieh, and Chien-cheng Sung. During Ms. Wang's tenure, she established National Central Library's policies and orientation regarding international publishing exchange after its relocation and reopening in Taiwan. She was also witness to the multifaceted development of industry, government, and academics in Taiwan's contemporary library history, making a deep and lasting impact on the development of Taiwan's libraries into hubs of exchange between Taiwan and the world.

Ms. Teresa Yen-Chiu Wang lived a rich life of learning, beginning her nearly 35-year career in international publishing exchange after entering service at NCL upon the completion of her studies abroad. She devoted her life to promoting international publishing exchange and long participated in international book exhibitions abroad, making an outstanding contribution toward expanding the international perspective and academic connections of Taiwan's library community. Ms. Wang's hard work and passion not only established the systems and scale of NCL's international exchange efforts, but also deeply influenced the manner and depth of dialogue between Taiwan's libraries and the world.

National Central Library sincerely pays homage to Ms. Teresa Yen-Chiu Wang's lifelong contribution and passion for the work of libraries, expressing the utmost esteem and deepest regard upon her passing.