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Save the Date

Tuesday, December 23, 2008
Asia Society Korea Center
First Christmas Gala Dinner

Arts & Culture Initiatives

Chicago Children's Choir in Seoul



On June 27, 2008, the Asia Society Korea Center and the United States Embassy Seoul jointly hosted the Chicago Children's Choir performance at the Hyundai Development Company's Pony Chung Memorial Hall.

Founded in 1956, the Chicago Children's Choir (CCC) is a multiracial, multicultural choral music education organization. The Choir currently serves 2,600 children, ages eight to 18 through choirs in 46 schools. Under their Artistic Director Josephine Lee, who is Korean-American, the Choir has undertaken many highly successful international tours.

This was the Choir's first tour to Korea and fifty-five selected singers performed delightful repertoire reflecting the breadth of the Concert Choir's artistry, ranging from classical to world music, including traditional Korean songs in Korean.

Special Film Screening: *Crossing*



The Asia Society Korea Center sponsored a special film screening of the movie *Crossing* at the Pony Chung Memorial Hall on June 24. Kim Tae-Kyun, the director of the film, also attended the screening.

Crossing is a South Korean film based on true accounts of the North Korean defectors. It depicts the daunting challenges that North Korean defectors face.

Crossing has been chosen as the official Korean film entry for the Academy Awards for the Best Foreign Language Film. It will be the first Korean film ever to win the nomination.

- HONG KONG
- HOUSTON
- LOS ANGELES
- MANILA
- MELBOURNE
- MUMBAI
- NEW YORK
- SAN FRANCISCO
- SEOUL
- SHANGHAI
- WASHINGTON D. C.

Asia Society



아시아 소사이어티 코리아 센터 소식

Korea Center Newsletter



Monthly Luncheon Series

June

South Korea's Multilateral Diplomacy



Oh Joon

On June 17, 2008, Ambassador Oh Joon, the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs for Multilateral, Global, and Legal Affairs for the Republic of Korea, presented his views on Multilateral Diplomacy at the Korea Center's monthly luncheon series at the Lotte Hotel in downtown Seoul. During his presentation, Ambassador Oh Joon focused on South Korea's foreign policy position regarding human rights issues in North Korea, economic situations with China, and South Korea's support for the United Nation's Millennium Development Goals. Ambassador Oh also commented that South Korea is no longer a small nation, but a nation that has rapidly gained economic success and political presence worldwide and thus, has even more responsibilities and commitments to the international arena.

July

Internationalizing Korean Global Firms: Perspectives from a Global Securities Group



John Walker

On July 22, 2008, Mr. John Walker, Chairman of the Macquarie Group of Companies in Korea presented his views on "internationalizing Korean Financial Firms" at the Korea Center's July luncheon event at the Lotte Hotel in downtown Seoul. During his presentation, Mr. Walker pointed out the differences in between local and international financial firms and key perspectives on how to develop and lead local firms that aspire to become more global. Mr. Walker pointed out the importance of local and global cooperation in order to increase healthy business competition. He also suggested that a shift from a "rules-based" approach to a "principles-based" approach should occur within Korea firms in order for them to become even more effect at home and abroad.

August

Raising Korea's Global Profile: The Media Perspective



Evan Ramstad



Jie-ae Sohn

On August 26, 2008, Mr. Evan Ramstad of the Wall Street Journal and Ms. Jie-ae Sohn, of CNN in Korea were both invited to speak on "raising Korea's profile from a media perspective," during the Korea Center's August luncheon event at the Lotte Hotel, Seoul. Mr. Ramstad and Ms. Sohn gave informative presentations to the Korea Center's audience that outlined the key differences in between Korean and western media firms. Mr. Ramstad and Ms. Sohn highlighted recent international controversies that were influenced by Korean media. Throughout both presentations, the importance of initiative, integrity, and individual excellence were stressed as founding pillars of responsible journalism.

Upcoming Luncheons

September 22

The Songdo Reconstruction Project: Global Urban Development in South Korea

Guest speaker: James Tyrrell, Managing Director - Korea, Jones Lang LaSalle

October 23

A Passion for Asia: The Rockefeller Legacy

Guest speaker: Dr. Vishakha N. Desai, President, Global Asia Society



News & Events

400 Celebrate the Opening of the Asia Society Korea Center

The Asia Society family expanded in April with the opening of the Asia Society Korea Center in Seoul. Over 400 guests attended the gala event on April 2 and celebrated the opening of Asia Society's eleventh global center. Han Seung-soo, South Korean Prime Minister, presented the keynote address, and Lee Hong-koo, former South Korean Prime Minister, delivered a congratulatory speech on the Korea Center's opening. During dinner, Christopher Hill, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for East Asia and Pacific Affairs, offered his thoughts on America's relationship with South Korea and the Asia-Pacific region, and Alexander Vershbow, U.S. Ambassador to Seoul, spoke on the shared interests between the U.S. and South Korea.

Nearly two years in the planning, the Asia Society Korea Center will actively engage with issues affecting Korea, the Asia-Pacific region, and U.S.-Asia ties. The Center's programs will address technology, policy, business and education, as well as arts and culture. It will develop programs and events that integrates Korean voices into the broad range of Asia Society initiatives across the region.



The Center's leadership brings together individuals from across the public and private sectors. Lee Hong-koo, former Prime Minister, who recently joined the Asia Society Global Board of Trustees, is the Korea Center's Honorary Chairman. Kyongsoo Lho, professor of International Politics at Seoul National University, serves as Co-Chair with Shin Dong-Bin, Lotte Group's Vice Chairman. Joseph Cabuay, an Associate Professor of International Affairs at Hanyang University and the former Vice President of International Business Development for the New York City Economic Development Corporation, serves as the Executive Director.



Clockwise from left: Richard C Holbrooke, Chairman, Global Asia Society, Alexander Vershbow, U.S. Ambassador to Seoul, Christopher Hill, Assistant Secretary of State for East Asia and Pacific Affairs; Han Seung-soo, South Korean Prime Minister; Kyongsoo Lho, co-Chairman, Lee Hong-koo, Honorary Chairman, and Shin Dong-Bin, co-Chairman, of the Asia Society Korea Center.

Asia 21 Korea Chapter News



The members and fellows of the Asia 21 Korea Chapter met with Joe Cabuay, Executive Director, and Yvonne Kim, Associate Executive Director, on August 26 and discussed future program development and the strategic framework for the Asia 21 Korea Chapter. As a result of this meeting, a follow-up meeting was conducted on September 8 with Dr. Kyongsoo Lho, the co-Chairman of the Asia Society Korea Center.

ASKC Advisory Board Meeting



On June 3, Jamie Metzl, Senior Executive Vice President of Asia Society, visited Seoul and met with the Asia Society Korea Center's Advisory Board to discuss the strategic and program plans for the Center.

Asia Society Korea Center New Staff Announcement



In June 2008, Ms. Yvonne Kim joined the Korea Center and was appointed as Associate Executive Director. Prior to this, Ms. Kim worked for the Asia Society's New York Headquarters, and has several years of experience in non-profit program development and event planning.

GLOBAL ASIA SOCIETY

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Vishakha N. Desai President

ASIA SOCIETY KOREA CENTER

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INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL

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ASIA 21 KOREA CHAPTER

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Chul Won Chey
Wonsuk Chin
Hyun Ah Cho
Hyun-Jin Cho
Hyun Sang Cho
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Bora Kim
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Sungwoo Automotive
Woori Bank
Yulchon Attorneys at Law

Small Business Enterprise

Bae, Kim & Lee LLC
ABN AMRO
Shin & Kim
Boston Consulting
Lee International
MLC World Cargo



Asia Society Korea Center Membership Application Form

The Asia Society Korea Center is a non-profit and non-partisan organization. Your membership support remains vital to our success. We invite you to become a member of the Korea Center and enjoy all the benefits that Asia Society has to offer.

New _____ Renewal _____ (check one)

Corporate Membership Levels :

Global Corporate Leader (50,000,000 KRW) _____
Corporate Partner (25,000,000 KRW) _____
Corporate Contributor (10,000,000 KRW) _____
Small Business Enterprise (5,000,000 KRW) _____

Individual Membership Levels :

Professional (1,000,000 KRW) _____
Individual (100,000 KRW) _____
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**** Tax Exemption Notice ****

On December 27th, Asia Society Korea Center was designated as a public donation body by the Republic of Korea's Ministry of Finance and Economy. This means that donations to the Asia Society Korea Center are subject to tax exemption. The donor will therefore be able to receive full tax benefits, which gives prospective donors one more good reason to donate! The contributions will be used to develop innovative programs and world-class events for Asia Society Korea Center's members. Help make a difference!