



Gateway Korea Foundation

# Gateway Korea Foundation

January 1, 2023

Dear Gateway Korea Foundation Community Members:

## Board of Directors:

### Officers:

Seungkwon You, PhD  
Chairperson  
Kathy Hawkinson, BSBA  
Vice-Chairperson  
Elizabeth Lenivy, JD  
Secretary  
Jason Kim, BA, MBA  
Treasurer

### Members:

Mark Carlie, CPA, CMGA, CMA  
Paul Choi, BA, MA, MTh  
Emmy Nguyen Crawford, MA  
Kelly Famuliner, MSW, LCSW  
Renée Franklin, MBA, MAT  
Bum Yong Kim, BA, MDiv  
Hyunsun Kim, B.Ed  
Youngmi Moon, BS  
Janet Park

### Ambassadors Council:

Jay Kim, JD  
Seung H. Kim, PhD  
Han Ko, D. Sc  
Young Hie Kromm, AIA  
Kaysong Lee  
Sang Koo Shim, CPA, CVA  
Richard Stevenson, BA  
Soon K. (Steve) Yoon

### Volunteers Council:

Dalnim Chan  
Chris Ching  
Youngjun Choi  
Torin Hovander  
Heejin Im  
Lois Ingrum  
Lauren Janoski  
Hyaee Yung Kim  
Jung Sue Kim  
Jinhee Lee  
Mindy Park  
Sol Shin  
Julia Sim  
David V. Stevenson, BFA

## Mission Statement:

Based in St. Louis, MO, the Gateway Korea Foundation mission is to inspire cross cultural appreciation and understanding among the American Midwestern Heartland community in connection with Korean Arts and Cultural experiences.

Thank you for your continued support of Gateway Korea Foundation. Founded in 2013 by a small but passionate group of people, GKF's mission has been to inspire cross-cultural appreciation and understanding among the American midwestern and heartland communities, in connection with Korean arts and cultural experiences. Although located in America's heartland, GKF's message of harmony, diversity, inclusion, tolerance, and equity has spread across the country and indeed the world, as we make vital connections, serving as both a bridge and a gateway to achieving these important values.

2022 has been a great year for GKF. In May, we signed an agreement to collaborate with Kongju National University in Gongju, South Korea. This relationship will serve our communities well as we act as an international link between young academics in South Korea and the American midwest. In June, we hosted our annual DanO Spring Festival in collaboration with the Saint Louis Art Museum, which asked the question "How Korean is K-pop?" In September, we held our first in-person Chuseok Festival since 2019. In the largest festival to date, we invited our members and guests to celebrate and explore Korean culture through music, dance, arts and crafts, language, clothing, food, and more. In 2022 we also continued our Webinar Series where participants from around the world could join together in learning about Korean culture ranging from serious discussions about geopolitical issues, to celebrating the *halmonis* (grandmothers) who overcame disadvantages and adversity to publish their very own book.

This year we initiated a new film series. Every quarter, GKF hosted a film screening and discussion. Films ranged from important documentaries to blockbuster action films, highlighting the diversity of Korean cinema. The 2022 series concluded on November 18<sup>th</sup> when GKF, in collaboration with The Very Asian Foundation, screened the documentary *Free Chol Soo Lee*, which tells the tragic true story of a Korean American man who was wrongfully convicted of a Chinatown gang murder and how the Asian American community worked in solidarity to free him. The film premiered at the 2022 Sundance Film Festival, and GKF's screening marked its public premiere in the entire state of Missouri.

However, as proud as we are of our successes in 2022, we are even more excited for what 2023 will bring. It will be our Tenth Anniversary! Our board of directors along with our distinguished Ambassadors Council and gracious committee volunteers are all working hard to plan a very special year-long celebration to mark this wonderful achievement. Our Tenth Anniversary Gala dinner will be in November 2023, and we hope to see you there. Other important events will include:

- Lunar New Year Celebration in January
- Our ongoing Film Series and Webinars throughout the year
- "Asia Night" at the Ballpark
- DanO Spring Festival in June
- A week-long Speakers Series in July
- A community Bojagi Demonstration and Exhibit in August-September
- Chuseok Festival in September, and
- Hangul Day in October



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Korea is such a rich, vibrant, and evolving culture that is now being recognized by the rest of the world. GKF wants to take advantage of this great moment to use Korean cultural appreciation as a means to promote greater awareness, understanding, and cooperation among all the diverse peoples of the world. We accomplish this by continuing to provide our wide array of educational and cultural events to the world community. All our programs are free and open to the public. And as a non-profit organization, GKF relies solely on the generosity of our donors and volunteers to serve our mission. We greatly appreciate any financial support we can receive, to help us continue offering our valuable programming.

So, as we head into the New Year, please consider making a donation to GKF. We are a board and volunteer driven organization, so 100% of your gift will be applied directly to our program expenses. Donate online by going to our website at <https://www.gateway-korea.org/give> or send us your gift at the following address: Gateway Korea Foundation 9374 Olive Blvd, Suite 106 St. Louis, MO 63132. As a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, your gift will be tax deductible to the extent allowed by IRS regulation.

Finally, our board members, volunteers, and I thank you so much for your past support and participation in GKF. It means so much to us as an organization to have such strong ties with our community, and it is our honor to continue to serve our community in this way. We look forward to the Tenth Anniversary year and for all we will continue to do in the years to come. Please contact me with questions, comments, or offers to volunteer your services to our mission. Please enjoy your holiday season with your loved ones. Look forward to seeing you all again soon.

Seungkwon You, Ph.D  
Chair, Board of Directors  
Gateway Korea Foundation

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