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the korea society staff



Donald P. Gregg

President & Chairman

Donald P. Gregg assumed the position of president and chairman of The Korea Society in 1993, following a 43-year career in the U.S. government that included his service as U.S. Ambassador to Korea from 1989–1993. In 1951, Ambassador Gregg joined the Central Intelligence Agency, and over the next 25 years was assigned to Japan, Burma, Vietnam and Korea. After being seconded to the staff of the National Security Council in 1979, Ambassador Gregg was put in charge of intelligence activities and given responsibility for Asian policy affairs. In 1982, he retired from the CIA when then Vice President George H. W. Bush asked him to become his national security advisor. Gregg has received numerous honors and distinctions, including the Distinguished Intelligence Medal (1982), the Department of Defense Medal for Distinguished Public Service (1993 & 2001), a decoration from the prime minister of Korea (1993), Williams College's Kellogg Award for Career Achievement (2001) and the 2004 Bartels World Affairs Fellowship from Cornell University. Gregg earned a B.A. from Williams College in 1951 after completing his service in the U.S. Army from 1945–47. He also holds honorary doctorates from Sogang University in Korea and Green Mountain College in Vermont.

Rebecca Brabant

Program Associate

Project Bridge Coordinator

Prior to joining The Korea Society in 2003, Rebecca Brabant received her B.A. in Anthropology and Asian Studies from Scripps College. She spent 2002 conducting anthropological fieldwork while teaching English and studying Mandarin in the northeastern Chinese city of Harbin. She has lived abroad in Asia for most of her life in Harbin, Hong Kong, Seoul, Shanghai, and Tokyo. Ms. Brabant is proficient in Korean, Mandarin Chinese and Spanish.

Fredrick F. Carriere

Executive Director & Vice President

Frederick F. Carriere lived and worked in Korea for over 20 years prior to assuming his current responsibilities with The Korea Society in 1994. During most of his years in Korea, Mr. Carriere

was employed by the Fulbright program initially in the position of associate director and later as executive director from 1984–93. He also was a councilor of the Korea Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society for many years, and served as its president from 1989–91. In addition, he worked as a translator and editorial consultant for the Korean National Commission for UNESCO from 1977–80, and was an adjunct instructor teaching anthropology and Korean studies in the Far Eastern Division of the University of Maryland. Mr. Carriere holds an M.A. in anthropology and Asian studies from Cornell University, which he received after completing the course work for a Ph.D. in 1976.

Yong Jin Choi

Senior Director, Korea Studies Program

Prior to joining The Korea Society, Ms. Choi launched the Korean Studies Council International, which enabled U.S. teachers to travel to and research in Korea. In her previous and current positions, she has overseen the summer and fall study opportunities in Korea for over 400 educators. She has also implemented numerous professional development programs; directed the production of classroom curricula and teaching materials; and provided information about Korea for major textbooks. In 2002, she received a presidential citation from South Korean President Kim Dae Jung for her contributions to the country. She was also the recipient of the 2001 Franklin Buchanan Award from the Committee on Teaching About Asia of the Association for Asian Studies, which cited her work on the curriculum series "Korea: Lessons for Grades 1-12." She has also lectured in anthropology at Seoul National and Hanyang Universities. Ms. Choi holds a B.A. in History from Sogang University in Seoul, and an M.A. in Anthropology from the University of Hawaii.

Grace Chon

Program Assistant

Grace Chon worked for the International Justice Team at Human Rights Watch prior to joining the Korea Society in 2004. Her other experience includes teaching English while studying Chinese in Taiwan and working as a volunteer after-school tutor in a community outreach program for inner-city children in Philadelphia. Ms. Chon has taken graduate-level courses toward an M.L.A. at the University of Pennsylvania and holds a B.S. in International Relations with a concentration in East Asia from Drexel University.

Jeong-Ah (Jasmin) Ha

Program Manager, Corporate Affairs

Jeong-Ah (Jasmin) Ha has worked in the educational field, first as an ESOL instructor in Korea, and later as an administrator and counselor at an English language academy in New Zealand. In her most recent position, prior to joining The Korea Society in 2003, she worked closely with community organizations and was responsible for organizing and conducting seminars and other small group sessions. She also has had extensive experience in finance, marketing and management both in Asia and the U.S. Ms. Ha holds a B.S. in mathematics and education from Ewha Woman's University and an M.A. in economics from Tufts University.

C. Rae Jung

Director, Publications

Deputy Editor, The Korea Society Quarterly

Prior to joining The Korea Society in 2003, C. Rae Jung worked in journalism as a reporter and editor. He was publisher and editor of *CommonKore* magazine, a groundbreaking, bilingual publication for Korean Americans, managing editor of *South Bergenite*, a regional weekly paper in New Jersey, and associate producer at www.fathom.com, an educational Web venture in New York City. Mr. Jung, who left Korea at 17, is fluent in Korean and has also written in-depth articles on U.S. politics and economy for *Sisa Journal*, a leading newsweekly in Korea. In 1992, he also had the distinction of being the first Asian American to be selected for the prestigious James H. Dunn Fellowship program offered by the State of Illinois Governor's Office. Mr. Jung received a B.A. in sociology from the University of Chicago and an M.A. in journalism from Columbia University.

Sophia H. Kang

Senior Director, Development and Corporate Affairs

Sophia H. Kang has served The Korea Society as Director of Development and Corporate Affairs since 1995 and assumed a current position in 2003. She has been responsible for the Society's all areas of fundraising programs, special events, membership, and programs of contemporary issues and corporate affairs, including strategic planning and the achievement of fundraising goals and organization of insightful programs. Prior to joining the Society, Ms. Kang headed the SK9 Group, Inc., a consulting firm specializing in public relations, marketing and communications. From 1987 to 1994, Ms. Kang was Deputy Director of the Mayor's Office for Asian Affairs in New York City where she acted as a principal policy advisor to the Administration on all Asian-American issues as well as serving as New York City's chief representative and liaison to the Republic of Korea's business and political community. She organized and funded special community assistance programs, mayoral public-relations events, business seminars, and media forums. Ms. Kang is the recipient of numerous awards and distinction from various community and international organizations. She attended Ewha Women's University, and received her B.F.A. from the Maryland Institute College of Art and her M.F.A. with Distinction from the Pratt Institute Graduate School.

Genna Kim

Office Manager

Prior to joining The Korea Society in 2004, Genna Kim worked as a

catalog subscriptions manager for Doyle New York, and as a client services representative for Phillips, de Pury and Luxembourg. Several of her university courses inspired a strong interest in U.S. policy toward the Koreas, and she hopes to develop more expertise in this area. She is also interested in contemporary Korean art—especially the work of Nam June Paik. Ms. Kim is a graduate of the University of Chicago with a B.A. in East Asian languages & civilizations.

Jinyoung Kim

Program Manager, Arts

Before joining The Korea Society in 2003, Jinyoung Kim worked at several art galleries and institutions, including the Kim Foster gallery in Chelsea, New York, the Whitney Museum of American Art, The Japan Society, and Galerie Bhak in Seoul. She has years of experience in promoting international art fairs and exhibitions, and has written for Korean art magazines and the *Chosun* daily newspaper since 1999. Ms. Kim recently received an award for an online exhibition project developed for the Mapplethorpe Foundation. She curated a virtual exhibition of Robert Mapplethorpe's photographs, drawing a parallel between the aesthetic sensibility and ideology of Mapplethorpe's photographs and traditional Asian paintings. She holds an M.A. in modern art and curatorial studies from Columbia University, an M.A. in gallery and retail art administration from the Fashion Institute of Technology, and a B.A. in art history from Hong-Ik University.

Seho Kim

Graphic Designer

Before joining The Korea Society in 2004, Seho Kim worked on a variety of projects as a freelance illustrator and graphic/web designer. His extensive art experience ranges from the design and construction of a commercial web site, such as the W HOTEL, THE STORE web site, to the illustration of *Go for Kids*, a multi-paneled children's book published in 2001. In addition to his professional accomplishments, Seho Kim also served as a part-time faculty member at Parsons School of Design/New School University. At Parsons, he instructed undergraduate and continuing education students in courses such as Flash Animation and Graphic/Web Design. Seho Kim received his B.F.A degree in illustration from Rhode Island School of Design and his M.F.A in design and technology from Parsons School of Design/New School University, where he was the 2003 commencement speaker.

Charles Pereira

Database Administrator

Charles Pereira joined the Korea Society in 2004 as database administrator. He holds a master's degree in computer science from New Jersey Institute of Technologies and a B.S. in computer engineering from Regional Engineering College, Jaipur, India. His interests include real time relational and object oriented database management systems, data mining, and application and Internet development/programming. He has worked with technologies, such as PL/SQL, SQL, MS Access, SQL Server 2000, Oracle 8i/9i, Java Technologies, VB, ASP, JSP and Perl, on Windows and UNIX platforms. He was associated with the project "Data Mining on the Web" in the Computer Science Department of NJIT. Mr. Pereira has held several IT-related positions, including database administrator, database developer, Internet integrated database developer, helpdesk coordinator and quality assurance.

Peter Poliakine

Director, Finance & Administration

Peter Poliakine enjoyed a long career in the performing arts before joining The Korea Society. He has helped manage nonprofit groups both large and small. Originally from the Netherlands and a former university professor, he holds an M.B.A. from the University of Cincinnati.

Homer Williams

Director, Information Services

Homer Williams joined The Korea Society in 2001. His prior experience includes work as a computer system manager at InterAction, multimedia and database consultant for the School of Cinema-Television and the Department of Anthropology at the University of Southern California, and project manager at the Asia Society for two educational videos for American students called *Tune in Korea*. He holds a double B.A. in history and economics from the University of Illinois, where he was one of the first students to spend a junior year abroad in Korea, and an M.A. in history from the University of Hawaii.

Lillian Won

Program Manager, Contemporary Issues

Born and raised in the United States, Lillian Won spent almost six years in Korea from 1996 to 2002. There, she earned an M.A. while working as a news anchor and reporter for the English-language television station, Arirang TV. Her stories have aired on *CNN World Report*, and she presented a special edition of *CNN Hotspots* from Cheju Island in 2001. Before joining The Korea Society in 2004, she worked as a marketer for several Korean companies in New York. Ms. Won holds a B.A. in communication from the State University of New York at Geneseo, and an M.A. in Korean studies from the Graduate School of International Area Studies at Hankuk University of Foreign Studies in Seoul.

—Consultants—

Namyoung Lee Chung

Publications Consultant

Before becoming a consultant in 2001, Namyoung Lee Chung worked at The Korea Society for six years. She has been involved in producing publications such as the Society's Annual Report, *Quarterly*, and Korean Studies Lesson plans for grades K–12. She holds a B.A. in clinical psychology from Smith College. She currently resides in Cleveland, Ohio with her husband Eugene and son Thomas.

In-Young Sohn

Arts Program Consultant

In-Young Sohn has worked with The Korea Society as a consultant for its Korean performing arts programs since 1998. A member of the Korean National Dance Company from 1985 through 1991, Ms. Sohn holds a M.A. from Ewha Woman's University in Korea and a second M.A. from Teacher's College, Columbia University. Her work as a dancer and choreographer has been supported by the Asian Cultural Council, the Korean Culture and Arts Foundation, the Korean Ministry of Arts and Sports and The Korea Society. Ms. Sohn has performed extensively in the U.S. and has also conducted workshops in high schools and universities.