



KACF e-newsletter

SAVE THE DATE

OCTOBER 15, 2008

THE KOREAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY FOUNDATION'S

THIRD ANNUAL

BUILDING BRIDGES GALA



Grand Hyatt New York

Planning for KACF's Third Annual Building Bridges Gala is underway! With over 15 sponsors confirmed, including two platinum sponsors, KACF is on its way to another successful event. As of print, over \$300,000 has been raised! Many of our generous past sponsors and benefit committee members have been early supporters of this year's Gala. KACF is encouraged by their commitments, and we encourage all KACF supporters to get involved as a sponsor, a silent auction donor, an attendee or a volunteer.

Emceed by MTV News' SuChin Pak, this year's Gala will honor the achievements of YoungSuk "YS" Chi, Chairman of Elsevier. Another highlight of the Gala is the silent auction, which promises to be even more diverse and fantastic this year. We have several exciting travel prizes featuring exotic destinations such as Jeju Island in Korea, and the silent auction committee promises to have something for everyone at the Gala to get excited about. Samsung has once again donated over \$10,000 of auction items, including several large flat screen televisions. Like last year, many of the silent auction items will be available via e-auction, so those who are not able to attend can still bid for the wonderful prizes.

Continued Below

August 19th, 2008

Feeling Generous?

Please contribute!
Contributions can be sent to:

KACF
501 Fifth Avenue, 3rd Floor
NY, NY, 10017

Or go to www.kacfny.org

Contact Bomsinae Kim,
Executive Director of Korean
American Community Founda-
tion, for more info:
bsnkim@kacfny.org

KACF e-newsletter Team
Philip Lee Philip.Lee@kacfny.org
David Kim David.Kim@kacfny.org

**Please check the KACF
page every month in Ko-
reAm magazine!**

More in this e-newsletter!



CORPORATE HONOREE

YoungSuk 'YS' Chi

Vice Chairman of Elsevier

KACF launches 2008 Building Bridges Gala website:
www.kacfny.org/gala2008

Interview with YoungSuk "YS" Chi, KACF's 2008 Building Bridges Gala Corporate Honoree

KACF Grantee Partners Update—Special Project Grants

Upcoming KACF related events and announcements...

Save The Date for our Third Annual KACF Building Bridges Gala (cont'd)

Gala Chair Kyung Yoon commented, "It's thrilling to see how in just a few short years, the KACF Building Bridges Gala has become the premier event for everyone who wants to show their support of the Korean American Community of greater New York. We are planning another amazing evening this year that shines a light on the power and potential of our community, and want to thank everyone in advance for your participation and support!"

As in the past two Galas, the goal of the Building Bridges Gala is to raise funds for KACF's grantee partners. Despite tougher economic conditions in New York, the fundraising committee led by Gala Chair Sonny Whang has made tremendous strides. When asked how the fundraising committee has been able to reach sponsors and supporters, Sonny said, "In these tough economic times, I think people acknowledge their hardships but become even more acutely aware that the service organizations KACF supports are in great need as well. The response so far has been tremendous. People everywhere have really pulled up their bootstraps and become more creative in ways to fundraise."

In addition, the Galas hope to raise awareness to the fact that there are underserved populations in the Korean American community that need our help. We hope you join our good company on Wednesday, October 15 at the Grand Hyatt!

For more information on the Third Annual Building Bridges Gala, please visit our website at www.kacfny.org/gala2008.

"It's thrilling to see how in just a few short years, the KACF Building Bridges Gala has become the premier event for everyone who wants to show their support of the Korean American Community of greater New York."

KACF is excited to announce the launch of the 2008 KACF Gala website!

KACF is proud to announce the launch of our 2008 KACF Building Bridges Gala website! Please check it out today for the latest on the Gala, sponsorship packages, information on our sponsors, biographies of our honorees and guests, and ways that you can get involved!

KACF HOME | CONTACT

2008 KACF BUILDING BRIDGES GALA08

ABOUT THE GALA
LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR BIGGEST EVENT OF THE YEAR

SPONSORSHIP
JOIN OUR GROUP OF OUTSTANDING SPONSORS

TICKETS
CELEBRATE WITH KACF FRIENDS & SUPPORTERS

ABOUT KACF | OUR GRANTEEES | GALA PHOTOS | AUCTION

GRAND HYATT, NEW YORK
OCTOBER 15, 2008

KACF
2008 SPONSORS
PLATINUM

Tiger Asia
LexisNexis
ELSEVIER
GOLD

MR. AND MRS. MONG JOON CHUNG
JEON HONG
NEW YORK LIFE

The Korean American Community Foundation (KACF) invites you to the Third Annual Building Bridges Gala. Join us for another memorable night of honoring accomplishments in our community and celebrating with our friends and supporters!

2008 FEATURED GUESTS

CORPORATE HONOREE
YoungSuk 'YS' Chi
Vice Chairman of Espoel

HONOREE
SuChun Pak
MTU Nurse

2007 GALA VIDEO
2007 GALA PHOTOS

2007 Gala Video
view more photos

Hosted by Yul Kwon, Winner of Survivor: Cook Islands, www.fox.com

www.kacfny.org/gala2008



Youngsuk “YS” Chi, Vice Chairman and Managing Director of Elsevier

Photo credit: Chi family

Youngsuk “YS” Chi is a KACF Advisory Board Member and Vice Chairman and Managing Director of Elsevier, a leading global publisher of scientific, technical and medical information products and services. Prior to joining Elsevier in 2005, Mr. Chi served as Chairman of Random House Asia and was also the President of Random House, the world’s largest general interest book publisher in the world.

YS was appointed to Princeton University’s Board of Trustees in 2005, and he also sits on the board of several other educational, artistic, and charitable organizations. YS is a graduate of Princeton University with a BA in Economics cum laude, and earned his MBA in Finance from Columbia University. YS lives in Princeton, NJ with his wife, Sung, and their two daughters.

KACF: You’re in Africa to build houses under a Habitat for Humanity program, what is the weather like? More importantly, how did you get involved with Habitat?

YS: Well, it’s winter over here so it’s better than a NYC subway in August! I’m here with my eldest daughter, the trip was her idea and I agreed it would be a fantastic learning experience and great father-daughter bonding time. We hope to build 10 brick hut homes while we’re here.

KACF: How did you get involved with KACF?

YS: About 5 ½ years ago, the founding Board Members and other Korean leaders approached me to join the leadership of KACF. The Korean community was bi-culturally challenged, and they wanted leaders that could not only relate to 1st generation Korean-Americans, but also the 1.5 and 2nd generations to build unity through better communication, which would ultimately lead to a stronger platform to work from. Korean-Americans do not want to be a transient part of America, to be an after-thought - our community wants to have a positive impact on America, and the only way we can do that is to be united.

“Learning makes life more rewarding because it makes you better at what you do, and then being able to impart that knowledge to enhance other people’s lives is really the true blessing.”

KACF: What do you think are the biggest strengths of the Korean community? What about the biggest weaknesses?

YS: Sheer resilience and devotion to hard work. I think it’s because historically Korea has been a nation squeezed by super powers, and was not endowed with abundant natural resources. We’ve had to earn much of our prosperity so we know things can change with patient and devoted hard work. We are also compassionate, generous to forgive and share, and we are a people of great optimism.

In terms of our weaknesses, we are a competitive people, particularly with each other. We, as a people, need to realize that and exercise good judgment in situations where personal sacrifices of pride need to be made in order to accomplish a greater good. There are so many examples of organizations splitting due to small differences - we need to focus on what we have in common.

KACF: What do you credit your business success to, and secondly, has your Asian-American heritage presented challenges, i.e. have you ever felt the “bamboo ceiling?”

YS: I never ran into the bamboo ceiling! I read *Breaking the Bamboo Ceiling* and it's 100% true, but I was fortunate to have incredible mentors that extended advice and resources. I believe America is among the most meritocratic and least racially discriminating than any of 14 countries I have lived in. Race does hold you back, but I think it's primarily cultural. Never abandon the virtues of your culture, you must learn good judgment and find the right mix.

KACF: Why do you enjoying learning and teaching so much?

YS: I'm a curious person by nature, but in a practical way, learning makes life more rewarding because it makes you better at what you do, and then being able to impart that knowledge to enhance other people's lives is really the true blessing.

KACF: What are you most proud of in your life?

YS: Family is definitely number one! Beyond that, it's still the people. I am most proud that I am able to spend time with kind-hearted, generous, curious and hard working individuals. The most rewarding thing in life is being around exceptional human beings.

KACF: Why do you think it's important to give back to the community?

YS: No one got here alone, there was always people before and throughout that helped pave the way and you have to continue to work on a micro level so the macro-community becomes a self-sustaining eco-system. To do otherwise is myopic.

“No one got here alone, there was always people before ... that helped pave the way and you have to continue to work on a micro level so the macro-community becomes a self-sustaining eco-system. To do otherwise is myopic.”

KACF: Any last words of wisdom to our community members?

YS: Yes, P.M.A. Positive Mental Attitude. I love golf, and it's a great motto for golf - hit a bad shot, you have to believe your next shot is going to be your best. It gives you the best chance it will be.

KACF Grantee Partners Update—Special Project Grants

KACF recently launched a new funding initiative called the Special Projects Grant. Targeted for projects that are aligned and consistent with KACF's vision and mission, the Special Project Grant is a one-time grant maximum of \$5,000 made off-cycle. The Grant supports unique, community-oriented projects that do not fall into the traditional category of social service but still promote community awareness of Korean-American issues in various ways. The Grant is intended for projects that do not receive funding through KACF's normal funding cycle (from July 1 to June 20 of the following year).

Early this year, KACF awarded Special Project Grants to the New York Korean Film Festival, Gana Art Gallery and YWCA of Queens. The YWCA of Queens Grant will go towards the "Getting Ahead: English Language Enrichment Technology Program," a summer bilingual program.

The Special Project Grant supports unique, community-oriented projects that do not fall into the traditional category of social service but still promote community awareness of Korean-American issues in various ways.

KACF is also sponsoring the New York Korean Film Festival by the Korea Society (opening on Aug 21st, this coming Thursday), and the art exhibition "Peripheral Vision in Focus: Korean Contemporary Art" (scheduled in the fall) by Gana Art Gallery in New York's Chelsea district.

KACF congratulates these organizations on their Special Project Grants and wish great success for all these programs.



Upcoming community events and announcements...

1) KACF and Korea Society present New York Korean Film Festival

KACF is sponsoring the Korea Society's New York Korean Film Festival. This Thursday, August 21st, 2008 is the opening reception for the film festival. The Film Festival will show *Hwang Jin-Yi* with the film director as a special guest. As a sponsor, KACF receives the same discount as members of the Korea Society (\$25 pre-registration before the event, \$35 at the door).

Please click <http://koreanfilmfestival.org> for the ticketing website.



**NEW YORK
KOREAN FILM
FESTIVAL 2008**

August 22-31
Cinema Village
BAMcinémathèque



Opening Reception

August 21, 2008

6:00 PM Opening Reception
with special guests

Hwang Jin-Yi director Chang Youn-hyun
and actor Yoo Ji-tae

7:30 PM *Hwang Jin-Yi* Film Screening
Starring Song Hye-kyo and Yoo Ji-tae

TheTimesCenter
The New York Times Building
242 West 41st St.
New York, New York

\$30 Advance/\$35 At the Door
(The Korea Society members, \$25)

Join us for an exciting week of film, shorts, panels and parties at the largest celebration of Korean cinema in the United States. The New York Korean Film Festival showcases dynamic and exciting currents in contemporary Korean cinema and this year looks back on the career of award-winning actor Ahn Sung-ki with a special retrospective. You are invited to come kick off this year's Festival at a star-studded reception and screening at one of New York City's newest and most celebrated spaces, TheTimesCenter.

For tickets and a full schedule of events, visit www.koreanfilmfestival.org
or call (212) 759-7525, ext. 355.



A program of



KACF organizational structure, Board of Directors, and Steering Committee

President	Suok Noh
Executive Director	Bomsinae Kim
Development Coordinator	Sooyeon Hong
Honorary Chairman of the Board	Dr. John S. Hong
Advisory Board Chair	Taeja Kim Lee
Treasurer	Ann Choi, Joanne Park
Secretary	Jennifer Choi

Board of Directors:

Suok Noh (President)

James R. Cho	Sarah Chung	Patricia Han
Mun Hong	Karen Na	Jung Lee Sanders
Yong T. Shin	Wonah Song	Sarah B.J. Sung
Jun Chul Whang	Sung Chul Whang	James Wohn
Kyung B. Yoon		

Steering Committee:

Gina Chon (Steering Committee Chair)

Philip Lee (Steering Committee Vice-Chair)

Eun Cho	Catherine Choi	David W. Choi
Jennifer Choi	Jeong Woo Chun	Jin S. Chun
Minae Ham	Meeky Hwang	David H. Joo
Jennifer Joo	Ahreum Kang	Caroline Kim
David Kim	Insoo Kim	Jason Kim
Cheari Ko	Joseph Kong	Anna Lee
Karen Lee	Somi Lee	Sung Lee
Sylvie Lee	Jin Ha Lim	Jason Oh
Steve Park	John H. Rhee	Soo Rhee
Kimberly Won	Sungno Yun	

To remove your name from our mailing list, please [click here](#).
 Questions or comments? E-mail our KACF e-newsletter editor [Philip Lee](#).