

2015.08.27

The CCS, the National Library of Latvia, and the University of Latvia co-hosted a session of “Taiwan Lectures on Chinese Studies,” as well as the exhibition of ancient Chinese books- “Exhibition: Imprints of Civilization.” About 100 special guests were in attendance, including Representative Kuang-yueh Ko from the Taipei Mission in the Republic of Latvia, Latvian parliament members, and cultural officials, and others.

Prof. Siao-chen Hu, a research fellow at the Institute of Chinese Literature and Philosophy in Academia Sinica, was invited to speak on “Burning the Midnight Oil: The Making of Verse Narrative Texts by Qing Women.”

The exhibition runs from August 27 through October 30 at the National Library of Latvia. This is the first exhibition of its kind in Europe, following three large exhibitions by the CCS in the U.S. during 2012-2013. Each of these were an important milestone.

This exhibition was focused on the development history of Chinese printing and related technologies, including the writing, printing, and distribution of books and other book-related activities. On display were inventions related to printing techniques and the developments in the printing industry. These showed the influence printing had on traditional social values in China. The exhibition also provided attendees the opportunities to try their hand at block printing, movable-type printing, thread-bound books, and Chinese calligraphy, allowing them to better understand Chinese culture and the content of the exhibition.



Many people attend the “Exhibition: Imprints of Civilization.”

CCS News and Activities

■ 2015 Mid-Autumn Festival Celebration Tea Party for Visiting Foreign Scholars

On September 21, 37 visiting scholars and their families from 19 countries of the CCS Research Grants for Foreign Scholars in Chinese studies and MOFA Taiwan Fellowship were invited to a Mid-Autumn Festival celebration tea party. The occasion aims to offer scholars, besides doing research, the opportunities to experience the cultural significance of the traditional folk festivals in Taiwan.



A visiting scholar plays the pipa at the tea party.

News from Taiwan Libraries

■ Taoyuan City Public Library Promotes Newborn and Toddler Reading Activities

The Taoyuan City Public Library and its 33 branches held step-by-step reading activities for children 0-5 years of age. This year, not only can children receive a Reading Goodies Bag by going to any branch library with their household registration, those aged 0-5 can also enjoy a host of other activities.

■ New Taipei City Public Library Unveils Mobile Card Application and Free E-Resource Services

In an effort to promote reading and to diversify the ways one can apply for a library card, the New Taipei City Public Library has introduced a new service. In crowded places throughout the city, the library is setting up a mobile stall where the public can apply for

a library card. Such places include tourist attractions, supermarkets, department stores, and even government agencies (such as police departments, household registration offices, farmers' association, etc.). In addition, if any company, organization, or group has 20 or more persons desiring to apply for a library card, the library will send someone to the group's location. To promote their free e-resources, the Yonghe Branch Library have, for the first time, opened courses for teachers on how to make full use of the library. In these courses, the free e-resources provided by the library are covered, enabling teachers to become a bridge between the library and their students.

■ National Library of Public Information Holds Roving Exhibition "Seeing the World from the Library"

The National Library of Public Information, in conjunction with the American Institute in Taiwan, the British Council in Taiwan, the Bureau Français de Taipei, and libraries at the city and county level across Taiwan, held the "Seeing the World from the Library" roving exhibition. On display were 120 illustrated books that have received the Caldecott Medal from the U.S., the Kate Greenaway Medal from the U.K., or the Prix Sorcière from France, as well as 120 newly

published travel books. As the exhibit visited various libraries in Yunlin County, it provided new perspectives for the public and different reading material for parents and children to enjoy.

■ National Taiwan Library Holds a Special Exhibition of Mr. Hsien-tang Lin and the Wufeng Lin Family

The Wufeng Lin Family is one of Taiwan's five largest families. They are known for promoting Taiwan culture and education. Mr. Hsien-tang Lin not only pushed for the founding of Taichung's first high school, he also founded a newspaper, a free community school, as well as several cultural organizations. He also provided the public with new knowledge, showed movies, and held various types of lectures. All of this allowed the public in Taiwan to be trained in contemporary civilization. It could be argued that his life was a microcosm of contemporary Taiwan history. National Taiwan Library collaborated with Ming Tai High School to hold a special exhibition at the NTL from August 4-30 displaying artifacts and works from Mr. Lin's life. The public has an opportunity to witness the cultural enlightenment in Taiwan.



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