



A view of Taiwan Corner

■ Symposium on Promoting Sinological Collaboration in Southern Taiwan and the Vision for the Southern Branch of the National Central Library and the National Repository Library

Since the commencement of construction on September 1, 2022, the Southern Branch of the National Central Library and the National Repository Library have been actively advancing various operational projects, aiming to provide high-quality national-level reading and archival services for the public in southern Taiwan upon their opening.

To gather insights from the academic community for the planning of future operations, formulation of development strategies, creation of an international academic platform, and promotion of collaboration among libraries and research institutions in southern Taiwan—as well as to encourage foreign scholars to conduct research in the region—the National Central Library, in collaboration with the National Museum of Taiwan Literature, held the Symposium on Promoting Sinological Collaboration in Southern Taiwan and the Vision for the Southern Branch of the National Central Library and the National Repository Library on August 28, 2025.



Symposium on Promoting Sinological Collaboration in Southern Taiwan and the Vision for the Southern Branch of the National Central Library and the National Repository Library

The discussion session was chaired by Dr. Chih-Tsung Weng, Deputy Director-General of the National Central Library, and attended by 26 representatives from museums and academic institutions, including the National Palace Museum. During the symposium, representatives from the National Museum of Taiwan Literature, the Center for the Study of Chinese Thought and Culture at National Cheng Kung University, the National Science and Technology Museum, and the Department of Chinese Literature at National Sun Yat-sen University shared their insights on the development of Sinological and Taiwan Studies resources. The event featured active discussions and constructive exchanges among all participants.



Professor Mark Frederick McConaghy from National Sun Yat-sen University introduces the university's Center for Global Symbiosis and International Sinology Studies

■ Revisiting Memories Across Time and Space! Threads of Time and Space: Resonances of Aboriginal Wisdom and Memory

Beginning on August 1, 2025, the National Central Library hosted a special exhibition titled “Threads of Time and Space: Resonances of Aboriginal Wisdom and Memory” in the second-floor Reading Hall of its main building. The exhibition features five sections — “Knowledge and Books of Aborigines of Taiwan and Australia,” “Songs of Wonder: Aboriginal Music and Dance Resources,” “Aboriginal Cultural Artifacts,” “Whose Gaze? Aboriginal Images in the Taiwan Memory Project,” and “Intervening through Writing: Cultural Practices in Mountains and Seas and the Works of Ta-chuan Sun.” Together, these exhibits open up cross-ethnic, cross-generational, and cross-cultural dialog and understanding. The exhibition ran from August 1 through November 2.

August 1 marks Aboriginal Day, and the National Central Library specially chose this meaningful date to hold the exhibition’s opening ceremony. The event

featured a performance by the Voice of the Clouds Choir from Yisheng Elementary School in Fuxing District, Taoyuan City, whose pure voices and songs in aboriginal languages conveyed the warmth and sincerity of cultural heritage, opening the event on a touching and heartfelt note.



Voice of the Clouds Choir performing during the opening ceremony

In her remarks, Director-General Han-Ching Wang noted that this exhibition, themed Resonances of Aboriginal Wisdom and Memory, focuses on the transmission of aboriginal knowledge and the expression of aboriginal cultures. Centered on the curatorial concepts of cultural preservation and transnational dialogue, Threads of Time and Space brought together contributions from the National Museum of Natural Science, the TECO Technology Foundation, and Shanhai Cultural Magazine. Through collaboration between public institutions and private organizations, the exhibition presented a broader, global perspective on the cultural significance of aboriginal knowledge systems. Director-General Wang expressed her deep gratitude to the National Museum of Natural Science, the TECO Technology Foundation, Shanhai Cultural Magazine, and Professor Hsiao-feng Chiu for their enthusiastic participation in creating this cross-cultural and cross-generational feast of knowledge alongside the National Central Library.



Director-General Wang giving her remarks

The exhibition featured five main sections, weaving together transnational knowledge, tribal memory, and contemporary expression. From ancient artifacts to modern writings, the displays illuminated the profound connections between aboriginal peoples and nature, the cosmos, and life itself. “Whose Gaze? Aboriginal Images in the Taiwan Memory Project” presented historical photographs and postcards from the 19th century to the Japanese colonial period, accompanied by an interactive audience response area that invites visitors to reconsider how such images are interpreted and viewed. “Songs of Wonder: Aboriginal Music and Dance Resources” showcased precious audiovisual materials and digital portraits and costumes of aboriginal peoples donated by the TECO Technology Foundation, allowing visitors to experience the moving power of young tribal performers who carry their cultural heritage to the stage. “Aboriginal Cultural Artifacts” displayed everyday tools and clothing accessories passed down through generations of the Paiwan people, highlighting the artistry and wisdom embodied in the fusion of handcrafted techniques and natural materials from the mountains and forests. “Knowledge and Books of Aborigines of Taiwan and Australia” introduced, for the first time, the First Knowledges book series, alongside related holdings from NCL’s collection, to showcase the knowledge systems of Australia’s aboriginal peoples spanning more than 60,000 years. Finally, “Intervening through Writing: Mountains and Seas and the Cultural Practice of Sun Ta-chuan” traced the life journey of writer and cultural advocate Ta-chuan Sun through manuscripts, notes, and photographs—bearing witness to how one aboriginal intellectual built bridges between scholarship, literature, and cultural identity through the power of words.



Images of aborigines from NCL's Taiwan Memory

This special exhibition was not merely a static display of aboriginal knowledge; it aspired to become a starting point for deeper understanding and intercultural dialog. The five sections intertwined across time and space, inviting visitors to step into the gallery and experience the depth and vitality of aboriginal cultures through images, artifacts, sounds, and texts. In this dialog that transcended time and place, visitors were encouraged to rediscover the richness of knowledge diversity and the enduring power of memory—and, with a more open vision, to collectively write the next chapter of the story that belongs to this land.



Professor Hsiao-feng Chiu giving a guided tour of aboriginal cultural artifacts



A view of the Songs of Wonder: Aboriginal Music and Dance Resources section

■ NCL Puts on “A Shared Sky” Exhibition: Ancient Books Start a Cross-cultural Dialog of Knowledge

The National Central Library has long been devoted to the preservation of ancient books, the safeguarding of knowledge, and the promotion of humanistic education. This summer, it launched a special exhibition titled “A Shared Sky: The World

of Chinese Texts and Cultural Exchange,” offering a fresh curatorial perspective. The exhibition, held from July 18 to August 29 at the NCL Arts and Culture Center, brought together rare ancient texts, cross-cultural research, and an immersive exhibition design to present a comprehensive view of how the Chinese writing system has served as a vital bridge for the transmission of knowledge and the dialog of civilizations across Asia throughout history.



NCL puts on “A Shared Sky” exhibition, using ancient books to start a cross-cultural dialog of knowledge

“A Shared Sky” symbolizes the ancients’ contemplation of cosmic order and metaphorically evokes how Chinese classics, like constellations, have traversed diverse civilizations over the centuries, weaving together the shared cultural fabric of East Asia. Through this exhibition, NCL sought to create a platform that, via the lens of knowledge and the depth of culture, responds to contemporary society’s growing interest in history, language, and cultural heritage—thus embodying the Library’s mission and responsibility as a nexus of knowledge and a source of cultural inspiration.

This exhibition featured several dozen classical works and special collections from the holdings of the National Central Library, spanning fields such as geography, medicine, literature, and religion. Highlights include Illustrated True Forms of the Deities, Classic of Mountains and Seas Illustrated, Treasured Mirror of Eastern Medicine, Collected Works from the Tribute Herb Garden, and Records of Travels Beyond the Seas. Together, these works trace the vibrant currents of knowledge and cultural