

The NTL was established on May 15, 1923, during the Japanese occupation period, as the Taichung Prefectural Library at the former site of the Taichung Club. In 1946, the library was renamed as the Taiwan Provincial Taichung Library. In 1999, it was placed under the Council for Cultural Affairs and renamed the National Taichung Library. Today, the library is in charge of assisting public libraries nationwide and fostering an environment for continuing education. The library has over 386,000 registered users and a collection of over 786,000 volumes. In 2006, the Executive Yuan approved a plan to relocate the library and expand it with the establishment of a National Digital Library. The library is expected to move into its new home in 2012.

■ *Southern Taiwan University Libraries form Alliance*

Cheng Kung University Library hosted the "Yunlin-Chiayi-Tainan Area University Library Alliance Conference and Book Sharing Agreement Signing Ceremony" on May 20, 2008, at the library conference room. The alliance and agreement aim to promote cooperation and book lending among university libraries in Yunlin, Chiayi and Tainan counties to expand access to and effective utilization of resources on humanities and social sciences research in southern Taiwan. The alliance represents to university and college libraries, including National Sun Yat-sen University Library, and benefits over 100,000 teachers and students.

The 20 participating universities jointly received an NT\$46 million grant from the Ministry of Education (MOE) to purchase over 16,000 social science books for their library collections. In addition to the inter-library loan mechanism, the participating libraries plan to promote alliances in various research fields.

■ *Jinjheng Library Releases Books into the Wild*

Hoping to give more people access to good books, Puzih Jinjheng Library in Chiayi County

began to distribute over 300 donated books for placement in buses, restaurants and other public places for people to read and share with others. The activity, called "Loving books, Taking a Journey," contributes to the "Book Crossing" movement, which encourages people to leave books for others to freely enjoy and pass. More than 700,000 people around the globe have shared over five million books worldwide through Book Crossing.

■ *Kaohsiung Literature Library Launches Author Digital Archive*

The Kaohsiung City Bureau of Cultural Affairs and Kaohsiung Public Library inaugurated a "Literary Author and Work Web" at the bureau's Kaohsiung Literature Library (KLL), putting a new face on Kaohsiung's literary world. The site serves as a digital archive on Kaohsiung writers and their works, with content including author interview videos and audio recordings, and introductions to and appreciation of literary works. The site aims to introduce Kaohsiung's literary achievements to a broader audience through the internet.

A total of 169 Kaohsiung authors are introduced in the archive, including biographies, photographs, manuscripts, and writings. With funding support from the Council for Cultural Affairs, the Bureau of Cultural Affairs has also been digitally converting printed material in the KLL collection for inclusion in the archives. The archive currently includes information on 182 authors, audio and video interviews with 99 authors, video recordings of lectures at the library by 44 authors, full-text scans of 70 works, images of 1,400 books and writings, basic information, and nine multimedia e-books.

■ *Kaohsiung Film Archive Opens Taiwanese Film Exhibit*

Over its six-year history, the Kaohsiung Film Archive (KFA) has been active in promoting film appreciation and the preservation of film-related