



The
Sejong Cultural Society

2017
ANNUAL
BENEFIT
DINNER

PROGRAM OVERVIEW 2004-2017
2017 SEJONG BENEFIT DINNER

Sunday, October 15, 2017

Drury Lane

100 Drury Lane
Oakbrook Terrace, IL

The
Sejong Cultural Society

세종문화회

www.sejongculturalsociety.org

KING SEJONG THE GREAT



King Sejong the Great (1397-1450) was the fourth ruler during the Choson dynasty. His reign was a period of great cultural and intellectual accomplishment in Korea. Believing that the basis of good government was a ruler with broad-ranging knowledge, virtue, and the ability to recognize and utilize men of talent for government service, he governed according to Confucian principles that included the belief that justice and righteousness should characterize the relations between sovereign and subject. He placed great emphasis on education and promoted research in the cultural, economic, and political heritage of Korea, and he sponsored many new developments in the areas of science, philosophy, music, and linguistics. To encourage young scholars to devote their time to study, he established grants and other forms of government support.

King Sejong was not only a patron of the arts and education but also a scholar and inventor himself. Among his many contributions are the development of musical notation for Korean and Chinese music, improvements to the Korean system of movable type, and numerous inventions including the rain gauge, sundial, water clock, astronomical maps, and armillary sphere. As a prolific writer, he wrote many books and songs, including a dictionary on proper pronunciation, a biography on the Buddha, and several collections of poems and songs.

Sejong introduced many progressive ideas and implemented reforms to improve the life of the common people. In times of drought and flood, he established relief programs and opened centers to provide food and shelter. He was also a humanitarian who proclaimed that there must be three trials before a final judgment is reached, and he prohibited brutality in the punishment of criminals, such as flogging.

The most outstanding of his achievements by far was the creation of the Korean alphabet, or hangul. Initially, scholars relied on Chinese for written purposes, using awkward systems that made use of Chinese characters to substitute for a lack of Korean script. With the vast differences between Chinese and Korean vocal patterns and sentence formation, the system left much to be desired, and it was with this in mind that King Sejong commissioned a group of scholars to devise a phonetic writing system that would correctly represent the sounds of spoken Korean and that could be easily learned by all people. The system was completed in 1443.

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Master of Ceremony: Mia Park

The Sejong Cultural Society

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A Look at the Sejong Cultural Society

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

For more information about the Sejong Cultural Society, check our website at www.sejongculturalsociety.org or email us at sejong@sejongculturalsociety.org. Read past writing competition winners' entries or watch videos of music competition winners' concerts, or learn how to write Korean poetry. Sijo teaching materials intended for educators are available as well.

GREETINGS FROM YOU SIM KIM, PRESIDENT

Greetings!

Welcome to our annual Sejong Benefit Dinner.

Since its inception in 2004, we have made steady progress with many accomplishments and are very proud of our growth and implementing various programs in line with our mission.

As you know, the Sejong Cultural Society's mission is to advance the awareness and understanding of Korean cultural heritage amongst people in the United States by reaching out to all, specifically young generations.



With generous support from you and various organizations, we are able to step forward towards our goals. We provide educational outreach programs, Sijo workshop for teachers, writing competitions, music competitions, and composition competitions. We introduced hip-hop songs using Sijo. We look to continue to provide and expand our mission in order to integrate Korean culture into American life.

I would like to thank the Sejong board, planning committee members, advisory councils, and all grant providers who give unconditional devotion and support.

Most of all, I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to all Sejong friends, supporters, donors, and volunteers.

You are the ones making the difference in reaching our goals.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "You S. Kim".

You S. Kim, M.D.
President, Sejong Cultural Society

GREETINGS FROM THE HONORABLE JONG-KOOK LEE



Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Chicago

Consul General

October 15, 2017

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to the 2017 Annual Benefit Dinner organized by the Sejong Cultural Society.

Since the establishment of the Sejong Cultural Society in 2004, it has been accomplished a distinguish mission to advance the cultural richness and diversity through promoting Korean culture. Their efforts in hosting numerous events have made outstanding outcomes bridging Korean culture to the local society.

In particular, Sijo workshop and concert collaborating with Sijo Reading sessions encouraged many people to understand the history and the literary values deeply rooted into Korean Culture. Also, the Annual Sejong Music/Writing/Composition Competitions brought the younger generation to have prides on their cultural heritage, which has its foundation of thousands of year that carried out across the history and the nations.

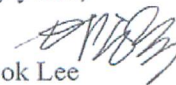
Even in the midst of the busy life, these cultural events brought a harvest to many Korean-Americans as well as the mainstream of America. Such impact that the Sejong Cultural Society created has contributed in maintaining strong connection within the Korean American community engaging with the American society.

As the Sejong Cultural Society pursues to hold its important role to raise understanding of Korean culture and to foster a strong interaction among people in the United States, I strongly suggest everyone in attendance also extend your continuous support to their activities.

I once again convey my heartfelt appreciation to the Sejong Cultural Society and its board members for their tireless efforts in organizing tonight's event.

Sincerely yours,

Jong-Kook Lee

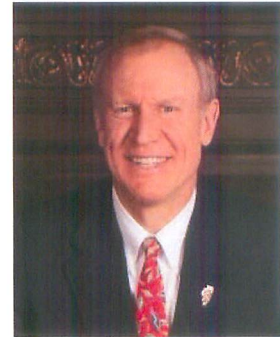
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jong-Kook Lee'.

GREETINGS FROM THE HONORABLE BRUCE RAUNER



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

207 STATE HOUSE
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706



BRUCE RAUNER
GOVERNOR

October 15, 2017

Sejong Cultural Society
606 Forest Road, Suite 100
Glenview, Illinois 60025

Greetings!

As Governor of the State of Illinois, I am pleased to welcome everyone gathered for the Sejong Cultural Society's Annual Benefit Dinner.

Since its inception in 2004, the Sejong Cultural Society has worked to advance awareness and understanding of Korean cultural heritage by reaching out to younger generations through promoting contemporary creative and fine arts. The Sejong Cultural Society works to further the organization's mission through various programs such as the Music Competition, Writing Competition, and Music Composition Competition. I am sure that the work of your organization has touched the lives of many. Your service to the community is highly commendable.

I would like to applaud the Sejong Cultural Society for working to bridge the gap between cultures through your unique fine arts programming and performances. It is critically important in the State of Illinois that we find ways to promote cultural awareness and mutual understanding between different ethnic groups. I ask that everyone in attendance continue to support this worthy organization so that they can continue to positively impact the thriving Korean American community in Illinois for years to come.

On behalf of the people of Illinois, I offer my best wishes for an enjoyable and memorable event.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bruce Rauner".

Bruce Rauner
Governor, State of Illinois

PROGRAM

Mia Park
Master of Ceremony

WELCOME

Sara Youn Choh & Mark Choh
Fundraiser Committee Co-Chairs

PRESIDENT'S GREETING

You Sim Kim
President

CONGRATULATORY REMARKS

Honorable Dong Han Yang
Deputy Consul General of the Republic of Korea

KEYNOTE SPEECH

“Sijo Makes You Smarter”

Linda Sue Park
Author and Poet

DINNER

THE SEJONG CULTURAL SOCIETY'S PROGRAM REPORT

Lucy Park
Executive Director

PERFORMANCE

Blue Bird (파랑새)Teddy Niedermaier
Milyang Arirang (밀양아리랑)Teddy Niedermaier
Étude Op. 25, No. 11 in A minor "Winter Wind" Frédéric Chopin

Yerin Yang, *piano*

Winner, 2014 Sejong Music Competition Piano Senior Division

LINDA SUE PARK

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Linda Sue Park was born in Urbana, Illinois on March 25, 1960, and grew up outside Chicago. The daughter of Korean immigrants, she has been writing poems and stories since she was four years old, and her favorite thing to do as a child was read.

This is the first thing she ever published—a haiku in a children's magazine when she was nine years old:

In the green forest
A sparkling, bright blue pond hides.
And animals drink.

—Trailblazer magazine, Winter 1969

For this poem she was paid one whole dollar. She gave the check to her dad for Christmas. About a year later the company wrote to her asking her to cash the check! Linda Sue wrote back explaining that it was now framed and hung above her dad's desk and was it okay if he kept it? The magazine said it was fine, and her dad still has that check.

Almost 30 years later, Linda Sue started writing her first book, *Seesaw Girl*. It was accepted that same year and published in 1999.

Since then, she has published many other books for young people, including *A Single Shard*, which was awarded the 2002 Newbery Medal. Subsequently, she published numerous books and received numerous awards. She has written several books based in Korean culture, including a *sijo* collection, *Tap Dancing on the Roof*. One of her recent books, *A Long Walk To Water*, based on a true story, was a long running New York Times bestseller and has sold more than a million copies.

Linda Sue now lives with her husband in western New York. She has two grown children and two grandchildren.

YERIN YANG

WINNER, 2014 SEJONG MUSIC COMPETITION PIANO SENIOR DIVISION



Yerin Yang, 14 years old, started piano at the age of five and a half and currently studies with Dr. Alan Chow at the Music Institute of Chicago. Most recently, Yerin won the MTNA National Junior Division competition in March 2017. She was also awarded the Junior Overall Winner in the Walgreens National Concerto Competition. Yerin has won awards in numerous competitions in the Chicago area, including first prize in both the Sejong Music Competition and the Chinese Fine Arts Society Competition for three consecutive years in various divisions as of 2014. Other awards include first place in the Los Angeles Young Musician International Competition (2013).

In June 2016, she was broadcasted live on WFMT's "Introductions." As the winner of the 2013 DePaul Concerto Festival, she performed with the Oistrach Symphony Orchestra and appeared on WFMT's "Introductions." She performed at Music in the Loft's Young Artists Concert in March 2014 and for the Young Piano Prodigies at the Harold Washington Library in 2012. In September 2014, Yerin played a solo concert at PianoForte.

The utmost desire of Yerin's heart is to be a great pianist. In addition, she also hopes to be a composer of piano music.

TEDDY NIEDERMAIER

COMPOSER



Dr. Teddy Niedermaier is an Associate Professor of Core Music Studies at Roosevelt University in Chicago. He previously taught music theory at the Oberlin Conservatory, and has served on the faculty at the European American Musical Alliance summer program in Paris since 2006. Dr. Niedermaier completed a Doctor of Music degree in Music Composition in 2010 from Indiana University, where he studied with Claude Baker and David Dzubay. He earned two degrees in Music Composition (Master of Music and Bachelor of Music) from The Juilliard School as a student of John Corigliano, Samuel Adler, and Robert Beaser. For more information, please visit www.teddycomposer.com.

"Milyang Arirang" stems from Milyang, a port city in the Korea's eastern region (encompassing the provinces of Gyeongsan, Gangwon, and Hamgyeong). The serious, driving melody adheres to the A minor pentatonic scale. The meter follows semachi, a pattern in moderate tempo with three beats (expressed here as 9/8 time), with the final two beats

exchanging long-short and short-long rhythms. In measure 24, the Arirang melody temporarily disappears, and the semachi pattern comes to the fore. According to legend, "Milyang Arirang" commemorates Arang, the daughter of Milyang's governor. Arang's beauty and intelligence were legendary, and she attracted many young admirers. One night Arang went out to enjoy the full moon when she was suddenly approached by a young man who professed his love for her. Arang fled, but tragically the man chased and killed her. Much later, Arang's spirit appeared to the next governor of Milyang and revealed the crime; the following day, the governor arrested and executed Arang's murderer. Thus, like many other Korean folk songs, "Milyang Arirang" casts a complex web of emotions including loss, beauty, nostalgia, pain, and devotion.

"Parangsae": Sung as a lullaby, the original Korean melody Saeya, saeya, parang saeya ("Birds, birds, bluebirds") contains only three pitches: D, G, and A. Filled with large leaps and perfect intervals, the melody creates an empty and mysterious feeling. The sad genesis of this folk song lies with general Bong-Joon Juhn's failed popular uprising against corrupt rulers and invading Japanese forces in 1895, in the days leading up to Japan's formal annexation of Korea (which lasted until the end of World War II). This arrangement of Parangsae preserves the leaps and intervals of the original melody, but immediately introduces new pitches (B-flat, A-flat, E-flat, and B-natural in the harmony) that suggest a dark mixture of the G Major and G Phrygian scales. The low, resonant registers of the piano are featured, especially in measures 51 and 75, when the bass states fragmented versions of the melody. Twice we hear outbursts of bird calls in the upper ranges of the piano, which inevitably sink down into more reflective, somber music.

THE SEJONG CULTURAL SOCIETY PROGRAM INFORMATION

I. MISSION AND HISTORY

OUR MISSION

The Sejong Cultural Society strives to advance awareness and understanding of Korea's cultural heritage amongst people in the United States by reaching out to the younger generations through contemporary creative and fine arts. It is our hope that, through this, the rich culture behind Korea's colorful history will be accessible to people of any ethnicity and nationality while being a unique part of the larger, more familiar Western culture.

HISTORY

The Sejong Cultural Society was first conceptualized by founding members including C. Lucy Park (current executive director), Hyunil Juhn (past president), and Aesop Rim (current honorary board). In 2003, the Seoul National University Alumni Association of Chicago agreed to provide a seed grant to create a program dedicated to introducing elements of traditional Korean culture to the US, and on August 20th, 2004, the Sejong Cultural Society was incorporated in the State of Illinois and approved as a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization.

The organization was named after King Sejong the Great (1397-1450), who was a strong patron of music, arts, literature, and science. Under his reign, Korea flourished culturally and academically, and he is now honored for his humanity, vision, and contributions to Korean culture.

The annual Sejong Music Competition has been held since 2004 and the annual Sejong Writing Competition since 2006. The Sejong International Music Composition Competition was held in 2005 and 2008; now renamed the Sejong Prize for Music Composition, it was hosted again in 2012 and 2015. The first sijo workshop and other related events were held since 2010.

II. PROGRAMS

CURRENT PROGRAMS:

- A. Sejong Music Competition (piano and violin categories)
- B. Sejong Writing Competition (essay and sijo categories)
- C. The Sejong Prize for Music Composition
- D. Sijo workshop and events
- E. Expansion of resource materials

A. SEJONG MUSIC COMPETITION

The Sejong Music Competition seeks to both encourage talented young musicians in their studies and introduce elements of traditional Korean music to younger generations. In addition to a piece of their own choice, participants are required to perform a Korean-themed piece from our required repertoire list, several of which were entries in previous Sejong Music Composition Competitions.

Open to pre-college violin and piano students, the competition hosts four divisions per category: senior, junior, elementary, and primary. In addition to cash prizes, winners are offered performance opportunities; example of such performances include the Korean-American Day Cultural Celebration in Chicago, the Indian Trails Library concert series, and fundraising events hosted by various Korean-American organizations.

B. SEJONG WRITING COMPETITION

Since its inception in 2006, the Sejong Writing Competition has continued to grow exponentially. By the ninth annual competition in 2014, we received a total of over 1,900 entries from all across the United States and parts of Canada.

Open to residents of the US and Canada age 25 and younger, the Sejong Writing Competition is divided into two categories:

- **ESSAY CATEGORY:** Focusing on introducing young adults to Korean culture and history through literature, our essay category utilizes folk tales and contemporary literature to explore Korean culture, past and present. It is divided into three divisions: young adult (age 18-25), senior (grades 9-12), and junior (grade 8 and younger).
 - **ADULT AND SENIOR DIVISIONS:** Intended to give students a glimpse of Korean life and history through contemporary literature, participants are asked to read and write about selected translated short stories and essays. The novella used for both adult and senior divisions for the 2018 Writing Competition is Yi Mun-yol's *An Appointment With His Brother*.
 - **JUNIOR DIVISION:** Korea has a rich tradition of storytelling, and its folk tales reflect important aspects of its history and culture. For this competition, students are asked to read one of several Korean folktales provided on our website and write an essay in response to one of three provided prompts.
- **SIMO CATEGORY:** Our simo category brings the simo, a classic example of traditional Korean fine arts, to a modern English-speaking audience as a unique form of poetry. Participants are asked to write a simo in English on any topic of their choice. This category is comprised of a single division open to all students in grades 12 and under and is organized in collaboration with the Korea Institute at Harvard University.

Since the 2013 Writing Competition we introduced a new online registration-based system for entry submissions. For students, this system offers the option of emailing submission confirmations and PDF copies of their entries to teachers; additionally, it enables students to edit entries easily until the competition deadline. Teacher accounts are able to view and, if necessary, submit their students' submissions. Since the competition's first year in 2006, the Friends of the Pacific Rim Foundation has continued to provide funds for all Honorable Mentions, which have been named the Friends of the Pacific Rim Awards. The submission deadline for the 2018 Sejong Writing Competition is February 28th, 2018. Winning entries may be published in the *Korea Times Chicago*, the *Korean Quarterly*, and *Azalea*, published by the Korea Institute.

C. THE SEJONG PRIZE FOR MUSIC COMPOSITION

Traditional Korean music contains many unique elements rhythmically and harmonically. The Sejong Prize for Music Composition encourages composers to explore these elements and incorporate them into their compositions to create contemporary pieces for Western instruments that evoke Korean themes. Using these pieces in numerous performances organized by the Sejong Cultural Society and our music competition, we hope to bring the world of Korean music not only to composers, but performers and listeners as well.

For our prior competitions, we invited composers, regardless of nationality, race, age, or gender, to submit original pieces incorporating traditional Korean themes written for western musical instruments and suitable for young student performers. For our 2012 and 2015 Sejong Prize Competition, our goals no longer focused on creating pieces suitable for young performers; instead, we sought to put a heavier emphasis on producing high quality Korean-themed pieces for musicians of any level to play. Our first Sejong Prize Concert, featuring the music of the three international winners of the 2012 Sejong Prize, was held in October 2013 at the University of Chicago.

On January 26, 2014, the Lincoln Trio and past winners of the Sejong Music Competition presented pieces with Korean themes at the popular Sunday Salon Concert Series at the Chicago Cultural Center. The concert was entitled "Music as a Window to Culture" and attended by mostly non-Koreans.

"Music and Poetry" was a concert held on February 6, 2014 at Roosevelt University. The Lincoln Trio performed Korean-inspired pieces composed by winners of the Sejong Prize and by Professor Kyong Mee Choi (Roosevelt University). Throughout the performance, the performers recited several well-known simo poems by famous Korean poets as well as winning entries from the Sejong Writing Competition's simo division.

D. SIJO WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS

As an extension of our Writing Competition's sijo category, the Sejong Cultural Society hosts sijo workshops for pre-college educators. Our sijo workshop is primarily intended for English teachers interested in teaching about the sijo in their classrooms. Many different styles of poetry are commonly explored in most students' curricula, and it is our hope that someday we may see the sijo being taught alongside popular poetry forms such as haikus and limericks.

In collaboration with Professor David McCann of the Korea Institute at Harvard University, Professor Mark Peterson at Brigham Young University, and several high school literature teachers, the Sejong Cultural Society developed teaching materials for educators to use in the classroom. Among other sijo-related resources, they are now available on our website. Teaching material development was funded by the Korea Foundation and the Academy of Korean studies.

Our sijo workshops are held at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) in collaboration with the UIC English Department and the Korea Institute at Harvard University. The 2017 workshop will be held at the Newberry Library in Chicago. Additional presentations on sijo poetry and a brief overview of Korean history were made in many locations in Chicago, Los Angeles, Orange, Seattle, Dallas, and Atlanta over the past several years to educators interested in learning about Korean culture. An interactive workshop on teaching sijo was presented at the National Conference of Teachers of English annual convention in the past and will be featured once again in November 2017.

We have also hosted sijo seminar and sijo reading events for the general public at the Harold Washington Library Center in Chicago, the Andrew Bae Gallery, and the Poetry Foundation in Chicago since 2010.

E. EXPANSION OF RESOURCE MATERIALS

After reaching out to pre-college educators whose students have participated in the Sejong Writing Competition, we discussed a variety of requests and suggestions meant to assist and encourage teachers interested in teaching sijo or Korean literature in their classrooms. In response to these suggestions, we are focusing on the development and expansion of educator resource materials this year. This project is in part funded by a grant from the Academy of Korean Studies in Seoul, Korea.

We visited several schools and videotaped high school teachers who have incorporated the sijo into their curricula for the past several years and whose students number amongst the past winners of the Sejong Writing Competition. In addition to a variety of teaching plans submitted by numerous teachers who have taught sijo, these recordings are intended to give other educators an idea of how to approach teaching sijo in their own classrooms. The teachers who participated in our program include Ms. Tracy Kaminer at the Randolph Macon Academy in Front Royal, VA; Mr. Chuck Newell at Notre Dame High School in Chattanooga, TN; and Ms. Elizabeth Jorgensen at Arrowhead High School in Hartland, WI. With further funding, we hope to eventually visit additional schools in Texas, New Jersey, and California as well as more elementary schools in order to provide a more diverse range of teaching environments. In order to help teachers in elementary school who are interested in teaching sijo in their classroom, we videotaped a sijo class for elementary students taught by Ms. Elizabeth Jorgensen in 2016.

Additionally, we posted several lectures regarding various sijo-related topics - including how to write sijo, how to improve poorly written sijo, and comparisons between sijo, haiku, and quatrain - by Professors David McCann of Harvard University and Mark Peterson of Brigham Young University.

Sijo were initially first and foremost written as songs and performed with musical accompaniment. In continuing this tradition, we have begun to collaborate with Elephant Rebellion, a Chicago-based community-oriented artists' collective, in creating hip-hop songs based on and featuring sijo. Through modern and popular mainstream genres of music, we hope that contemporary prize-winning and classic sijo will be used in works that may appeal to the younger generations. Our first event featuring such a performance was our "Enchanted Evening with Korean Sijo Poetry, Wine, and Art", hosted on October 31st, 2015 at the Andrew Bae Gallery. The hip-hop youth activist group Elephant Rebellion performed sijo arranged in modern hip-hop style. This year we have expanded the project to other genres of music in an upcoming concert at the Poetry Foundation titled "Music Inspired by Korean Poetry: Sijo Poems in Settings from Classical to Hip-Hop". The concert will feature classic Korean art songs performed by baritone and piano, contemporary classical pieces composed by Misook Kim (Wheaton Conservatory) and Teddy Niedermaier (Roosevelt University), a jazz ensemble composed by Scott Hall (Columbia College), and hip-hop songs by Elephant Rebellion.

SEJONG COMPETITION PARTICIPANTS 2004-2016

	Music Competition		Writing Competition				Music Composition Competition		
Year	Total	% Non-Korean	Total	% Non-Korean	Essay	Sijo	Total	USA	Other
2004	45	16%							
2005	21	48%					52	32	20
2006	36	44%	61	25%	61				
2007	47	45%	78	24%	78				
2008	39	51%	351	73%	208	143	40	28	12
2009	37	49%	847	82%	399	448			
2010	79	51%	1,169	85%	463	706			
2011	91	82%	1,346	84%	677	669			
2012	85	60%	1,748	89%	799	949	38	14	24
2013	82	78%	1,503	87%	655	848			
2014	80	63%	1,948	94%	640	1,308			
2015	99	63%	1,403	91%	475	928	51	12	39
2016	94	61%	1,257	90%	242	1,015			
Total	835		11,711		4,697	7,014	181	86	95

WE THANK THE FOLLOWING VOLUNTEERS 2004-2016

Adam Adamovic	Hawoong Hong	Myungah Hyon
Andrew Kim	Helen Kim	Nicole Lee
Annie Wheatley	Hellin Jang	Paul Han
Asher Bryant	Hyerye Hong	Rauthany Ly
Ashley Pak	In Soo Chin	Sara Alharbi
Caroll Merriweather	Jane Park	Seorin Chae
Catharine Cha	Jeawoo Kim	Seoung Joo Chang
Chong-hea	Jenna Choi	Sireethon Supangjaras
Chris Lee	Jennifer Kim	Soo Yeon Kang
Cristina Gonzalez	Jiha Kim	Suhn Youg Ahn
Dachwan Shin	Joohyun Lee	Tag Moon
Daniel Shin	Kayla Inthabandith	Wally Soriano
Daphne Barin	Kristin Yoo	Yang Sun Kim
DJ Yang	Kyonghee Choi	Yong Joo Rhee
Eugene Chang	Kyung Ae Shin	Yoon Kyoung Park
Eyil Han	Kyung Ja Cho	Young Kim
Fay Kang	Linda Lugo	Young Kook Kang
Grace Moon	Misook Kim	Youngho Kim
Haesook Kim	Miyoun Kim	Zhao Liu
	Mrs. Nam	

III. ORGANIZATION

The main direction of the organization is determined at board meetings, while the specifics of each program are determined by individual planning committees, which are comprised of experts in the respective field. Planning committee members are recommended by the Executive Director and approved by the Board of Directors, while officers are elected by the Board of Directors. Currently all officers, board members, and committee members are volunteers and do not take any compensation.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President: You Sim Kim	Treasurer: Esther Yang
Vice-President: Sook Park	Executive Director: Lucy Park
Secretary: Mark Choh	Board Chairman: Ho B. Kim

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Joonghang Choh	Mark Choh	Sara Youn Choh	James Hahn	Yonhee Park Han
Hyunil Juhn	Joann Kwak-Kim	Byung Yoon Kim	Ho B. Kim	Hyaesung Kim
Steve Kim	You Sim Kim	Young-Kee Kim	Sydney Nagel	Lucy Park
Sook Park	Hannah Suhr	Esther Yang		

HONORARY BOARD

Andrew Bae	Young Kang	Richard Kim	Kyung W. Koo
Aesop Rhim	Marja Vongerichten	Chi Yong Whang	

PAST PRESIDENT

Hyunil Juhn	Ho B. Kim	Juliana Chyu
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WRITING COMPETITION PLANNING COMMITTEE:

Heinz Insu Fenkl, chair (State University of New York at New Paltz, NY)
Bruce Fulton (University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada)
Seong-Kon Kim (Seoul National University, Seoul, Korea)
Young-min Kwon (Seoul National University, Seoul, Korea)
David McCann (Harvard University, Cambridge, MA)
Mark Peterson (Brigham Young University, Provo, UT)
Martha Vickery (*Korean Quarterly*, St. Paul, MN)

MUSIC COMPETITION PLANNING COMMITTEE:

Kay Kim, chair (Northwestern University, Evanston, IL)
So-young Bae (Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Chicago, IL)
Sojung Hong (Judson University, Elgin, IL)
Jeong Soo Kim (Northern Illinois University, Decatur, IL)
Misook Kim (Wheaton Conservatory, Wheaton, IL)

MUSIC COMPOSITION COMPETITION PLANNING COMMITTEE:

David Ludwig, chair (Curtis Institute, Philadelphia, PA)
Hi Kyung Kim (University of California at Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, CA)
Geonyong Lee (Korean National University of Arts, Seoul, Korea)
Shinuh Lee (Seoul National University, Seoul, Korea)
Efstratios Minakakis (New England Conservatory, Boston, MA)
Younghi Pagh-paan (University of Arts Bremen, Bremen, Germany)
Arlene Sierra (Cardiff University, Cardiff, Wales)

ADVISORY COUNCIL:

Yumi Hwang-Williams (Colorado Symphony Orchestra, Denver, CO)
Hi Kyung Kim (University of California at Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, CA)
Chang Keun Lee (Kwangwoon University, Seoul, Korea)
Geon-yong Lee (Korean National University of Arts, Seoul, Korea)
Yong Hi Moon (Peabody Conservatory, Baltimore, MD)
Nancy Park (Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Chicago, IL)
Desirée Rustrat (Northwestern University, Evanston, IL)

SUMMARY FINANCIAL REPORT

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2017 and 2016

	<u>7/1/16-6/30/17</u>	<u>7/1/15-6/30/16</u>
REVENUE:		
Contribution from general public and fundraising events	\$ 40,000	\$ 42,000
Contribution from board members	22,000	26,000
Grants & Foundation supports	11,000	18,000
Award	9,000	0
Program revenue and other income	<u>5,000</u>	<u>6,000</u>
Total revenue	<u>87,000</u>	<u>92,000</u>
EXPENSES:		
Sejong Music Competition	27,000	25,000
Sejong Writing Competition	23,000	25,000
Sejong Prize - music composition competition	0	5,000
Various fundraising costs	10,000	15,000
Sijo seminars and education materials	10,000	13,000
Other Cultural Events Support	1,000	1,000
Other admin and general expenses	<u>8,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>
Total expenses	<u>79,000</u>	<u>94,000</u>
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	<u>8,000</u>	<u>(2,000)</u>
NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF THE YEAR	<u>129,000</u>	<u>131,000</u>
NET ASSETS AT END OF THE YEAR	<u><u>\$ 137,000</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 129,000</u></u>

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As of June 30, 2017, and 2016

	<u>6/30/2017</u>	<u>6/30/2016</u>
ASSETS		
Cash	\$ 127,000	\$ 119,000
CDs	10,000	10,000
Prepaid expenses and other assets	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>\$ 137,000</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 129,000</u></u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Accounts Payable	1,000	-
Net Assets	<u>136,000</u>	<u>129,000</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	<u><u>\$ 137,000</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 129,000</u></u>

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We gratefully acknowledge the support of the following organizations and friends:
(Donations & Grants received in the 18 months between January 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017)

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In P. Hong	Laurin Healy	Young-Il Ro
In Young & Young S. Park	Mia Park	

*Grant ** In-kind donation *** Benefit dinner program book sponsor **** Award

Music Competition Winners 2004-2016

2016			
Instrument	Division	Prize	Name address (Teacher)
Piano (2016)	Senior	1	Colin Choi, Northbrook IL (Sueanne Metz)
		2	Esil Empig, Irvine CA (Valentina Gottlieb) Jarrett Takaki, Wilmette IL (Sueanne Metz)
		3	Derek Chung, Long Grove IL (Sueanne Metz)
	Junior	1	Ashley Kim, Wilmette IL (Brenda Huang)
		2	Harmon Balorda, Berrien Center MI (Sandra Camp)
		3	Christian Choi, Burr Ridge IL (Sung Hoon Mo)
	Elementary	1	Richelle Shi, Long Grove IL (Brenda Huang) Melody Xu, Naperville IL (Sueanne Metz)
		2	Matthew Hahn, Lake Forest IL (Christina Tio)
		3	Emmie Guo, Chicago IL (Sueanne Metz)
	Primary	1	Ryan Lee, Bolingbrook IL (Elaine Felder)
		2	Joshua Park, Hinsdale IL (Sueanne Metz)
		3	none
Violin (2016)	Senior	1	Zachary Brandon, Battle Creek MI (Almita Vamos & Hye-Sun Lee)
		2	Ria Honda, Wilmette IL (Almita Vamos)
		3	Claire Arias-Kim, Hoffman Estates IL (Almita & Roland Vamos)
	Junior	1	Suminne Hong, Vernon Hills IL (Desirée Ruhstrat)
		2	Barbara Juminaga, Highland Park IL (n/a)
		3	Isabel Chen, Northbrook IL (Jasmine Lin)
	Elementary	1	Esme Arias-Kim, Hoffman Estates IL (Betty Haag-Kuhnke)
		2	Hannah Ding, Naperville IL (Almita Vamos)
		3	Elle Cho, Park Ridge IL (Betty Haag-Kuhnke)
	Primary	1	Kai Isoke Ali-Landing, Chicago IL (Lucinda Ali)
		2	Emily Chen, Arlington Heights IL (Injoo Choi)
		3	Rebekah Kim, Round Lake IL (Injoo Choi)
Korean Music (2016)	Piano	Sr	Colin Choi, Northbrook IL (Sueanne Metz)
		Jr	Sebastian Ingino, Libertyville IL (Ludmyla Turkalo)
		Ele	David Dai, Lake Zurich IL (Christina Tio)
		Pri	none
	Violin	Sr	Zachary Brandon, Battle Creek MI (Almita Vamos & Hye-Sun Lee)
		Jr	Isabel Chen, Northbrook IL (Jasmine Lin)
		Ele	Elle Cho, Park Ridge IL (Betty Haag-Kuhnke)
		Pri	Rebekah Kim, Round Lake IL (Injoo Choi)
2015			
Instrument	Division	Prize	Name address (Teacher)
Piano (2015)	Senior	1	John Schindler, Hartland WI (Alan Chow)
		2	Jarrett Takaki, Wilmette IL (Sueanne Metz)
		3	Allison Lie, Naperville IL (Sueanne Metz)
	Junior	1	Emily Cho, Schaumburg IL (Brenda Huang)
		2	Won Yang, Wilmette IL (Elaine Felder)
		3	Joseph Shin, Glenview IL (Sueanne Metz)
		1	Etien Balorda, Berrien Center MI (Lydia Balorda)

	Elementary	2	Angelika Wang, Chicago IL (Brenda Huang) Joey Zhu, Buffalo Grove IL (Sueanne Metz)
		3	Caleb D. Kim, Schaumburg IL (Brenda Huang)
	Primary	1	Henry Shao, Sylvania OH (Esther Chiu)
		2	Freya Pang, Highland Park IL (Sueanne Metz) Chloe Palmes, Morton Grove (Sueanne Metz)
		3	Clara Zhang, Highland Park IL (Soo Young Lee)
Violin (2015)	Senior	1	Karisa Chiu, Palatine IL (Almita Vamos)
		2	Zachary Brandon, Battle Creek MI (Almita Vamos & Hye-Sun Lee)
		3	Lauren Conroy, Barrington IL (Hye-Sun Lee)
	Junior	1	Micah Yoo, Northbrook IL (Desirée Ruhstrat)
		2	Susie Lee, West Bloomfield MI (Almita Vamos)
		3	Chizuru Tanaka, Buffalo Grove IL (Desirée Ruhstrat)
	Elementary	1	Kaylee Kim, Round Lake IL (Betty Haag-Kuhnke)
		2	Esme Arias-Kim, Hoffman Estates IL (Betty Haag-Kuhnke)
		3	Ella Saputra, Schaumburg IL (Desirée Ruhstrat)
	Primary	1	Jasmine Horton, Glencoe IL (Hye-Sun Lee)
2		Emily Chen, Arlington Heights IL (Injoo Choi)	
3		Elle Cho, Park Ridge IL (Betty Haag-Kuhnke)	
Korean Music (2015)	Piano	Sr	John Schindler, Hartland WI (Alan Chow)
		Jr	Emily Cho, Schaumburg IL (Brenda Huang)
		Ele	Etien Balorda, Berrien Center MI (Lydia Balorda)
		Pri	Henry Shao, Sylvania OH (Esther Chiu)
	Violin	Sr	Karisa Chiu, Palatine IL (Almita Vamos)
		Jr	Micah Yoo, Northbrook IL (Desirée Ruhstrat)
		Ele	Ella Saputra, Schaumburg IL (Desirée Ruhstrat)
		Pri	Elle Cho, Park Ridge IL (Betty Haag-Kuhnke)
2014			
Instrument	Division	Prize	Name address (Teacher)
Piano (2014)	Senior	1	Yerin Yang, Mount Prospect IL (Brenda Huang)
		2	Jarrett Takaki, Wilmette IL (Sueanne Metz)
		3	Amy Lian, Lake in the Hills IL (Janice Razaq)
	Junior	1	Allison Lie, Naperville IL (Sueanne Metz)
		2	George Dalianis, Park Ridge IL (Katherine K. Lee)
		3	Lilian Xu, Lincolnshire IL (Sueanne Metz)
	Elementary	1	Emily Cho, Schaumburg IL (Brenda Huang)
		2	Alan Zhang, Naperville IL (Sueanne Metz)
		3	Maggie Peng, Buffalo Grove IL (Sueanne Metz)
	Primary	1	Emmie Guo, Chicago IL (Sueanne Metz)
2		Audry Yixin Yin, Rolling Meadows IL (Sueanne Metz)	
3		Freya Pang, Darien IL (Sueanne Metz)	
Violin (2014)	Senior	1	Joshua Brown, Gurnee IL (Almita & Roland Vamos)
		2	Karisa Chiu, Palatine IL (Almita Vamos)
		3	Serena Harnack, Glen Ellyn IL (Almita Vamos)
	Junior	1	Isabella Brown, Gurnee IL (Almita & Roland Vamos)
		2	John Heo, Northbrook IL (Almita Vamos)
		3	Christian D. Kim, Schaumburg IL (Almita Vamos)
Elementary	1	Abigail Park, Arlington Heights IL (Hye Sun Lee)	

Korean Music (2014)	Primary	2	Chizuru Tanaka, Buffalo Grove IL (Desiree RUhstrat)
		3	Barbara Juminaga, Highland Park IL (Hye Sun Lee)
		1	Lauren Kim, Hoffman Estates IL (Injoo Choi)
	Piano	2	Elle Cho, Park Ridge IL (Betty Haag Kunke)
		3	Erica Jiyeon Nam, West Chester OH (Kurt Sassmannshaus)
		Sr	Derek Chung, Long Grove IL (Sueanne Metz)
	Violin	Jr	Won Yang, Wilmette IL (Elaine Felder)
		Ele	Emily Cho, Schaumburg IL (Brenda Huang)
Prim		Emmie Guo, Chicago IL (Sueanne Metz)	
Sr		Shannon Kollasch, Naperville IL (Desiree RUhstrat)	
Jr	John Heo, Northbrook IL (Almita Vamos)		
Ele	Lena Valenti, Chicago IL (Sharon Chang)		
Prim	Erica Jiyeon Nam, West Chester OH (Kurt Sassmannshaus)		
2013			
Piano (2013)	Senior	1	Sean Choi, Wilmette IL (Sueanne Metz)
		2	Michael Lee, Hawthorn Woods IL (Brenda Huang)
		3	None
	Junior	1	Yerin Yang, Mount Prospect IL (Brenda Huang)
		2	Justin Chang, Schaumburg IL (Brenda Huang)
		3	Li-jae Woo, Glenview IL (Sueanne Metz)
	Elementary	1	Lilian Xu, Lincolnshire IL (Sueanne Metz)
		2	Emily Cho, Schaumburg IL (Brenda Huang)
		3	Isabel Chen, Northbrook IL (Inah Chiu)
	Primary	1	Caleb D. Kim, Schaumburg IL (Brenda Huang)
		2	Emmie Guo, Chicago IL (Sueanne Metz)
		3	Freya Pang, Darien IL (Sueanne Metz)
Violin (2013)	Senior	1	Julian Rhee, Brookfield WI (Hye-Sun Lee)
		2	Hannah White, Germantown WI (Hye-Sun Lee & Almita Vamos)
		3	Karisa Chiu, Palatine IL (Almita Vamos)
	Junior	1	Claire Arias-Kim, Hoffman Estates IL (Almita Vamos)
		2	Rachel Hsu, Wilmette IL (Desirée Ruhstrat)
		3	Rebecca Moy, Naperville IL (Drew Lecher)
	Elementary	1	Isabel Chen, Northbrook IL (Hye-Sun Lee)
		2	Christian D. Kim, Schaumburg IL (Almita Vamo)
		3	Christopher J. Kim, Palatine IL (Betty Haag-Kuhnke)
	Primary	1	Foster Ward, Northbrook IL (Betty Haag-Kuhnke)
		2	Esme Arias-Kim, Hoffman Estates IL (Betty Haag-Kuhnke)
		3	Kaylee Kim, Round Lake IL (Betty Haag-Kuhnke)
Korean Music (2013)	Piano	Sr	Daniel Rong, Vernon Hills IL (Brenda Huang)
		Jr	David Peng, Buffalo Grove IL (Sueanne Metz)
		Ele	Isabel Chen, Northbrook IL (Hye-Sun Lee)
		Prim	Richard Li, Buffalo Grove IL (Soyoung Kee)
	Violin	Sr	Hansuh Rhee, Glenview IL (Almita & Roland Vamos)
		Jr	Justin Lee, Buffalo Grove IL (Betty Haag-Kunke)
		Ele	Christian D. Kim, Schaumburg IL (Almita Vamos)
			Barbara Juminaga, Chesterfield MO (Addison Teng)
		Prim	Esme Arias-Kim, Hoffman Estates IL (Betty Haag-Kuhnke)
2012			

Instrument	Division	Prize	Name (teacher)
Piano (2012)	Senior	1	Kyle Jannak-Huang, Palatine IL (Brnda Huang)
		2	Amber Scherer, Winnetka IL (Sueanne Metz)
		3	Pamela Lin, Vernon Hills IL (Sueanne Metz)
	Junior	1	Derek Chung, Long Grove IL (Sueanne Metz)
		2	Alexander Jin, Chicago IL (Brenda Huang)
		3	Xiaoping Wang Jr., Chicago IL (Brenda Huang)
	Elementary	1	Yerin Yang, Mount Prospect IL (Brenda Huang)
		2	Eriko Darcy, Chicago IL (Brenda Huang)
		3	Emily Cho, Schaumburg IL (Brenda Huang)
	Primary	1	Kimiko Darcy, Chicago IL (Brenda Huang)
		2	Kevin Chlastawa, Kenosha WI (Brenda Huang)
		3	none
Violin (2012)	Senior	1	Tabitha Oh, Chicago IL
		2	Hannah White, Germantown WI (Hye-Sun Lee)
		3	Emily Jones, Winnetka IL
	Junior	1	Julian Rhee, Brookfield WI (Hye-Sun Lee)
		2	Jason Wang, Yorktown Heights NY (Sungrai Sohn)
		3	Karisa Chiu, Palatine IL (Almita Vamos)
	Elementary	1	None
		2	Christina Nam, West Chester OH (Kurt Sassmannshaus)
			Maya Kilburn, Muncie IN (Chin Mi Kim)
		3	Zechary Mo, Palatine IL (Injoo Choi)
	Primary	1	Ella Saputra, Schaumburg IL (Taka Matsunaga)
		2	Sean Lee, Naperville IL (Betty Haag-Kuhnke)
3		Esme Arias-Kim, Hoffman Estates IL (Betty Haag-Kuhnke)	
Korean Music (2012)	Piano	Sr	Amber Scherer, Winnetka IL (Sueanne Metz)
		Jr	Derek Chung, Long Grove IL (Sueanne Metz)
		Ele	Yerin Yang, Mount Prospect IL (Brenda Huang)
		Prim	Kimiko Darcy, Chicago IL (Brenda Huang)
	Violin	Sr	Christi Park, Hindsdale IL (Cyrus Forough)
		Jr	Justin Lee, Buffalo Grove IL (Betty Haag-Kuhnke)
		Ele	Christian D. Kim, Schaumburg IL
		Prim	Ella Saputra, Schaumburg IL (Taka Matsunaga)
2011			
Piano (2011)	Senior	1	Trenton Takaki, Wilmette IL (Sueanne Metz)
		2	William Woodard, Bloomington IL (Laurene Parsons)
		3	Amber Ginmi Scherer, Winnetka IL (Sueanne Metz)
	Junior	1	Eric Lin, Hawthorn Woods IL (Brenda Huang)
		2	Roger Shen, Northbrook IL (Sueanne Metz)
		3	Whitney Jin, Naperville IL (Brenda Huang)
	Elementary	1	Colin Choi, Northbrook IL (Sueanne Metz)
		2	Joshua Zhu, Long Grove IL (Sueanne Metz)
		3	David Du, West Lafayette IN (Nadya Dubikovsky)
	Senior	1	Gallia Kastner, Arlington Heights IL (Almita Vamos)
		2	Claire Bourg, Aurora IL (Cyrus Forough)
		3	Tabitha Oh, Chicago IL (Desirée Ruhstrat)
		1	Hannah White, Germantown WI (Hye-Sun Lee)

Violin (2011)	Junior	2	Julian Rhee, Brookfield WI (Hye-Sun Lee)		
		3	Karisa Chiu, Palatine IL (Cornelius Chiu)		
	Elementary	1	John Heo, Northbrook IL (Cornelius Chiu)		
		2	Christina Jihee Nam, Cincinnati OH (Kurt Sassmannshaus)		
		3	Christian Kim, Schaumburg IL (Desirée Ruhstrat)		
			Esme Arias-Kim, Hoffman Estates IL (Betty Haag)		
Korean Music (2011)	Piano	Sr	Trenton Takaki, Wilmette IL (Sueanne Metz)		
		Jr	Whitney Jin, Naperville IL (Brenda Huang)		
		Ele	David Du, West Lafayette IN (Nadya Dubikovsky)		
	Violin	Sr	Claire Bourg, Aurora IL (Cyrus Forough)		
		Jr	Tabby Rhee, Brookfield WI (Hye-Sun Lee)		
		Ele	Rachel Shekinah Hsu, Wilmette IL (Desirée Ruhstrat)		
2010					
Piano (2010)	Senior	1	Christopher Park, West Lafayette IN (Nadya Dubikovsky)		
		2	None		
		3	None		
	Junior	1	None		
		2	Vivian Jin, Naperville IL (Brenda Huang) Roger Shen, Northbrook IL (Sueanne Metz)		
		3	Ryan Jannak-Huang, Palatine IL (Brenda Huang)		
	Elementary	1	Sean Choi, Wilmette IL (Elaine Felder)		
		2	Alexandra Woo, Glenview IL (Sueanne Metz)		
		3	Colin Choi, Northbrook IL (Sueanne Metz)		
Violin (2010)	Senior	1	Jennifer Cha, Naperville IL (Desirée Ruhstrat) Ade Williams, Chicago IL (Almita Vamos and Marko Dreher)		
		2	Gallia Kastner, Arlington Heights IL (Almita and Roland Vamos)		
		3	None		
		Junior	1	Zachary Brandon, Battle Creek MI (Hye-Sun Lee) Hansuh Rhee, Glenview IL (Marko Dreher)	
	2		Mira Williams, Chicago IL (Marko Dreher)		
	3		Karisa Chiu, Palatine IL (Cornelius Chiu)		
	Elementary	1	Hannah White, Germantown WI (Hye-Sun Lee)		
		2	Rachel Hsu, Wilmette IL (Desirée Ruhstrat)		
		3	Julian Rhee, Brookfield WI (Hye-Sun Lee)		
Korean Music (2010)	Piano	Sr	Christopher Park, West Lafayette IN (Nadya Dubikovsky)		
		Jr	Vivian Jin, Naperville IL (Brenda Huang)		
		Ele	Yerin Yang, Mount Prospect IL (Soo Lee)		
	Violin	Sr	Jennifer Cha, Naperville IL (Desirée Ruhstrat) Ade Williams, Chicago IL (Almita Vamos and Marko Dreher)		
		Jr	Karisa Chiu, Palatine IL (Cornelius Chiu) Hansuh Rhee, Glenview IL (Marko Dreher)		
		Ele	Julian Rhee, Brookfield WI (Hye-Sun Lee)		
		2009			
		Piano (2009)	Senior	1	Andrew Ly, Arlington Heights IL (Brenda Huang)
2	Yesse Kim, Ann Arbor MI (Panayis Lyras)				
3	Hannah Kay, Lincolnshire IL (Brenda Huang)				
Junior	1		Seoyun Baek, Buffalo Grove IL (Elaine Felder)		
	2		Yoan Ganev, Wheeling IL (Marta Azanavorian)		

		3	Kyle Jannak-Huang, Palatine IL (Brenda Huang)
Violin (2009)	Senior	1	Ethan Hoppe, Chicago IL (Almita Vamos and Marko Dreher)
		2	Lydia Umlauf, Rensselaer IN (Desirée Ruhstrat)
		3	Laura Park, Palatine IL (Almita Vamos and Marko Dreher)
	Junior	1	Adé Williams, Chicago IL (Almita Vamos and Marko Dreher)
		2	Serena Harnack, Glen Ellyn IL (Julie Maura)
		3	Tabby Rhee, Brookfield WI (Hey-Sun Lee)
Korean Music (2009)	Piano	Sr	Yesse Kim, Ann Arbor MI (Panayis Lyras)
		Jr	Seoyun Baek, Buffalo Grove IL (Elaine Felder)
	Violin	Sr	Sofia Kim, Wilmette IL (Almita Vamos)
		Jr	Adé Williams, Chicago IL (Almita Vamos and Marko Dreher)
2008			
Piano (2008)	Senior	1	Nathan Noh, Hawthorn Woods IL (Brenda Huang)
		2	Yeji Yoon, Vernon Hills IL (Micah Yui)
		3	None
	Junior	1	Seung Joon Kim, Glenview IL (Micah Yui)
		2	Ryan Jannak-Huang, Northbrook IL (Brenda Huang)
		3	None
Violin (2008)	Senior	1	George Hyun, Winnetka IL (Betty Haag-Kuhnke)
		2	Laura Park, Palatine IL (Almita Vamos & Marko Dreher)
		3	Shelley Liu, Winnetka IL (Almita Vamos)
			Lydia Umlauf, Rensselaer IN (Desirée Ruhstrat)
	Junior	1	Jennifer Eugena Cha, Naperville IL (Desiree Rhustrat)
		2	Michaela Wellems, Lincolnshire IL (Marko Dreher)
			Adé Williams, Chicago IL (Marko Dreher & Almita Vamos)
3	Haeji Kim, Bloomfield Hills MI (Almita & Roland Vamos)		
Cello (2008)		1	Johannes Gray, Wilmette IL (Gilda Barston Hans Jensen)
		2	None
		3	Christine Lee, Dublin OH (Alison Wells)
Korean Music (2008)	Piano	Jr	None
		Sr	Nathan Noh, Hawthorn Woods IL (Brenda Huang)
	Violin	Jr	Adé Williams, Chicago IL (Marko Dreher & Almita Vamos)
		Sr	Laura Park, Palatine IL (Almita Vamos & Marko Dreher)
	Cello		Johannes Gray, Wilmette IL (Gilda Barston Hans Jensen)
2007			
Piano (2007)	Senior	1	Paul Juhn, Mundelein IL (Emilio del Rosario)
		2	Alice Huang, Verona WI (Shu-Ching Chung)
		3	Matthew Sun-oo Scherer, Winnetka IL (Soo Lee)
	Junior	1	None
		2	Susie Lee, Naperville IL (Emilio del Rosario)
			Dongkyu Yoon, Brookfield WI (Michael Thiele)
3	Emma Michalak, Evanston IL (Soo Lee)		
Violin (2007)	Senior	1	Samantha Bennett, Evanston IL (Almita Vamos / Marko Dreher)
		2	Shelley Liu, Winnetka IL (Almita Vamos)
		3	Hannah Selonick, Evanston IL (Desirée Ruhstrat)
	Junior	1	Gallia Kastner, Arlington Heights IL (Almita Vamos / Marko Dreher)
		2	Susie Koh, Buffalo Grove IL (Almita Vamos / Marko Dreher)
			Connie Liou, Elk Grove Village IL (Julie Maura)

		3	Tabitha Oh, Chicago IL (Desirée Ruhstrat)
Cello (2007)		1	Benjamin Lash, Evanston IL (Tanya Carey)
		2	Hyunjin Jessica Cho, Glenview IL (David Cunliffe)
		3	None
2006			
Piano (2006)	Senior	1	Sean Yeh, Libertyville IL (Emilio Del Rosario)
		2	Paul Juhn, Mundelein IL (Emilio Del Rosario)
		3	Yueun Kim, Chicago IL (Theodore Edel)
	Junior	1	Lauren Eun Kim, Bannockburn IL(Emilio Del Rosario)
		2	Myung Sook Stella Tu, Northbrook IL (Sueanne Metz)
		3	Jonathan Lyu, Vernon Hills IL (Sung Hoon Mo)
Violin (2006)	Senior	1	Siwoo Kim, Westerville OH (Almita & Roland Vamos)
		2	Emily Hyun, Winnetka IL (Betti Haag-Kuhnke)
		3	Ashley Sachay, Dekalb IL (Desirée Ruhstrat)
	Junior	1	Laura Park, Hawthorn woods IL (Injoo Choi)
		2	George Hyun, Winnetka IL (Betty Haag-Kuhnke)
		3	Erika Gray, Wilmette IL (Desirée Ruhstrat)
Cello (2006)		1	Mindy Park, Mundelein IL (Hans Jensen)
		2	Benjamin Lash, Evanston IL (Tanya Carey)
		3	Hyunjin Jessica Cho, Glenview IL (David Cunliffe)
2005			
Piano (2005)	Senior	1	None
		2	Andrew Kim, Glencoe IL (Soo Lee)
		3	None
	Junior	1	Paul Juhn, Mundelein IL (Emilio Del Rosario)
		2	Alice Huang, Verona WI (Shu-Ching Chuang)
		3	Myung Sook Stella Tu, Northbrook IL (Sueanne Metz)
Violin (2005)	Senior	1	Shawn Moore, Elgin IL (Cyrus Forough)
		2	Yeon Sun Huh, Oberlin OH (Kyung Sun Lee)
		3	Ji Yeun Yook, Oberlin OH (Kyung Sun Lee)
	Junior	1	Herah Kim, Glenview IL (Desirée Ruhstrat)
		2	Laura Park, Hawthorn Woods IL (Injoo Choi)
		3	Jaimie Sachay, Dekalb IL (Desirée Ruhstrat)
2004			
Piano (2004)	Senior	1	Joeeun Shim, Northbrook IL (Emilio del Rosario)
			Ada Jeon, Northbrook IL (Sylvia Wang / Soo Lee)
		2	None
		3	Jonathan Shih, Lisle IL (Cheryl Cheon-Ae Lim)
	Junior	1	Andrew Yoon, Vernon Hill IL (Emilio del Rosario)
		2	Paul Juhn, Mundelein IL (Emilio del Rosario)
3		Alice Choe, Northbrook IL (Emilio del Rosario)	
Violin (2004)	Senior	1	Susan Jang, Wauconda IL (Almita Vamos)
		2	Eun-Hye Dong, Seoul Korea (Kyung Sun Lee)
		3	Sang Won Chung, Seoul Korea (Kyung Sun Lee)
	Junior	1	Sophia Cho, Park Ridge IL (Almita Vamos)
		2	Herah Kim, Glenview IL (Desirée Ruhstrat)
		3	Thomas Huntington, South Bend IN (Cyrus Forough)
			Jaeyon Chung, Wilmette IL (Gerardo Ribeiro)

Music Competition Judges 2004-2016

Year	Piano	Violin
2016	Marta Aznavoorian (DePaul University)	Nisanne Howell (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
	Wael Farouk (Carthage College)	Simon Michal (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
	Svetlana Belsky (University of Chicago)	Mathias Tacke (Northern Illinois University)
	Annie Hsiao (Northwestern University)	Kate Carter (Lake Forest College)
	Vakhtang Kodanashvili (Michigan State University)	Amy Goldberg (Northwestern University)
2015	Silvan Negrutiu (Millikin University)	Olga Kaler (DePaul University)
	Rochelle Sennet (University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign)	MingHuan Xu (Roosevelt University)
	Sung Hoon Mo (Wheaton College Conservatory of Music)	Nelson Lee (University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign)
	Yumy Lee Kim (DePaul University CMD)	Yoorhi Choi (Stellio Trio)
	Mary Rose Norell (Goshen College)	Angelica Lundberg (Fox Valley Symphony)
2014	Amy Briggs (University of Chicago)	So Young Bae (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
	Haysun Kang (Loyola University)	Jun Kim (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee)
	Sylvia Wang (Northwestern University)	Joyce Noh (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
	Luke Norell (Goshen College)	Sang-Kyun Kim (Chicago Civic Orchestra)
	Nolan Pearson (Bienen School of Music)	Angelica Lundberg (Chicago Civic Orchestra)
2013	Elena Abend (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee)	So Young Bae (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
	Marcia Bosits (Northwestern University)	Russell Hershow (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
	Kyomi Sugimura (Indiana University)	Ni Mei (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
	Yu-Sui Hung (VanderCook College of Music)	Susan Paik (Chicago Civic Orchestra)
	Aaron Stampfl (Benedictin University)	Stacia Spencer (Northwestern University)
2012	Susan Tang (Northeastern Illinois University)	Sue Synnestvedt (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
	Julian Dawson (Northwestern University)	Sylvia Kim (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
	Anthony Molinaro (Loyola University)	Russell Hershow (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
	Junichi Sato (DePaul University)	Rodolfo Vieira (Civic Orchestra of Chicago)
	Soyeon Park (Northwestern University)	Jaime Gorgojo (Northeastern Illinois University)
2011	Winston Choi (Roosevelt University)	Ik-Hwan Bae (Indiana University)
	Sung-Mi Im (Indiana University)	Stephanie Jeong (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
	George Vatchnadze (DePaul University)	Hermine Gagné (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
2010	Kuang-Hao Huang (Roosevelt University)	Karina Canellakis (Midwest Young Artist)
	Ludmila Lazar (Roosevelt University)	Blaise Magniere (Northern Illinois University)
	Daniel Schlosberg (University of Notre Dame)	Janet Sung (DePaul University)
2009	Kenneth Drake (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)	Guillaume Combet (University of Illinois at Chicago)
	Theodore Edel (University of Illinois at Chicago)	Stefan Milenkovich (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)
	Meng-Chieh Liu (Curtis Institute & Roosevelt University)	Thomas Wermuth (Western Springs School of Talent Education)
2008	Winston Choi (Roosevelt University)	Russell Hershow (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
	Fredda Hyman (Music In The Loft, Artistic Director)	Ella Ionescu (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
	JeongSoo Kim (Northern Illinois University)	Sando Shia (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
		Victor Yampolsky (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
2007	Aglika Angelova (DePaul University)	Nathan Cole (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
	Elyse Mach (Northeastern Illinois University)	Gerado Ribeiro (Northwestern University)
	Andrea Swan (Evanston Chamber Ensemble)	Akiko Tarumoto (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
2006	Svetlana Belsky (University of Chicago)	Stefan Hersh (Roosevelt University)
	Brenda Huang (Music Institute of Chicago)	Kyung Sun Lee (University of Houston)
	Graham Scott (Roosevelt University)	Robert Waters (DePaul University)

2005	Michael Kim (Lawrence University)	Alison Dalton (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)	
	Rev. John Palmer (Benedictine University)	Russell Hershow (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)	
	Sylvia Wang (Northwestern University)	Yuan Qing Yu (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)	
2004	Inah Choi (Music Institute of Chicago)	Alan Heatherington (Ars Viva Music Director)	
	James Giles (Northwestern University)	Ilya Kaler (De Paul University)	
	Abe Stokman (Music Institute of Chicago)	Joyce Noh (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)	
		Rami Solomonow (Roosevelt University)	
Year	Cello Division		
2008	Loren Brown (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)	2007	Loren Brown (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
	Patrick Jee (Lyric Opera)		Paula Kosower (Northwestern University)
	Sando Shia (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)		Gary Stucka (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)
	Mihaela Ionescu (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)		
2006	Kenneth Olsen (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)		
	Brant Taylor (Chicago Symphony Orchestra)		

Writing Competition Winners (2006-2017)

2017					
Essay Senior (2017)	1	Dante Kirkman (Palo Alto CA)	Essay Junior (2017)	1	Alyssa Tang (Irvine CA)
	2	Angie Sohn (Alexandria VA)		2	Annaabelle McCulloch (Manhattan Beach CA) Dodie Park (Paramus NJ)
	3	Samuel Weiss-Cowie (Atlanta GA)		3	Annie Cushman (Hermosa Beach CA)
Sijo (2017)	1	Clint Gersabeck (Golden CO)	Essay Adult (2017)	1	Emily Chun (Salsbury MD)
	2	Aidan Boyle (Littleton CO)		2	Brian Kim (Portland ME)
	3	Emma Senkbeil (Sussex WI) Maddie Shipshock (Hartland WI)		3	Kelsey Hayes (Montgomery AL)
2016					
Essay Senior (2016)	1	Faith Chen (Wilmette IL)	Essay Junior (2016)	1	Hope Galusha (Manhattan Beach CA)
	2	Seth Kim (Blairstown NJ)		2	Dante Kirkman (Palo Alto CA)
	3	Melina Lopatin (Saint Louis MO)		3	Clara Kakuk (La Canada CA)
Sijo (2016)	1	Austin Snell (Pewaukee WI)	Essay Adult (2016)	1	Kaitlyn Jurewicz (Dover DE)
	2	Bella Dalton-Fenkl (Poughkeepsie NY)		2	Tessa Yang (Bloomington IN)
	3	Vivian Nguyen (Lakewood CO)		3	Sarah Watanaskul (San Diego CA)
2015					
Essay Senior (2015)	1	Katie Danis (Gastonia NC)	Essay Junior (2015)	1	Mika Ro (Toronto ON) Olivia Ward (Los Angeles CA)
	2	Estjer Kim (Clifton VA)		2	Kiran Dzur (Bowling Green OH)
	3	Hyo Jung Juli Ha (La Crescenta CA)		3	Alison Oh (Los Angeles CA)
Sijo (2015)	1	Zion Kim (Little Neck NY)	Essay Adults (2015)	1	Taberez Alam (Bronx NY)
	2	Emma Kein (Frankfort IL)		2	Tessa Yang (Pittsford NY)
	3	Talia Rochlin (River Edge NJ) Jared Skiles (St. Louis MO)		3	Kaitlyn Jurewicz (Dover DE)
2014					
Essay Senior	1	Brendan Phillips (Atlanta, GA)	Essay Junior	1	Jason Lee (Naperville IL)
	2	Daniel Kedansky (Tucson, AZ)		2	Robin Young (Hernando MS)

(2014)	3	Darvin Heo (Harrisburg, NC)	(2014)	3	Abigail Fonville (Memphis TN)
Sijo (2014)	1	Hapshiba Kwon (Cerritos CA)	Essay	1	Samuel Walder (Oak Park IL)
	2	Alexandra Kindahl (Cockeysville MD)	Adults	2	Erin Connolly (Atlanta GA)
	3	Jeanna Qiu (Livingston NJ)	(2014)	3	Matthew McGee (Atlanta GA)
2013					
Essay Senior (2013)	1	Samuel Walder (Oak Park IL)	Essay Junior (2013)	1	Sharon Lin (Holmdel NJ)
	2	Hebin Hannah Jeon (Long Grove IL)		2	Jessica Hsueh (San Gabriel CA)
	3	Jack Snelling (Atlanta GA)		3	Justin Olah (Pasadena CA)
Sijo (2013)	1	Roberto Santos (Laredo TX)	Essay Young Adults (2013)	1	None
	2	Hannah Pohl (Coral Springs FL)		2	None
	3	Brandon Harris (Cleveland TN) Brian Lok (San Gabreil CA)		3	Shranya Kumar (Chesterfield MO) Joanne Lee (Oberlin OH)
Essay Senior (2012)	1	Eunsuh Emily Chun (Ridgewood NJ)	Essay Junior (2012)	1	Rosie Eunseon Choi (Irvine CA)
	2	Carlo Castillo (Lisle IL)		2	Noah Lee (Mechanicsburg PA)
	3	Julianna Marandola (Cranston RI)		3	Jessica Squires (Reading MA)
Sijo (2012)	1	Hollister Rhone (Chicago IL)			
	2	Mary Liza Hartong (Nashville TN)			
	3	Alice Ra (Irvine CA)			
2011					
Essay Senior (2011)	1	Suah Kang (Chattanooga TN)	Essay Junior (2011)	1	Via Savage (Davidson NC)
	2	Sarah Walsh (Stewartstown PA)		2	Noah Lee (Mechanicsburg PA)
	3	Christine Hamlin (San Diego CA)		3	Andrew Park (Fairfax VA)
Sijo (2011)	1	Nicholas Duncan (Mundelein IL)			
	2	Alex Griffin (Hartland WI)			
	3	Manuel Rodriguez (Lareda TX)			
2010					
Essay Senior (2010)	1	Joyce Sim (Jericho NY)	Essay Junior (2010)	1	Elizabeth Dia (Germantown TN)
	2	Seyoung Lee (Andover MA)		2	Una Koh (Conshohocken PA)
	3	Dana Huh (Manhasset NY)		3	Victoria Tu (Northbrook IL)
Sijo (2010)	1	Sean Alaniz (Tucker GA)			
	2	Jordan Levenstein (Jericho NY)			
	3	Kaycee Gallup (Atlanta GA) Mary Liza Hartong (Nashville TN)			
2009					
Essay Senior (2009)	1	Hannah Ruebeck (Easton PA)	Essay Junior (2009)	1	Yegina Whang (Northridge CA)
	2	Gene Kim (Fort Lee NJ)		2	Victoria Tu (Northbrook IL)
	3	Alee Cho (Palo Alto CA)		3	Sharon Bae (Des Plaines IL) Marian Baker (Canton GA)
Sijo (2009)	1	Creasy Clauser (Crawfordsville IN)			
	2	Taylor Edwards (Euless TX)			
	3	Sarah Chen (Fresh Meadows NY)			
2008					
Essay Senior (2008)	1	Susan Yoojin Lee (La Canada CA)	Essay Junior (2008)	1	Julia Triesch (Sugar Land TX)
	2	Sara White (Wahiawa HI)		2	Sharon Bae (Algonquin IL)
	3	Bori Ha (Albany CA)		3	Richard Chung (Los Angeles CA)
Sijo (2008)	1	Jacob Diamond (Weston FL)			
	2	James Merideth (Vienna VA)			

	3	Janelle Torres (Brooklyn NY)			
		Michael Chung (Los Angeles CA)			
2007					
Essay Senior (2007)	1	Jay Lee (Glenview IL)	Essay Junior (2007)	1	Eunice Lee (Asheboro NC)
	2	Christine Sun-Ah Kwon (Fort Lee NY)		2	Michael Chung (Los Angeles CA)
	3	Cecilia Ahn (Fort Lee NY)		3	Andrew Song (Palatine IL)
2006					
Essay Senior (2006)	1	Clara Yoon (West Bloomfield MI)	Essay Junior (2006)	1	Jiyoung Kim (Hoffman Estate IL)
	2	Jennifer Kim (Virginia Beach VA)		2	Sarah Honchul (Poquoson VA)
	3	Jessica Lim (Northbrook IL)		3	James Paik (Wilmette IL)

Writing Competition Judges 2006-2017

Year	Essay	Sijo
2017	Anne Holzman (Korean Quarterly, St. Paul MN)	David McCann (Harvard University, Cambridge MA)
	Angela Hur (San Francisco CA)	Gyung-ryul Jang (Seoul National University, Seoul KOREA)
	Junse Kim (San Francisco State University, CA)	Mark Peterson (Brigham Young University, Provo UT)
2016	Anne Holzman (Korean Quarterly, St. Paul MN)	David McCann (Harvard University, Cambridge MA)
	Sam Park (Columbia College, Chicago IL)	Ivanna Yi (Harvard University, Cambridge MA)
	Martha Vickery (Korean Quarterly, St. Paul MN)	Mark Peterson (Brigham Young University, Provo UT)
2015	Anne Holzman (Korean Quarterly, St. Paul MN)	David McCann (Harvard University, Cambridge MA)
	Joonok Huh (University of Northern Colorado, Greeley Co)	Ivanna Yi (Harvard University, Cambridge MA)
	Jenny Lee (College of Lake County, Grayslake IL)	Mark Peterson (Brigham Young University, Provo UT)
		Gyung-ryul Jang (Seoul National University, Seoul Korea)
2014	Heinz Insu Fenkl (SUNY at New Paltz NY)	David McCann (Harvard University, Boston MA)
	Ty Pak (author, Honolulu HI)	Sunghye Kim (Harvard University, Boston MA)
	Joonok Huh (University of Northern Colorado)	Ivanna Yi (Harvard University, Cambridge MA)
2013	Mark Hagland (Editor-in-Chief, Healthcare Informatics IL)	David McCann (Harvard University, Boston MA)
	Anne Holzman (Freelance writer, Editor, St. Paul MN)	Mark Peterson (Brigham Young University, Provo UT)
	David Schaafsma (University of Illinois, Chicago IL)	Ivanna Yi (Harvard University, Cambridge MA)
2012	Anne Holzman (Korean Quarterly, St. Paul MN)	David McCann (Harvard University, Boston MA)
	Seong-Kon Kim (Seoul National University, Seoul Korea)	Mark Peterson (Brigham Young University, Provo UT)
	Martha Vickery (Editor-in-Chief, Korean Quarterly)	Ivanna Yi (Harvard University, Cambridge MA)
2011	Mark Hagland (Editor-in-Chief, Healthcare Informatics)	Jessica Fisher (University of California, Berkeley CA)
	Sharon Chur Lapensky (author, Minneapolis MN)	Young Min Kwon (Seoul National University, Seoul Korea)
	Sun Yung Shin (author, Minneapolis MN)	David McCann (Harvard University, Boston MA)
2010	Heinz Insu Fenkl (SUNY at New Paltz NY)	Kevin O'Rourke (Kyunghee University, Seoul Korea)
	David Schaafsma (University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago)	David McCann (Harvard University, Boston MA)
	Mark Hagland (journalist & editor, Chicago IL)	Anne Dalton (editor & publisher, Poughkeepsie NY)
2009	Yoo-sup Chang (author, Laurel MD)	Sarah Bennett (poet, Swampscott MA)
	E. Bok Lee (author, Minneapolis MN)	John Hildebidle (MIT, Cambridge MA)
	Youngmin Kwon (Seoul National University, Seoul Korea)	David McCann (Harvard University, Boston MA)
2008	Sun Yung Shin (author, Apple Valley MN)	Brother Anthony An Sonjae (Sogang University, Seoul Korea)
	Jae-Ha Kim (author & journalist, St. Charles IL)	David McCann (Harvard University, Boston MA)
	Ty Pak (author, Honolulu HI)	Bruce Fulton (University of British Columbia, Vancouver Canada)
2007	Jinyoung Kim (program officer, Korea Society NY)	
	Heinz Insu Fenkl (SUNY at New Paltz NY)	
	Ty Pak (author, Honolulu HI)	
	Ann S. Lee (author, Towson MD)	

2006	Junse Kim (San Francisco CA)
	Heinz Insu Fenkl (SUNY at New Paltz NY)
	Ty Pak (author, Honolulu HI)

Sejong Prize for Music Composition Winners (2005-2015)

Year	Prize	Name	City	Country
2015	Winner	Su-eun Lee	Weimar	Germany
	HM	Joungbum Lee	Chicago IL	USA
		Yuanyuan Kay He	Austin TX	USA
2012	1	Yongbin Park	Seoul	Korea
	2	David Hier	Toronto	Canada
	3	Heeyoung Yang	West Lafayette IN	USA
	HM	Bonnie Miksch	Portland OR	USA
		Jung Woon Wie	Wooster OH	USA
2008	1	Eun Ho Chang	Dae-gu	Korea
	2	In Won Kang	Seoul	Korea
	3	Misook Kim	Naperville IL	USA
	HM	Inhwa Song	Dae-gu	Korea
		Heeyoung Yang	Cincinnati OH	USA
2005	1	Jean Ahn	San Francisco CA	USA
		Jeong Kyu Park	InCheon	Korea
	2	<i>none</i>	-	-
	3	Sung Joo Hong	San Diego CA	USA
	HM	Dae-Sung Kim	Seoul	Korea
		Soonmee Kahng	Seoul	Korea
		David Evan Jones	Santa Cruz CA	USA

Sejong Prize Competition Judges

Year	Name (affiliation)
2015	Geonyong Lee (Korean University of Arts, Seoul KOREA)
	Shinuh Lee (Seoul National University, Seoul KOREA)
	David Ludwig (Curtis Institute, Philadelphia PA)
	Stratis Minakakis (New England Conservatory, Boston MA)
	Arlene Sierra (University of Cardiff, Cardiff Wales)
2012	Shih-Hui Chen (Rice University, Houston TX)
	Jan Radzynski (Ohio State University, Columbus OH)
	Hi Kyung Kim (University of California, Santa Cruz CA)
	Geon-yong Lee (Korean National University of Arts, Seoul Korea)
	Younghi Pagh-Paan (Bremen University, Bremen Germany)
2008	David Cunliffe (Highland Park IL)
	Matthew Hagle (Evanston IL)
	Pierre Jalbert (Rice University, Houston TX)
	Hi Kyung Kim (University of California, Santa Cruz CA)
	Geon-yong Lee (Korean National University of Arts, Seoul Korea)
	Chan Hae Lee (Yon-Sei University, Seoul Korea)

	Desirée Ruhstrat (Highland Park IL)
2005	Cliff Colnot (Civic Orchestra of Chicago, Chicago IL)
	David Cunliffe (Highland Park IL)
	Hi Kyung Kim (University of California, Santa Cruz CA)
	Chan Hae Lee (Yon-Sei University, Seoul Korea)
	Geon-yong Lee (Korean National University of Arts, Seoul Korea)
	Desirée Ruhstrat (Highland Park IL)

QUOTES

“I got involved with the Sejong Cultural Society by chance because of my interest in folklore and poetry and now I am very interested in comparative literature. I have found that learning about Korean culture and history is incredibly interesting. It has expanded my horizons and helped me think about universal themes in art and literature as well as the hardships and struggles of people throughout history.”

-Dante Kirkman, 2017 Senior essay first place (9th grade CA)

This competition introduced me to the work of author Park Wan-suh and the wider world of modern Korean fiction. I loved Wan-suh’s writing style and great depth of emotion behind every word. I look forward to reading more of her work and hope to one day travel to South Korea where I can fully experience her writing in person. Many thanks to the Sejong Cultural Society for this amazing opportunity! Kamsahamnida 감사합니다!

-Kelsey Hayes, 2017 Adult essay third place (Montgomery AL)

“Writing for this competition allowed me to think deeply about not only the books but also about their relationships with history and the lives of the authors. I thank the Sejong Cultural Society for creating this opportunity which gave me access to a side of history and literature which I would not have otherwise explored. I would also like to thank Dr. Dan Gleason my teacher who introduced me to this competition last year.”

-Samuel Walder, 2014 Adult essay division first place (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)

“When I first learned about sijo I was teaching World Literature to high school seniors. Most of my students were boys who had little interest in literature and who identified as math/science types. One day I announced that I had some good news and some bad news. They groaned. They wanted the bad news first. ‘We’re going to write poetry today.’ Worse than they imagined. ‘The good news is that the poems are only three lines.’ Cheers all around. What I found interesting was that they liked learning the pattern of a sijo. That must have appealed to their math side. Once they understood the pattern they enjoyed coming up with poems and couldn’t wait to show me their work. It was an unexpected success.”

-Tracy Kaminer, former English teacher, Atlanta GA

“Brandon was a student in my creative writing class the first semester of this school year. Coming into the class Brandon didn't consider himself a significantly accomplished writer and certainly not a good poet. As he said "I hated poetry. I didn't understand it and didn't take the time to learn how to comprehend it." He was after all a good-ole-boy: a starter on the football team and an avid outdoorsman. However when we started the poetry unit Brandon started to show some promise. He really started to shine when we wrote sijo. Each student only had to write one but Brandon wrote three (all about hunting or fishing his favorite topics: the cover of his final project for my class has a picture of him on a turkey hunt). Again in his words: "We began writing a type of poem called sijo and I wrote some really good sijos. [This] improved my writing a lot. I started writing with more detail and depth. It also made me realize I could do things that I never would have done before." I asked Brandon if I could enter one of his sijo in the contest and he agreed although this was clearly out of his comfort zone. I hope he does well in the contest but even if doesn't I'm proud that he's started to see himself in a way that he never did before.”

-Duane Johansen, English teacher, IN

SIJO SAMPLES

STILL AMERICAN

They say go, return to land that I don't know. It makes no sense.
Born and raised American, so Mexico is still foreign.
Culture kept, but this is my home. Immigrant, no: Hispanic.
Roberto Santos (12th grade)
first place

THE SANCTUARY

Tiny snow-white egret wading
through the sea near broken rocks—
How can a being so fragile
keep balanced despite the waves?
On the beach, not far from the boardwalk,
there stands only one tough tree.
Bella Dalton-Fenkl (12th grade)
second place

TENNIS

When the professionals play,
it's like watching a metronome:
Racquet to racquet and back again,
the ball keeps a perfect, steady beat.

When I'm on the court with my friends,
we improvise: jazz, hip-hop
Linda Sue Park
from TAP DANCING ON THE ROOF, © Linda Sue Park, Clarion Books

UNTITLED

A single sole was lost today, deep in the river Yalu,
Thrashing, twisting, torn to shreds with color quickly fading.
On the bridge a small boy laughs, holding out his empty shoe.

Creasy Clauser, first place
2009 sijo competition (12th grade)

ALICE

Seeing old pictures, I think, "Was I ever really that small?"
Were those pink hands and tiny ears mine because now
I feel like Alice in Wonderland, far too big to fit anywhere.

Mary Liza Hartong, second place
2012 sijo competition (12th grade)

A LOOK AT THE SEJONG CULTURAL SOCIETY 2004-2016



2005 MUSIC COMPETITION WINNERS' CONCERT

Chicago, IL – Winners of the 2005 Music Competition at Ganz Hall, Roosevelt University



2015 MUSIC COMPETITION WINNERS' CONCERT

Chicago, IL – Winners of the 2015 Music Competition at the Claudia Cassidy Theater, Chicago Cultural Center



2013 SEJONG PRIZE WINNERS CONCERT

Chicago, IL – The Lincoln Trio and 2012 Sejong Prize for Music Composition winners: Yongbin Park (Seoul), David Hier (Toronto), and Heeyoung Yang (Lafayette, IN) take a bow after a concert featuring the composers' winning works at Fulton Recital Hall, University of Chicago



2004 MUSIC COMPETITION WINNERS' CONCERT

Chicago, IL – Susan Jang, violin senior division first place winner, plays *Ari-ning Fantasy* by Soonmee Kahng at Curtiss Hall, Fine Arts Building



2014 MUSIC COMPETITION WINNERS' CONCERT

Chicago, IL – Emmie Guo, piano primary division first place winner, plays *Nocturne in C# minor* by Chopin at the Claudia Cassidy Theater, Chicago Cultural Center



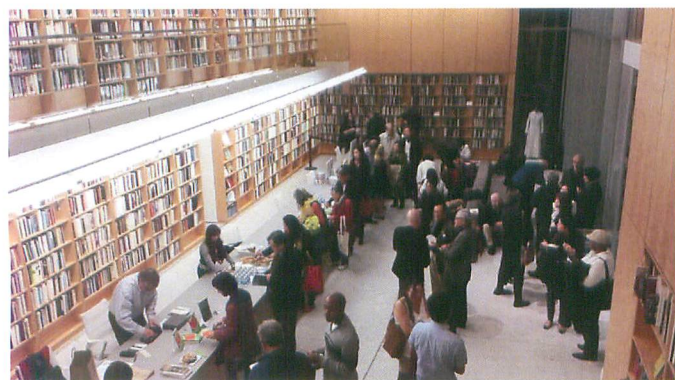
2013 CONVERSATION WITH YI MUN-YOL

Glenview, IL – Award-winning author Yi Mun-yol speaks with host Won-Jung Park to a packed audience at one of several Sejong-organized events; Mr. Yi's novella *Our Twisted Hero* was used in our writing competition



2014 POETRY OFF THE SHELF: KO UN

Chicago, IL – Poet, political activist, former Buddhist monk, and Pulitzer Prize nominee Ko Un reads his poems at the Chicago Public Library at an event organized in collaboration with the Poetry Foundation as part of their Poetry Off the Shelf series



2012 POETRY OFF THE SHELF: DAVID MCCANN

Chicago, IL – Guests attend a reception at the Poetry Foundation following a sijo lecture by David McCann, professor of Korean literature at Harvard University, at a Poetry Off the Shelf event



2013 POETRY OFF THE SHELF: DAVID MCCANN

Chicago, IL – David McCann and Susanna Song, reporter for CBS, read sijo at the Poetry Foundation for another Poetry Off the Shelf lecture led by Professor McCann; twelve-year-old 2012 writing competition winner Hollister Rhone also read her winning sijo at the event



2015 ENCHANTED EVENING WITH SIJO, ARTS, AND WINE: Chicago, IL – Mark Peterson, professor of Korean literature at Brigham Young University, and host Mia Park read sijo; Sun Ah Park (*baegum*) and Sora Kim (*janggum*) also performed traditional Korean music at the Andrew Bae Gallery



2015 ENCHANTED EVENING WITH SIJO, ARTS, AND WINE: Chicago, IL – Community-oriented artists' collective Elephant Rebellion performs hip-hop songs based on sijo by Hwang Jini and 2015 competition winner Roberto Santos to the accompaniment of Suwan Choi on the *janggum* at the Andrew Bae Gallery



2016 TEACHING SIJO: HARTLAND

Hartland, WI – Elizabeth Jorgensen teaches her 11th grade creative writing class about sijo; as part of an ongoing project, Ms. Jorgensen's class is one of many to be video-recorded with the intention of providing examples of teaching methods for other educators



2016 TEACHING SIJO: WHEELING

Wheeling, IL – Elizabeth Jorgensen teaches sijo to a group of third- and fourth grade students in front of the cameras; television producer and host Won-Jung Park records and edits the Teaching Sijo series of videos



2012 KAFE WORKSHOP

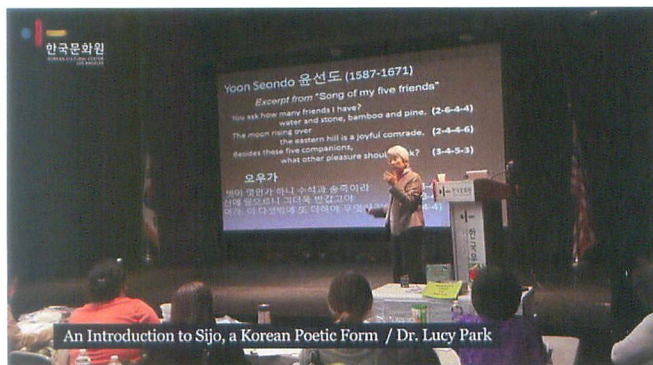
Atlanta, GA – The student becomes the teacher as Tracy Kaminer leads a discussion on sijo with other educators after fellow presenter

Lucy Park gave an introductory lecture; Sejong was otherwise uninvolved in the event, which was organized by the LA-based Korean Academy for Educators



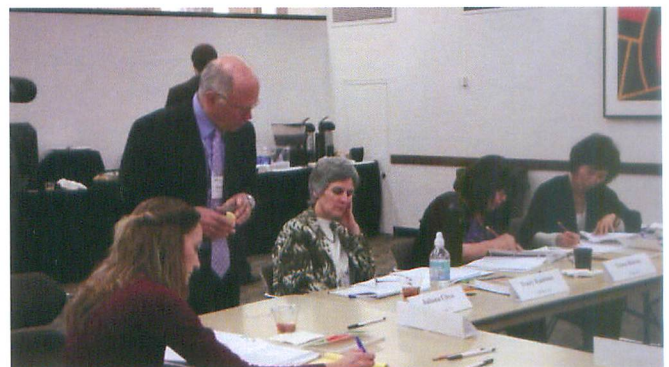
2016 SIJO WORKSHOP

Glenview, IL – Elizabeth Jorgensen, English teacher at Arrowhead High School in WI, discusses her methods of teaching sijo at this educators' workshop hosted in collaboration with Indiana University



2015 NATIONAL KOREAN STUDIES SEMINAR

Los Angeles, CA – Lucy Park was invited to give a sijo presentation on be- half of Sejong at the week-long, cross-cultural seminar for American educa- tors; Sejong was otherwise uninvolved in the event



2010 SIJO WORKSHOP

Chicago, IL – David McCann, professor of Korean literature at Harvard University, looks over a sijo in progress by high school English teacher Tracy Kaminer at our first Sejong-hosted sijo workshop for educators

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LEEAH JOO

KNOTS & LOOSE ENDS

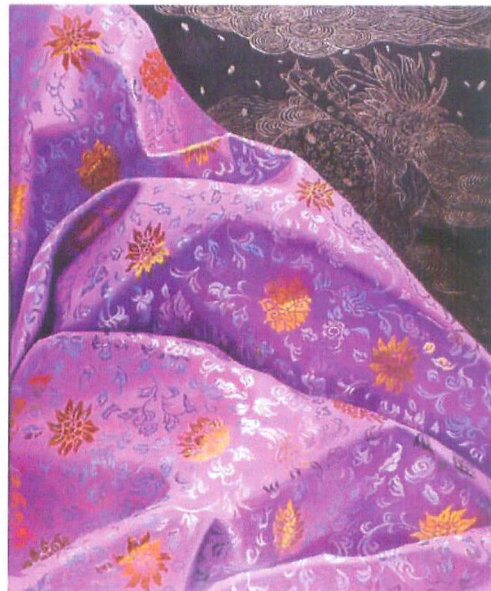
NOV 03 - DEC 16, 2017

Opening Reception, Friday, November 03, 5-8pm

THE ARTIST WILL BE PRESENT AT THE OPENING



SEXY BEAST, Oil on Canvas, 24 x 20 in., 2017



BANGMANEE, Oil on Canvas, 24 x 20 in., 2017

Knots and Loose Ends

Kurosawa's film *Dreams* has a scene where a beautiful snow spirit drapes a fallen hiker with layer upon layer of shimmering fabric. Despite their warmth, these blankets of snow, fatigue and slumber, must be shaken off for the hiker to survive.

My recent paintings explore different connotations of drapery as a subject. Some are draped to evoke landscapes informed by recent events in the East where a mischievous Dokkebi threatens havoc. Some are bundled as packages to be gifted or stowed away, safekeeping treasures and secrets.

-- Leeah Joo

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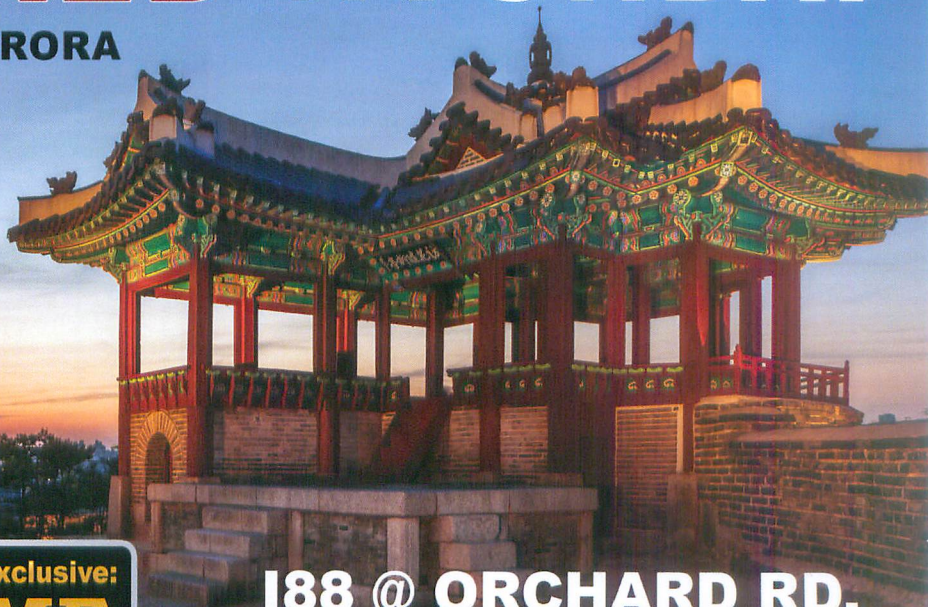
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UPCOMING EVENTS

2017 SIJO WORKSHOP: COMPARISON OF KOREAN, CHINESE, & JAPANESE POETRY

Saturday, October 21, 2017

8:30 AM – 3:30 PM

NEWBERRY LIBRARY

60 W. Walton St. Chicago IL

Open to K-12 Teachers (registration closed)

MUSIC INSPIRED BY KOREAN POETRY: SIJO IN SETTINGS OF CLASSICAL, JAZZ, TO HIP-HOP

Saturday, October 21, 2017

4:00 - 5:30 PM

Poetry Foundation

61 W. Superior St. Chicago

Open to general public: Free admission

2017 SEJONG MUSIC COMPETITION

Sunday, November 12, 2017

University of Illinois at Chicago

Performing Arts Center

1040 West Harrison Street, Chicago, IL 60607

Open to pre-college piano and violin students.

Applications must be submitted online by October 27, 2017

2018 SEJONG WRITING COMPETITION

Submission deadline: February 28, 2018

in collaboration with the Korea Institute, Harvard University & The Literature Translation Institute of Korea

Essay category open to all residents of the US and Canada, age 25 and younger.

Sijo poetry category open to students of the US and Canada, grade 12 and younger.

Visit our website at www.sejongculturalsociety.org for details.

Contact us at Sejong@sejongculturalsociety.org with any questions.