

National Taiwan Library

Reading for
Future



National Taiwan Library

The National Taiwan Library functions as both a public and research library, with a focus on life education and sustainable development. It operates under principles of organizational systematization, professionalized services, and resource sharing. By adopting innovative management models, the library has evolved from a traditional institution into a dynamic hub, meeting the diverse and growing needs of various age groups and communities.



Publicization

The library offers comprehensive reading services to the public in both physical and digital formats for all age groups. This includes promoting early reading for infants and toddlers, parent-child reading activities, exploratory and inspirational programs for teenagers, reading services for seniors, and multicultural resources for new immigrants. These services are tailored to meet the diverse needs of the public while promoting lifelong learning.



Professionalization

Specialized centers such as the Visual Impairment Information Center, Taiwan Book Hospital, Taiwan Study Research Center, and Homeland Education Resource Center support Taiwan studies, ensure reading equity, and enhance public access to professional resources.



Historical Development

Founded in 1914 as the "Library of the Governor-General of Taiwan," the National Taiwan Library is Taiwan's oldest and most prestigious public library. Prior to World War II, it was the premier public library in Taiwan, boasting the most extensive collection and longest history, and has since undergone several name changes and administrative transitions, including the "Library of the Governor-General of Taiwan," "Taiwan Provincial Library," "Taiwan Provincial Taipei Library," and "National Central Library Taiwan Branch."

In 2004, the library relocated from its original site on Xinsheng South Road in Taipei to its current location in Zhonghe. In 2013, it was officially renamed the "National Taiwan Library." The current facility, located in Zhonghe 823 Memorial Park, spans approximately 60,000 square meters, with seven floors above ground and three underground levels.



The Bo'ai Road period in Taipei
Library of the Governor-General of Taiwan, 1914-1945



The Guanqian Road period in Taipei

Taiwan Provincial Library, 1945-1948

Taiwan Provincial Taipei Library, 1948-1968



The Xinsheng South Road period in Taipei

Taiwan Provincial Taipei Library, 1968-1973

National Central Library Taiwan Branch, 1973-2004



The Zhong'an Street period in Zhonghe

National Central Library Taiwan Branch, 2004-2013

National Taiwan Library, 2013-





Fostering Literacy Across All Ages



Encouraging Parent- Child Shared Reading by Supporting Local Picture Books

In 2022, the library launched the "Taiwan Picture Book Creation Base Establishment Plan," the first national initiative of its kind to promote early childhood reading and parent-child shared reading by encouraging local picture book creation. Picture book authors, publishers, editors, readers, and relevant public and private organizations are invited to take part in this initiative. It serves as a collaborative platform for authors, publishers, and organizations that supports the creation, publication, and sharing of Taiwanese picture books.





The library regularly organizes a variety of engaging activities to nurture early reading skills, including storytelling sessions, family movie viewings, picture book exhibitions, picture book creation workshops, original artwork displays by Taiwanese picture book authors, and a series of reading promotion activities tied to seasonal festivals and celebrations. In addition, the library runs "Picture Book Author Empowerment Camps" in partnership with picture book authors, industry professionals, government agencies, and community organizations. Authors are invited to these camps to showcase their books and related products in the "Author's Work Display Area" on the first and second floors of the Parent-Child Resource Center, where they also share their creative processes and lead themed activities.





Self-Directed Learning Resources for Adolescents

The library maintains a comprehensive collection of books and exhibitions tailored to teenagers, aligned with school curricula and designed to spark curiosity across various subjects. To enhance adolescents' capacity for self-directed learning, the newly established "High School Self-Directed Learning Network" encourages students to engage in educational activities beyond the classroom. This initiative fosters independent thinking, analytical skills, and problem-solving abilities, empowering students to take ownership of their learning experiences.



Promoting An Age-Inclusive Society



As Taiwan transitions into a "super-aged society," the library is committed to providing a welcoming and secure environment for seniors, enabling them to engage in learning and activities comfortably. Through various initiatives, including special exhibitions, thematic forums, long-term care health lectures, and regular lifelong learning workshops, the library fosters meaningful dialogue between the elderly and younger generations while promoting lifelong learning. To better address the information needs of senior readers, the library promotes the use of online resources and offers mobile device training to position the library as a valuable community space in their lives.



Multicultural Services for New Immigrants

In response to the growing number of new immigrant families and diverse migrant populations, the library is dedicated to addressing their reading and information needs related to life, work, and education. By providing a collection of books, journals, and audiovisual materials in the languages of seven countries: Thailand, Indonesia, Myanmar, Vietnam, Malaysia, the Philippines, and Cambodia, the library aims to create a welcoming space conducive to leisure and self-directed study for new immigrants. Additionally, the library emphasizes the daily life aspects of Southeast Asian countries—such as food, clothing, housing, and transportation—through a range of activities including multicultural food events, performing arts presentations, documentary screenings, and themed book exhibitions. These efforts aim to showcase the richness of Southeast Asian cultures and enhance Taiwanese understanding of the neighboring regional cultures.





Collaborating for Diverse Engagement

Each year, the library collaborates with cultural and educational foundations, non-profit organizations, scientific and educational institutions, and government agencies to organize reading promotion activities. It partners with private enterprises to optimize resource utilization and establishes memoranda of understanding (MOU) with colleges, universities, and other institutions to explore diverse opportunities for collaboration.





Practice Sustainability Goals and Co-Create a Healthy and Beautiful Future

In recent years, the library has actively aligned its promotional activities with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It hosts a diverse range of events, including specialized lectures, art and cultural exhibitions, themed book displays, forums, parent-child music performances, creative markets, and ecological tours. Additionally, the library offers guided tours and various services to engage the public in enriching reading experiences. Through these initiatives, the library is dedicated to promoting community well-being and fostering an inclusive, mutually beneficial future.





An Inclusive and Barrier-Free Environment for Individuals with Disabilities

Since 2011, the library has been designated by the Ministry of Education as a specialized library for individuals with physical and mental disabilities. It has established a resource center for the visually impaired, which offers a comprehensive range of library resources, including audiotapes, printed and electronic Braille books, electronic audiobooks (DAISY, MP3), dual-vision books, accessible e-books (EPUB, PDF), and electronic picture books in Taiwanese Sign Language. These resources are tailored to address the reading needs of individuals with visual, auditory, learning, or other sensory disabilities.



The library has developed an "Accessible Reading Resource Integration and Query System" that adheres to the AAA level of the "Web Accessibility Guidelines." It has also created an "Accessible Reading" app that integrates catalog information from institutions serving individuals with physical and mental disabilities. The app facilitates the creation of a unified bibliography and provides interlibrary loan services. The aim is to continuously enhance the resource platform to better address the reading and learning needs of individuals with disabilities.

To promote reading equity, the library actively engages in cross-disciplinary collaborations. It offers on-site services at schools and medical institutions, as well as digital inclusive reading services. The library publishes dual-vision books, develops adaptive reading resources, and maintains partnerships with special education schools such as Qiming and Qicong, as well as institutions like Gengxin Hospital and Taipei City United Hospital. These initiatives include proactively delivering books to partner institutions and organizing storytelling activities.

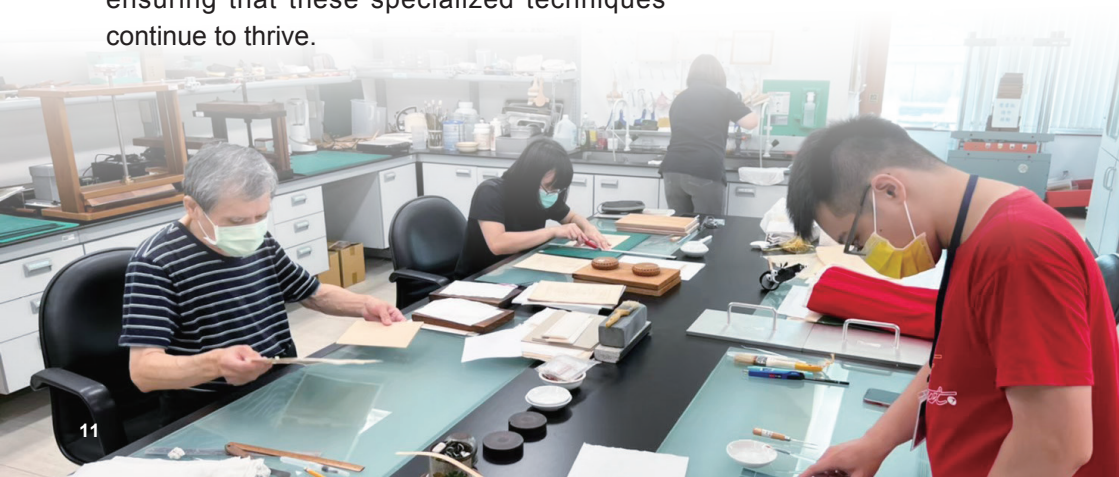


Furthermore, the library organizes nationwide film appreciation events specifically for the visually impaired, along with calming yoga sessions and outdoor sensory reading experiences tailored for individuals with physical and mental disabilities. Additionally, it offers online book clubs and podcasts that provide flexible access to literature. These inclusive and diverse services are designed to enhance accessibility and engagement for individuals with disabilities.



Restoration of Ancient Texts: The Taiwan Book Hospital Initiative

Amid the digital era, the Taiwan Book Hospital is dedicated to preserving the enduring value of print materials. By integrating traditional book restoration techniques with modern technological testing equipment, it upholds the concept of "restoring the old to its original state." The hospital safeguards historical and cultural heritage through expert practices, including book restoration, binding, pest control, mold remediation, and deacidification, ensuring that these specialized techniques continue to thrive.





To promote the significance of book and document preservation and to pass down book restoration techniques, the library offers practical internships in book preservation for university students in related fields during the summer and winter breaks. Each year, it provides courses on book preservation, binding, and restoration, accompanied by exhibitions. The library also collaborates with academic institutions to organize seminars on book restoration, aiming to cultivate talent in preservation. Furthermore, the Taiwan Book Hospital offers scheduled guided tours to raise public awareness and interest in book preservation.



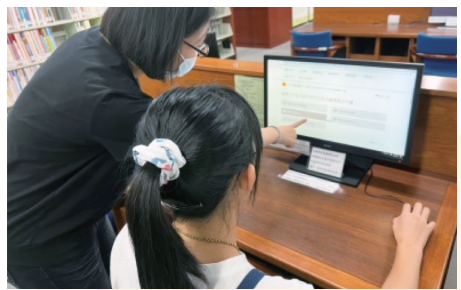


Open Access to Valuable Taiwan Studies

The Taiwan Study Research Center houses over 160,000 volumes from the former Taiwan Governor-General's Library and 40,000 volumes from the Southern Materials Center. These collections include numerous rare or unique documents from both domestic and international sources, as well as publications and materials from the Japanese colonial period. They are essential historical resources for studying Taiwan's development and transformation over time.

To enhance accessibility to research resources, the library is dedicated to integrating Taiwan studies literature from across the country and developing the Taiwan Studies Digital Library. It has established several digital databases focused on Taiwan studies, including the Japanese Colonial Period Journals Image System and the Taiwan Map Database, which provide widespread public access to essential resources.

Additionally, to preserve and utilize the valuable collections of distinguished Taiwanese scholars in literature, history, and philosophy through resource sharing, the library has established the "Taiwanese Scholars' Rare and Unique Books Matching Platform," which aims to accumulate research resources and promote the advancement of academic inquiry.





International Exchange and Collaboration

The library continuously fosters international collaborations with overseas Taiwan studies research institutions. It co-organizes academic activities, facilitates the exchange of publications, and provides grants for visiting scholars to conduct research at its facilities. In support of Taiwan literature and history education, the library hosts a variety of outreach initiatives, including a Taiwan Studies lecture series, exhibitions of Taiwan Studies research collections, mobile exhibitions, and cultural and historical field trips. Additionally, the library provides research grants for master's and doctoral theses on Taiwan studies and regularly publishes the bi-monthly Taiwan Studies Newsletter and the semi-annual Taiwan Studies Research Journal, all aimed at advancing research outcomes in the field of Taiwan studies.



Establishment of the Homeland Education Resource Center

The library has established the Homeland Education Resource Center and developed the "Homeland Education Resource Database" to serve as a platform for promoting research and education on local cultures.



The library regularly publishes the semi-annual educational journal *Local*, which highlights research findings on local culture and education while also presenting insights on global educational trends to serve as a reference for advancing local education.



In alignment with the National Language Development Act, the library promotes the chanting of Han poetry in Taiwanese and Hakka languages as part of its efforts to preserve and revitalize local languages.





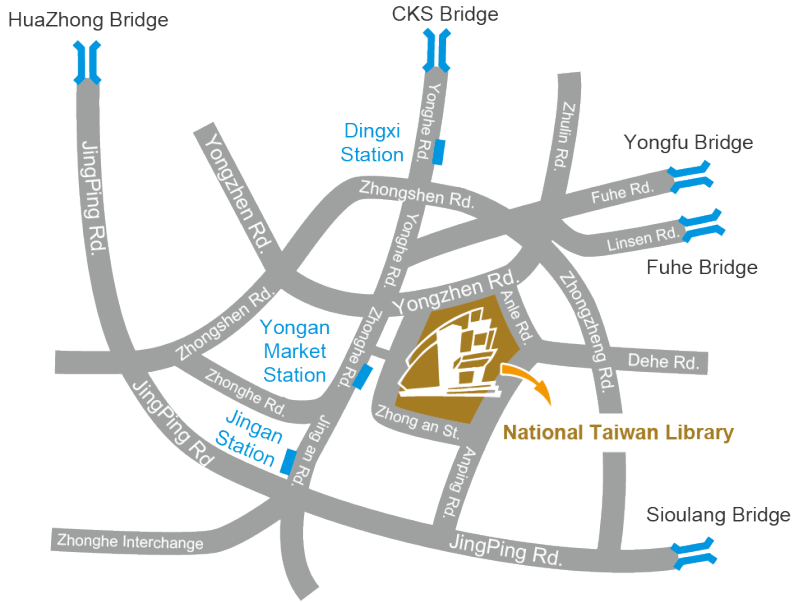
Expanding New Horizons for Inter-Library Collaboration

As a national library, it plays a pivotal role in supporting public libraries across the country in reading promotion and professional development. The library facilitates inter-library collaboration and resource integration, offering specialized training programs such as local language library tours and storytelling volunteer training to enhance the skills of library staff and volunteers. In addition, it regularly conducts workshops on services for individuals with disabilities and courses on audiobook narration techniques, promoting reading equity and accessibility. Each year, the library partners with public libraries in various counties and cities to host thematic promotional events, broadening the public's reading horizons.





Transportation Information



- **By MRT** Yongan Market Station on the Orange (Zhonghe-Xinlu) Line
- **By Bus** MRT Yongan Market Station (Zhonghe Road): Taipei Bus Company 57, Zhongxing Bus Company 214 Express, Shin-Shin Bus G2, Keelung Bus Company BL41, Fuhobus 1032 Banqiao-Keelung
 Yongan Market Station (Yongzhen Road): Zhongxing Bus Company 227, Taipei Bus Company 275, Zhongxing Bus Company 304 (Chongqing Line) 304 (Chengde Line), Fuhobus 1 II Taipei-Three Gorges
 Zhong'an Street Station: Metropolitan Transport Company 5





Floor Information and Opening Hours

Floor	Service Area	Tuesday -Friday	Saturday –Sunday
6	Taiwan Study Research Center (I), Homeland Education Resources Center, Collections of Taiwan Studies, Microform Reading Area, Special Collection of Copies of Old Book	9:00-21:00	9:00-17:00
5	Taiwan Study Research Center (II), Bound Periodicals of Taiwan Studies, Reference Collections, Special Exhibition Room, Special Collections Reading Area	9:00-21:00	9:00-17:00
	Taiwan Book Hospital	Wednesday 9:30-11:30 Self-Guided Tour Wednesday 14:00-17:00 Reserved Guided Tour	
4	Bound Periodicals, Monographic Series	9:00-21:00	9:00-17:00
	Shuanghe Gallery, Classroom 4045	9:00-17:00	
3	Chinese Language Collections for Humanities and Social Sciences, Oversize Collections, New Arrivals, Teen Zone	9:00-21:00	
	Citizen's Classroom	9:00-21:00	
	Quiet Study Space, Mobile Device Seating Area	8:00-21:00	
2	Chinese Language Collections for Generalities and Science, Foreign Language Collections, Audio Visual Collections, Multimedia Zone, New Arrivals, Group Discussion Room, Computer Classroom	9:00-21:00	
	Food Quarter	8:00-21:00	
1	Circulation Service Desk (Library Card Application、Borrow and Return), Self-Service Holds Pickup, Taiwan Art and Culture Gallery, Data Retrieval Station, Laptop Station, Current Periodicals and Newspapers, Senior Zone, Briefing Room	9:00-21:00	
	Breastfeeding Room	9:00-21:00	
	Parent and Child Information Center	9:00-19:00	
	Visual Impairment Information Center	9:00-17:00(Tuesday-Friday)	
B1	International Conference Hall, Restaurant, Happy Learning Room, Underground Parking Lot		
B2-3	Underground Parking Lot		

**From Infants to the Elderly
Innovative Practices for Lifelong Learning
Blending Virtual and Physical Experiences
Balancing Activity and Reflection
Advancing Sustainable Development**



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 **國立臺灣圖書館**
National Taiwan Library

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