

observe diffraction phenomena first hand, then they stamped melted chocolate with the images of the CD's pits. After solidifying, the chocolate glitters with magnificent colors when light is reflected, creating beautiful images reminiscent of the northern lights!

This workshop's integration of science, art, and the maker spirit inspired creative thinking and offered participants an afternoon of wonder and inspiration on a hot summer day. Throughout the class, Professor Tai's whimsical teaching style brought out laughter and learning through wonder, deepening understanding through hands-on activities. Participants expressed that not only did this class give them a new understanding of the 3D visual world, it also inspired interest in science and maker culture.

The OPEN Seasonal Lectures series continues to offer classes on different topics, integrating science, humanities, and maker culture to guide participants in exploring unknown fields, opening limitless possibilities of creativity and knowledge.



Participants hold up their creations for a group photo with NCL Director-General Wang and Professor Tai

■ National Central Library and Public Libraries in 6 Counties and Cities Offer “Joint Library Cards,” Marking a New Chapter of Resource Sharing in Southern Taiwan

National Central Library is responsible for national collection preservation, information integration, and reading promotion and therefore works hard to promote the integration of resources and service optimization for all libraries in Taiwan. In order to facilitate the sharing of library resources in southern Taiwan, increasing service collaboration among public libraries, NCL signed an MOU for Joint Library Cards, inviting Yunlin County, Chiayi

City, Chiayi County, Tainan City, Kaohsiung City, and Pingtung County public libraries to participate, marking a new milestone for library resource service in southern Taiwan.



A photo of six county and city government representatives signing a collective MOU

This signing ceremony was held in the Multifunctional Meeting Room at the Tainan Municipal Library Gongyuan Branch, attended by NCL Director-General Han-Ching Wang and representatives from six collaborating libraries. This collaboration demonstrates NCL's commitment to joint promotion of reading and digital learning with libraries across southern Taiwan.

Director-General Han-Ching Wang expressed that NCL's main responsibilities are the collection, preservation, and provision of diverse and professional books and information, supporting scholarly research and the transmission of knowledge. At the same time, NCL is committed to promoting national literacy, expanding the availability and diversity of reading resources, facilitating the sharing and exchange of library resources throughout Taiwan, as well as enhancing the quality of library services, and promoting equal regional resource development and collaboration through the establishment of new branches. These efforts contribute to the important goal of providing rich library resources for all and lifting society and culture to new heights.

The Southern Branch of the National Central Library will be located in Tainan's Xinying District. Upon its completion, not only will it continue NCL's mission of providing professional research resources and services, it will also widely acquire reading resources suited for all ages, working to take root locally, thereby expanding shared prosperity and resource use and facilitating the overall enhancement and development of library resources in southern Taiwan.

NCL actively works to promote library resource integration and service expansion and this collaboration on joint use library cards will serve as an important starting point, aiming to provide even more members of the public with convenient cross-regional access to library resources in order to further promote the free movement of knowledge and reading.

Not only does this collaboration represent a significant step toward the integration of southern public library services, it also establishes a stable foundation upon which to create a more complete network of library information services. Looking into the future, NCL will continue to work closely with libraries throughout Taiwan, together writing a new chapter in smart reading and realizing the greatest possible value for knowledge resources by making them accessible to all.

■ **NCL Organizes “The Feeling of the Heart: A Pictorial Exhibition” in Collaboration with the Guatemalan Embassy and the Central American Trade Office in Taiwan**

From September 16th to 18th, 2025, “The Feeling of the Heart: A Pictorial Exhibition” was held at NCL in collaboration with the Guatemalan Embassy and Central American Trade Office in Taiwan, displaying 10 figurative paintings by contemporary Guatemalan artist Daniel García Dubón. Not only does the exhibit display beautiful works of art, it is also a cross-border dialogue of emotions and deep cultural meaning.

A Colorful Cultural Gaze

Daniel García Dubón is a well-known Guatemalan visual artist who has been making art for over 25 years. He developed a strong interest in drawing from the age of 6, after which he received formal training and private tutorage with the encouragement of his family, developing strong technical skills and a unique personal style over the years. His work often presents perspectives of daily life and ethnic culture, transmitting emotions and memories that cannot be expressed through language.

In the introduction to his work, Daniel García Dubón states, “I paint to express those emotions that are difficult to transmit through language. I hope my work can be preserved to inspire future generations of artists, guiding people to make sharper observations of the world we live in.”



Artist Daniel García Dubón introducing his paintings

Melding Emotions, History, and Symbols through Art

This exhibit includes ten paintings which stylistically straddle the borders of realism and surrealism. Their distinct layering of colors and heavy yet flowing strokes create intense visual and emotional tension. The paintings cover subjects ranging from history, mythology, spiritual symbols, and conditions of life, melding together images of Guatemalan culture and Mayan traditions, reflecting diverse and deep cultural influences.

In the painting, “The Dance of the Conquest,” the artist uses vibrant colors and a detailed mask to depict a traditional theatrical ritual originating from Mayan culture which reenacts historical scenes of the arrival of Spanish conquistadors and the conversion of Mayan leaders to Christianity, reflecting conversions of identity and tenacity in the face of cultural attack.

“Moors and Christians II” uses a Spanish Christian mask and images of three hearts to represent three eras in Guatemala’s history. The piece expresses historical evolution from the pre-Hispanic, Colonial, and Republican periods. The piece’s complicated motifs and bright colors not only reflect traditional aesthetics, they also depict the complicated nature and tenacity of cultural memory.

“Ixpeq” takes its name from the Kaqchikel Maya word for “frog,” a symbol of the earth, the rain, and regeneration. The painting weaves together images of the heart and nature, depicting the pulse of life that beats between culture and spirituality and demonstrating the natural cycles and cultural continuations of the Maya world view.

The piece “Lethargy” displays more private and introspective emotions. The artist uses the image of a heart to portray the weariness and stagnation people feel under the weight of time and reality. Its strokes and colors produce the heaviness of internal struggle,