

Day (April 23, 2007) with a series of fun activities to promote interest in reading. The Library Association of the Republic of China (Taiwan), Taiwan Reading Association and Taipei Public Library jointly organized a "Rock Your Life with Reading" event at Daan Forest Park in Taipei on April 21. The day's activities included an oral reading marathon with family reading events and poetry readings in various languages by native speakers of various languages. There was also a book parade joined by groups from neighboring schools and organizations, and some of the participants came dressed as fairy tale figures during the reading carnival.

#### ■ *Linnei Township Promotes Reading Diversity*

Students of Linchung Elementary School in Linnei Township learned about the development of books, from early bamboo slip volumes to modern publications, during a workshop activity on April 30, 2007. Under the guidance of an instructor from the Linnei Reading Club, the Linchung Elementary students also tried their hand at Chinese knot art, helping them understand early methods of making bamboo slip books.

In order to promote reading diversity, Linnei Township arranges workshops for children at the township library every Monday. During the workshops, the children can see displays of specialty products from Linnei, such as loofah, papaya, and tea, as well as engage in various DIY activities aimed at building awareness of local industries, culture and agricultural products. By joining reading with hands-on activities, the students are able to deepen their understanding in a fun and engaging way.

#### ■ *Asustek CEO Donates New Library to Alma Mater in Changhua*

Changhua Senior High School opened a new library this March with the help of an NT\$12.4 million donation from Asustek Computer CEO Jonney Shih, an alumnus of the school. Modeled after the upscale bookstore chain Eslite, the library covers an area of about 1,000 square meters on the seventh floor of the school's administration building. Library director Lu Sing-chung, who encouraged Shih to support the project, said that students help to manage the six areas of the library under a foster system. Student volunteers that rank high in the annual performance assessment are awarded prizes.

In early March, the library hosted the National Museum of Taiwan Literature's touring exhibition, "When We Were Young: An Exhibition of Authors' Photographs."

#### ■ *Tainan Library Displays Top-ranked Books for Young Readers*

The Tainan Municipal Library (TML) teamed up with the Taipei Public Library, Mandarin Daily News and other organizations to organize a display of books recommended last year for children and adolescents. The exhibition was hosted at the TML on April 15 to May 18, 2007.

With new books coming out at an ever-faster pace, parents often find themselves at a loss when trying to select books to nurture their children's interest in reading. The TML and Mandarin Daily News therefore regularly commission panels of experts to sift through the deluge and compile lists of good books for young readers.

The book selection activity has been held twice a year for 17 years, providing an invaluable guide for

parents and readers.

During the selection process, a panel of 20 experts and scholars evaluates books in the four categories of "narrative literature," "non-narrative literature," "knowledge-building books," and "illustrated books and children's reading material."

In 2006, the selection panel selected 109 books from a total of 420 titles submitted by 76 publishers. Readers can view the entire list (in Chinese) by visiting the TML website ([www.tnml.tn.edu.tw](http://www.tnml.tn.edu.tw)) and clicking on the "2006 Recommended Books" link.

#### ■ *Model Community Library Opens in Kaohsiung*

The Kaohsiung Public Library (KPL) and Chen Yan Construction Group opened a demonstration community library on March 29, 2007. The new library is part of efforts by Kaohsiung City to promote interest in reading.

The opening ceremony was jointly presided by Kaohsiung City Bureau of Cultural Affairs director Wang Chih-cheng, KPL director Shih Chun-fu and Chen Yan Construction vice president Yang Pin-hui. The demonstration library pioneers new ground by showing that developers are willing to upgrade the cultural environment of communities when promoting construction projects. The KPL donated 200 books for the library collection and hopes that more communities will take initiative to establish libraries to encourage reading.

The demonstration library currently has a collection of about 1,000 books, with titles for women and children accounting for the majority. It was established as part of Chen Yan's design for a new housing community. Book purchasing, automation systems and volunteer staff were arranged with support from the KPL.

## Seminars

#### ■ *Yes! I Share! Seminar*

Sponsor: Taipei Public Library

Date: April 24, 2007

Place: Taipei Public Library

#### ■ *2007 E-learning Forum*

Sponsors: Chinese Information Literacy Association;

Feng Chia University; Taipei University; City

University of Hong Kong; Blackboard

Date: April 26 - 27, 2007

Place: Taipei International Convention Center

#### ■ *Seminar on the Future of Academic Libraries Librarians*

Sponsor: American Cultural Center

Date: May 1, 2007

Place: National Taiwan University Library

#### ■ *Pictures of the New Floating World: Seminar on Modern Newspapers and Periodicals*

Sponsor: Department of Chinese Language and Literature, National Chi Nan University

Date: May 5, 2007

Place: National Chi Nan University

#### ■ *Quotation Index Database Seminar*

Organizers: Library Association of China; National Central Library; Cheng Kung University Library

Date: May 17 - 18, 2007

Place: Cheng Kung University Library; National Central Library

#### ■ *Taiwan Library Operations and Educational History Seminar*

Sponsor: Graduate Institute of Library, Information