National Diet Library Newsletter

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Exhibition at the International Library of Children's Literature "World Through Picture Books - Librarians' favourite books from their country"



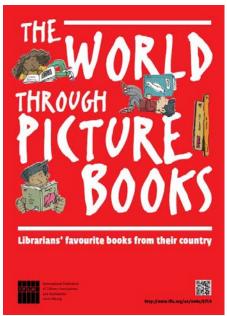
<<Full view of the exhibition in the Hall of the International Library of Children's Literature>>

The International Library of Children's Literature (ILCL), National Diet Library, has been holding various exhibitions on children's books since its opening in 2000. The exhibition titled "World Through Picture Books - Librarians' favourite books from their country" held from May 9 to June 9, 2013, was rather small but a special one for its background. About 260 picture books from 33 countries and regions on exhibit were available for free browsing and on site reading, displayed country by country along with the national flags, small panels presenting each country with a map, and greetings in the national language.

These books were donated to the ILCL by the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), as a fruit of the programme led by the IFLA Section of Libraries for Children and Young Adults: the World through Picture Books project (for details of the project, see http://www.ifla.org/node/6718). Librarians of each country participating in the project selected 10 representative picture books of their countries and prepared commentaries for each work. Then the books were sent to IFLA. Picture books from across the globe thus lined up were exhibited on the occasion of the World Library and Information Congress 2012 in Finland, after which one set of the books was sent to Japan.

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<<IFLA Poster for the promotion of the project >>





<< Exhibitions at the National Library for Children and Young Adults (left) and the Subong Library in Incheon Metropolitan City (right), Repubic of Korea>>

The ILCL, donee of this treasure of global value, is required to lend it out to domestic libraries and libraries in the Asian and Oceanian regions for exhibitions. From August to October 2013, exhibitions were held in the Republic of Korea, at the National Library for Children and Young Adults and the Subong Library in Incheon Metropolitan City.

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<< Picture books on display country by country at the ILCL>>

The exhibition held in the Hall at the ILCL received more than 4,700 visitors in total. Many of them said they enjoyed the books selected from all over the world, commenting, for example, that it was interesting to discover similarities and differences in the view of children represented in the picture books of foreign countries.

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