

During the exhibition, the National Taichung Library hosted showings of award-winning government films, including: 1) *Once Upon a Time* (Silver prize winner in the ethnic and cultural category of the 41st Houston International Film Festival); 2) *Legend of the Chinese Moccasin* (Winner of three awards at the 32nd International Wildlife Film Festival); 3) *Taiwanese Opera Maestro: Liao Chiung Chih* (Gold Prize winner in the art and culture category of the 42nd Houston International Film Festival and Winner of the 27th Executive Yuan Culture Award); and 4) *Doc Taichung* (Special Mention at the 14th Hong Kong Independent Short Film and Video Awards).

The Taoyuan County Cultural Affairs Bureau held a seminar on the topic "Travels to Taoyuan," while the Nantou County Cultural Affairs Bureau held a seminar called "Three-minute Magic: How Instant Noodles went from Super Tasty to Super Fun." (Chinese text by Kao Yuju, National Taichung Library)

### ■ *2009 Marine Education Expo*

The 2009 Marine Education Expo was held at the National Science and Technology Museum in Kaohsiung City from July 11 to 17, bringing together displays from 16 community education centers under the Ministry of Education. With four theme areas on "Eco-Ocean," "Science Ocean," "Literary Ocean" and "Art of the Sea," the expo allowed the public to appreciate the many faces of the sea with eyes, ears and touch.

For the "Literary Ocean" exhibit, the National Central Library (NCL) arranged a "Sea of Books" display, including illustrations of old ships, photographs of fishing villages, other maritime-related publications, and information on distance learning and job hunting. The ship illustrations included images of 17th century vessels and foreign merchant ships, including ships from Taiwan, Guangdong and other parts of China. The original illustrations are from a rare scroll, "Drawings of Tang-era Ships," preserved by the Matsuura

Historical Museum in Hirado, Japan, as well as 18th century illustrations of foreign ships by Yamagata Kinya, director of the Japan Society of the History of Maritime. The collection on fishing villages included photos taken between 1950 and 1960 by He Huikuang. The images present life in Taiwanese fishing villages, including fishermen at work and leisure, housing, clothing and temple activities. The collection of maritime-related publications presented a sample of works from the NCL collection introducing visitors to the sea and the need to protect the ocean ecology. The NCL also promoted distance learning websites, government learning websites, and job websites, with computers on-site for visitor use. NCL Director-general Karl Min Ku was also interviewed at the event by National Education Radio. (Chinese text compiled from National Education Radio material and NCL press release)

### ■ *National Central Library, Taiwan branch, Opens Senior Reading Area*

In order to meet the diverse information needs of senior readers, the National Central Library, Taiwan branch (NTL), opened a Senior Reading Area with books and audio-visual resources and reading aid facilities for seniors on July 17, 2009. The collection comprises over 1,500 large-print books in the categories of literature, medicine and health, home economics, gardening, domestic and foreign history and geography, the arts and leisure, as well as 400 audio books and 100 videos for senior use. There are also four computers with 22-inch displays equipped with video magnification systems for online searches, six desktop magnifying lamps, reading glasses, and blood pressure meters. The periodical, bibliography search, and audio-visual areas are also equipped with specially designed chairs for senior readers.

The NTL also arranges various activities to promote lifelong learning among the elderly. For example, the library held educational workshops, a seminar series on life-long learning, and talks by writers. The library also hosted presentations of

films on senior issues and free computer courses to help seniors access information at the library and online. In future, the NTL will continue to plan various senior activities and services, including senior health workshops, computer courses, and movie showings. The library will also issue "Senior Learning Cards," which seniors can use to accumulate points towards prizes to encourage senior to continue learning, maintain mental and physical health, and lead richer lives. The library has also set up for public viewing displays on the themes of "Senior Master," "Senior Learning," "Senior Reading," and "Senior Volunteering." (Chinese text by Cheng Wenting)



*Free computer courses for the seniors at National Central Library, Taiwan branch. (Photo by Cheng Wenting)*



*Senior Reading Area at National Central Library, Taiwan branch. (Photo by Lin Chianhuei)*



## NATIONAL CENTRAL LIBRARY

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