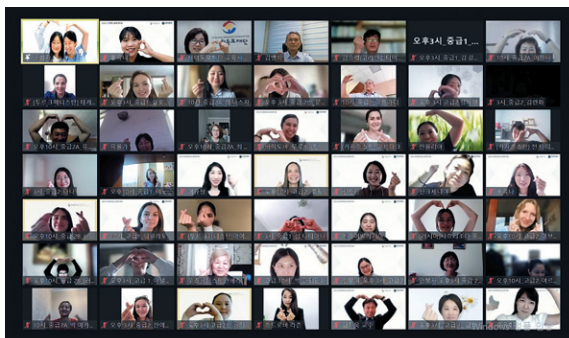




Special Article - OKF invites 1,300 young overseas Koreans to participate in Korean Experience
 Special Feature - Korean Americans reach high echelons of White House, Court of Appeals, DA's office, police force
 Newsworthy Topic - Korean American mathematician June Huh wins Fields Medal, 'Nobel Prize of mathematics'



Have you heard of ArtCor, the Korean Wave community in Cuba?

Cuba's Korean Wave community, ArtCor, has been selected for the overseas Korean Wave community support program (Hallyu Com-on) created by the Korean Foundation for International Cultural Exchange (KOFICE). This program supports the activities of voluntary Korean culture-related communities in various countries around the world and is meant to create a network between the communities.

This year, 12 teams from Hungary, Germany, the United Kingdom and other countries were selected under the "individual and joint community support" heading and 21 teams from countries that include India, China and Cuba for the "direct application" category. The regions and fields covered have been expanded over time. The first region to be selected this year was Cuba. ArtCor managed to be dramatically selected in a follow-up round of selections with the help of the Overseas Koreans Foundation, despite the fact that there is no Korean Cultural Center in Cuba.

Korea and Cuba have a history of immigration that goes back 100 years. Descendants of Koreans who immigrated to Mexico to live in henequén hacienda in 1905 later immigrated to Cuba in 1921. Due to various reasons, no formal diplomatic relations have been established between Cuba and South Korea as of now. Cuba, a socialist country, has experienced waves of enthusiasm for Korean dramas, including "Queen of Housewives" and "Dae Jang Geum," since 2013. There are also active local Korean Wave clubs.

ArtCor, founded in 2015, is active across all of Cuba. It focuses on K-pop, as well as Korean food, the Korean language, Korean history and Korean traditional dance. Its main activities include bimonthly meetings, where Discorea, a K-pop and dance event, is held, as well as Korean cooking classes. There are also Korean culture




Jung Kil-hwa,
president of the Korean Foundation for
International Cultural Exchange

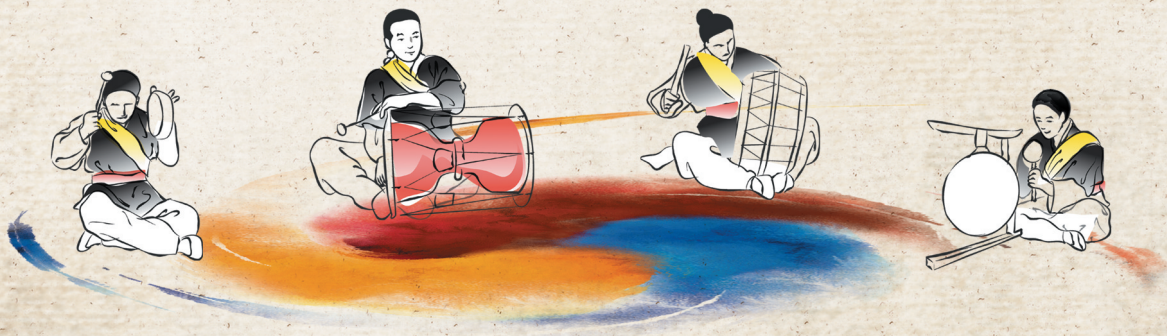
discussion meetings held in a venue created to share Korean culture (K-pop, Korean dramas and other elements of the Korean Wave).

There are almost 50 smaller groups within the community, and it appears that ArtCor has a very active and organized member base. There are also yearly K-pop festivals and Korean Culture Week events. KOFICE will provide ArtCor with various funds needed to hold events and operate meetings, in addition to Korean culture-related items that cannot be acquired locally. As of now, the support provided has been small. The goal is to slowly expand operations.

ArtCor will be holding "Korean week in Havana" in places that include Havana's Cine Acapulco, Museo Abel Santamaria and Plaza San Fan Con. Beginning with Korean culture

exhibitions featuring traditional Korean art and Korean and Cuban handicrafts, there will also be various contests with K-pop dance and music covers, Korean speaking and writing, and other feats. There will also be a "hanbok" fashion show, a Korean food tasting event and Korean writing classes, indicating the scale and organization of the event.

In 2016, Cuba put on a powerful Korean culture event. The scene of Korean Wave fans dancing as a group on the Malecón (the sea wall featured in the documentary "Buena Vista Social Club"), a landmark of Havana, Cuba's capital, was shown on Korean TV. Young Habaneros, with the venerable Hotel Nacional de Cuba as a backdrop, were doing a K-pop cover dance of the song "Bang Bang Bang," a hit produced by the Korean idol group Big Bang. It has been six years since then, and the Korean Wave has become a symbol of goodwill toward Korea. ArtCor, like the "Buena Vista Social Club," has functioned as a messenger between the two countries. 





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You can also read this publication online at webzine.korean.net



OKF invites 1,300 young overseas Koreans to participate in Korean Experience

Event, suspended due to COVID-19, resumes for first time in 3 years

An invitational training (both online and offline) that allows young overseas Koreans who will serve as a window to Korea in all parts of the world is under way. The Overseas Koreans Foundation revealed that 1,300 people (800 overseas Koreans and 500 Koreans) are participating in its 2022 Korean Experience for Overseas Korean Teenagers and University Students, which is being held from July to October.

The offline training took place twice between July and August in the six national youth centers in Korea for teenagers, while for college students the training was performed in Seoul, Busan, Gwangju, Gongju, Suncheon and Pyeongchang. Online training will involve four groups of students, starting with Class 1 from July 1 to 30 and ending with Class 4 from Oct. 1 to 30. There will also be a combined metaverse closing ceremony and graduation on Nov. 5.

The OKF stated that this program has the following goals: increased ethnic fellowship, nurturing exemplary citizens for the countries they live in, and “bringing together Korea’s past, present and future with overseas Korean teenagers” to form a global Korean

community. Also, based on the value of humanitarianism held by the founder of the Korean people, Dangun, participants will be encouraged to take pride in themselves as global Korean college students and discuss Korea’s past, present and future.

Diverse experiences prepared to nurture participants into global talent and world citizens

The foundation has created various new experiences, based on themes such as culture, values, coexistence and mutual benefits, to allow participants to grow into global talent and become capable global citizens. The training provides content that applies to everyone, such as the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and issues regarding the Earth, its climate and its environment.

In the case of the offline training provided for teenagers, the goals set by the Overseas Koreans Foundation were as follows: cultivating identities within a K-culture group; instilling pride as global Koreans and discovering new talent; and the vitalization of the global Korean teenager network.

The detailed goals included making training safe for the participants through an authentication system; enhancing scattered cultural programs centered around participation, experiences and small groups; developing well-balanced programs, including cityscapes, nature, traditional culture, and the Korean Wave; understanding the interdependent nature of the Korean Wave (K-

Wave/K-Culture) and strengthening great Korean education; inducing the growth of future teenager leaders by increasing the connection teens in Korea and abroad feel toward each other; reflecting the values of 120 years of Korean immigration in the program; improving programs for understanding Korea and the Korean language; and upgrading networking activities to allow voluntary interactions after the training has ended.

As the program is being held in the midst of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the foundation spared no efforts to provide a safe training environment by strengthening the quarantine procedures, including the creation of a “teenager training authentication system.” The program also improved communication with the parents of the students through specialized online programs and real-time broadcasting of training activities.

‘It was fun,’ say college students who took part in ‘hanbok’ experience

“Our Festival, Our Hanbok” was held at Seoul Olympic Parktel in Songpa Ward, Seoul, on Aug. 8 as part of the offline college student training program.

“I’ve never seen the robes and hats from Korean dramas in person,” Kim Danil (21) from Kazakhstan, who came to the event, said, talking about the traditional Korean attire. “My grandparents and parents sometimes explained to me how my ancestors were freedom fighters during the Japanese occupation. Perhaps due to their influence, I also have a lot of interest in Korean dramas and K-pop. Though I’ve experienced a lot of Korean culture already, the hanbok I tried on today was especially amazing. I like it so much that I want to recommend it to my friends back home and purchase similar clothes to wear.”

This event, which was originally planned as a dance performance in Insa-dong, Jongno Ward, Seoul, followed by an immigration history recital, was abruptly moved indoors due to seasonal rain and held as a hanbok contest instead. Participants split up into 20 groups and wore traditional clothing from nine countries, including Korea, Australia, Mexico, Russia and Argentina.

“I dressed up as a young gentleman instead of wearing a dress,” said Park Yelena (19) from Uzbekistan, who wore a traditional Korean hat and a sky-blue male’s hanbok. “I took a lot of photos with my friends. The sudden rain did cause a change of plans, but I think it was for the better.”

Around 150 overseas Korean youths from 30 countries walked down the runway inside the hotel, showing off the traditional clothing they’d brought with



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them. People gathered in threes and fours to take selfies as well. The staff all agreed that the event, held for the first time in three years due to COVID-19, was more full of passion than ever before.

“I hope that this training will help them grow into young global Koreans,” OKF President Kim Seong-gon said. “I’d like to ask them to become agents of public diplomacy, telling the people of the countries they live in about amazing Koreans.” [창](#)



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1 The opening ceremony of the 2022 Korean Experience for Overseas Korean University Students is held July 21 at the Olympic Parktel in Songpa Ward, Seoul.

2 Overseas Korean youths who participated in the 2022 Korean Experience for Overseas Korean University Students take part in “Our Festival, Our Hanbok” at Seoul Olympic Parktel on Aug. 8.

3 Youths walk down a runway at the “Our Festival, Our Hanbok” event as part of the 2022 Korean Experience for Overseas Korean University Students.

4 Park Yelena, Kim Danil and Jang Diana (from L to R), who participated in the hanbok event, pose for a photo.

5 Overseas Korean college students from the training program take a photo with citizens on a street in Insa-dong, Jongno Ward, Seoul, on July 25.

Korean Americans reach high echelons of White House, Court of Appeals, DA's office, police force

Dan Koh named deputy cabinet secretary in Executive Office of President; Cindy Chung nominated as judge for U.S. Court of Appeals for Third Circuit

Korean Americans have recently reached high-ranking positions in the White House, a United States Court of Appeals, a county district attorney's office and a state judicial system, attracting a lot of attention from the public. The Korean community in the U.S. has been greatly encouraged by these individuals, who were selected for their roles based on their excellent skill sets and careers.

Dan Koh (37), who was formerly the top aide to Labor Secretary Martin J. Walsh, was selected as deputy cabinet secretary in the Executive Office of the President on July 19. The deputy cabinet secretary functions as a bridge between the White House and the various members of the Cabinet, as well as a communication line for administering messages, among other duties.

Koh reports to Evan Ryan, the cabinet secretary and wife of Secretary of State Antony Blinken. This couple is regarded as one of the most famous "power couples" in the political world of Washington.

"I was given the privilege of continuing my work under the Biden administration," Koh said. "I will aid Secretary Ryan in the process of bringing together and rebuilding the United States."

Koh graduated from Harvard Business School. His political career began when he was selected at the age of 28 as the head secretary of Walsh, who was the mayor of Boston at the time. He ran to become a state representative for the Democratic Party in 2018 but was defeated by a narrow margin. Before working as the top aide to the labor secretary, he was the chief operating officer of a software company. He participated with Walsh in President Yoon Suk-yeol's inauguration ceremony in May.

Koh's father is Howard Koh, former assistant secretary for health for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and his uncle is Harold Koh, former legal adviser of Hillary Clinton, the secretary of



state during former President Barack Obama's administration. His grandfather is Gwangrim Koh, who was a diplomatic envoy to the U.S. when Chang Myon was prime minister of Korea. The Koh household is regarded as the Korean family who has had the most success in mainstream U.S. society.

White House: 'Nominee Cindy Chung will be first Asian judge on U.S. Court of Appeals for Third Circuit'

On July 13, the Korean American Cindy K. Chung was nominated as a judge of the United States Court of Appeals.

"Nominee Cindy Chung will be the first Asian judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit," the White House said through a press release.

The judges of the Court of Appeals are first nominated by the president, then approved by the Senate before official designation. The jurisdiction of the Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit comprises Delaware, New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

Chung graduated from Yale in 1997 and earned her Juris Doctor degree at the University of Columbia in 2002. Having worked as a law clerk in Alabama and an assistant district attorney in New York, she began work in 2009 as a trial attorney in the United States Department of Justice Civil Rights Division.



From 2014 onward, she was the assistant United States attorney for the Western District of Pennsylvania, and last year, President Joe Biden nominated Chung to be the United States attorney for the Western District of Pennsylvania.

Sterling, daughter of ‘Korean son-in-law’ Hogan, governor of Maryland, set to become county attorney

Jaymi Sterling, the Korean American daughter of Larry Hogan, governor of Maryland, is set to become a county attorney for the state. On July 19, Sterling received 71 percent of the votes in the Republican Party’s preprimary endorsement in St. Mary’s County, defeating the incumbent Richard Fritz.

The preprimary was held to select a representative for each party for the off-year elections in November, but there was no nominee for the Democratic Party, ensuring a victory for Sterling. She will be the first Asian county attorney in Maryland, and the first minority attorney in St. Mary’s County. Sterling has worked as an assistant and deputy attorney for 14 years.

“I’m very grateful for the support and encouragement from the Korean community,” Sterling said. “I will do my best to live up to all the love.”

The county is an administrative unit below that of the state government, and the state attorney general and the county attorneys have the power to vote on their creation.

Hogan, governor of Maryland, is often called the “Korean son-in-law” because he married Yumi Hogan, a Korean American. The Hogans have three daughters, the second of which is Sterling.

Capt. Huh Chung-yoon, Korean American in NYPD, promoted to deputy inspector

On July 21, a Korean American was promoted to deputy inspector for the first time in the New York Police Department. The NYPD announced on that day that Capt. Huh Chung-yoon, who heads the Manhattan Borough South Inspection Division, had been promoted to captain.

“I feel like I’m the first Korean American to break through the NYPD’s high glass wall, and that makes me happy,” Huh said. “I hope that more Korean Americans will climb the ranks in the force, and I’ll work harder to become a

role model for Korean American police officers.”

No Korean American has ever risen to the rank of deputy inspector in the entire history of the NYPD, which was founded in 1845. The NYPD, with approximately 3,600 police officers and 1,900 civilian employees, is the largest and oldest police force in the U.S.

Though promotion to the rank of captain is possible through tests, higher ranks beginning with “deputy inspector” can only be achieved through nomination, requiring both skill and trust.

Huh was the first Korean American woman to be hired as an NYPD police officer in 1998. She was promoted to sergeant in 2003, lieutenant in 2011 and captain in 2016. She worked as chief commissioner, inspector general and other roles in police stations around regions with high Korean populations, including Manhattan and Queens, creating many firsts in the annals of Korean American police officers. 🇰🇷

1 Dan Koh, deputy cabinet secretary in the Executive Office of the President (Photo from Koh’s Twitter account)

2 Cindy K. Chung, nominated for judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit (Photo captured from U.S. Department of Justice website)

3 Jaymi Sterling (R), future county attorney for St. Mary’s County, Maryland, and her mother, Yumi Hogan (Photo from Sterling’s election campaign)

4 Huh Chung-yoon, the first Korean American deputy inspector in the NYPD (Photo courtesy of The Korea Times)

Korean American mathematician June Huh wins Fields Medal, ‘Nobel Prize of mathematics’

Professor Huh is ‘domestic scholar’ who grew up and received master’s in Korea



June Huh, a Korean American mathematician who is a professor at Princeton University and an honorary scholar professor of the Mathematics Department in the Korea Institute for Advanced Study, received the Fields Medal on July 5. The International Mathematical Union held an awards ceremony at Aalto University in Espoo, Finland, where Huh was declared a winner of the medal, often referred to as the “Nobel Prize of mathematics.”

Though the 39-year-old is technically a United States citizen, he is the first Korean mathematician to win the medal. No Korean or other individual of Korean parentage has ever won this medal before.

The Fields Medal, established in 1936, is the greatest award in the field of mathematics, given every four years to individuals below the age of 40 who have accomplished remarkable achievements and shown great academic promise. The Fields Medal and the Abel Prize are together considered to be on the level of the Nobel Prize in mathematics.

Two to four winners are selected each year; This year there were three other winners besides Huh, which included Maryna Sergiivna Viazovska from Ukraine. Viazovska is the second woman to win the Fields Medal.

Winners are given a gold medal and 15,000 Canadian dollars (US\$11,507) as prize money. This year was the last year Huh could have won the medal because he was one year below the age limit.

The Fields Medal awards ceremony is held on the same day as the International Congress of Mathematicians, which is also held every four years. The ICM is the largest conference in the field of mathematics, in which mathematicians from around the world take part.

“In the list of Fields Medal winners, there are many people who are like heroes to me, people who made huge contributions to the field of algebraic geometry,” Huh said in an interview after receiving the award. “That’s also the field I specialize in. It gives me a very odd, almost overwhelming feeling to think that my name will be listed below them.”

He also spoke about the results and papers cited for his nomination.

“Some of that research I performed alone, but in most cases, I worked as a team with others,” he said. “I’d like to think that the reward was meant for all of them as well. I’ll use this award as motivation to consistently pursue and enjoy my studies.”

Huh gained recognition for creating proofs for Read’s conjecture, Heron-Rota-Welsh conjecture and other difficult mathematical problems

Huh was born in California. When he was 2, his father, Huh Myung-Hoe, (honorary professor of statistics at Korea University) and his mother, Lee In-



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young, (honorary professor of the Russian language and literature at Seoul National University) brought him back to South Korea, after which he completed all of his education, up to his master's degree, in the country. He took the Korean high school qualification exam after dropping out of high school and graduated from Seoul National University (mathematical sciences and physics and astronomy) in 2007. After completing his master's degree in mathematical sciences in 2009 at the same university, he went on to complete his doctorate degree in mathematics in 2014 at the University of Michigan in the United States.

Huh grew famous in mathematics circles after traveling to the U.S. for his doctorate program and coming up with answers to old mathematical problems, such as Read's conjecture and the Rota-Heron-Welsh conjecture. Read's conjecture, which was one of many unsolved problems in mathematics, involves the mathematical expression of specific patterns of coefficients that appear when computing chromatic polynomials. It was posed in 1968.

Thanks to his spectacular research accomplishments and prolific research activities, Huh has received the Simons Researcher Award, the Samsung Ho-Am Prize, the New Horizons in Mathematics Prize and the Blavatnik Award for Young Scientists.

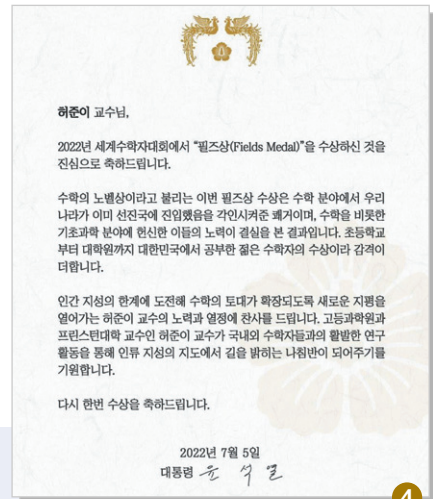
Congratulations abound from President Yoon Suk-yeol and various circles

After Huh's splendid achievement, congratulations poured in from many circles.

"Winning the Fields Medal, the 'Nobel Prize of math,' shows that Korea has joined the ranks of advanced countries in the field of mathematics," President Yoon Suk-yeol said, in a congratulatory message. "It is also a tangible result of the dedication and efforts of many who work in the basic sciences. I am even more moved by the accomplishment as professor Huh is a young mathematician who has completed his entire education up to his master's in Korea."

The Ministry of Science and ICT also sent Huh a congratulatory message.

"His research is a very difficult one based on his powerful intuition in algebraic geometry that solves complex combinatorial analysis problems; this



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is only possible for a mathematician well-versed in both fields," it said. "For his accomplishment in expanding the horizons of algebraic geometry, he became the first Korean to win the Fields Medal."

The ministry emphasized Huh's roots in Korean academic circles by saying: "The preceding research regarding Read's conjecture began during his master's program at Seoul National University. Much of his research was performed while he was a KIAS Scholar."

Kim Young-hoon, professor of mathematical sciences at Seoul National University and Huh's academic adviser during his master's degree, also congratulated Huh.

"Seeing how he solved many of these difficult problems before even reaching 40 years of age, it's easy to see that Huh has done enough to merit the Fields Medal and more," Kim said. "I am happy for him; this feels like a dream."

Huh's father rounded out the kind words, saying: "I am also, in a general sense, part of the mathematics circles. I feel proud that my son received such a huge award. I hope that he won't let the medal distract him from continuing his progress." [\[창\]](#)

- 1 June Huh, professor at Princeton University and honorary scholar professor at KIAS, receives the Fields Medal at Aalto University in Espoo, Finland, on July 5.
- 2 June Huh poses for the camera after receiving the Fields Medal at the International Mathematical Union Fields Medal awards ceremony.
- 3 June Huh, winner of the Fields Medal, steps out of the arrivals hall in Terminal 1 of Incheon International Airport with his son on the morning of July 8.
- 4 The congratulatory message from President Yoon Suk-yeol to the Fields Medal winner June Huh

“Japan isn’t seeking to reveal the truth; in fact, there are attempts to hide or even distort history,” Lee Jong-kul, head of the Korean Council for Reconciliation and Cooperation, said. “Truly friendly relations between the countries is only possible when there is reconciliation and forgiveness through the correction of history.”

Yoo Kihong, a member of the National Assembly, gave a celebratory speech.

“A group of National Assembly members who seek to ensure correct historical education are currently working on a bill for the special law,” he said. “We’ll be able to propose the bill to the National Assembly in early September.”

Following his speech, groups that included the June 15th North-South Joint Declaration Overseas Committee, Actions in Remembrance of the Kantō Massacre and the Gathering for Justice for Korean Victims of the Kantō Massacre declared their resolve for solidarity.

Kim Jong-su, the executive committee head and the president of the 1923 Korean Japanese Citizen’s Solidarity, revealed that the newly formed committee would be focusing on the creation of a special law, the holding of international academic conferences for global exposure, a 99th anniversary and centennial commemoration jointly held by Korea and Japan, and special and visiting exhibitions that reveal the truth behind the massacre.

“When the special law is passed, a government fact-finding committee will be formed to prove that the Kantō Massacre was incited by the Japanese government and request official reparations, holding the nation responsible for what happened,” Kim said. “This will help repair the reputations of the victims who were killed as terrorists and criminals, and it will become possible to form government-level commemorative projects that will prevent such events from ever happening again.”

Son Mi-hee (co-president of the Citizen Solidarity for Schools and Children), Kim Gwang-yeol (president of the Association of Korean-Japanese National Studies) and Kim Kyeong-min (secretary general of YMCA Korea) also came forward to request solidarity with the civil society in Japan and North Korea to ascertain the truth, as well as the execution of various projects to gain the support of the international society. The founding ceremony was concluded with a recital of the founding declaration by Kim Eun-hyung (vice chairman of the Korean Confederation of Trade Unions) and Heo Kwon (vice chairman of the Federation of Korean Trade Unions).

Dancer Kim Eun-jin holds commemorative performance on 99th anniversary of Kantō Massacre

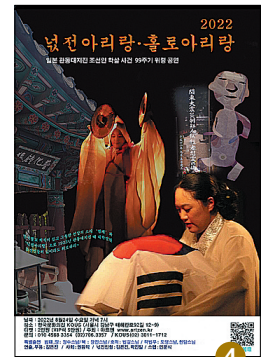
Dancer Kim Eun-jin (49) held a commemorative performance titled “Neokjeon Arirang, Lonely Arirang” on Aug. 24 at the Korea Cultural House (KOUS) on Teheran Boulevard in Gangnam Ward, Seoul, for the 99th anniversary of the Kantō Massacre. “Neokjeon” are paper



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dolls used as receptacles of the souls of the dead, used for exorcisms by Korean shamans during requiems and memorial rituals. Kim, who majored in dance therapy, teaches practical dance at major universities like Myongji University and Yonsei University.

Kim first heard about the Kantō Massacre when she met Shim Woo-seong, a master of the one-man play and a folklorist who coined the term “samulnori,” in 2015. Kim was moved to tears by Shim’s “Reunification and Marriage Exorcism” performance, which featured folk dancing to console the souls of the dead, and began learning more dance from him.

Shim, who took the lead in revealing the truth of the undeserved deaths of Koreans in the Kantō Massacre, was one of the key figures behind the establishment of the Bohwajongnu Belfry at the Japanese temple Kannonji, located in Chiba Prefecture, Japan.

“We were to perform a Neokjeon dance at the Bohwajongnu Belfry, and it always bothered me that I wasn’t able to keep this promise after my teacher passed away in 2018,” Kim said. “I held this performance so I could adhere to my promise, even if it comes a bit late.” [창]

1 The founding ceremony of the Centennial Commemoration Commission for the Kantō Massacre is held at the Press Center in Jung Ward, Seoul, on July 12.

2 Kim Eun-hyung (L), vice chairman of the Korean Confederation of Trade Unions, and Heo Kwon, permanent vice chairman of the Federation of Korean Trade Unions, recite the founding declaration at the founding ceremony.

3 Dancer Kim Eun-jin, who held a commemorative ceremony titled “Neokjeon Arirang, Lonely Arirang” on the 99th anniversary of the Kantō Massacre on Aug. 24 at the Korea Cultural House (KOUS) on Teheran Boulevard in Gangnam Ward, Seoul

4 A poster for the commemorative performance “Neokjeon Arirang, Lonely Arirang”

GLOBAL KOREAN



Korean American judge selected as next president of Washington State Superior Court Judges' Association

Samuel Chung, judge of King County, set to assume position next April

The Washington State Superior Court Judges' Association has selected Korean American Samuel Chung as its next president.

"As I was the only candidate, I was selected recently without a vote," Chung told the press on July 15. "I'll be assuming my duties next April for a term of two years."

The courts of Washington are composed of multiple levels: district courts, superior courts, courts of appeals and the Supreme Court. There is one Superior Court in each county, referred to either as a regional court or a county court. There are 39 counties in the state of Washington.

"According to the Washington State Legislature from 1933, RCW 2.16," Chung said, "I'll be representing the 200 or so incumbent judges in the association. The association is a large organization that even stands for the commissioners and retired judges in the court system."

Chung, who was born in Seoul, immigrated to the United States with his parents when he was 12. He graduated from the University of Columbia and George Washington University Law School, after which he began working as a lawyer in 1989. He was a partner at Lee Anav Chung LLP in Seattle, where he was mostly involved with commercial law and mediation.

Chung is the founder of the Korean American Bar Association of Washington, of which he was the first president. He was selected as the Superior Court judge of King County by Gov. Jay Inslee in 2014, and he won the majority voice in 2015, 2016 and 2020.

Chung, who was named "Judge of the Year" by the Asian Bar Association of Washington in 2017, has operated a Korean American consultation center since 1992 to provide free legal advice.

Insook Baik Bridge: first bridge in U.S. to be named after a Korean Anchorage, Alaska, to commemorate the altruistic Baik

The first bridge in America to be named after a Korean is in Anchorage, Alaska. The bridge will be called the Insook Baik Bridge, named after Insook Baik (71), who has lived in the city since 1981. With a full length of 235 meters, the bridge was built in 2008 with six lanes but has had no name up till now. It is on the Glenn Highway, which connects the Mountain View and Bragaw neighborhoods.

The plan to name the bridge began with a proposal by state Rep. Geran Tarr (HB 359). Sen. Josh Revak added the bill to SB 203, and after a strict review, it was passed by the Senate. This became known after the Korean American aide to Tarr, David Song, recently revealed it to the press. Song said Anchorage will spend US\$7,000 in August to attach a sign to the bridge, after which there will be a naming ceremony.

Baik, the namesake of the bridge, is from Busan. She moved to New York in 1980 and then to Anchorage the following year. She runs the Mountain View Shell gas



station, as well as other gas stations in Anchorage, and has done many charitable acts, such as giving out food to neighbors in need on Thanksgiving.

The bill describes her as follows: "Insook Baik is a citizen of Anchorage who has lived here for 40 years. Having grown up in poverty during the Korean War, she moved to the U.S. for a chance at a better life for her family. She operates multiple gasoline stations in Anchorage and runs food trucks every Thanksgiving, providing many people in the community with free food. She's been doing this for 10 years."

The Consulate of the Republic of Korea in Anchorage (Consul Sang Seung-man) invited Baik (R, in photo) to a celebratory event.



Kim So-boo, Korean Japanese businessman, donates 10 million yen to Japanese Red Cross Society

'Meant to aid medical staff and flood victims exhausted from COVID-19 pandemic'

The Republic of Korean Residents Union in Japan (Mindan) revealed on Aug. 11 that Kim So-boo (L, in photo), who is the president of the Kaneshimaganko Group, which is one of Mindan's consultation centers, donated 10 million yen (US\$72,215) to the Tokyo branch of the Japanese Red Cross Society.

"Since Japan has the largest number of COVID-19 victims in the world, I wanted to donate funds to aid the medical staff fighting tirelessly against the pandemic and the victims of flooding from the recent heavy rains," the 76-year-old said.

The Kaneshimaganko Group operates the well-known 747 Karaoke franchise, and is also involved with the restaurant and real estate business. In April 2020, immediately after the global COVID-19 pandemic was declared, Kim visited Korea to procure 4,000 medical masks -- which were difficult to find at the time -- and donated them to the Japanese Red Cross Society.

He also donated 10 million yen to a hospital in Okubo, Shinjuku, to aid COVID-19 victims in January 2021 and another 10 million yen to a child care facility in Tokyo in April. He has been operating an "Everyone donates 300 yen" program for all his employees for 30 years and sending the donations to the Japanese Red Cross Society and UNICEF.

Kim donated 100 million won (US\$74,144) to Gyeongnam National University of Science and Technology to aid its development and also has provided flood relief funds whenever typhoons or flooding occurred in his home country. After the 2011 Tōhoku earthquake and tsunami, he gave 10 million yen and food supplies to Ibaraki Prefecture, where he was born and raised. Kim also formed a fund for Korean Japanese athletes, which supported An Chang-rim, a Korean Japanese judoka who won the bronze medal at the 2021 Tokyo Olympics.

Having taken an active part in the enhancement of the rights and interests of fellow Koreans in Japan as the president of a consultation center belonging to Mindan since 2009, he received the Dongbaek Medal of South Korea's Order of Civil Merit in 2016 in acknowledgment of his accomplishments. 🇰🇷



Ronald Moon, first Korean Supreme Court chief justice in Hawaii, passes away

‘We lost a legend,’ says Hawaii Department of Justice

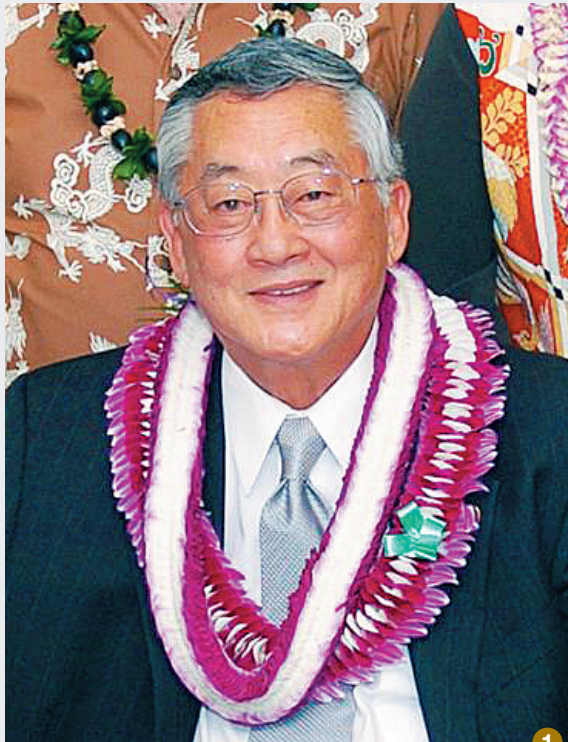
Ronald Moon, the former Supreme Court chief justice of Hawaii who was the first person in the history of Korean immigration to the United States to attain such a position, passed away at his home from a chronic illness in the afternoon of July 4. He was 82 years of age.

Moon, having risen to the very top of the state’s judicial branch, was born in September 1940 to his father, Moon Deok-man, and his mother, Mary Moon. He was a third-generation Korean American. His paternal grandfather, Moon Jeong-heon, and maternal grandfather, Lee Man-ki, were aboard the RMS Gaelic in 1903, when it traveled to Hawaii as the first ship to carry Korean immigrants to the U.S. Though Moon Jeong-heon’s life after immigration was a tough one, laboring in sugar cane farms, he established a church and school for Koreans, and contributed greatly to the Korean community.

Former Chief Justice Moon graduated from the University of Iowa, where he studied law. He served as a lawyer, a United States court of appeals judge, and a Supreme Court judge before becoming the chief justice of Hawaii in 1993. Moon led the Department of Justice in Hawaii for 17 years until his retirement in 2010 at the age of 70.

As chief justice, he protected same-sex marriages and the rights of native Hawaiians. He also made landmark rulings regarding environmental issues and worked ceaselessly to improve the Department of Justice. He was selected in 2003 as one of the “seven heroes of 100 years of Korean immigration to the U.S.,” which included the diving legend Sammy Lee and the baseball player Park Chan-ho.

“I learned the values of family and labor, which came down from



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my grandfather,” Moon said earlier during his life. “That’s why I was able to become the first Korean American to become a state chief justice. No country has achieved as much rapid growth following a war as South Korea. I’m proud of the economic growth the country has accomplished.”

The Hawaii Department of Justice put out a statement following his death, saying: “The judiciary has lost a legend. He was the first Korean American to serve as a state Chief Justice and served as a judge for 28 years.” [📄](#)

1 Ronald Moon, former chief justice of Hawaii, who passed away on July 4 (Both photos courtesy of The Korea Times)

2 A photo of Ronald Moon when he was a Supreme Court judge

Korean American youths publish English book on comfort women

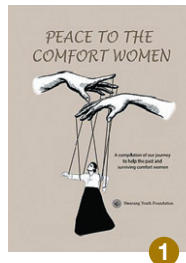
Hwarang Youth Foundation's 'Peace to the Comfort Women,' a collection of essays and other texts

Korean American youths have recently published an English book on "comfort women," a euphemism for those turned into sexual slaves by the Imperial Japanese Army. The book, whose subtitle is "A complication of our journey to help the past and surviving comfort women," was published in Korea. All the books were then shipped to the United States. On Aug. 8, these books began being sent to the various municipal and state libraries of each state, as well as schools of varying levels of education.

This 102-page book begins with an introduction by the Hwarang Youth Foundation (President Park Yun-sook). The foundation, founded in 2006 to help nurture the dreams and visions of youth, is headquartered in Los Angeles. It also has 21 branches in 14 countries, including South Korea, Ukraine, Guatemala, El Salvador, the Philippines, Malaysia, Cambodia, France and Germany, in addition to 32 branches in the U.S., including ones in Southern California, Boston, Hawaii and Arizona.

The book includes reviews of events held by the foundation, such as a comfort women-related forum, a thank-you letter to Glendale, California, and its city library for being the first to declare a Comfort Women Day in 2012 and placing a "Statue of Peace" in a public city park. In addition, the book contains essays on comfort women written by the teenagers of the foundation, including Alice Moon, Kate Park, Jung Ho-yeon, Arisa Jung, Ahn Si-hyun, Brianne Yeo and Janet King. There are also illustrations by Liz Ha, Jason Pyo, Irene Lee, Joanna Jeal and Angela Kong.

"The German government admits to the Holocaust and swears that it will never forget, but not so with Japan," Kate Park wrote in her essay. "Japan refuses to provide a sincere and meaningful apology to the comfort women, and instead tries to erase them from the history books and take down statues that commemorate them. This is why the comfort women were humiliated and abused during World War II by the perpetrators, then from their home country after the war ended."




The book also contains interviews that the students conducted with individuals in Glendale. Among the interviewees were Glendale Mayor Frank Quintero; Chang Lee, planning commissioner of Glendale; Ara Oshagan, gallery curator at the city library; Hwarang Youth Foundation President Park Yun-sook; and Sarah Park, director of the foundation.

"We must record what the soldiers of the Japanese Imperial Army did to these comfort women -- who were mostly young girls -- and make the Japanese government admit to their crimes," Quintero said in his interview. "This is the only way those young,

innocent women can be accorded the justice they deserve."

The book also contains pictures of the 11th Comfort Women Day event and the Statue of Peace. The efforts of the governments of China, Thailand, the Philippines and Canada, as well as various organizations from those countries, are also described in the book. The eyewitness accounts of Korean comfort women Kim Hak-soon (1924-1997), Kim Bok-dong (1926-2019) and Lee Ok-seon (born 1927), as well as comfort women from China, the Philippines and Indonesia, can be found in the book.

"We made this book firstly to thank the city of Glendale and the Glendale City Council for setting forth to become the first to commemorate the comfort women," President Park said. "The students wrote the book in English to tell the world once more about these victims of Japanese imperialism, and we also added pictures and illustrations." 

1 The book cover of "Peace to the Comfort Women"

2 An illustration of a comfort woman by student Irene Lee

Wall of Remembrance, featuring names of 43,808 American and KATUSA soldiers who died in Korean War, completed

Dedication ceremony held in Washington, D.C.
'It symbolizes strength of Korea-U.S. alliance': President Yoon

A memorial wall engraved with the names of 43,808 American and KATUSA soldiers who died during the Korean War was revealed on July 27 in the United States, a new symbol of the strong Korea-U.S. alliance. The Korean War Veterans Memorial Foundation held the completion and dedication ceremony of the wall in Washington, D.C., on the 69th anniversary of the Korean Armistice Agreement at the Korean War Veterans Memorial.

Present at the dedication ceremony from South Korea were National Defense Minister Lee Jong-sup, Patriots and Veterans Affairs Minister Park Min-shik and Ambassador to the U.S. Cho Tae-yong. From the U.S., Vice President Kamala Harris; Douglas Emhoff, second gentleman of the United States; National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan; and John H. Tilelli Jr., chair of the Board of Directors at the Korean War Veterans Memorial Foundation, were in attendance. Also present were around 2,000 Korean War veterans, including those from the U.S. Army and local Korean Americans.

"A symbol of the strength of the blood alliance between the U.S. and South Korea has been built," read Park in a celebratory speech on behalf of President Yoon Suk-yeol. "The veterans of the Korean War are the defenders of freedom and true heroes who protected South Korea. The South Korean government and its people will remember your sacrifice and dedication. Our alliance is built on your sacrifice, and we will work to protect it with even greater enthusiasm."

After reading the message, Park shouted in Korean and English, "Let's go together."

"We will stand together with South Korea,' says U.S. second gentleman on behalf of President Biden

Emhoff explained that he had participated in place of President Joe Biden, who had contracted COVID-19.

"We will continue to stand with South Korea," the second gentleman said. "This wall serves as a specific and eternal



reminder."

As it took nearly 30 years after the formation of the Korean War Veterans Memorial in 1995 for the individual names of those who died in the Korean War to be collected, the event was both solemn and moving for its participants. Those who sacrificed their lives in the war exemplified the fact that freedom is not free.

The dedication ceremony, which consisted of a preliminary opening event and the main event, began with the song "Arirang" played by a U.S. military band. The sober mood of commemoration grew even more solemn when the Korean American members of the band sang the song with ringing, plaintive voices and let their singing echo throughout the memorial park.

"I was taught in school that the Korean War was the Forgotten War," Jonathan Elias, the master of ceremonies for the first part of the event, said. "I had to ask myself how such a war could be forgotten." He then asked the veterans, families of the deceased and soldiers present to stand, and directed applause toward them.

Ambassador to the U.S. Cho offered his congratulations on the completion of the wall. Then he began reciting the names of the 22 countries that took part in the Korean War in alphabetical order starting with Belgium to much applause. When the U.S. was mentioned as the final country on the list, following South Korea, the applause grew louder and some cheering could also be heard. The American and Korean flags entered together for this event, upon which participants all got to their feet and saluted both flags. The




military band then played both the Korean and American national anthems, reminding the participants once more of the sturdy alliance between the two countries.

Korean and American figures fill venue despite temperatures of around 30 C

Though the event was held in sweltering weather of around 30 C, the participants showed up starting an hour before the event and filled the 1,500 seats that had been prepared. Government and legislative figures from both countries were present, as well as Anthony Chey, the president of SK Group, and representatives from Samsung, Hyundai Motor Co. and other corporations. The staff at the event handed out water bottles, ice packs, fans and other items to the participants even before the event, and most guests remained until the end despite the heat.

Construction of the Wall of Remembrance began March 2021. The day of the completion and dedication ceremony coincided with the 69th anniversary of the Korean Armistice Agreement. A panel of granite with a height of 1 meter was erected with a length of 130 meters beside the Pool of Remembrance. The walls were engraved with the names of 36,634 U.S. soldiers and 7,174 Korean Augmentation To the United States Army (KATUSA) soldiers who died in the Korean War, their names listed in alphabetical order, as well as in the order of their affiliation and rank.

A total of 100 granite panels, each around 72 centimeters thick and weighing 4-8 tons, were used to build the wall. Fifty-three of them feature privates and privates first class, showing just how many young soldiers of the U.S. Army and KATUSA were killed in the war. Because the names of KATUSA soldiers were also engraved on the wall, the Wall of Remembrance is the first war memorial in the U.S. marked with the names of non-Americans who were killed in action.

The construction of the Wall of Remembrance, despite the “Korean War Veterans Memorial Wall of Remembrance Act” being passed by the Senate on Oct. 7, 2016, encountered budget difficulties. The project was completed in the end through the efforts of both Korea and the U.S., as well as funding from various sources. South Korea’s Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs provided 26.6 billion won out of the 27.4 billion-won total cost. The rest was funded by the Korean War Veterans Memorial Foundation in the U.S., the Korean Veterans Association, Korean corporations and donations from citizens. The Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs of South Korea plans to continue providing funding for the wall’s maintenance. 

Ryu Ji-bok, Yonhap News Agency correspondent in Washington, U.S.



- 1 South Korean National Defense Minister Lee Jong-sup (L) and Park Min-shik, minister of Patriots and Veterans Affairs of South Korea (4th from L), offer flowers at the ceremony with key U.S. and Korean figures on July 27 in Washington, D.C.
- 2 Anthony Chey, the president of SK Group, takes part in the opening ceremony of the event in Washington, D.C. and consoles Annelie Weber, the wife of Col. William Bill Weber, who was a symbol of the Korea-U.S. alliance. (Photo courtesy of SK)
- 3 The Wall of Remembrance is revealed to the public at the Korean War Veterans Memorial on July 27 in Washington, D.C.
- 4 South Korean Patriots and Veterans Affairs Minister Park Min-shik reads President Yoon Suk-yeol’s speech as the Korean government representative at the Wall of Remembrance completion ceremony in Washington, D.C.
- 5 Douglas Emhoff, husband to the vice president of the United States (Kamala Harris) and the second gentleman of the United States, gives a commemorative speech at the Wall of Remembrance dedication ceremony held at the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C.

'It'll be a festival for 2.5 million Korean Americans,' says head of organization committee of next year's Korean Business Convention

Hwang Byung-gu, president of the Korean American Chamber of Commerce USA, requests government and local government aid

"The 21st World Korean Business Convention, to be held in the Anaheim Convention Center in Orange County, California, from Oct. 11-14, 2023, will be a festival for the 2.5 million Korean Americans," said Hwang Byung-gu, the president of the Korean American Chamber of Commerce USA, who is also the head of the organization committee for next year's World Korean Business Convention.

The organization committee was formed in advance in consideration of the fact that the 2023 convention will be the first to be held overseas. Hwang oversees the Korean American chambers of commerce established in 78 cities in all 50 states.

He visited Korea in preparation for the convention and spoke at a press interview on Aug. 2.

"We're working on contracts for lodging and the use of the convention center, creating programs, and so on," Hwang said. "As this will be the first convention to be held overseas in 20 years, my goal is to make it so that the Korean economic space in the 21st century may be expanded through the event."

Hwang continued to explain the current state of preparations, saying, "I've been asking for the cooperation of the Federation of Korean Associations in the USA and other Korean organizations in the U.S. so that the convention can be a success. I'm also asking for support from groups around the world."

He stayed in Korea until mid-August, visiting the government, local



President Hwang Byung-gu of the Korean American Chamber of Commerce USA, who heads the organization committee for the 21st World Korean Business Convention to be held in 2023

governments, the National Assembly and various corporations to request their active support.

The Overseas Koreans Foundation plans to hold the World Korean Business Convention overseas every other year, starting with the one being held next year in Orange County. The 21st convention being held next year can be described as the first step toward the execution of this plan.

The budget required for the event (approximately US\$6 million) has not yet been secured, however; that is a task that

will need to be completed in the coming months.

"The Overseas Koreans Foundation is only providing around 800 million won," Hwang said, which is the equivalent of \$599,278. "That's why we are asking for support from Korean businesses around the world, as well as from the Korean government and local governments. Because the continuation of overseas events will hinge upon next year's results, it's my hope that the government will offer more in terms of the budget."

Hwang, who hails from Cheongsong, North Gyeongsang Province, moved to Orlando, Florida, in 2001, where he has been growing orchids for 21 years on a 10-acre orchid farm named Korus.

Korean Indonesian author Lee Tae-bok publishes novel 'Ambarawa'

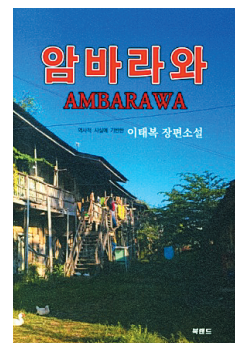
Book describes lives of Korean youth and comfort women taken overseas during Pacific War

Lee Tae-bok (62), a Korean author living in Indonesia who heads the Sasan Java Cultural Research Center, recently published "Ambarawa" through the publisher Bookland, a novel that paints the terrible lives and struggles of Korean youth and comfort women who were taken overseas during the Pacific War. The author, who is also a poet, was born in Yecheon, North Gyeongsang Province. He held a publication party on the date of the book's publication, July 16, at the Korean Cultural Center, located inside the Korean Embassy in Jakarta.

In order to write the 416-page novel, which is strictly based on historical facts, the author spent five years visiting Ambarawa, a town in Central Java, Indonesia (where Korean youths were tasked with watching captured Allied Forces), as well as other parts of the archipelago. He rewrote his manuscript 25 times in the four years it took him to write it. He based the novel on the testimonies of Chung Seo-woon, who was an actual Korean

comfort woman in Indonesia, as well as that of Le Hwal (Lee Euk-gwan), the head of the Goryeo Independent Youths Party.

After conquering Indonesia in March 1942, the Japanese moved 1,400 Koreans, civilians attached to the military, to Jakarta by ship. Their task was to keep watch over 23 Korean comfort women and captured soldiers. The novel realistically depicts in excruciating detail the sadness and turmoil suffered by the Koreans in the faraway island town of Ambarawa. It ends by describing how Koreans who were unable to return to their mother country even after the war ended, treated as foreigners, never forgot their roots.



The novel "Ambarawa," written by Korean Indonesian author Lee Tae-bok

Federation of Korean Associations, USA aims to move on from strife

Ministry of Foreign Affairs informs federation that Korean community 'needs innovation'

The Federation of Korean Associations, USA (Co-Presidents Kim Byung-jik and Guk Seong-gu) was recently removed from the list of organizations with active disputes and is seeking to turn over a new leaf. On July 26, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs removed the federation from the list after it experienced seven years of strife before achieving consolidation in a general assembly meeting in May. The overseas Korean community welcomed this but also spoke with a unified voice that deep self-reflection and innovative steps for the recovery of trust were necessary.

The federation became eligible again for invitations to government events on Aug. 1. It also became eligible for various types of support funding for events, recovering its function as a Korean community organization acknowledged by the government. The president of the federation will return to the HANIN management committee with ex officio membership and will also be able to participate in the World Assembly of Korean Associations, which was created last year.

There are around 170 Korean associations in the United States. The federation was formed in 1977 by former and current presidents of those associations. Though it has 45 years of history behind it, there have been many instances of internal troubles related to its presidential elections. It had split multiple times over the past seven years, causing some to claim that it had lost its ability to represent the Korean community.



Representatives of the Federation of Korean Associations, USA, which ended its internal disputes and consolidated its factions in May

"The federation must change its systems to center around the incumbent Korean association president," a Korean American journalist said.

So far, the past 29 presidents of the federation have all been former Korean association presidents. With some parties with vested rights having a hold on the elections, the infighting had been continuous, leading to suggestions being made for improvements.

'We'll take the lead in improving Korea-Japan relations,' says Kim Bang-soo, newly appointed president of the Korean Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Japan

'Expansion of projects and strengthened collaboration with local governments for vitalization of Korean Japanese economy' on the table

The Korean Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Japan, an economic entity composed of Korean Japanese, elected Vice President Kim Bang-soo (68), former president of the Kyoto Korean Chamber of Commerce and Industry, as its 13th president. The term of president lasts two years. Kim was the only candidate at the general assembly meeting held in the Korean Center Hall in Minato Ward, Tokyo, and was selected in a vote.

"As a local Korean businessman in Japan, I will contribute to improving Korea-Japan relations," he said. "I'll be working to expand services that serve as the backbone of member businesses, strengthen cooperation with local governments and manage our organization by principle for the sake of the vitalization of the Korean Japanese economy."

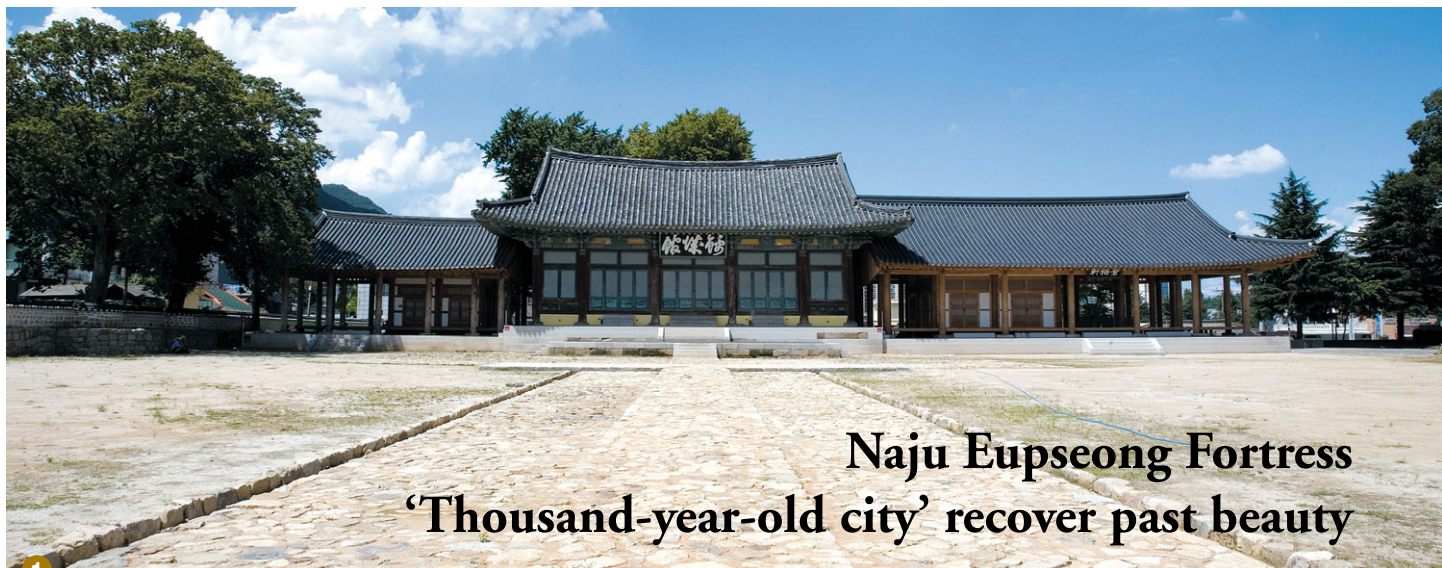
The Korean Chamber of Commerce & Industry in Japan, which is headquartered in the Korean Center Hall in Tokyo, has regional chambers of commerce and industry in 17 major regions in Japan. Kim works in the real estate field, operating a hotel in Tokyo among other things.

Kim has been active in regional chambers of commerce and industry for 40 years, starting with his work in the Commercial and Industrial Association for Youths in Tokyo.

"I'll heed issues in each region and work hard for the vitalization of the branches," he said. "I'll strive to create a culture of horizontal communication while also accepting those who have acquired Japanese citizenship, businessmen who have crossed over after the 1980s and others to invigorate the chambers of commerce."



Kim Bang-soo, the newly elected president of the Korean Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Japan



Naju Eupseong Fortress 'Thousand-year-old city' recover past beauty

Naju, South Jeolla Province, home to the breadbasket that is the Naju Plain, is known as the “thousand-year-old city” of the Honam (Jeolla Province) region. As can be seen from the name Jeolla Province (named by combining the first syllables of Jeonju and Naju), Naju served as an administrative, economic, military and cultural hub for nearly 1,000 years, up to the late period of Joseon, after it was designated as a “mok” (province) at the time of Seongjong of Goryeo. Around 300 ministers were dispatched from the time of Goryeo to the Joseon period. In the later years of Joseon, the amount of grain collected from this region was the largest in the entire country. The region also boasted the fifth-largest population.

Naju Eupseong Fortress (Historical Site No. 337) is an earthen fortress built in the Goryeo period to defend against the Japanese. The flat plains fortress was altered to a stone fortress in the early Joseon period. The fortress has Naju’s “jinsan,” or guardian mountain, Geumseong Mountain (with an elevation of 451 meters above sea level) behind it and features the Yeongsan River flowing to the south. Its location, referred to as “baesanimsu,” was regarded as favored as it had a mountain behind and a river in the front. The fortress has much in common with Hanyang, which lies between the Han River and Bugak Mountain. Befitting its nickname, “Little Hanyang,” the fortress has a circumference of 3.5 kilometers, a wall thickness of 6 meters and a surface area of around 973,000 square meters.

Just like the Fortress Wall of Seoul, the fortress features four main gates in each of the four cardinal directions: the Dongjeom Gate, Seosung Gate, Namgo Gate and Bukmang Gate. The government offices of the fortress were the largest and most impressive in the country, and included the following: Geumseongwan Hall, where envoys and administrative officials lived; the Magistrate’s Office,

where regional officials carried out their duties; and the living quarters of the minister of Naju.

Considering that Suwon Hwaseong, Joseon’s first new town and Jeongjo of Joseon’s dream project, had a surface area of 371,145 square meters, it is easy to see just how expansive Naju Eupseong Fortress was. The Japanese occupation and subsequent industrialization, however, have partially damaged some of the cultural legacies of the fortress and destroyed others.

‘Little Hanyang,’ crossed by Yeongsan River

The first among the four main gates to visit is the Dongjeom Gate, which stands tall on the eastern side of the fortress. The name Dongjeom means flowing east and reaching the sea, and originates in the “Book of Documents.” The Naju Stream, which flows through the fortress, travels from west to east, joining the Yeongsan River and reaching the sea. Dongjeom Gate, with dimensions of 3 kan (around 6 meters) in the front and 3 kan on the sides, is a barbican that features an upper story. Wooden fences were put up around the exterior of the fortress as an additional defense. The gate, which was destroyed during the Japanese occupation, was restored to its original design in 2006.

About 1 kilometer away from Dongjeom Gate lies the living quarters of the minister of Naju and the Geumseongwan Hall (Tangible Cultural Property No. 2 of South Jeolla Province). The Geumseongwan Hall, which was both a regional palace that symbolized the throne and served as a guest house, is the largest and most imposing of its kind in the Joseon period. On the first and middle days of each month, officials and classical scholars from the district would gather, place wooden plaques symbolizing the king of Joseon and the emperor of China, and bow toward the palace in Hanyang to indicate their loyalty.

Past Manghwaru, the three-kan outer gate, stands the three-kan middle gate. Going past a solitary gate, one can find Geumseongwan Hall, which also served as a government office, while guest houses line the west and east sides. Unlike other government offices built with guest houses, Geumseongwan Hall has a “paljak” roof. The Japanese remodeled the interior and used the building as a county office to damage Naju’s reputation.

In the back yard of Geumseongwan Hall stand large, old ginkgo trees, and signs of its past prosperity are apparent in many places. In 2015, the Dongshin University Cultural Museum located the site of a pond and pavilion from the Joseon period (the largest of its kind among the existent local government sites) in the eastern area of the fortress.

The square in front of Manghwaru is where Kim Cheon-il, the leader of a guerrilla unit of freedom fighters, gathered 300 men for the first time and held a founding ceremony during the Imjin War. This is also where the subjects of the country burned incense and mourned when Japan assassinated Empress Myeongseong in order to undermine the national sovereignty of Joseon.

To the west of Manghwaru stands the entrance to the Magistrate’s Office, Jeongsuru Pavilion. The drum on the second floor is said to have been placed by Kim Seong-il (pen name Hakbong), who was a minister of Naju. Speaking about the drum, he is known to have said, “Sound it when you wish to bring an injustice to the public.” Immediately next to Jeongsuru Pavilion is the Naju-mok Cultural Center, which provides a thorough overview of the culture and history of the Naju region, while behind it is the Geumhakheon (Cultural Property No. 132 of South Jeolla Province), the former official residence of Naju governors.

The living quarters of the minister feature a U-shaped main building and a “munganchae” (gate building) that resembles a straight line. They afford a peek into the living spaces of the upper class in the late Joseon Period. Though they were modified during the Japanese occupation because it was used as an official residence, recent restoration work has brought back the original



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architectural format of the government offices of the Joseon period. They are now being used as an experience center for “hanok,” traditional Korean homes.

Seosung Gate retains pain and tragedy of Donghak movement soldiers in battle

Stepping outside the living quarters and following a small path, one can come across the Seosung Gate, with a signboard that reads, “Yeongeumun.” This signboard, restored in 2011, is based on an excerpt from the preface of “Naju-mok Yeoji Seungnam” (Survey of the Geography of Naju), which described a “plaque with the words Yeongeumun.”

Seosung Gate holds the history of one of the most tragic and fierce known battles: the sad story of the soldiers of the Donghak movement and the government army. The Donghak peasant army, which had camped on Geumseong Mountain in Naju in July 1984 (by the lunar calendar), attacked Seosung Gate twice. They were completely defeated, with around 3,000 casualties. Standing at the site where the walls once stood, one can almost hear the heartrending shouts of the peasant army as they cried out their slogans of “Protect the country and give rest to the people,” “Defeat tyranny and save the people,” and “Resist Japan and the West.”

Around 250 meters from Seosung Gate, one can find traces of the old wall of Naju

Eupseong Fortress. The Japanese took down the fortress gate, citing reasons of development for the district, and farmers who were kicked off their lands by the Japanese took down the remaining walls, building cabins and gardens atop the sites. Unauthorized housing crowded the site of the fallen walls until recently, but the city of Naju has been restoring part of the walls to their former state. 🇰🇷

- 1 Geumseongwan Hall, Naju Eupseong Fortress
- 2 Dongjeom Gate, standing tall beside Naju Stream
- 3 The photo shows the living quarters of the minister of Naju. It is also a “hanok” experience center that is popular with tourists visiting Naju.
- 4 The Seosung Gate stands proudly with a signboard that reads “Yeongeumun.”
- 5 A worker performs a safety inspection of the site where the Naju Eupseong Fortress wall once stood.

OKF receives 'A' in business performance evaluation for two years running

The Overseas Koreans Foundation received a grade of "A" in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' business performance evaluation for affiliated organizations in 2021. This was the first time since the foundation's establishment that such a rating was achieved for two consecutive years.

Business performance evaluations are performed yearly for better management and the formation of a self-directed responsible management system for public institutions. The OKF falls within the "miscellaneous public institutions" category and has been subject to these evaluations since 2010.

The foundation received an especially high score in its financial budget management and performance, as well as repair and welfare expenditures. It also scored high for innovation and other bonus indicators, resulting in a grade of "S" in the business management category for the second year in a row. It also raised its rating in the major projects category compared with last year, receiving an "A" for reestablishing its business strategy in its early response to the "With Corona" era and diversifying its project implementation methods, through online and offline hybrid invitational programs, for example.

"We've been acknowledged for excellent transparency and received a



The Overseas Koreans Foundation's headquarters on Jeju Island

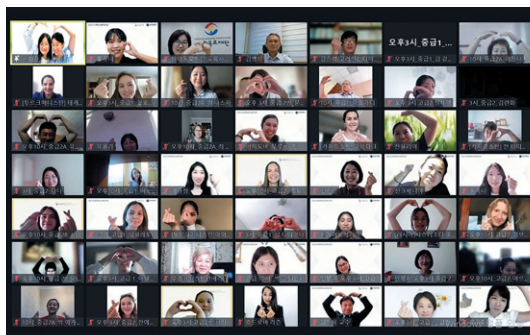
high financial assessment rating in 2021 followed by this A rating in the business performance evaluation," Kim Seong-gon, president of the Overseas Koreans Foundation, said. "This is a proud accomplishment, the result of the efforts of all our executives and employees. We will continue our work, carrying out one of the new administration's government projects: enhancing the overseas Korean network for each region, field and generation."

OKF implements 2022 Online Training Program for Korean Language Teachers in the CIS

The Overseas Koreans Foundation began operating a five-week online training program July 25 in order to enhance the teaching skills of Korean language teachers in the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). Fifty-four Korean language school teachers and Korean language teachers from local schools, hailing from five countries that included Russia, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan, took part in the program.

In response to the enthusiasm for Korean language learning overseas due to the spread of the Korean Wave and other factors, the number of slots was greatly increased from previous years. In addition, the target audience was expanded from just Koryo-saram teachers to include other foreign Korean language teachers. This year's program was overseen by the Hankuk University of Foreign Studies.

Beginning with a virtual opening ceremony July 25, applicants took part



The opening ceremony for the 2022 Online Training Program for Korean Language Teachers in the CIS is held.

in five weeks of Korean language classes tailored to their level, as well as remote Korean history/culture experiences, practical training in teaching and socializing sessions. In order to increase the effectiveness of the training, all programs were prepared based on participant requests, and all Korean language lectures were given in real time.

The foundation has run this program since 2000. The program was converted into an online format last year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"I hope that participants of this training program will become professional educators who can teach the Korean language and Korean culture correctly to the Koryo-saram community and others abroad," OKF President Kim Seong-gon said. "The foundation will continue in its efforts to nurture young teachers for the sustainable advancement of the CIS overseas Korean community."

Registration for 20th World Korean Business Convention ends Sept. 20

The Overseas Koreans Foundation will receive applications for registration to the 20th World Korean Business Convention, to be held from Nov. 1-3 at the Ulsan Exhibition and Convention Center in Ulsan, until Sept. 20. This year's convention, held under the slogan "20 Years of Great Korean Business: Embracing the World," is expected to attract around 3,000 Korean businessmen from 40 countries around the world. Registration applications can be made through the www.hansang.net website.

This year's convention comprises a diverse array of business programs, including the following: the Leading CEO Forum, the Young Business Leader Forum, a Korean business forum, a Korean business seminar, 1:1 business meetings and corporate exhibitions. There will also be a "Startup Pitching Contest" for Korean entrepreneurs with great business ideas, internship interviews for young adults in Korean business (a global talent recruitment program), the "Promotional Event for the Retention of the 2030 World EXPO in Busan" and the "20th Anniversary Korean Business Celebration and Banquet," which is to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the World Korean Business Convention, where its 20-year history will be

shared.

There will also be business activities aimed at the vitalization of the regional economy, with a focus on new eco-friendly industries, which are the main industries of the city of Ulsan. In addition, Korean business internships for young adults and on-site interviews are expected to contribute greatly to the creation of jobs for the age group in South Korea.

"The World Korean Business Convention is the biggest Korean business event where Korean businessmen from all over the world come together," OKF President Kim Seong-gon said. "It creates an opportunity for the formation of global networks. I look forward to the participation of many Korean businesses, which are currently expanding the Korean economic territory all over the world."



A poster for the 20th World Korean Business Convention

Overseas Koreans Foundation's Book Recommendations



'Malaysia: The Formation of a Korean Community and Its Future, Viewed through the Lens of Immigration Strategy'

Hong Seok-jun / Nulmin Books

Malaysia is a multiracial country. In addition to its official language, Malay, at least six other languages are also used. The religions in the country vary greatly as well, including Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam and Christianity. This means there is relatively less hatred and antipathy toward foreigners. Because of this accepting social atmosphere, many Koreans have immigrated to Malaysia since the 1990s, and starting in the 2000s, many moved there for language learning purposes. The Korean community in Malaysia grew much faster than in other countries, as the speed of immigration sped up starting in 2010. Recently, more people have been retiring to Malaysia as well. At a point in time when research regarding the rapidly changing immigration of Koreans to Southeast Asia was needed, the Ministry of Education and the Academy of Korean Studies came together for a research project on Koreans living overseas, focusing this time on the Korean community in Southeast Asia. As research is being conducted regarding the Korean community in nine Southeast Asian countries, a series of books containing the cumulative results is being published, with one book for each country. The second book in the series, this one on Malaysia, has now been published. Find out through this book exactly why Koreatown is expanding rapidly in Malaysia and why so many Koreans are immigrating to the country in relation to phenomena that occur in Korea as well.



'Cultural Interaction, Communication, and Adaptation by Foreign Students from Central Asia'

Kim Young-soon, Dilnoza Kalanova, Azizova Firuza / Book Korea

It is a very difficult task to attend college, the final step in many people's education, in a country with a different language and culture. Though college, by its nature, imparts students with a great deal of freedom, it isn't easy to manage one's academic pursuits and social relationships successfully in such an environment. A study on the level of cultural and social adaptation in foreign students from Central Asia (and Koryo-saram students) who have come to Korea to learn was recently conducted. The research was performed under the heading "A Study Regarding Sustainable Social Integration for a Multicultural Society, and the Formation of a Digital Archive of Constituents of Multicultural Families Utilizing the Ethnography of the Global Era" by the Convergence Institute for Multicultural Studies of Inha University from 2018 to 2019, and the findings were recently published in book form. Ethnography is an academic field that uses quantitative and qualitative investigation methods, as well as on-site investigations, to study various social and cultural phenomena. This book was recognized for academic excellence in the social sciences field by the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Korea in 2022. Find out through this book what foreign students who have returned to their home countries think of Korean society. Perhaps readers will be able to learn how to give them a warmer welcome.





Korean Food Association in Australia holds 'Korean Food Festival' in Sydney

The Korean Food Association in Australia (President Kim Yong-gil) is holding the Korean Food Festival in Sydney from July 15 to Sept. 30. The goal of the event is to teach the public about the taste and culture of Korean food and aid the vitalization of Korean restaurants suffering from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, possibly creating a “Korean food wave.” Through a program called “Korean Gourmet,” in which 50 Korean restaurants from Sydney and nearby regions participate, locals can enjoy Korean food for a cheap price. The association shared information about the events and coupons through social media and Korean press. The coupons can be used in Korean restaurants with the relevant posters on display. This event is funded by the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs of South Korea and the Korean Food Promotion Institution.

State of California officially designates anniversary of Gwangju Uprising

California has officially designated May 18 as a day for the commemoration of the Gwangju Uprising. According to the May 18 Memorial Foundation, the state assembly passed the bill (HR120) proposing this designation on Aug. 8 with unanimous votes in favor. This is the first time that a day celebrating the Gwangju Uprising has officially been designated overseas. The bill describes the significance of the movement and the battle for democracy, and declares May 18 to be the anniversary of the 5.18 Democratization Movement in California.



Association of Korean Residents in Europe holds Unification Youth Camp in Berlin

The Association of Korean Residents in Europe (President Yoo Je-heon) held its second Unification Camp from July 20-30 near Berlin and Potsdam with 44 Korean and European middle and high schoolers in attendance. The 44 youths in attendance were comprised of around 30 middle and high schoolers selected from Seoul, Gyeonggi Province, and Sejong, as well as 15 middle and high schoolers from Spain, Austria, Germany and France. The participants visited the sites of Germany’s division and unification, including the Berlin Wall and Checkpoint Charlie, and listened to a lecture on the events that accompanied the unification of Germany. This second Unification Youth Camp, the first of which was held in 2019, was sponsored by the Overseas Koreans Foundation, the Korean Embassy in Germany and the North European Council of the National Unification Advisory Council.

Korean community in Atlanta to hold Korean Wave festival for Chuseok

The Korean community in Atlanta, comprising over 100,000 Korean Americans, will host a large Korean Wave event for Chuseok. The Korean American Association of Greater Atlanta (President Lee Hong-ki) revealed that the 2022 Korean Festival will be held Sept. 9-10 at the association’s building in Norcross. “This year’s festival theme will be ‘We Are One,’” said a representative from the festival’s organizing committee. “We will show second-generation Korean Americans Korean history and traditional culture to help aid the formation of their identities and show mainstream society the status of the Korean community.” The opening ceremony will be on Sept. 9 with an evening portion that night, followed by the main festival the following day.



Dance ensemble ‘Koryo’ invited to perform in Gwangju to celebrate 30th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Korea and Uzbekistan

Koryoin Village (headed by Shin Jo-ya) in Gwangju invited Koryo, an Uzbek dance ensemble, to perform in celebration of 30 years of Korea-Uzbekistan diplomatic relations. The performance, hosted jointly with Gwangju Dream, was provided free of charge to the public at the Suwan Culture & Sports Center in Gwangsan Ward, Gwangju, to provide solace to Koryo-saram refugees who escaped from Ukraine after the Russian invasion and residents who settled in Koryoin Village. The performance consisted of the musical “Poem of Love,” in addition to traditional and modern dance from both countries. The dance group Koryo was established under the National Symphony Orchestra of Uzbekistan in 2000.

Koreans, Chinese Koreans and Koryo-saram in America



Kim Dong-chan,
president of Korean American Civic
Empowerment (KACE)


KACE has been running a “Summer Grassroots Internship” program for students above grade 11 since 2004. Comments about the Saturday Children’s Culture School program that we ran since 1996 showed us that because most children stopped attending Korean language school as they entered middle school, they needed a new form of identity education. Thus we began a summer internship for high school students in 2004, and in 2007, we started a grassroots internship to teach interns the way civic grassroots activities work, which we learned through the process of helping pass a bill to request restitution from Japan for the forceful conscription of comfort women in the U.S. House of Representatives.

The main goal of the KACE internship is to highlight participants’ identities as U.S. citizens, children of immigrants and Koreans, in addition to understanding their parents’ generation and enhancing the Korean American identity by creating change through grassroots activism when necessary. Major activities and accomplishments of these interns include a signing campaign for the passing of the comfort women bill through the House of Representatives in 2007, the visit to the Capitol and the activism there in the same year, the formalization of Korean voting forms in New Jersey in 2008 (accomplished through intern visits to the New Jersey State Assembly that began in 2006 meant to persuade politicians and the state government) and the establishment of the comfort woman memorial statue in Palisades Park, New Jersey.

The Koryo-saram college student Anna Son is the KACE intern coordinator for 2022. KACE has promoted its internships to ethnic Koreans from China living in the U.S., as well as Koryo-saram descendants in America, and many students have participated over the years. Son was also an intern at KACE two years ago. The reason KACE continues its efforts to target these demographics is due to the belief that everyone of Korean blood, regardless of where they may be from, should be regarded as Korean Americans.

Because the first-generation immigrants lived in completely different environments, and because Koryo-saram in particular face a language barrier, it can be difficult for them to associate themselves with a group. But children raised in an English-speaking environment have no such issues, and if their identities can be bound as one, there is nothing stopping them from forming a single community.

That is why this summer’s program plans to share the Korean identity with the participants by visiting the graves of Hwang Ki-whan (whom the Korean drama “Mr. Sunshine” is based on) and Yeom Se-ho in Mount Olivet Cemetery, New York. They comprise very small ethnic groups, and despite their differences in upbringing and even language, it is my opinion that they should come together if they share the blood of the Korean people.

Endless division will produce a result close to zero, while forming groups and making additions will result in continuous growth. Greater numbers are essential in politics, and once numbers are achieved, power can be exercised in the form of voting. I believe that everyone who is of Korean blood, regardless of where they were born, should join hands and produce a combined effort to pioneer the future in this turbulent period in the U.S. to ensure their survival and prosperity. 



24th Future Leaders' Conference (2022) opens in September



The Overseas Koreans Foundation (President Kim Seong-gon) will hold the 24th Future Leaders' Conference from Sept. 4-8, with young Korean leaders from all over the world, who represent the future of the overseas Korean community.

This conference, to be attended by approximately 100 young overseas Korean leaders, will be held in Seoul and in the provinces. The two goals are harnessing the potential of young overseas Koreans and supporting the formation of a network for them, as well as discovering talented individuals in each region who will contribute to the development of Korea and the overseas Korean community.

The conference consists of the following: networking activities between overseas Koreans; sharing of growth and success stories, interactions with mainland Korean society and the discussion of methods of future progress; invitational lectures from key figures in Korea and abroad; networking forums for each field, thematic

lectures and speeches; visits from Korean government bodies and relevant dignitaries; Korean history and culture experiences; and interviews with major Korean news agencies.

The conference is open to permanent residents of foreign countries aged between 25 to 45, Koreans with foreign citizenship, longtime overseas residents (those who have lived overseas for at least 10 years), and individuals who have contributed to better communication between overseas Koreans and to the development of the Korean community abroad. Employees of political, economic, legal, major press, cultural, art and international agencies may also participate, in addition to executives of outstanding youth organizations in each region or of professional organizations.

Participants will be provided with partial funding for a round-trip ticket (maximum 70 percent of the actual cost), food and lodging, and travel insurance.

Schedules of Overseas Koreans Foundation executives in August 2022

- President Kim Seong-gon** Aug. 8: Meeting with Park Heong-joon, mayor of Busan
 Aug. 16: Hosting of luncheon for the president of a Kazakhstan Koryo-saram association
 Aug. 16-19: Participation in 8th Global Korean Politicians Forum

2022 드림 서포터즈

차세대 한민족 "꿈" 지원 사업
2022.08.22.(월) ~ 09.14.(수)



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- 3 내국인, 국외 거주 동포, 국내 체류 동포, 취약계층 등 KOREAN 누구나
- 4 만 19세 ~ 만 34세 이하 차세대 한민족(1988년 1월1일 이후부터 2002년 12월31일까지 출생자)

+ 합격자 활동 사항

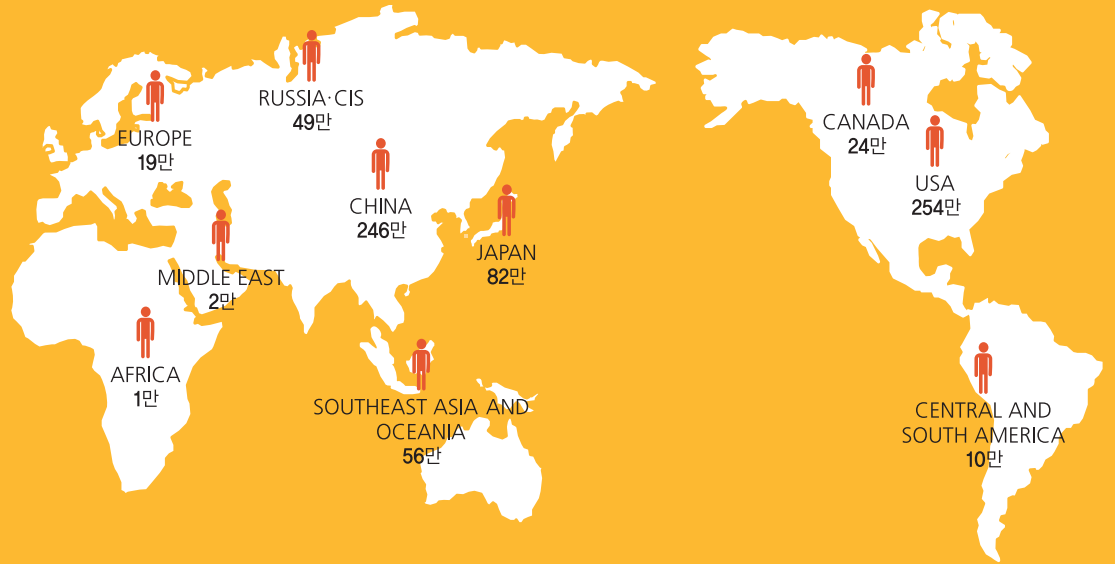
- 1 드림멘토링 연 3회 : 꿈을 위한 계획의 실현성, 구체성을 점검
- 2 전체 워크숍 연 1회 : 세계한상대회 참석
- 3 독서 토론 : 월 1회 선정도서 2권으로 드림서포터즈 독서 토론
- 4 기타 과제 제출 : 활동계획서와 활동 보고서 제출 등 사무국에서 요청하는 과제

• • •

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