

LIBRARY DETAILS

LIBRARY@CHINATOWN

FAST FACTS

- Opening Date: library@chinatown officially opened on 31 Jan 2013
- Floor Area: 1,000 square meters
- Collection Size: 46,000
- Target Community: Arts and cultural enthusiasts and the general public who are keen to learn more about Chinese arts and culture

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

This is the first themed library on Chinese arts and culture located in the heart of Chinatown and is fully supported by philanthropic funds. It is also the first library in Singapore to experiment with a visitor self-service model run by volunteers. It carries a thematic collection of titles on Chinese calligraphy, literature, music, painting, traditions, customs and more. There is also a small selection of materials in commonly spoken Chinese dialects such as Hokkien, Teochew and Cantonese. Visitors can also read local and foreign digital newspapers and magazines on eNewspaper stations in the library.

Volunteer-Run Library

library@chinatown is also NLB's first volunteer-run library. Volunteers don a special library@chinatown volunteer T-shirt for easy identification, and they focus on shelving and arranging returned books.

Members of the public who are interested to volunteer at library@chinatown can sign up [here](#).

Window to China

Window to China showcases books donated by National Library to China, Shanghai Library, Suzhou Dushu Lake Library, Zhejiang Foreign Cultural Exchange Association, Zhejiang Provincial Education Department and Zhejiang Publishing United Group among others.

COLLECTION HIGHLIGHTS

Chinese Arts and Culture-Themed Library

As NLB's first themed library on Chinese arts and culture, library@chinatown offers a curated collection that caters to patrons who are keen on learning more about Chinese arts and culture.

LIBRARY HISTORY

library@chinatown was officially opened on 31 January 2013 with the generous sponsorship of CP1 Pte Ltd and Kwan Im Thong Hood Cho Temple by Mr Lawrence Wong, then Acting Minister for Culture, Community and Youth and Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Communications and Information. Located on the 4th floor of Chinatown Point shopping mall, it is NLB's first library run by the community, for the community.

INTERESTING FACTS

Apart from its volunteer staff, the library also collaborates with the community through other ways, namely:

Through Philanthropy and Sponsorships: Chinatown Point Mall owner, CP1 Pte Ltd, sponsored the development cost of the library (including IT infrastructure and start-up collection).

Kwan Im Thong Hood Cho Temple sponsors the library's annual operating costs, as well as collection maintenance and programmes.

Through Partnerships and Engagement: To promote greater appreciation of Chinese arts and culture and engagement of community partners, the library@chinatown works closely with Sun Yat Sen Nanyang Memorial Hall and schools for regular exhibitions and events.

Due to its small collection, materials at library@chinatown are not available for reservation. Please visit the library to borrow your books.