

Fifteen Things You
Should Know About
KAAN ... page 16

How Racialized Sexual
Stereotypes Operate in
the Lives of Adoptees ...
page 18

Korean
Cauli-Fried
Rice ...
page 24

Enjoy this year's piece by
KAAN's unofficial poet
laureate, Stephen David
Johnson ... page 14

**Conference
details begin
on page 26**

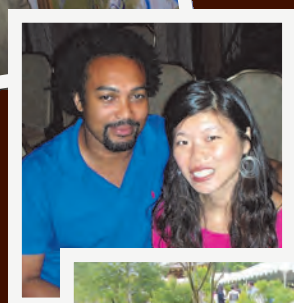


meeting place

A MAGAZINE BY THE COMMUNITY, FOR THE COMMUNITY ... CONFERENCE 2013 EDITION



...15...
**Years of
WORKING
TOGETHER**



AUGUST 2013
KAANet.org



Thanks for fifteen
fantastic years ...
here's to another
fifteen!



© 2011 copyright Abigail Bradley All Rights Reserved

A Flower with No Name

In recognition and support of the 15th anniversary of KAAN, Michigan artist and Korean adoptee Abigail Bradley is kindly offering for sale limited edition giclee prints of her 2011 ArtPrize entry, "A Flower with No Name." A portion of the proceeds (30%) from giclee print sales of this specific artwork during 2013 will go to support KAAN and the efforts of the organization.

About the Artwork

The original artwork, measuring 36" x 80", is a charcoal drawing on stucco that represents the story of Korean adoptees and others who can relate to the search for identity. Korean adoptees are part of a subculture in society, who like many immigrants, are caught between two worlds. While born in Korea and raised by predominantly Caucasian families, it is natural to wonder who we are, how we are able to see ourselves, and how society sees us. Also, how do we find peace within ourselves despite a fog over personal histories? I chose to express this delicate balance by incorporating a Korean style lotus flower design that disappears as it moves across the surface while honey bees surround a woman of Korean descent. Who is the woman? Is she an adoptee, a mother, a sister, or a daughter? It is possible she could fit into any one of those roles. She is a flower with no name.

Giclee printing is a specialized archival inkjet process in which an artwork can be reproduced. The image is captured by a professional photographer and reproduced on to an authentic "look and feel" of high quality watercolor paper. The paper is a radiant white, velvet surface for rich details and vivid color reproduction. It is 100% cotton rag for long term durability. It is also an acid free, buffered cotton base for archivability. Each edition is signed and numbered by the artist to ensure authenticity.

Available Limited Edition Sizes and Pricing

Michigan 6% sales tax and shipping charges will be applied

8 x 18 inch print - \$225

11 x 24.5 inch print - \$350

To purchase online, visit the website at <http://bradleystudios123.com/store.html>
or contact Abigail Bradley directly at (616) 406-6279 or bradleystudios123@gmail.com.



*Had
fun
this
weekend?*

STAY CONNECTED!

www.KAANet.org
[@KAAN_Community](https://www.facebook.com/kaanet)
kaancommunity.wordpress.com



Information, events and advocacy for metro DC
 Korean adoptees, adoptive families with Korean children
 and Korean American community friends.
 Chapters in Metro DC, Cincinnati, Seattle,
 Indiana and Pittsburgh.

1906 Sword Lane
 Alexandria, VA 22308
www.koreanfocus.org
www.facebook.com/koreanfocus
twitter.com/koreanfocus
contact@koreanfocus.org

CAMP SEJONG

**SPONSORED BY
 SEJONG CULTURAL EDUCATION, INC.**

*Giving kids a meaningful connection to their Korean
 heritage through immersion in the Korean creative arts.*

For ages 6-16

August 11-17, 2013

*Activities: Korean Percussion, Cooking,
 Culture, Writing, Art, Tae Kwon Do,
 Swimming, Boating, Zip Line, Tower,
 Burma Bridge, Evening Activities.*

Air conditioned cabins!

Located in Hardwick, NJ

Email lpriore2@optonline.net

or call 201-906-9161

www.campsejong.org or

www.sejongusa.org



Heritage Camp

"Many Cultures, One World"



Heritage Camp provides Korean adoptees a chance
 to learn about their birth culture and the cultures of
 others. Held every 3rd week in June in Grand Rapids!

Learn more: **FFICGR.org**



[Facebook.com/FFICGR](https://www.facebook.com/FFICGR)

[Facebook.com/FFICGR-Heritage-Camp](https://www.facebook.com/FFICGR-Heritage-Camp)



PROUD SUPPORTERS OF THE KAA COMMUNITY



Premium
 Wireless Retailer

5563 28th Street SE
 Grand Rapids, MI 49512
 616.942.7600

Located in front of Meijer

1-800-CELL-MORE • www.cellularandmore.com



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Stacy Schroeder

TREASURER

Michael Stanley

ADVISORY COUNCIL 2013

Sara Campbell, Jennifer Cox, Mark Hagland,
Jennifer Hilzinger, Dr. Young Ho Kim,
Katie Naftzger, Kimberly McKee,
Carolyn Scholl, Stacy Schroeder,
Michael Stanley, Sook Wilkinson

DEVELOPMENT TEAM

Margie Perscheid, Rachel Rupright, Stacy
Schroeder, Michael Stanley

MAGAZINE EDITOR

Stacy Schroeder

WEBMASTER

Carolyn Hathaway

SPEAKER COORDINATOR

Rachel Rupright

SESSION PROPOSAL REVIEW TEAM

Carolyn Scholl, Mark Hagland, Kimberly
McKee, Rachel Rupright, Stacy Schroeder,
Jaclyn Skalnik

REGISTRAR

Jennifer Cox

YOUTH TEAM

Michael Burdan, Ellie Conant, Martha
Crawford, Katie Naftzger,
Ellen Picklesimer

AUDIO-VISUAL COORDINATORS

Carolyn Hathaway, Eric Hathaway

GRAND RAPIDS 2013 TEAM MEMBERS

See page 10.

MISSION

To improve the lives of Korean-born adoptees by bringing together the community for dialogue, education, and support.

VISION

- ◆ To provide annual conferences that renew and connect individuals and organizational leaders, especially Korean-born adoptees and also including other Koreans and Korean-Americans as well as family members through birth, adoption, marriage, or parenthood. We also welcome members of other international or interethnic adoptive communities.
- ◆ To offer an ongoing source of community information and conversation through our website, e-newsletter, blog, and social media options;
- ◆ To serve the community with a spirit of collaboration and respect.

CONTACT

PO Box 714, Camp Hill, PA 17001
717.574.3629
www.KAANet.org; info@KAANet.org
[Facebook.com/kaanet](https://www.facebook.com/kaanet)
Twitter: @KAAN_Community

KAAN is a project of The Foundation for Enhancing Communities (www.tfec.org), fiscal sponsor. TFEC is a 501(c)3 charitable organization and all donations are tax-deductible. The official registration and financial information of The Foundation for Enhancing Communities may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1.800.732.0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

contents

CONFERENCE DETAILS

- 26 ... Schedule Overview (*centerfold*)
- 28 ... Session Details
- 34 ... Youth and Childcare Pages
- 39 ... Speaker Bios

IMPORTANT

Refer to the one-page conference schedule insert (called "session matrix" for short) for the most up-to-date schedule and for locations for each event. This insert contains details not available at press time.

ARTICLES

- 06... Night on the Town Event
- 07... Letters of Welcome (*three!*)
- 11 ... This Team is Really Grand
- 12 ... What's New at KAAANet.org
- 14 ... Right Now *by Stephen David Johnson*
- 16 ... Fifteen Things You Should Know About KAAN
- 18 ... Recognizing How Racialized Sexual Stereotypes Operate in the Lives of Adoptees *by Kimberly McKee*
- 20 ... Celebrating Our Anniversary: Fifteen Years of Working Together
- 24 ... Korean Cauli-Fried Rice
by Elizabeth Wood
- 50 ... With Gratitude



Celebrate KAAN through this fun, interactive evening!

- Gather local KAAN family and friends (or those you've been encouraging to attend).
- Go out to your favorite restaurant and have a great time together.
- Post pics and comments via Facebook (tag us!) and Twitter (#KAANnightonthetown) during your evening.
- Donate the equivalent of your dinner bill (or the tip, if you are on a tight budget) to **KAAN, Box 714, Camp Hill, PA 17001.**
- Connect with friends across the table and across the country ... and help KAAN conferences stay affordable.

MEET YOU ONLINE SEPTEMBER 20!



First Ever Official

NIGHT ON
THE **TOWN**

September 20, 2013

CITIES EVERYWHERE

KAAN is a project of The Foundation for Enhancing Communities, fiscal sponsor. Donations are tax-deductible. The official registration and financial information of The Foundation for Enhancing Communities may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1.800.732.0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

welcomeletter

Welcome to KAAN's 15th annual conference in Grand Rapids, MI! We are excited to celebrate this milestone with you.

There must have been something in the air fifteen years ago. Many unrelated adoption-community organizations launched right about that same time, with at least a few (KAAN, Korean Quarterly, and G.O.A.L.) still going strong. These three are part of a chain of many groups, both new and established, both local and international, with goals both specific and broad, all serving the greater Korean adoption community.

In our anniversary year, we want to celebrate the opportunities KAAN and all these other groups have to **work together**, the chance all individuals have to connect. We are at the cusp of another time of change and growth. Can you feel it? What great things might we do together?

Our annual conferences are great examples of what we can do when we coordinate our efforts. No paid event planner pulls the strings to solicit speakers and promote the conference across the nation. Nope, we assemble this puppy ourselves. Everything you see and experience at the conference was created by someone who cared enough to do it for the community.

Throughout this magazine are names of those who have gotten involved as planners, speakers, donors, and more. I would especially like to thank the following folks who have given beyond the rest:

- **Michael Stanley**, KAAN's treasurer, an excellent sounding board, and an even better friend;
- **Rachel Rupright**, this year's speaker coordinator and patient grant advisor;
- **Carolyn Hathaway**, our new webmaster and one of my dear sisters;
- **SuLyn Weaver**, this year's local planning coordinator, who took on the role though she has never attended a conference and had to contend with many variables including several illnesses on my part;
- **Abbey Bradley**, a talented artist and member of the Grand Rapids team from early on, whose titles changed several times but whose enthusiasm has remained constant;
- **Our Advisory Council**, a group of wise individuals with insight and ideas galore.



I count myself fortunate to not only work with all of these people but to call them friends. Special thanks are due to **Chris Winston**, her husband Mark, and the rest of their family for the twelve years of dedication they gave as a foundation for KAAN. I would also like to thank **Matt, Nick, and Allison Schroeder** (my family) for supporting me as I continue the tradition.

A final thanks to all of you who have invested your time and money to attend this conference. I hope each of you find something you can give and something that you receive. We're glad that you are here.

In friendship,

Stacy Schroeder



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL RIGHTS

DANIEL H. KRICHBAUM, PhD
DIRECTOR

MICHIGAN ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN AFFAIRS COMMISSION

July 2013

Dear KAAN Friends and Families:

On behalf of the Michigan Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission (MAPAAC), nothing gives me greater pleasure than to welcome ALL of YOU to Michigan! Congratulations to KAAN for leading the way in providing a "safe place for dialogue, education, and support" for everyone interested in international adoption for the last 15 years!

When it comes to Asian-Americans, most people think about the East or the West coast. Well...here are five facts about the Asian Americans living in Michigan:

1. Asian Americans are the fastest growing minority in Michigan, comprising 2.5% of the state's entire population.
2. The Vincent Chin case of 1982 gave rise to the Asian American civil rights movement.
3. Businesses owned by Asian-Americans employ more persons statewide than businesses owned by any other racial group except whites.
4. Asian American businesses pay more than \$2.1 billion in payroll.
5. The top five Asian languages spoken in Michigan are Chinese, Hindi, Tagalog, Japanese, and Korean.

Please accept my very best wishes for a memorable conference and continued success.

Warmest regards,

Sook Wilkinson, Ph.D.
Chairperson, Michigan Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission
MiAPACcommission@gmail.com
248-645-6719





THE SENATE
STATE OF MICHIGAN

HOON-YUNG HOPGOOD
ASSISTANT DEMOCRATIC FLOOR LEADER
8TH DISTRICT
P.O. BOX 30036
LANSING, MI 48909-7036
PHONE: (313) 371-2800
FAX: (313) 373-9310
unhhopgood@senate.michigan.gov

APPROPRIATIONS-SUBCOMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE, MVC
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY, MVC
K-12, SCHOOL AID &
EDUCATION, MVC
NATURAL RESOURCES, MVC

EDUCATION COMMITTEE, MVC
ENERGY & TECHNOLOGY
COMMITTEE, MVC

Dear Friends,

I am happy to offer my sincere and warmest greetings for the 2013 Korean American Adoptee Adoptive Family Network (KAAN) Conference.

As a State Senator, I am dedicated to ensuring that Michigan is a place where opportunity and inclusion is available to all, and that Michigan is a great and prosperous place to live. This conference is a testament to achieving those goals. I would like to thank KAAN and its supporters for all of their hard work in putting together this event, and for all they do to support Korean American adoptees and adoptive families.

Since 1999, KAAN has provided annual conferences in the U.S. and Korea. The goal of these conferences is to bring together people from across the adoption community for dialogue, education, and support. It allows us to build an even stronger community for adoptees, adoptive families, and more. As a proud Korean-American adoptee, I am delighted to see the 2013 conference here in my home state of Michigan, and hope you all enjoy this wonderful opportunity for our community to come together and connect.

Sincerely,

HOON-YUNG HOPGOOD
State Senator
8th District



**serving customers
by giving back**

To help make a difference in our communities, Meijer donates more than 6 percent of its net profit every year, a percentage we believe leads the retail industry.

We also partner with our customers to help feed the hungry through our Simply Give program. Since 2008, Simply Give has donated more than \$5 million in Meijer gift cards to hundreds of local food banks.

Meijer also partners with several national charitable organizations including the American Red Cross, American Diabetes Association, Habitat for Humanity, Blessings in a Backpack and Feeding America.



In 1934, Hendrik Meijer created a grocery store during the Great Depression to meet the needs of his small town community.

He continued meeting those needs when he opened the world's first supercenter with his son, Fred, in 1962.

Today, there are nearly 200 Meijer stores in five Midwestern states, still family owned and family run.




Promotions co-coordinator Abbey Bradley with members of Living Water Church, who ran in the Fifth Third Bank River Run on May 11 to benefit KAAN



Kamsahamnida!

LOCAL PLANNING TEAM MEMBERS

Team Coordinator

SuLyn Weaver

Promotions Coordinators

Katie Bozek, Abigail Bradley

Fundraising Coordinator

John Hwang

Other Members

Alison Adema, Robyn Afrik, Scott Ayotte, Marshall Battani, Kerry Bondy, Sara Campbell, Connie Dang, Beth Anne Fausone, Jamie Fortier, Carol Harvey, Deb Havens, David Long, Jessica Lyon, Mary Manier, Matt McCallum, Susan McFarland, Minnie Morey, Sung Pak, Nathan Roudabush, Jaclyn Skalnik, Kip Smalligan, Michelle Tremmel, Sally Verstraete, Amylynn Warners, Sook Wilkinson, Kari Wilson, Jill Zimmerman

LOCAL COMMUNITY SUPPORTERS

61Syx Technique Studio

Bethany Christian Services

Bradley Studios

Laurel Capobianco

Josiah Chung

CIG (Community Inclusion Group)

Estina Etc.

Experience Grand Rapids

Fifth Third Bank

Asian Business Resource Group

Great American Publishing

Ignite Radio/JQ99.3

Korean Culture Camp of Michigan

Living Water Church

Meijer

Julie Mushing

Seoul Market

WMAAA (Western Michigan Asian

American Association)

WZZM13 Radio/ Take Five

Verizon

Sally J. Verstraete, MSW, LLMSW

Accurate as of June 10, 2013



(l-r) Robyn Afrik, Abbey Bradley, and Katie Bozek at May 11 interview with JQ99.3 Ignite Radio's JR Pittman.

This Team is Really **GRAND**

Grand Rapids is one of those fantastic cities that, once you discover it, you wonder why more people aren't talking about it. The same can be said for the local Korean-American adoption community. There are some great programs in Western Michigan and some even greater people.

This year's local planning team is one of the largest and most active in KAAN's history. Quite a surprise when you realize that only one or two have ever attended a previous KAAN conference. There have been obstacles to face, but in eight months the team has organized fundraisers, arranged radio interviews, and met regularly to get the word out in the Grand Rapids area.

SuLyn Weaver is the stalwart team coordinator, an organized, thoughtful teacher and counseling student who helps to lead the Michigan Adoptee Association.

Katie Bozek and **Abigail Bradley** are the promotions coordinators. Katie is a licensed marriage and family therapist with many connections. Abbey owns the downtown Bradley Studios and is generously selling copies of her piece "A Flower With No Name" to benefit KAAN (*details on our inside front cover*).

John Hwang joined the team in February as fundraising coordinator. John is the only one of

the four leaders who is not an adoptee. In a small world twist, John's wife Amy is KAAN's contact at the Amway Grand Plaza. John's financial and IT expertise as an entrepreneur is a welcome addition to the team.



Two of this year's keynotes are also local Korean-born adoptees ... **Carissa Woodwyk** and **Robyn Afrik**. Both are professional speakers with wisdom and experience to share.

Performing at our gala dinner (and also leading a workshop that afternoon) is yet another KAD, **Keegan "Seoul" Loye**, owner of 61Syx Teknique Street Dance Academy.

Take time to meet these and many other great Grand Rapids folks. Signs are good that this group will continue to gather post-conference. Who knows what great things they will accomplish together? I'm sure they will be grand.



Your
ad
could
have
been
HERE.

New at

This year, we launched a brand-new website, sporting our new colors and logo as well as a host of handy features. A special thank you to webmaster Carolyn Hathaway for her hard work and talent in creating this great new site. Check it out!



Available on our website:



- 400+ book database
- Film listings
- Searchable regional resource directory (*in production now*)
- Birth search links
- Conference schedule
- Online registration
- Downloadable forms
- Online donation option
- Fundraising ideas
- Links to our active social media sites, including Facebook and Twitter
- Link to our new blog

KAANet.org

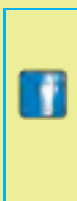


Our New Blog: Common Ground

www.kaancommunity.wordpress.com

This blog is an extension of the great interactions that take place at our annual conferences. Guest bloggers share personal stories or thoughts, similar to our keynotes or single-speaker sessions. Interviews and round-table pieces are represented as well in group posts. Many voices and perspectives will be shared over time. Readers are encouraged to submit comments, just like questions are accepted at the end of many conference sessions. Have an idea to share? Contact info@kaanet.org to get involved.

EXTRA: For more conversation, check out these active Facebook discussion groups led by current/former KAAAN speakers:



Transracial Adoption

facebook.com/groups/454175457988230

Racism and White Privilege for the Adoptive Family

facebook.com/groups/404106472979907

Support KAAAN and promote your business or organization through an advertisement in our annual conference magazine.

Details for placing KAAAN 2014 magazine advertisements will be posted by October 2013 at www.KAANet.org.



<https://www.youtube.com/user/KAANvideochannel>

New Videos on our YouTube channel!

Find out what these speakers, mentors, educators, and community leaders have to say about KAAAN:

- Mark Hagland
- Martha Crawford
- Allison Yost
- Jennifer Fero
- David Amarel
- Carolyn Scholl
- Margie Perscheid





Right Now

by Stephen Johnson

Right now, there's a birth mother...
A first mother, slouched in a corner
Contemplating a decision
That will change her world forever

Right now, there's an adoptive family...
Anxiously searching for amnesty
As sterility becomes infertility
Writhing in agony, yet
Convinced of the fallacy that they're
Saving an orphan
From an abortion
A distortion of what it means to be fortunate

Right now, there's an adoptee...
Lingering in a lobby, looking for an exit
Because they're the only one within miles
With a smile that looks like theirs

Right now, there's an ajumma in an elevator
Searching for the subway
From Seoul to Sejong
Lecturing me about why I can't speak Korean
I turn to her and say
Miguk saram ibyang-in ieyo

My broken accent tells her I was an accident
And she spills some bills
Filled with societal guilt

But right now there's a conference...
An adjacent space to replace

All of our disgraces
A place to talk about race with grace
Debate the state
Of the adoption rate
A taste of something better
But don't let it be a waste

But I'm afraid that it's not always as easy
If two heads are better than one,
Then why do I have so many bruises on my forehead
In Korea, they might say
백지장도 맞들면 낫다.
Baegjijango majdulmyeon nasda

If two heads are better than one.
Then what if we had four
Or more.
What if we had scores of us
Unwilling to be silent any more

Silence is approval

They say that many hands make light work.
But who the heck is they?
They must have never been adopted
Because the triad is mad with scabs
We've got so many issues that we make
Dr. Phil look mad

I don't mean to get hostile
But every time I hear Gangnam style
I get a little taste of bile

Because once in awhile
I'd like to get past this parading pile of
Stuff

Many hands make the load lighter
But what if a lighter load for me
Means a larger load for you?
Then who decides
When we don't see eye to eye

Ghandiji says that an eye for an eye makes the whole
world blind
We put ourselves in this bind
Confined to the decline of mankind

But if we can fight together, we must strive together
If we can play together, we must pray together
If we can plan together, we must stand together
And if we can cry together, we must try together

Because I am because you are because we are
Desmond Tutu shares Ubuntu
There is no them.
It's you, it's me, it's us, it's we.
We are the problem, but we're also the solution.

When the hands are many,
we can take a penny
And turn it into plenty
We can take a dollar
And pay a guy to holla
To fight for what's right
Until the night that it changes
Some of us are tired of fighting
But I'm fighting because I'm tired

I'm tired...
Of poor women in poor countries with poor futures
Of systems of oppression
Of never learning our lessons
I'm tired...
Of people talking and mocking
And flocking to the moments
But fleeing when it gets hard
I'm tired...
Of sharing my story

Only to get stepped on by statements
Of ignorance and innocence
Indifference and belligerence

But liberation is coming
Looking for unlikely allies
We won't be waiting much longer
The youth are growing stronger
From Vincent Chin to Jeremy Lin
We are the means to our own end
The ones to defend our kin
From Busan to Pnohm Pehn
From Addis to Port-au-Prince
From Mumbai to Ho Chi Mihn

So what are we waiting for?

What if...
Triad was more than just a fad
And everyone was mad
When one of us was sad
What if...
Power was mutual
An institutional tool to subverse the rules
Of what it means to dehumanize
What if...

Reconciliation became the process
By which we begin
To share pain together
To speak free together
To drink tea together

But right now there's a conference...
An adjacent space to replace
All of our disgrace
A place to talk about race with grace
And debate faith with state
A taste of something better

Don't let it be a waste.

Stephen is a former KAAN Advisory Council member, a regular speaker, and KAAN's unofficial poet laureate. This is the third year he has written a poem for KAAN.



FIFTEEN *Things*

1. **We believe in the worth of every individual.** Everyone has something to give and something to learn. We are a meeting place for different perspectives so that both individuals and the community can grow. Respectful debate is expected.
2. **Being a meeting place sometimes means holding back a little.** Our desire to be a gathering place of different perspectives means our organization does not take positions on many issues. Our nonprofit status restricts us from political advocacy as well. The people who participate in KAAN are far from lukewarm, however.
3. **Adoptees are our focus.** Our mission is to improve the lives of adoptees. There are more leaders, presenters, and attendees who are adoptees than any other demographic. We listen to what they say.
4. **We also respect boundaries.** Adult adoptees, however credentialed and caring, are not present at the conference to serve as personal encyclopedias for other attendees. Adoptee-only sessions are a regular part of our programming for those who desire them.
5. **We believe in the need for allies.** Family members and friends of adoptees can and should be effective voices in the community. KAAN gives them a chance to partner with and support those they love.
6. **We welcome those outside the Korean adoption community.** Conversations of race, privilege, family, and relationships have relevance to many. Our conference and community is well-established and can be a resource to others. We also benefit from listening to those outside our regular circles.
7. **KAAN is for all ages.** Most who attend are adults. However, we have a strong, adoptee-mentored youth program for ages 7-17 and a growing childcare program as well. Some adult adoptees encourage their parents to attend. Some parents of adult adoptees attend even if their grown children do not.
8. **Our volunteers provide professional-level programs and services.** Our skilled staff donate their time alongside everyone else. Several work year-round, one nearly full-time. While we are fortunate to have these individuals, replacing them will be hard without a salary. We plan, long-term, to create paid staff positions in order to ensure the viability of KAAN.

Airy
Hill
Farm
BED &
BREAKFAST

You Should Know About



9. **We are committed to keeping the conference affordable.** . Higher airline tickets and other economic hardships have made attendance challenging, especially for families with multiple attendees. Organization costs have gone up as well. Despite that, we have raised our rates only once. Comparable conferences charge considerably higher fees. We charge \$100-150 less than what it actually costs per person. Those who register at the early bird rate save even more. We also provide scholarships.
10. **Donations are necessary if we are to maintain #9.** The money needs to come from somewhere. We are new to active fundraising but are devoting energies there. Support our efforts.
11. **We are grassroots.** While our volunteer nature makes us vulnerable in some ways, we are highly adaptable in others. Fresh topics, research, and publications are easily incorporated into our conferences. We can work volunteers with new ideas, and the commitment to realize those ideas, rather easily into our structure. All kinds of new partnerships, leaders, and organizations are born through this model.
12. **We are family.** Go ahead, sing it. You know you want to.
13. **We are not an umbrella organization.** We have no chapters; we do not collect dues. We do not aim to represent the entire Korean adoptee community. Our role is to serve as a meeting place. Other groups serve other purposes.
14. **We help local communities as well as support a national one.** Each conference host community experiences growth of some kind through the presence of a national conference.
15. **WE NEED YOU.** If you've made it this far in the list, you've seen how vital attendees, donors, volunteers, and leaders are to our organization. The character and direction of KAAAN has directly been shaped over the years by those who voice their ideas and concerns and who take the time to follow through on what was shared. What will KAAAN look like in another fifteen years?

Get involved and be a part of the answer.

Life ...
as it should be



AIRY HILL FARM BED & BREAKFAST

1741 Airy Hill Rd
Manheim, PA 17545
(717) 664-2159

AiryHillFarmBedAndBreakfast.com



Find us on [facebook.com/airyhill](https://www.facebook.com/airyhill)



Kimberly McKee, PhD, is a member of KAAN's Advisory Council and a past keynote at KAAN. You can learn more about her professional work in the speaker bio section of this magazine or by attending one of her sessions at this year's conference.

Recognizing How Racialized Sexual Stereotypes Operate in the Lives of Adoptees

By Kimberly McKee

No parent wants to realize that his/her son or daughter will be targeted for any type of harassment based on race or gender. Yet, from my experience as an adult female adoptee, I know that all too often unsolicited remarks will be said from time to time. For example, when was the last time someone said “hello” to you in a non-English language? Perhaps when you were traveling in Europe or Asia? For me it was the morning of May 15, 2013 as I walked to a dental appointment. Eyes covered by sunglasses and on my mobile phone, I barely registered who passed me, but the words “ni hao” rang in my ears. This was not the first time I have been greeted in Chinese nor will it be the last. However, this brief incident propelled my interest in sharing the importance of equipping adoptees and adoptive parents for the realities of racialized sexual harassment.

While I cannot remember the first time I encountered hello in a non-English language, one incident

my freshmen year of college is fresh in my mind. As I was walking from my dorm room to class, I managed to get into conversation with a male passerby. He mentioned his service in the Vietnam War and those nice Vietnamese girls. At the age of eighteen and self-taught in Asian American history, I was well aware of what was implied by the simple phrase “nice Vietnamese girls.” Subsequent, similar encounters still elicit an “icky, hinky” feeling. As I look back on this incident with the perspective of someone invested in Asian American Studies and Ethnic Studies, more generally, I realize that no matter what credentials I may have, to some I am only marked by my race and gender – a stark reminder of the ways in which sexualized images of Asian women penetrate and circulate within American popular culture.

On September 13, 2011 the KAAN Facebook page shared the spoof video “How to Hit on an Asian Girl.” Focusing on “how not to harass an Asian girl,” the video featured scenarios many

Asian and Asian American women encounter within the world. From racist one-liners courtesy of Full Metal Jacket to discussions of love for “Asian” food, each scenario resonated with various friends and I. Yet, some of the comments to KAAN’s post raised questions about the suggestiveness of the video and its offensive content. However, it is precisely because of its offensiveness that we must recognize how race and gender will shape how female adoptees are viewed in the world as just another Asian/Asian American woman. No longer shielded within the cloak of white privilege and whiteness that girded many of our upbringings in suburbia, female adoptees also must encounter suggestive stereotypes that remain a legacy of US involvement abroad. When I have showed this same video to undergraduate students, many of them are shocked by the content. Yet, for my female Asian American students, this shock is markedly absent. Instead, they share their own examples of racialized sexual harassment. This type of verbal assault gained notoriety on campus when an Asian American undergraduate was the recipient of the phrase, “Baby, get with me instead. I can give you white babies” (<http://thepulse-mag.org/2012/04/hate-on-high-men-yell-asian-slurs-car-stalk-osu-students/>).

By not having conversations regarding this type of racialization within our families, we do a

disservice to both our daughters and sons. Teaching our daughters to constructively confront and grapple with this kind of harassment will also equip them to negotiate other situations in which women are targeted. At the same time, teaching our sons to problematize and question when such racialized and sexualized incidents occur will also make them more self-aware. I was reminded of how such images commonly circulate on the Internet one night with my partner’s ten-year-old son. Complaining about the advertisements that pop up next to the videos he watches on YouTube for video games, such as Call of Duty and Minecraft, he noted that they’re all about “dating Asian women.” Seemingly innocuous, such sites remind me of the recent documentary on PBS Seeking Asian Female, chronicling a white male’s search for an Asian bride. While at first these two sites (YouTube advertisements and documentary) seem disconnected from one another, in reality they speak to a wider conversation concerning the availability of Asian women as simultaneously submissive and hypersexual beings.

The examples shared above are not outliers or representative of a singular experience. Rather, I shared these incidents with you to provide a deeper understanding of the realities the daughters within our community will face as they mature into adulthood.



Celebrating



← Seattle 2001



Pushing Up the Sky
author Terra Trevor



Senator Paull Shin



Filmmaker John Sanvidge

← San Francisco 2004

← Los Angeles 1999



*Margie Perscheid (l) and KAAN
Founder Chris Winston, early
leaders who have participated in
every conference so far*



← Denver
2009



Participants in Sacramento Leaders Summit in 1998 that led to our founding

Fifteen Years



← Minneapolis 2002

← Detroit 2005

← Grand Rapids, MI 2013

← Chicago 2008

← Boston 2007

← Albany 2012

← Hasbrouck Heights, NJ 2000

← Hershey, PA 2010

← Arlington, VA 2003

← Atlanta 2011



Friends who met at KAAAN



← Seoul 2006



Advisory Council 2011



KAAN 2011 Local Coordinator Jennifer Fero greets Korean consulate leadership

Celebrating 15 Years

We owe our existence to a small but ground-breaking leadership summit that took place in Sacramento, CA on April 18, 1998. This event was sponsored by a California group, Friends of Korea, that would go on to serve as KAAN's fiscal sponsor until the summer of 2010. Chris Winston, Eyoungsoo Park, and others worked hard to identify and invite leaders from across the nation who were working to improve the lives of adoptees. If you read chapters 6 and 7 of Winston's book, *A Euro-American on a Korean Tour at a Thai Restaurant in China*, you will see how much of that summit's conversations are still part of KAAN's foundation today.

We all agreed that KAAN should accommodate the wide range of opinions within our community and not take positions representing the adoption community, so that all voices could be heard. We agreed it was important to become more connected and less isolated. (page 130)

The group also agreed that KAAN should be a network, not an umbrella organization, and that it should host an annual conference to bring people together from across the country, South Korea, and other parts of the world. This conference remains a strong, distinct program within the community even today. From the beginning, adult adoptees, adoptive parents, and other Korean-Americans were involved with the organization. Adoptee Deborah Johnson coined KAAN's moniker as a representation of the group's broad roots.

The first conference—held in Los Angeles, home to the largest Korean-American population at that time—included a panel of Korean birthparents as well as Senator Paull Shin, an adoptee himself, and an artist's showcase planned and led entirely by adult adoptees. Two quotes from attendees of that conference:



CALL FOR SESSION PROPOSALS

for

KAAN 2014: The Time is NOW

June 27-29, 2014 / Minneapolis, MN

**** Submission period Aug 15 – Nov 1 ****

Details at www.KAANet.org

Some of our best sessions have grown out of conversations at previous conferences. Got a topic you feel should be addressed? Jot down your thoughts and submit a proposal for KAAN 2014. We'll be looking for proposals that address important and exciting actions and activities that are beginning or happening now.

**** Please note both our submission form and timeline have been revised. Due to our new June conference dates, we have moved up the submission deadline. We have also split the form into two parts, allowing individuals applying for multiple sessions to submit their personal information only once.**

"The conference was unique. I have never experienced anything like it. As an adoptee who has been isolated from other adoptees and from Koreans, I see a lot of hope. We certainly are more visible."

Anonymous attendee

"At the first conference, we saw that the adoption community we belonged to was much bigger than we had realized and that there was a place for us in it."

Kathy Beck, adoptive parent

Successfully launched, KAAN has continued to offer annual conferences every year since then. Sites vary from East Coast to West Coast to central locations of the United States as well as once in Seoul, Korea (co-sponsored by InKAS). The goal has been to work together (hmmm ... isn't that term familiar?) with local communities to highlight their strengths and character as well as bring growth as the result of a national conference descending on their area. Over the years, KAAN has also published two books (Winston's aforementioned book and Terra Trevor's *Pushing Up the Sky*) as well as led two tours of Korea. Much of the conference model remains the same, with the important addition in 2001 of adoptee-only sessions in each time slot. Throughout the

year, support is offered through individual conversations, participation in and promotion of other community activities, and the posting of resources on KAAN's newsletter and Facebook page.

The fact that KAAN is still here fifteen years later is a bit of a miracle. Look at it this way ... how long would you have predicted a group of volunteers attempting to pull together divergent demographics from across the U.S. and beyond would last, especially when launching in the era before social media? KAAN perseveres because there has always been at least a few who believe in it enough to manage the necessary behind-the-scenes details that keep it running smoothly. We all owe a heartfelt thank you to Chris Winston and the team she assembled in those early years for their vision and willingness to forge a community that has benefited so many over the years.

Today KAAN's programs and relationships remain strong. Our corporate office moved to Pennsylvania in 2010 when Stacy Schroeder became the new president upon Winston's retirement. The two friends worked together for a seamless transition. The Foundation for Enhancing Communities is KAAN's new fiscal sponsor and enables us to operate as a nonprofit. Schroeder reinstituted an Advisory Council and began a several-year process to update our website and other communication and marketing materials. The challenge is no longer initiating a community but in re-scripting the model to weather today's difficult economy. We need to become better at telling the story of what we do, what has transpired these last fifteen years, and what we hope to achieve

together. We need to inspire more individuals, businesses, and organizations to invest in our vision. How would you like to get involved in this important work?

Fifteen years is a long time for a small, grassroots organization, but it is just a small portion of the work we hope to do. This summer our Advisor Council meets to explore ways to tweak the conference structure to keep it fresh and responsive to the needs of attendees. While our community has always been open to any who want to respectfully engage in it, we will also continue to explore how we might intentionally reach out to others with whom we have much in common. Who knows what new relationships may lie ahead?

In the meantime, we have an anniversary to celebrate! Over eighty speakers and staff prepare to offer conversations and content relevant to the community. Sixteen adult adoptees get ready to mentor those enrolled in KAAN's youth and childcare programs. Top-notch keynotes, artists, and performers finalize their pieces. We will all converge at the absolutely gorgeous Amway Grand Plaza Hotel in beautiful downtown Grand Rapids for a weekend of laughter, tears, hugs, insight, and encouragement. We will not sleep much but we will leave with more than we brought, with full hearts, new and renewed friends, and ideas for both our personal lives and those of the local organizations in which we participate.

Happy crystal anniversary, KAAN. May we all celebrate many more wonderful years together!



WANTED

If you would like to get more involved with KAAN, there are many opportunities listed on our website.

Here are several volunteer positions we have been struggling to fill:

- **Conference photographers:** Professionals or skilled amateurs willing to take candid and posed photos at our annual conferences.
- **Regional resource persons:** Networkers who are very connected within their communities and willing to share information back and forth.
- **Internet researchers:** Online wizards willing to surf the Internet on KAAN's behalf to flesh out our website's organization directory .
- **Fundraising partners:** Organizers willing to coordinate an event in their area that benefits KAAN. Ideas at www.KAANet.org/donate/html.

Contact KAAN at info@KAANet.org or 717.574.3629 if you are interested in serving in any of these roles.



Korean Cauli-Fried Rice

by Elizabeth Wood

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 head of cauliflower | 1/2 TBSP honey |
| 1 8 oz package of mushrooms, sliced | 1 TBSP sesame oil |
| 1/2 onion, diced | 2 eggs |
| 3 medium carrots, grated | 1 TBSP roasted sesame seeds |
| 2 cups of baby spinach | coconut oil |
| 1 tsp. minced garlic | |
| 4 TBSP coconut aminos (separated) | |

Directions

1. To “rice” your cauliflower, you will put it through the grating attachment on a food processor. Do NOT cook it before hand. You could grate it by hand, but I suspect that would be maddening.
2. You will need 2 pans for this recipe. I used my cast iron skillet for the veggies and a large flat-bottomed wok for the rice. If you don’t have enough pans, you can cook your veggies first, and then set them aside and then cook your rice.
3. Begin by sauteeing your onions and garlic in coconut oil (approximately 2 TBSP). Once the onions begin to soften and turn translucent, add the mushrooms to the pan. When the mushrooms are about halfway cooked through, stir in 2 TBSP coconut aminos and 1/2 TBSP of honey. Continue stirring. When the mushrooms are done, add the grated carrots and the spinach. Continue cooking and stirring until the spinach is wilted. Remove from heat. Drizzle veggies with 1 TBSP of sesame oil (do not leave the sesame oil out—it is very important to the taste of the dish). Let sit.
4. In your flat-bottomed wok, heat up more coconut oil. When the coconut oil is hot, add your cauliflower. You want to spread it out nicely so that it all gets toasty and “fried”. Add more oil if necessary. I let it cook for probably around 10 minutes. I like for the rice to just begin to brown. After the rice has cooked for about 5-7 minutes, stir in 2 TBSP of coconut aminos. When the rice is almost cooked to your liking, crack 2 eggs into the pan and scramble them in to the rice.

5. When the rice is complete, remove it from the heat and stir in all of the veggies.
6. In your flat-bottomed wok, heat up more coconut oil. When the coconut oil is hot, add your cauliflower. You want to spread it out nicely so that it all gets toasty and “fried”. Add more oil if necessary. I let it cook for probably around 10 minutes. I like for the rice to just begin to brown. After the rice has cooked for about 5-7 minutes, stir in 2 TBSP of coconut aminos. When the rice is almost cooked to your liking, crack 2 eggs into the pan and scramble them in to the rice.
7. When the rice is complete, remove it from the heat and stir in all of the veggies.
8. Sprinkle with roasted sesame seeds and serve immediately. We had ours with grilled flank steak and cucumber kimchi.

Elizabeth Wood is a past KAAAN attendee and a parent through birth and adoption. This recipe is from her blog My Delicious Life: The True Story of a Reformed Pop Tart Princess (www.consideritjoybaking.com), which chronicles her journey to create meals for her family that are both healthy and reflective of their heritage.



ADOPTION IS A LIFELONG JOURNEY

Questions & challenges
will arise along the way.

**WE WILL
BE HERE
TO HELP.**



SUPPORT FOR ADOPTEES AND THEIR FAMILIES MAY INCLUDE:

- Information
- Referrals
- Education & Training
- Mentors & Support Groups
- Support for Search and Reunion
- Adoption Counseling

bethany.org



BETHANY
CHRISTIAN SERVICES

© 2012 Bethany Christian Services 1-800-1-AD-10580

1.800.BETHANY

 facebook.com/bethanyfans
 twitter.com/bethany
 bethany.org/blog

Welcome ...



to KAAN's 15th annual conference in Grand Rapids, MI, an event *by* the community and *for* the community that reflects the interests, skills, and priorities of those who participate. It is a hallmark of our group that we maintain a climate of respect despite bringing together passionate people with a variety of strong opinions.

Please let us know if you need anything to help you settle in. Our registration/ information table will be staffed for most of the conference. Announcements will also be made at mealtimes.

FRIDAY, AUG 2

1:30-4:30PM

Registration

2:00-4:00PM

Exhibit Hall

Film Screening — Waterwalk

Artist's Showcase

Youth Game & Snack Lounge

4:30-7:00PM

Adoptee & Spouse/Partners' Dinners (*offsite*)

Mixer; Dinner on Own

7:30-8:00PM

Conference Kickoff

8:00-9:30PM

Film Screening — Somewhere Between

Film Screening — Leafie, Hen in the Wild

PLEASE NOTE

Schedule accurate as of press time. Check your magazine insert for the most up-to-date listing of each session time and for specific room assignments. *Adoptee-only sessions are in italics.*



Amway
GRAND PLAZA

schedule

SATURDAY, AUG 3

7:00-8:30AM Continental Breakfast

- ◆ 7:30 Youth Breakfast Meetup
(Field trip 9-3:00PM)
- ◆ 7:30 Registration & Exhibit Hall Open
- ◆ 8:00 Remarks: Senator Hoon-yung Hopgood
Keynote: Carissa Woodwyk

9:00AM-10:15AM/ Session Block 1

- ◆ Why Culture Camp?
- ◆ Microaggressions
- ◆ *Adoptee Meetups*
- ◆ *I Want to Talk to Mom & Dad*
- ◆ Image & Identity
- ◆ Childcare

10:30-11:45AM/ Session Block 2

- ◆ Bullying
- ◆ Journey to Motherhood
- ◆ Asian-America Male Sexuality
- ◆ Living in the Shadow
- ◆ *Transracial Commonalities*
- ◆ Bridging the Divide
- ◆ Childcare

12:00-1:30PM Luncheon

Keynote: John Raible

1:45-3:00PM/ Session Block 3

- ◆ Search & Reunion
- ◆ *Parenting Without a Compass*
- ◆ Before You Were Mine
- ◆ Adoption: The Elephant in the Family
- ◆ Racism and White Privilege
- ◆ Childcare

3:15-4:30PM/ Session Block 4

- ◆ Street Dance Workshop
- ◆ Film Screening — Vincent Who?
- ◆ Post-Adoption Resource Panel
- ◆ Story of the Adoptive Parent
- ◆ Fathers, Sons, & Ghosts
- ◆ *We Are Not Alone*
- ◆ Childcare

4:45-5:30PM

Support Forums

6:00-8:15PM Gala Dinner

Recognitions, Anniversary Celebration,
Dance Performance *feat.* 61Syx Teknique

SUNDAY, AUG 4

7:00-8:30AM Continental Breakfast

7:30-8:00AM

Prayers and Candlelighting (*drop-in*)

8:30-9:45AM/ Session Block 5

- ◆ Amending the CCA 2000
- ◆ Asian-American Literature
- ◆ The Adoptee Adoptive Parent Relationship
- ◆ Seoul Siblings
- ◆ *Merging Identities*
- ◆ Multiple Prism/LGBT
- ◆ (Ages 7-17) Connecting Through What We Have in Common
- ◆ Childcare

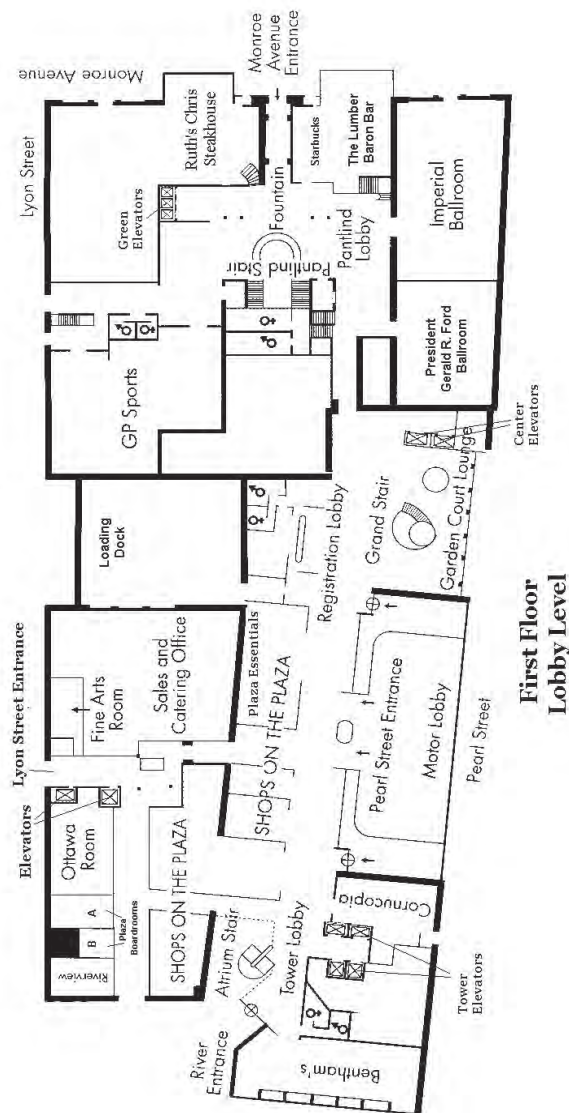
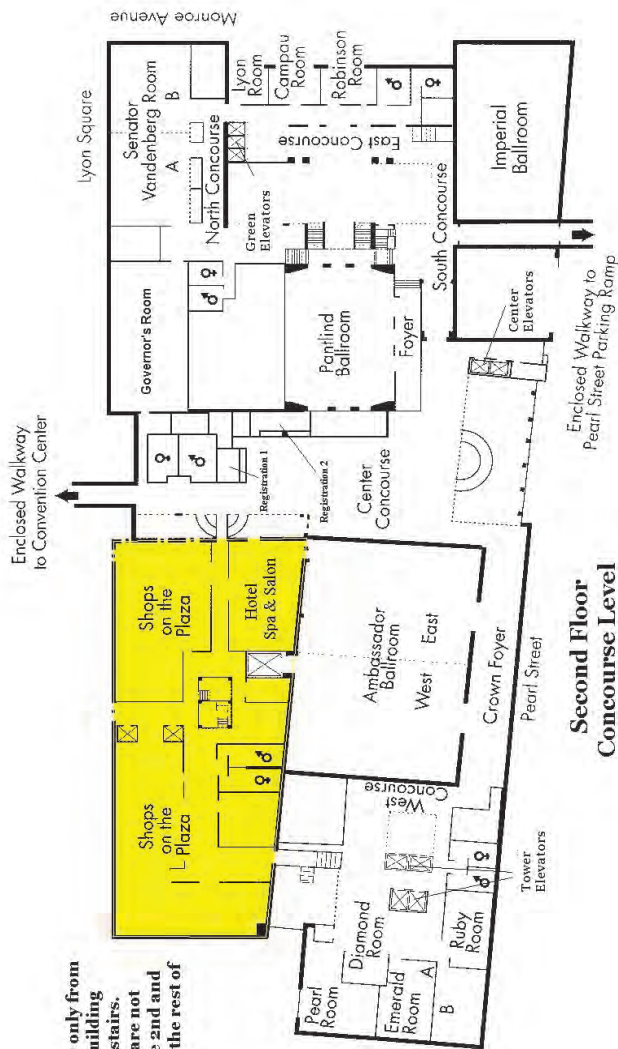
10:00-11:15AM/ Session Block 6

- ◆ Transracial Commonalities
- ◆ (Re)Defining Family
- ◆ Parenting the Adopted Child/RAD
- ◆ Whose Life Is It?
- ◆ *Now What?*
- ◆ (Ages 11-17) Been There, Done That
- ◆ (Ages 7-17) Youth Adoption Forum
- ◆ Childcare

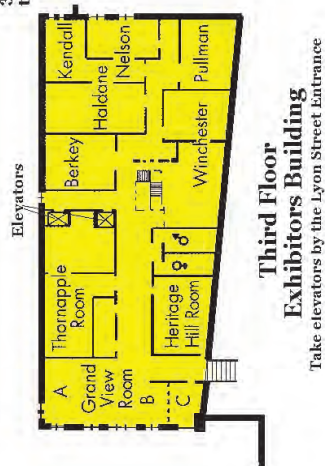
11:45-12:30PM

Closing and Keynote: Robyn Afrik





Legend:
 = Accessible only from Exhibitors Building Elevators or stairs.
 These areas are not level with the 2nd and 3rd floors of the rest of the Hotel.



KAAN Program Locations

Registration & Exhibit Hall ... West Concourse

Sessions ... Third Floor Exhibitors Bldg
(up short stairwell from West Concourse)

♦ Exception: Street Dance Wkshp / Pantlind Ballroom
(across Crown Foyer & Center Concourse)

Meals ... Ambassador Ballroom
(across Crown Foyer & Center Concourse)

♦ Exception: Gala Dinner / Pantlind Ballroom

session *notes*

friday @ 2:00pm

Film: Waterwalk

Roger Rapoport

A suddenly unemployed workaholic adoptive father takes a dangerous 1,000 mile canoe trip with the son he barely knows. They attempt to become the first single canoe team to retrace the Marquette/Joliet discovery route of the Mississippi. The film is based on a true story and stars Hollywood actor Bob Cicchini (Godfather III, War of the Worlds, The Mentalist) and Chase Maser, a Kalamazoo-MI-based actor who just finished his sixth film. The film is family-approved by the Dove Foundation and plays as PG. More information at www.waterwalkthemovie.com.

Artist's Showcase

Abigail Bradley, Rob Loebach

Adoptee artists use their mediums to express their feelings about being adopted. Both artists will share a little of their story followed by an activity. Abbey Bradley will lead interested attendees in creating an interactive art piece that will continue throughout the conference. Rob Loebach will offer a performance of his particular kind of street dance.

Youth Snack & Game Lounge

Michael Burdan, Emily Hilzinger, Franck Leroy

Drop by our lounge for snacks and socializing. Bring your favorite games, whether electronic or Board form.

friday @ 4:30pm

Mixer

This short mixer gives first-time participants and others a chance to meet and connect with other attendees.

Adoptee Dinner

Michelle Peters Tremmel, Abigail Bradley

Meet in the lobby of the hotel (water fountain area). We walk together to a mixer and dinner at nearby San Chez Tapas and Bistro (family style Spanish "tapas" dinner, cash bar). Cost of dinner will be \$25-\$35. Restaurant info can be found at www.sanchezbistro.com.

Spouses and Partners Dinner

Nick Tremmel

A first at KAAAN ... an organized Friday night dinner for spouses and partners of adoptees. Meet in the lobby of the hotel (water fountain area). We'll walk to dinner at the Republic Restaurant (just a few blocks from the hotel). Cost of dinner to be determined, possibly order off menu. Cash bar. Restaurant info at <http://rockwellsrepublic.com>.

friday @ 7:30pm

Conference Kickoff

Stacy Schroeder, Michael Stanley, SuLyn Weaver

Join us to kick off KAAAN's 15th anniversary conference.

friday @ 8:00pm

Film: Somewhere Between

Co-hosted by Bethany Christian Services with Jaclyn Skalnik

SOMEWHERE BETWEEN examines what it is like to come-of-age as a trans-racial adoptee in today's America, as seen through the eyes of four of the 79,562 adopted girls from China. Through the voices of these young women, we will see not just their lives, but our own, reflected back to us - whether we are adoptive families or not. SOMEWHERE BETWEEN will start a dialogue about what we see, who we are, and the changing face

of the American family. You can learn more about the film at www.somewherebetweenmovie.com.

Family Film: Leafie: A Hen in the Wild

Martha Crawford, host

LEAFIE, A HEN INTO THE WILD (hangul: 마당을 나온 암탉) is a 2011 South Korean animated film which depicts the freedom, will, and instinctive motherly love of a hen as she raises an adopted duckling. The film is based on a children's book authored by Hwang Sun-mi (황선미) and made box office history by drawing over 2.2 million viewers, the largest audience for a home-grown animated film in South Korea. A short discussion will follow the screening of the film. <http://www.animecrazy.net/leafie-a-hen-into-the-wild-watch/>

saturday @ 8:00am

Conference Welcome

Opening Remarks

Senator Hoon-Yung Hopgood

Opening Keynote: Listen

Carissa Woodwyk

Carissa Woodwyk addresses why we must listen to the beauty and the brokenness in every adoptee's story and how doing so might just change all of us.

saturday @ 9:00am

Why Send Your Child to Korean Culture Camp?

Beth Anne Fausone, Jessica Lyons, Susan McFarland, Jill Zimmermann

Find out more about the Korean culture camp experiences available in the state of Michigan.

Discussing Microaggressions As a Family

Kimberly McKee, April Callen

This session explores how popular culture contributes to the daily in-

teractions individuals have with racial microaggressions. From childhood to adolescence and into adulthood, adoptees and their families find themselves continually exposed to overt and covert racism in the media. Both panelists will discuss their work deconstructing microaggressions and effective strategies to respond to microaggressions.

Adoptee Meetups

*** ADOPTEEES ONLY ***

Katie Bozek, Abbey Bradley, SuLyn Weaver, Sally Verstraete

Do you wish you knew other adoptees? Do you want to understand why an adoptee you know wants to meet with other adoptees? We will tell you about our group, Michigan Adult Adoptees (MiAA) and why it's important for adoptees, as well as how to start and maintain a group.

I Want to Talk to Mom and Dad

*** ADOPTEEES ONLY ***

Suzanne d'Aversa, Carolyn Scholl, Maggie Dinneen, Niki Ty

Sometimes talking to your parents about birth parents is hard. This panel will talk about ways to make this an easier discussion and help your parents to hear your true heart as you share feelings about your birth parents.

Looks: Image & Identity in Transracial Adoption

David Amarel, Ph.D., Jennifer Hilzinger, Mark Hagland, Kevin Vollmers
We get Looks. Glances or stares leveled at the transracial adoptee and adoptive family range from "approving" to hostile - and often reflect the perception of difference. This session looks at physical appearance and elicited responses in relation to self-esteem, identity and values development. We discuss chosen signifiers (e.g., dress, hairstyle, tattoos) as well as responses to innate physical characteristics and contrasts within the adoptive family. The panelists bring a broad diversity of experience to the discussion - in which we consider

identity as both a personal and social construct, one that is especially complex for the adoptee and adoptive family.

saturday @ 10:30am

Bullying: Its Impact and How to Address It

Katherine Fuller, John Golaszewski, Joe Grimm

Hear firsthand accounts from victims and bystanders to bullying, then discuss the pervasiveness and various types of bullying in our culture today. Resources will be provided to combat bullying, particularly for people of color.

Journey to Motherhood

Katie Bozek, Robyn Afrik, Sally Verstraete, SuLyn Weaver

This panel is comprised of mothers who will speak to their experiences of becoming mothers, raising biracial children and how they have processed various pieces of their adoption through this journey. * We welcome others who would like to learn how to support their children in their journey into parenthood.

Jeremy Lin, PSY and Asian-American Male Sexuality

Stephen Johnson

What does it mean to be an Asian-American man? In the Western world, Asian men are predominantly portrayed as either the castrated-clown or the mysterious-ninja-master. And yet with the phenomenal rise of superstars like Jeremy Lin and Park Jae-sang (PSY), what narratives are being challenged and recreated? Join us as we explore an often overlooked topic and how it affects the Korean adoption community.

Living in the Shadow

Suzanne d'Aversa, Margie Perscheid, Maggie Dinneen

A panel discusses their fears that they might not measure up to the expectations birth parents had when they placed their child for adoption. This workshop will look

at how parents facing their own fears allows them to be ready to hear the heart of their children when they want to talk with them about birth parents.

Transracial Adoptees: Commonalities Across Countries

*** ADOPTEEES ONLY ***

Mark Hagland, Kevin Vollmers, JaeRan Kim, Susan Branco Alvarado, Stephanie Kripa Cooper-Lewter

As the authors of the book "Parenting as Adoptees" have shown, adult transracial international adoptees from different countries have a huge amount in common. Adoptees from South Korea, India, and Colombia, all of whom were part of "Parenting as Adoptees," will lead a wide-ranging, adult adoptees-only, discussion.

Bridging the Divide

Michele Miller, Erica Engler, Kimberly McKee, and Erica DeBlase

This is a discussion about building a bridge over the gap dividing the adoptee from their birth culture. Parents and adoptees will examine birth culture as an adoptee need, culture as a tool for building the ethnic identity, and the parents' role in cultivating cultural connections. Practical ideas for integrating culture into everyday life will also be discussed.

saturday @ 12:00pm luncheon & keynote

Stepping Out to Work Together

Dr. John Raible

Receive an update on KAAAN's welfare and plans, then sit back for a keynote that is sure to challenge and inspire you.

Dr. John Raible will provide insights on how we might nurture better relations between the transnational and transracial adoption communities. His remarks will address how the adoption community can work together as allies against oppression--and on behalf of social justice in adoption.

saturday @ 1:45pm

Search & Reunion: Reuniting with Your Birth Culture and Birth Family

Carol Harvey, Craig Glass, Kip Smalligan, Susan Branco Alvarado, Jaclyn Skalnik

Birth culture and birth family reunions are filled with many varying dynamics to an adoptee's identity. Sometimes the reunions go well and sometimes the reunions feel awkward. Neither is right or wrong, and the adoptee's reaction to culture (country) or birth reunion can range very widely. This session will consist of 5 adult adoptees sharing their experiences with reuniting with their culture and some with their birth families. They will give a realistic perspective on how it has affected their identity and how they have learned to live with knowing the truth. They will also share how their relationships with their birth families have grown or not grown. Come and hear them share from their hearts as they hope their experiences will help other families learn more about birth culture and birth family reunions.

Parenting Without a Compass

*** ADOPTEEES ONLY ***

Erica DeBlase, LICSW & Becky S. Cioppa
Becoming a parent is a life-altering experience for most individuals, but how does it compare when you are an adoptee? How do core issues related to the adoption experience manifest in our parenting? This adoptee-only discussion group will focus on the challenges, rewards, and insights that relate to the parenting experience. Despite not having a compass, parenting as adoptees ultimately leads us in a direction back to ourselves, our history, and our beginnings.

Beauty and Brokenness: Why The Story of the Heart Matters

Carissa Woodwyk

For every adoptive parent, there is a sacred story of how a child entered his or her life. There is a sense that you are able to provide a kind

of life for your adopted child that otherwise he or she may not have had. But, we must remember, for every adopted child there is a story that is so often untold, a story of loss and brokenness and shame - the story of the heart. We have to tell this part of the story too. These two stories share a space and a place in the heart of every adoptee. Come listen to a Korean-born adoptee share both the brokenness and beauty from her own relinquishment story, the impact loss has on the human heart and mind, and what it looks like to discover the truth, hope and redemption that exists in every adoptee's story.

Adoption: The Elephant in the Family

Marie Dolfi, LCSW, Kimberly McKee, Maggie Dinneen

This session will review why adoption is a difficult issue for adult adoptees and their parents to discuss, offering ways to improve dialogue and increase closeness amongst family members. Strategies for conversations on adoption, identity, loss, and race as well as advice for pacing conversation and how to share intense feelings will be shared.

Racism and White Privilege

Mark Hagland, Jen Hilzinger, Terra Trevor, Stephanie Kripa Cooper-Lewter

With a focus on how white privilege and culture often unknowingly support racist ideas and add significant stressors to transracial adoptive families, this panel will offer real and reflective group dialogue. They will address the history of race and racism and how that history directly affects current trends and nuances, both within the context of transracial adoptive families and in broader society.

saturday @ 3:15pm

Film: Vincent Who?

Sook Wilkinson, Ph.D. & Roland Hwang, Esq

What happened to Vincent Chin in Highland Park, MI, forever changed the landscape of the Asian Americans in Michigan and be-

yond. In this session, we plan to show the documentary, *Vincent Who?*, conduct a panel presentation of the impact of the Vincent Chin case, and entertain questions and answers.

Post-Adoption Resources Panel for Young Adoptees and Families

Brian Conyer, Patrick Taillon, Deborah Miller-Gnann, Fil Foden, Rebecca Nelson

Hear from leaders in two distinctly different but highly committed post-adoption programs. The Coalition of Internationally Adopted Families is a web based resource tool created by and for internationally adopted families. Composed of lists of parent referred services, service providers, books and blogs we provide families with the opportunity to take advantage of other families service experience and then rate their own. Connect-A-Kid's mission is to connect the adoption community by providing a mentorship program to support adopted children and their families across the country. Our panel will share their personal adoption stories, discuss the benefits of mentoring youth adoptees and their families, and provide information on how interested persons can participate.

Learning from the Story of the Adoptive Parent

Katie Jae Naftzger, LICSW

It is important for adoptive parents to understand where they came from before they started their adoptive family. When adoptive parents are better able to understand the feelings and experiences that led to becoming an adoptive parent, they are better able to support and take care of their child. In this discussion, we will explore how the story of the adoptive parent can parallel the journey of the adoptee in powerful ways and how to make it less hidden.

Fathers, Sons, and Ghosts

David Amarel, Ph.D., Mark Hagland, Glen Hilzinger, Michael Burdan

The birth father is nearly invisible in adoption, particularly interna-

tional adoption. He is absent from the conversation - be it books, adoption agencies, or adoptive families. He is a piece of the family left unacknowledged. Unlike the birth mother, his ghost is silent. Does this explain why fathers and fathering, in general, are too often peripheral in adoption? How does this affect parenting and development in the transracial adoptive family, particularly for fathers and sons? This panel will discuss the challenge of imparting a model of masculinity to one's Asian son when one is non-Asian. (How are daughters impacted as well?) Also, what barriers do white male privilege place between father and parenting his transracially adopted sons and daughters?

We Are Not Alone

*** ADOPTEEES ONLY ***

Kerry Bondy, Sara Campbell

This session will provide a safe, nonjudgmental forum for adult adoptees to share experiences with their peers including, but not limited to, adjustment and identity issues, feelings of depression or anxiety, and other mental health issues. We will discuss personal experiences with various treatments and explore avenues to obtain the help that may be needed outside of the conference.

B-boy Workshop: So You Wanna Dance?

61Syx Teknique

61Syx Teknique's "Foundation and Fundamental Workshop" is an introductory class to the world of BBoying or Breakdancing. The workshop will touch on all parts of the dance from footwork to freezes and powermoves. Instructor Keegan "Seoul" Loyce will be breaking down many different moves and showing you different ways to connect them, but allow you to create your own way to put them all together. There is no right or wrong way to do this dance ... it's all about how you present it! This workshop will be fun but challenging at the same time. Don't miss

out! Learn more at www.61Syx.com.

saturday @ 4:45pm

Support Forums

A quiet place to decompress and process feelings from the day. No formal session ... just a safe place to talk. Separate spaces for adult adoptees, parents of adoptees, and partners and siblings of adoptees.

saturday @ 6:00pm gala dinner

Enjoy a nice dinner and conversation with your tablemates before we begin our evening program and festivities. Program will include recognition ceremony, entertainment by 61Syx Teknique, anniversary observations, and more.

sunday @ 7:30am

Prayers and Candlelighting

Suzanne d'Aversa

Visit this quiet place for prayer, meditation, and reflection. Come and go as you want ... candles and soft music will be available, but there will be no specific service or structured gathering.

sunday @ 8:30am

Unlikely Allies: Amending the CCA 2000

Margie Perscheid, McLane Layton, Chuck Johnson, Kevin Vollmers

Join four members of the unlikely team that drafted and submitted the CCA 2000 amendment for citizenship for all intercountry adoptees as they discuss the process, their experiences, and their thoughts about collaboratively working with others in the adoption community with whom they may not always agree.

Seeking Asian America: Finding Culture in Contemporary Literature

Terri Sheridan, JaeRan Kim

Asian American authors provide windows to the social history that has shaped the perceptions of a

"model minority" and the pervasive stereotypes and racist attitudes that are part of today's American experience. This discussion group will use themes presented in books by popular authors as pathways to understanding Asian American culture today.

The Adoptee-Adoptive Parent Relationship

Lisa "Charlie" Teixeira, Karen Benally
Korean adoptee Lisa Teixeira and her mother Karen Benally share preliminary results of their research, "Stories of Adult Transnational Adoptees and Their Adoptive Parents." Using survey results and stories drawn from interviews with adoptee-parent pairs, they discuss how adoptees and parents negotiate the complex issues of adoption, race, and identity.

Seoul Siblings

Jen Cox, Suzanne d'Aversa, Erica Engler

Biological siblings will be discussed in this session with input from a former adoption agency social worker. One family adopted their son's biological sisters while another family adopted a child who is a biological sibling to a child in another family. Our joys, sorrows, and frustrations will be discussed.

Merging Together Adoptees' American and Korean Identities

*** ADOPTEEES ONLY ***

Tess Barrett, Holly Grant-Marsney

This session will provide a safe environment to discuss the idea of adoptees' alternate reality. We will share our personal experiences of how we as adoptees experience the duality of knowing that we have our adopted life and how we negotiate feelings of loss of our birth culture.

Multiple Prisms: The Intersection of Transracial Adoptee and LGBT Identity

Mark Hagland, Kate Zielaskowski, Michael Burdan

Transracial international adoptees and people of color who are also

LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender) will share their perspectives on what happens when an individual is evolving through dual or multiple journeys of self-discovery and evolution of identity.

Youth Ages 7-17 Program

Connecting Through What We Have in Common

Katie Jae Naftzger, LICSW

Through fun activities and group exercises, kids will have the opportunity to talk about their experiences with others who are just like them. Topics that often come up can include Asian stereotypes, wondering about their birth parent, and responding to the questions and comments of others outside of the adoption triad.

sunday @ 10:00am

Transracial Adoptees: Commonalities Across Countries

Mark Hagland, Kevin Vollmers, Susan Branco Alvarado, Stephanie Kripa Cooper-Lewter, John Raible

As the authors of the book "Parenting as Adoptees" have shown, adult transracial international adoptees have a huge amount in common, though having been adopted from different countries. Adoptees from South Korea, Vietnam, India, and Colombia, all of whom were part of "Parenting as Adoptees," will lead a wide-ranging discussion.

(Re)defining Family: Reflections from the Margins

Jennifer Fero, Alyson Thomas Yost, Stephen Johnson, Jenn Tavenner, Mike Tavenner

Join us as we compare and contrast the families in which we were raised with the families we have created for ourselves. Each speaker will share about their upbringing and how their families influenced who they are and who their families are today. This session will also speak to raising children in a mixed race and how this brings forth its own unique blend of challenges, beauty, and love.

Parenting the Adopted Child/Reactive Attachment Disorder

Kurt Ellis

Is parenting an adopted child different than parenting a biological child? What is attachment? These questions and many more will be answered in this session. You will also have the opportunity to ask Kurt, an attachment therapist and adoptive parent, questions that you may have about parenting your adopted child.

Whose Life Is It Anyway?

Terri Sheridan, Terra Trevor

Adoptive parents who have raised children into adulthood, balancing between white identities and communities of color, while braiding Korean culture and Asian America into the family fabric, know this is an ever-evolving journey of self-discovery, bringing forth an evolution of adoptive parent identity.

Now What?

*** ADOPTEES ONLY ***

Katie Jae Naftzger, LICSW

Many adult adoptees are struggling to figure out what to do with their life. Do they go to college, which job do they apply for, do they go back to Korea, when should they have kids, etc., etc. Making decisions about which direction to go can raise issues of identity, that were dormant. This discussion will provide the opportunity for adult adoptees to better understand what might be holding them back and to get the encouragement and support they need to take the next step.

Youth Ages 7-17 Program

Youth Adoption Forum

Rachael Rutigliano, Susan Madsen

Gather for one last time for activities and discussion related to life as an adoptee. Time will be provided for goodbyes as well.

Youth Ages 11-17 Program

Been There, Done That

Michael Burdan, JaeRan Kim

A chance for teen adoptees to gather with other adoptees who have survived their teens to talk about what-

ever they want--common experiences, challenges at school, relationships, questions about family, or other topics. You are welcome to listen or to share.

sunday @ 11:30am

closing keynote

Robyn Afrik

Working together within our community requires the *adoption of a new consciousness*. Robyn will infuse excitement and renewed energy around What if factors. What if our community supported adoptees the way they are asking? What if we 'BEcome' who we say we want to be in this beautiful, messy work? What if everyone adopted the KAAAN consciousness here - in essence, work, and approach - long after the conference is finished? What would result?



CHILDCARE PROGRAM (AGES 3-7)



the coordinator and adoptee mentors:

Martha Crawford (*coordinator*), Emily Hilzinger, Franck Leroy, Nicole Henriksen, Kelsay Myers

the program:

This offering provides the chance for younger children (and their parents) to participate in the conference in a modified way. Parents take shifts working in a childcare room where age-appropriate activities are offered and adoptee mentors engage the children. It is our hope that the relationships built here will be sustaining ones for the children and parents alike.

YOUTH PROGRAM (AGES 7-17)

the youth planning team and adoptee mentors:

Michael Burdan, Ellie Conant, Martha Crawford, Katie Jae Naftzger, Ellen Picklesimer (*team members*)
Jenna Bradshaw, Katlyn Firestone, JaeRan Kim, Rob loebach, Keegan Loye, Susan Madsen, Rachel Rutigliano, Jacob Scheller, Mali Sheridan.

the program:

The youth program is an integral part of KAAN's conference. Many who attend are young adoptees; the program is open to siblings and children of adoptees as well. Our most important goal is to connect youth to the community. We progress from casual activities to ones of deeper conversation. Friendships are frequently forged.

Friday afternoon: a drop-in youth lounge with snacks

Friday evening: a family-friendly film festival running alongside the adult documentary

Saturday field trip: John Ball Zoo with camel rides and SkyZone trampoline jumping, followed by a return to the hotel for the street dance workshop. These activities are designed to give participants time to get to know one another in a fun, non-threatening environment and to give them a positive experience of traveling in a primarily Asian-American group.

Sunday morning: three program choices within two time slots focus on identity, dealing with social and other challenges (*teens*), and a nice wrap-up activity.


For more info, look up each program in the Session Details section.



conference scavenger hunt

To meet this challenge, you must get someone who fits each description below to sign that box. A person may sign a page only once. A small prize will be given to each person who has completed all 24 blocks by **noon on Saturday, August 3**—just bring your paper to the registration table. Hang-un-eul bil-uh-yo (Good luck)!

Find someone who ...

Likes kimchi.	Traveled to Korea this year.	Enjoys learning new things.	Is here for the first time.	Has a brother or sister who was adopted.
Can sing the first line of the Korean national anthem.	Can use chopsticks.	Has tried b-boy dancing.	Owens a hanbok.	Has liked KAAN's Facebook page.
Studies or works in the field of adoption.	Likes Korean rice better than Uncle Ben's.		Wants to visit Jeju Island.	Was adopted from Korea.
Has attended a KAAN conference before.	Can name two Korean-American athletes.	Speaks more than one language.	Was born in Korea.	Thinks this hotel is awesome.
Flew in a plane to get here.	Is from Michigan.	Follows KAAN on Twitter.	Knows what 친구 "chin-gu" means.	Likes K-pop (Korean pop music).

Scenes and Faces from our KAAN 2012 Youth & Childcare Programs

Many thanks to the leaders and adoptee mentors who made this possible!



Thanks to Martha Crawford for spearheading the launch of KAAN's childcare program.

A Second Shout Out to the Adoptee Mentors making scenes like this possible for KAAN 2013: Jenna Bradshaw, Michael Burdan, Katlyn Firestone, Nicole Henriksen, Emily Hilzinger, JaeRan Kim, Franck Leroy, Rob Loebach, Keegan Loye, Susan Madsen, Kelsay Myers, Katie Naftzger, Ellen Picklesimer, Rachael Rutigliano, Jacob Scheller, and Mali Sheridan

KAAN 2013 Word Search



Words to Find:

ADOPTEE
 ANNIVERSARY
 COMMUNITY
 FAMILY
 FIFTEEN
 FRIENDS FOREVER
 GALA
 KAN
 LISTENING
 LOUNGE
 MICHIGAN
 PARENTS
 POOL
 SEOUL
 SOUTH KOREA
 STREET DANCE
 SUPPORT
 TRAMPOLINE
 UNDERSTANDING
 ZOO

Juxtaposed: An Adoption Story

by Alex Wager

A tiny light bulb, growing up in a world of water faucets, embarks on a journey to find his real mother. However, he soon finds that she was right there all along. This film serves as a visual depiction of my own personal experiences growing up as an adopted child. "Juxtaposed" was my graduating thesis film for the School of Visual Arts (class of 2009). It has appeared in numerous film festivals and exhibitions, and has been broadcast on PBS/WNET as part of their Reel13 program.



Juxtaposed

an adoption story by alex wager



watch the film online
alexmyung.com

follow the new film, ARRIVAL, on FaceBook
facebook.com/arrivalshortfilm





First issue, Fall 1997



Fall 2012 anniversary issue



Summer 2003

Korean Quarterly

is your award-winning newspaper reporting on the diversity of the Korean American community!

Korean Quarterly was formed in 1997 by adopted Koreans, 1st, 1.5/2nd generation Korean Americans and adoptive parents. Our mission is to be a voice for people and ideas not represented in the mainstream media and provide independent and alternative reporting on issues of identity, racism, politics and the arts and be a forum for the ideas and creativity of the entire Korean American community.

Korean Quarterly focuses on the place where identity, creativity and culture intersect. From the Twin Cities to Chicago, Los Angeles, New York, Honolulu, Europe, Seoul and Pyongyang, we have been there to give voice to a variety of viewpoints and issues.

Korean Quarterly is a non-profit/volunteer project that runs on the passion of dozens of contributors. Please join us in our efforts by subscribing!

Your subscriptions and donations are a major source of Korean Quarterly's revenue.
Thanks for your support!

www.koreanquarterly.org

Questions, need more info or want a complimentary issue? Contact us at:

koreanquarterly@gmail.com ☯ **651-398-2325**

Subscribe today by sending in this form

____ \$22 Base Rate ____ \$45 Supporting Rate ____ \$95 Partner Rate ____ \$10 Rate for Students

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

Canada
\$30



International
\$50

Please make checks payable to **KOREAN QUARTERLY** and send to:

KOREAN QUARTERLY ☯ PO Box 6789, St. Paul, MN 55106

Korean Quarterly welcomes your ideas, letters, opinion pieces, short stories, poetry, photography, and other prospective articles

speaker bios

61Syx Technique

61Syx Technique is a devoted and talented group of individuals who find numerous common passions in dance and uplifting the community by shedding positive light on the hip hop culture. Friends before crewmates, the Grand-Rapids-based Technique is a family. With an impressive resume already under their belt including shows for The Clipse, Talib Kweli, George Clinton, and other huge artists, 61Syx has also been a part of numerous charity events, church fundraisers, and art showcases. The goal of the crew is to continue the cultural growth of hip hop by keeping it positive, attempting to help mold the minds away from the stereotypical “gangsta rap” mindset that the media has portrayed hip hop to be. Very easily, you will come to see that the culture is much more than that, as well as see everybody’s individual styles expressed through their dance. Learn more at www.61Syx.com.

Afrik, Robyn

Robyn Afrik is a compelling platform speaker, national consultant and strategist on issues surrounding reconciliation/diversity, international adoption, multi-cultural families and identity formation. Robyn, a Korean adoptee, shares her own unique and personal story to inspire, teach and challenge those being called to the issues of social change. Robyn is married with three children and makes her home in Holland, Michigan. For more info on Robyn, visit afrikadvantage.com.

Alvarado, Susan Branco

Susan, an adopted person from Bogota, Colombia, is a Licensed Professional Counselor in independent practice specializing in working with adopted persons, adoptive families, and original/birth families. She has over 15 years of clinical experience and speaks nationally on topics related to adoption, attachment, and trans racial/multicultural counseling. She served as the Professional Counselor on Colombia homeland trips for adolescent adoptees and provides bilingual Spanish/English clinical services for first families pursuing reunification with their children. Currently she is a doctoral student in Counselor Education and Supervision at Virginia Tech. Susan is privileged to be the mother to a son, 13, and daughter, 4.

Amarel, David

Dr. David Amarel is a clinical psychologist who practices in New York City. He and his wife live in Brooklyn with their two children, Elias Kim and Lucy Park. The couple flew to South Korea in 2003 to adopt four-month-old Eli; all three traveled again in 2004 to meet six-month-old Lucy. David is a couples counselor and psychotherapist for adults, with a special interest in identity development. He receives training on transracial adoption from adult adoptees and from his kids.

Barrett, Tess

Tess was born in South Korea and adopted at 8 months old. She was raised in a huge Irish family in Syracuse, NY. She is

employed at Syracuse University and is pursuing a degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling through their School of Education. She is interested in the identity development of adoptees.

Benally, Karen

Karen R. Benally holds a Ph.D. in Cultural Anthropology from Northwestern University (1989), as well as both a BA and MA in Education from Michigan State University. She was a teacher and trainer of teachers for many years. Her dissertation field work was conducted on the Navajo Nation using life history methodology. She is Associate Professor of Anthropology Emeritus at San Juan College, in New Mexico, and currently teaches courses in cultural anthropology. She and her husband run a small bed and breakfast on the Navajo Nation. In conjunction with her daughter Lisa, she co-directs the research project, Stories of Adult Transnational Adoptees and their American Parents.

Bondy, Kerry

Kerry is a Korean adoptee, whose participation in past KAAAN conferences has included volunteering, facilitating sessions, and organizing bone marrow donor registration drives. She works as a Physician Assistant at the University of Michigan hospital in hematology/oncology.

Bozek, Katie

Katie Bozek was adopted as an infant from Seoul, Korea. She is a mother of three bi-racial children. She is a licensed marriage and family therapist in the

greater Grand Rapids, MI area and serves clients through her private practice.

Bradley, Abigail

Abigail Bradley is a visual artist originally from South Korea who specializes in painting and mixed media. At age three, she was adopted by a family in Grand Rapids, Michigan, where she continues to live and work. After graduating from Kendall College of Art and Design of Ferris State University, her work has been on display in several shows and juried exhibits, including ArtPrize as a four-time participant. In 2011, her entry "A Flower with No Name," which shares the story of coming to terms with identity, was shown at DeVos Place Convention Center. She has also served as a teaching artist for several organizations such as Artists Creating Together and the Korean Culture Camp of Michigan.

Buridan, Michael

Born in South Korea and adopted at 2½ years, Michael grew up in Reading, Pennsylvania. He visited Korea with his adoptive parents in 2005 on a tour comprised of adoptees and their families. Michael graduated from Swarthmore College in 2009 and received a master's degree in counseling and mental health services from the University of Pennsylvania. He has been a previous panelist at KAAN, speaking about his adoption experience.

Callen, April

April Callen is a scholar and cultural critic whose work focuses on the complexities of racial and gender representations in popular culture and media, and its influence on society--from the individual up to social/governmental policies. She works to create more nu-

anced conversations on race--beyond racist/not racist, Black/white--in hopes of building deeper, more meaningful transracial relationships. She is currently a media fellow at the Center for New Community, a racial justice nonprofit based in Chicago. April is a regular guest and contributor at Vocalo.org, 89.5FM; you can find her writings at aprilscissors.com and her musings on Twitter, @aprilscissors.

Campbell, Sara

Sara is a Korean adoptee who has participated in eight KAAN conferences including facilitating sessions, volunteering, and providing support to KAAN. She is a licensed therapist and now a Senior Program Manager of a licensed AFC and Mental Health Crisis Home in Flint, Michigan. Sara is also on KAAN's Advisory Council as well.

Cioppa, Becky

Becky Cioppa is an adult adoptee born in Daegu, South Korea adopted at approximately one year old. She is a mother of two children, ages 9 and 7, and works full time as a Billing Operations Analyst II at an Energy Services Company and part time as a Homeopathic Consultant. She has been a presenter at KAAN for the past seven years.

Conyer, Brian

Brian was adopted at the age of eighteen months by a blue-collar, middle-class family from Detroit, Michigan. He grew up in a happy home and idolized his two older sisters, who were also adopted from Korea. The natural mentorship he received from his sisters inspired him to found Connect-A-Kid, is a mentorship program that pairs adopted children with adult-adoptee mentors.

Cooper-Lewter, Stephanie Kripa

Stephanie Kripa Cooper-Lewter, Ph.D., was born in India and adopted to a single-parent household in Northern Minnesota in 1975. She holds a Ph.D. from the University of South Carolina, a Masters from the University of Minnesota, and Bachelor's from Bethel College. She is a Licensed Master Social Worker with more than seventeen years practice experience in the nonprofit, social service, health, educational and philanthropic sectors. Since 1994, she has served as a speaker for national adoption conferences, heritage camps, adoptive parent workshops, and adoptee-only gatherings. She has been actively involved in the adult adoptee community in various leadership roles. She returned to India in 2009 with her husband and two children, who are now 20 and 6.

Cox, Jen

Jen and her husband, Jeff, adopted 3 biological siblings from Korea. Their first child came home in 2005, their second child came home in 2006, and their third child came home in 2007. Discussions abound in their home regarding their adoption and how it differs from other adoptive families they see.

Crawford, Martha

Martha M. Crawford, LCSW, is an adoptive parent and psychotherapist in private practice in New York City. In her seventeen years of practice, she has worked as a clinical consultant for adolescents in foster care and group home settings, with adults who have survived trauma and abuse and bereavement, and has been honored to work with adult adoptees and with adoptive parents. She is also the founder of "All Together

Now," a multicultural peer/play group for adopted kids facilitated by adult and adolescent adoptees. Martha is the author of the blog "what a shrink thinks," a psychotherapist's journal.

d'Aversa, Suzanne

Suzanne d'Aversa is a social worker in private practice who has been working with members of the adoption triad for over thirty years. She became involved with Korean adoption thirty years ago when she was a clinical supervisor for an International Adoption Program. In addition to her private practice, she leads support groups and is active in an agency run Post Adoption Resource Center and in Camp Mujigae, a Korean Culture Camp.

DeBlase, Erica

Erica DeBlase was born in Seoul, South Korea and adopted at five months of age. She grew up in Upstate New York with her parents and three older sisters. Ms. DeBlase graduated in May 1997 from Syracuse University with a BA in English Textual Studies and went on to pursue her MSW at Smith College School for Social Work, graduating in August 2005. During her MSW program, Ms. DeBlase completed her research and thesis which focused on racial identity development in transracially adopted Korean Americans. Ms. DeBlase has a part-time private psychotherapy practice as an adoption specialist in South Hadley, MA. In addition to her private practice, Ms. DeBlase is a permanent, full-time clinician and the Outreach Coordinator for the Mount Holyoke College Counseling Service. Prior to joining the MHC Counseling Service staff in August 2010, Ms. DeBlase worked at a therapeutic boarding school for high school aged students, The Academy At Swift River where she

designed the curriculum for an adoption group and worked with adoptees and their families. She is the mother of two daughters, ages 9 and 12 years old. Ms. DeBlase has spoken at several conferences, including at the 2012 KAAAN Conference last July.

Dinneen, Maggie

Maggie has been an adoptive mother for many years starting with her adoption of Liz at age 11 (domestically). Jen came from Korea at age 3 and Kathleen followed as a baby. She also has three adult stepchildren, five grandchildren, and three great grandchildren. During the parenting years, she was active in Camp Mujigae and served on the board of the Korean Language School of Albany. She has also been a member of Adoptive Parents for Open Records (APFOR) since its inception.

Dolfi, Marie, LCSW

Marie Dolfi is a clinical social worker who started her career working with teenagers and their families. In 1990 after her first child joined her family by adoption (domestic infant) Marie became very active in local adoption support groups and participated in extensive training in adoption issues. In 2007 Marie began private practice, specializing in counseling for adoption constellation members, prospective adoptive parents, and prospective birth parents. Marie is a member of Adoptive Families of the Capital Region, Western Vice President of New York State Citizens' Coalition for Children, and an Advisory Board Member of the Post Adoption Resource Center at Parsons Child & Family Services.

Ellis, Kurt

Kurt Ellis is a family therapist who specializes in attachment and other adoption-related is-

Korean American
Adoptee
Adoptive Family
Network

"A Tapestry of Voices and Energies Raised in Unity"
THE FIRST NATIONAL CONFERENCE
ON KOREAN ADOPTIONS

Koreatown Los Angeles July 23-25, 1999



Korean American Adoptive Family Network
Second Annual Conference on Korean Adoptions
"Korean Identity In The New Millennium"
July 21-25, 2000
Hilton Hasbrouck Heights Hotel
650 Terrace Avenue
Hasbrouck Heights, New Jersey

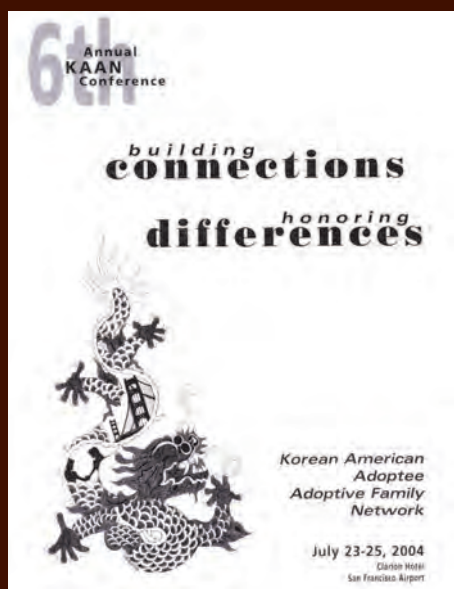
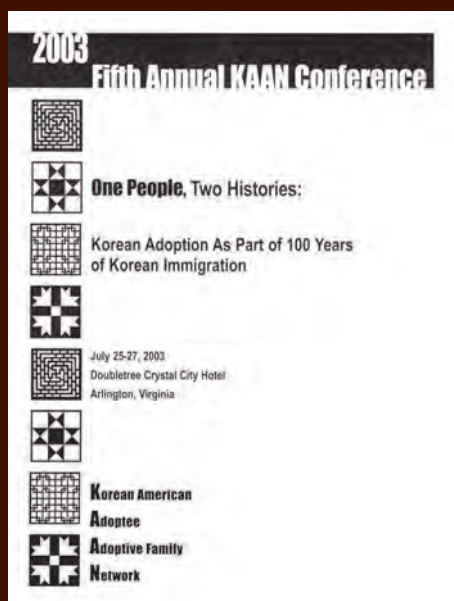
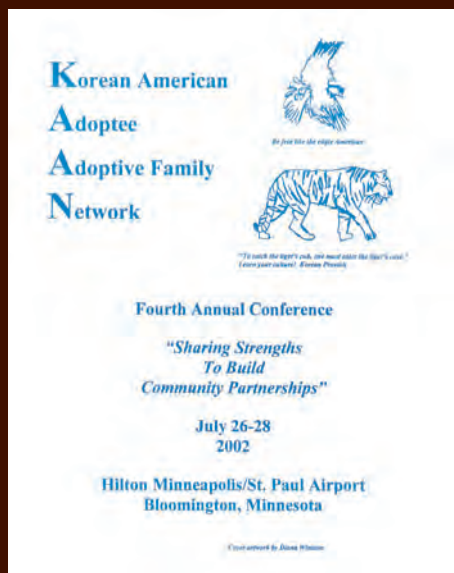
Common Ground: "Exploring Experiences That Unite Us"



Artwork by Cecilia Reed

Korean American
Adoptee
Adoptive Family
Network

Third Annual Conference
July 27-29, 2001
DoubleTree Hotel
Seattle, Washington



sues. In addition to working as an adoption professional for several years, he is also an adoptive parent. He also has extensive training in attachment development and attachment therapy.

Engler, Erica

Erica is a licensed clinical professional counselor and clinical director at Rockford Sexual Assault Counseling. She and her husband Jeramy have adopted two sons from South Korea. Their youngest son (3 years old) has a biological sister (8 years old) in the United States who lives about an hour and a half away from them. Since April of 2011, when Asher came home, the two families have been meeting, originally to encourage a bond between the siblings but finding a connection between everyone as they negotiate this unique situation. Erica has many interests, among them learning Korean language. Her goal is to be able to speak fluently and continue teaching her sons the language as well.

Fausone, Beth Anne

Beth Anne Fausone is an adoptive parent to two children born in Korea (ages 11 and 8, both arrived home as infants). Fausone has directed a local heritage camp in the past; both of her children have participated in heritage camps as well.

Fero, Jennifer

Jennifer Fero was born in Korea and adopted at four and a half months. She grew up in a working class suburb of Portland, Oregon. You may recognize Jennifer from the documentary *Adopted*, produced by Point Made productions. Since the death of both of Jennifer's adoptive parents, she is passionate about educating and

working with adoptive parents to heal the wounds and bridge the divide seen and unseen. Currently, Jennifer resides in Atlanta, Georgia, and is a high school assistant principal.

Foden, Fil

Fil Foldon is a wife and mother to three daughters born in China. Fil has been a member of Central Ohio Families with children from China since 1998 and has been a volunteer with the local Asian community for many years.

Fuller, Katherine

Katherine currently works as a School District Consultant at the Michigan Department of Education. She received a Bachelor of Science degree and a Masters in Public Administration degree from Grand Valley State University. Previously, she worked as an Investigator with the Michigan Department of Civil Rights. Katherine was adopted from South Korea as a small child and strives to explore more of her Korean heritage as an adult. Katherine serves on the Statewide Anti-Bullying Committee, which is currently working with three school districts across the State of Michigan.

Glass, Craig

Craig was adopted at age 5 along with his biological sister from South Korea. He was raised in Indiana. Craig obtained his Master's in Clinical Psychology and currently works with at risk families for Hathaway-Sycamores Child and Family Services. Craig currently resides in Los Angeles, California.

Golaszewski, John

John is the Director of Business and Community Affairs for the

Michigan Department of Civil Rights. He is a graduate of The University of Michigan (Bachelor of Arts) and Wayne State University (Master of Arts in Dispute Resolution). Since 2002, John has also held an adjunct faculty position with Ferris State University. He has served on the Farmington/Farmington Hills Commission on Children, Youth and Families as Chair, the Citizens Police Advisory Committee, and the Community Outreach Impact Committee. He has served as both chair and co-chair of the Metropolitan Detroit Teen Conference, and served as co-chair of the Multi-Cultural Multi-Racial Community Council in Farmington Hills. He has trained nationally at conferences and seminars on matters such as Diversity and Inclusion, Sexual Harassment, Discriminatory Harassment, Investigation of Civil Rights Complaints, and Police/Community Relations. John leads the Department's Statewide Anti-Bullying Initiative.

Grant-Marsney, Holly

Holly was born in Daegu City, South Korea and adopted at 4 months old and raised in the South Shore of MA. She received her B.A. in Neuroscience and Behavior from Mount Holyoke College, and her M.S. in Clinical Psychology from the University of Massachusetts Amherst in 2011, where she is now pursuing her doctorate in Clinical Psychology. She works with Dr. Harold Grotevant and has continued to use data from the Minnesota Texas Adoption Research Project (MTARP). Ms. Grant-Marsney's research interests involve adoptive families, close relationships, and adoptive identity development.

Grimm, Joe

Joe is a teacher, editor, writer, and networker. He is currently a visiting professor at the Michigan State University School of Journalism where his reporting classes create local news sites and where he teaches copy editing online. In spring 2012, one of his classes created a website and book called "The New Bullying." In 2013, his students are producing a Cultural Competence guide about East Indians in America. Joe is an adjunct faculty member and columnist with the Freedom Forum's Diversity Institute, teaches in the summer journalism program at Northwestern University's National High School Institute, and co-directs both an Asian American Journalists Association's mentorship program and an AAJA project in a Dearborn, MI middle school.

Hagland, Mark

Mark Hagland was born in South Korea in 1960 and adopted by American parents of Norwegian and German descent. He grew up in Milwaukee, attended the University of Wisconsin-Madison as an undergraduate, and received his master's degree in journalism from Northwestern University. He has lived in Chicago since 1981 and has been a professional journalist for 30 years. He has a life-partner of 26 years and a daughter who is 11 years old. He has participated in 11 KAAAN conferences and numerous Korean adoptee mini-gatherings. He also writes regularly for Korean Quarterly.

Harvey, Carol

Carol was adopted along with her biological brother at the age of 3 years old from South Korea. She obtained her Mas-

ters in Social Work from Grand Valley State University and is an outpatient mental health therapist specializing in adoption and trauma issues. She has been married for 8 years and has a 16 year old daughter and a 13 year old son. Re-connecting with her Korean roots has been a passion for Carol and she hopes to maintain those connections for the benefit of her family.

Hilzinger, Glen

Glen Hilzinger is a 44-year-old writer who has lived in the Detroit metro area for most of his life. He and his wife Jen have been married for 21 years and have three children; Emily born in China in 1995 and welcomed into the family at five months, Ethan born in Korea in 1997 and welcomed into the family at six months, and Elliot born in Michigan in 2006 and welcomed into the family at birth.

Hilzinger, Jen

Jennifer and husband Glen live in Troy, a suburb of Detroit, MI. They have been married 21 years and are the parents of three active children: their first child, age 18, was born in China and whom they adopted at age 5 months; their second child, age 15, was born in S Korea and whom they adopted at age 6 months; and their third child, age 6, who was born to them. Active within numerous adoptive family, Asian American and social justice organizations for over 10 years, Jen is currently a co-facilitator for the Diversity & Inclusion Council for the Troy School District.

Hopgood, Sen. Hoon-Yung

State Senator Hoon-Yung Hopgood was born in Incheon, South Korea on December 8,

1974. He has been a resident of Taylor since 1976 when he was adopted by Diane (Chris) and the late Rollie Hopgood - where he currently lives with his wife, Sunhwa, and their two children. He attended University of Michigan-Ann Arbor where he obtained his Bachelors of Arts in 1996 while majoring in Political Science. He was elected to his first term in the Michigan Senate for the 8th District on November 2, 2010 after serving six years in the Michigan House of Representatives. Senator Hopgood represents the Metro Detroit cities of Allen Park, Ecorse, Lincoln Park, Melvindale, Riverview, Romulus, Southgate, Taylor, Wayne and Wyandotte. He has the distinction as serving as the first Korean-American to hold state office in Michigan.

Hwang, Roland

Roland Hwang is a commissioner on the Michigan Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission. He is an attorney working for the State of Michigan. He served as chair of the MI state advisory committee to the US Commission on Civil Rights. He served as chair of the Governor's Advisory Commission on Asian American Affairs under Michigan Governor Blanchard, and as vice chair of the Michigan Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission. He is a long time board member of American Citizens for Justice.

Johnson, Chuck

Chuck Johnsons serves as president and CEO of the National Council For Adoption and serves on the Board of Trustees of the Council on Accreditation (COA). He is an advocate for children, birthparents, and adoptive families, and is a fre-

quent writer, speaker, and commentator on adoption policy and practice. Prior to joining NCFA, Chuck served 17 years with a licensed child-placing agency in Alabama, including eight years as its executive director. Chuck has been a licensed practicing social worker since 1986. He is a father by adoption and lives with his wife and three children in Maryland.

Johnson, Stephen

Stephen David Johnson was born in Korea, adopted at the age of four months, and grew up in Texas. He graduated from Baylor University with a degree in Social Work, and Eastern University with an MA in International Development. Stephen works for an international NGO, assisting refugees in their resettlement process. He and his wife, Whitney, currently reside in Seattle, Washington.

Kim, JaeRan

JaeRan Kim works for the Center for Advanced Studies in Child Welfare at the University of Minnesota and is currently a doctoral candidate. Her research is focused on parents adopting internationally adopted youth with disabilities. In addition, JaeRan is the author of the blog Harlow's Monkey as well as several chapters about Korean adoption. JaeRan was adopted in 1971 from South Korea.

Lake, Niki

Niki was adopted from South Korea at 3½ months. She is one of eight children, seven of whom were adopted. Though most of her siblings were domestically adopted, she has one other non-biologically related Korean adopted brother. She

grew up in very small towns in California and Maine and made her first connections with Korean friends the last year of her studies at the University of Oregon. In 2008 she took her first trip to Korea, returning the following year to teach English, volunteer with refugees, and learn about the Korean culture. Her second trip to Korea unexpectedly opened the door to reuniting with her Korean family and relatives. Niki's passion for helping refugees brought her to San Diego for one year of volunteer at a non-profit that helps recently resettled refugees. She currently works at San Diego State University helping students with disabilities overcome financial barriers to receiving a college education.

Layton, J. McLane

J. McLane Layton is Founder and President of Equality for Adopted Children, which promotes adoption policies and legislative changes to ensure that adopted children of American families enjoy the same rights and opportunities as children born into American families. During fifteen years as Legislative Counsel to U.S. Senator Don Nickles, McLane authored the Child Citizenship Act of 2000. McLane's ultimate goal is to eliminate the label of immigrant, as it applies to foreign adopted children of American citizens, and to make sure that all the laws of our land apply equally to adopted and biological children of Americans.

Loebach, Rob

Adopted Korean Canadian 'break dancer' Rob Loebach aka BBOY LOEBZ of ill at will crew in Canada has competed, performed, taught, and spoke at events across Canada and the

United States. He hopes to share his positive outlook on adoption and its connection to his art form, break dancing. Through this culture, hip hop, Rob has found himself a positive outlet and identity as well as many other valuable life lessons. He currently mentors and teaches two Korean adopted young Bboys, on top of running a hip hop dance studio in London, Ontario. "I am truly excited to perform and speak in Grand Rapids. HOPEFULLY my skills will leave YOUR head spinning!"

Loye, Keegan

Keegan Loye was born in Seoul, Korea, and adopted as a baby. Keegan is now the owner and operator of 61Syx Teknique Street Dance Academy which specializes in teaching the art of Street Dance and Breakdancing. Along with the rest of his crew (61Syx Teknique) Keegan has been blessed to live his dream and travel the country to colleges and universities and shares his passion and knowledge of this dance with his peers.

Lyons, Jessica

Jessica Lyons is an adoptive parent of two children, one born in Guatemala and one born in Korea. She currently serves as the President of the Board for Families for International Children, the parent organization for Heritage Camp.

McKee, Kimberly

Kimberly McKee is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies at The Ohio State University. Her research foregrounds the voices of adult adoptees as the multiple lived histories of adoptees cannot be

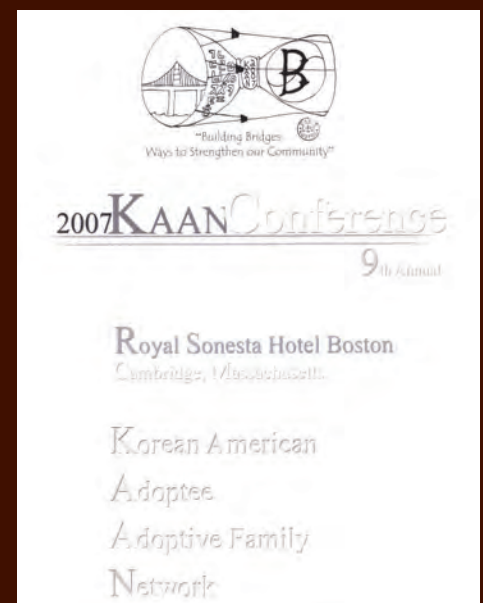
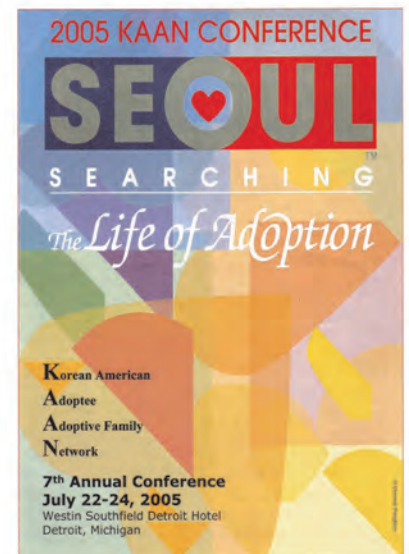
treated as a monolithic, homogenous experience. This project is meant to raise new questions concerning how adult adoptees' lived experiences disrupt dominant understandings of adoption practices, the family, and Asian American identity. She currently is a member of the Korean American Adoptive Family Network Advisory Council and works with The Ohio State University's Buckeye Adopted Student Organization. Kimberly received the U.S. Department of State Critical Language Scholarship to study intensive Korean in Summer 2011. Living in Jeonju, Korea, Kimberly gained beginner proficiency in spoken and written Korean.

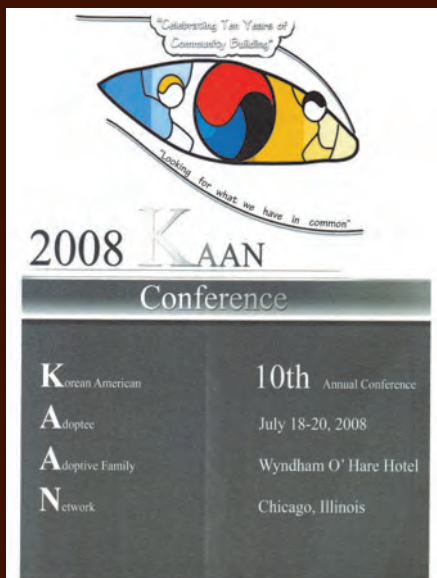
Madsen, Susan

Susan Madsen has recently gotten involved with Korean transracial adoptees, and loves every minute of it. She was adopted from Korea at the age of 5 into a great loving and supportive caucasian family in San Diego. With her BA in Sociology from UC Irvine and an MA in Cross Cultural Education from National University, she has more than 10 years of experience working and engaging a diverse group of students to excel at their passion. Currently, Susan works at UCSD in the HR department and continues to involve herself in the Korean Adoptee organizations. When not working, she enjoys volunteering, getting boba tea with her friends, and spending time with her weekend (her pets, Saturdai & Sundai).

Miller, Michelle

Michele Miller is mother to 4 year old Dane Won Seok, adopted in 2008. She is mar-





ried to Steve and they live in northern Illinois. Michele works for the YMCA and helps to organize cultural events and activities for Korean adoptive families in her local area.

Miller-Gnann, Deborah

Deborah Gnann is an attorney and founding member of Central Ohio Families with Children from China. Deborah and her husband have two teenage daughters both born in Nanning China.

Naftzger, Katie Jae

Katie is a Korean-born transracially adopted, and therapist, and sees parents, families and kids in her private practice in Newton, MA. She is interested in empowering adoptive parents and loves working with parent-child issues. Along with her practice, she provides consultation by phone for adoptive parents all over the country. You can learn more about her at www.adoptiontherapyma.com.

Nelson, Rebecca

Rebecca Nelson is a Commissioner with the Columbus Community Relations Commission and services as a member of the Ohio-Asian American Pacific Islander Council. She has held a variety of roles at The Ohio State University, including serving as the Director of the Multicultural Center. Rebecca is mom to a 12 year old daughter from China.

Perscheid, Margie

Margie Perscheid is the adoptive parent of two young adults, both of whom were adopted from Korea. Margie is a co-founder and current President of Korean Focus

Metro DC, a Korean adoption support organization with chapters in DC, Ohio, Washington, Indiana and Pennsylvania. In her spare time from her day job as a technical program manager, Margie works on local DC Korean cultural and adoption events and blogs sporadically at Third Mom and Circumstantial Family.

Picklesimer, Ellen

Ellen Picklesimer was adopted when she was five months old and grew up with her younger sister, also adopted from Korea, in central Illinois. She received her master's degree in social work from Washington University in St. Louis and is currently the Family Advocate with the Ferguson-Florissant, MO., Head Start Program. She is also grateful to be able to give back to a community that has given her and her family so much insight into adoption and Korean culture. Ellen is currently the social worker for Sejong Cultural Experience and travels on the annual Korea trip each year. In this position, she works with adolescents and has facilitated biological family reunions.

Raible, John

As a nationally-known transracial adoption expert, Professor Raible wears many hats: He is an openly gay single adoptive parent; the adoptive father of two older boys adopted from foster care; an educational researcher of multiracial identities and multicultural contexts; and an outspoken adult adoptee and "friendly critic" of transracial adoption.

Rupright, Rachel Hye Youn

Rachel is a Korean adoptee raised near Binghamton, NY.



She is the speaker coordinator for this year's conference. Rachael completed her Master's in Social Work at the University at Albany and undergraduate degree at James Madison University. She lives and works in Albany.

Rutigliano, Rachael

Rachael was born in Seoul, adopted when she was 7 months old, and grew up in North Carolina. She graduated from the University of Florida with a B.S. in Psychology in 2009 and in May from the University of Central Florida with her M.A. in Marriage and Family Therapy. Rachael is the Program Director of Connect-A-Kid and has recently returned from her first trip back to Korea.

Scholl, Carolyn

Carolyn Scholl was adopted from Korea at the age of 22 months in 1971. She is currently serving as President on the Board of the Association of Korean Adoptees-Southern California as well as a member of KAAN's Advisory Council. She has two children and resides in San Diego, CA.

Schroeder, Stacy

Stacy Schroeder is the current president and executive director of KAAN and lives with her family in Pennsylvania. She also coordinates Ta-ri, a local group that brings together people with ties to Korea for cultural and community-building activities. In 2007, she organized a weeklong camp for young adoptees and their families. Stacy's previous nonprofit experiences include serving as a year-round camp director, working in a

library, and co-authoring a book. It brings Stacy joy to see the friendships and community forged at KAAN continue to support people throughout the year, including her son and daughter, who are young adoptees themselves.

Sheridan, Terri

Terri Sheridan is a librarian and the mother of four adopted adult children, two of whom were born in Korea. Terri was a contributing editor of International Families Newsletter and a parent mentor for regional foster-adopt families. A past KAAN presenter, Terri lives in Santa Barbara, California with her husband, three of their brood, a grandchild, and various dogs, cats, birds, reptiles, and wildlife.

Skalnik, Jaclyn MSW

As an adoption professional, Jaclyn has worked over a decade with a specialized population of people affected by relinquishment/abandonment and adoption. Serving vulnerable children around the world, adult-adoptees, adoptive families and training adoption professionals, Jaclyn is committed to affecting the system of adoption through micro and macro practice social work. As a wife, mother, and adult-adoptee, Jaclyn works to balance personal experiences with professional training to live a healthy life with grace, forgiveness, cross-cultural sensitivity and acceptance.

Smalligan, Kip

Kip and his twin brother were adopted from Korea to Muskegon MI in 1967. He found

his birth family in 2000. Kip currently works in supply management for Grand Valley State University.

Stanley, Michael

Michael Stanley is the treasurer for KAAN. He was adopted from Korea when he was six and grew up with his sister Susan, also a Korean adoptee, and parents Joyce and Wray. He is a certified financial planner with Morgan Stanley and a leader of Ta-ri, a group celebrating Korean culture and community in south central Pennsylvania. He lives in Elverson, PA.

Tavener, Jenn

Jenn Tavener is an adult adoptee born in Pusan, South Korea. She has attended three KAAN conferences. Jenn is excited to be a presenter after sharing her experiences as a participant in the past conferences. She currently lives in Pennsylvania with her husband and two children.

Tavener, Michael

Mike comes from a traditional white family and was challenged by some family members about a mixed-race relationship. Over time these challenges were overcome, and a wonderful marriage and two beautiful children followed. Mike also likes to cook and brag about dinner on Facebook.

Teixeira, Lisa Charlie de Morais

Lisa Charlie de Morais Teixeira earned her B.A. (American University of Paris) and her M.A. (University of Washington) in International Affairs with a focus on Korean Stud-

ies. She worked for an Asian American newspaper in Seattle, writing about Asian American issues such as the adoptee community in Washington State. Since 2007, she has been board member of Korean Adoptees of Hawai'i (KAHI), and currently is co-President. In 2008, KAHI hosted more than 100 adult adoptees in Honolulu for a gathering that included seminars on adoption issues and the first-ever adoptee film festival. In 2009, she completed co-writing a book on Northeast Asia, which focused in part on the socio-political history of the Koreans. And in 2010, she spearheaded the recruitment of volunteer docents to lead tours of the exhibit "Still Present Pasts" on the legacies of the Korean War. In conjunction with her mother Karen, she co-directs the research project, Stories of Adult Transnational Adoptees and their American Parents. She also is co-directing a mentorship project for transnational adoptees in Hawaii.

Trevor, Terra

Terra Trevor is an author, essayist and memoirist of Cherokee, Delaware, Seneca and white ancestry, whose work is shaped and infused by her identity as a mixed blood in both white and American Indian societies. With her husband she raised three children who are now adults, two of whom were adopted from Korea. Terra is a contributing author of 10 books including *Children of the Dragonfly: Native American Voices On Child Custody and Education*. Her memoir *Pushing up the Sky*, published by KAAN in 2006, has been widely anthologized.

Verstraete, Sally

Sally is a Korean adoptee who grew up in Grand Rapids, Michigan. She has a BSW from Calvin College and a MSW from Western Michigan University. For the last twelve years, Sally has been an active participant in West Michigan transracial adult adoptee groups, and presented on the topic of relinquishment and adoption to adoptive parents, adoption workers, chaplains, seminarians, and adult adoptees. She is building a coaching and counseling private practice with a focus on adult and young adult adoptees, as well as adoptive parents who are in the pre- and post-placement stages of adoption. She enjoys reading, exercising, journaling, volunteering, photography, and spending time with her family.

Vollmers, Kevin Haebeom

Kevin is the founder of Land of Gazillion Adoptees (LGA). Through LGA, Kevin works closely with adoptees to run a popular multi-media blog. Kevin, along with Adam Rebholz of CQT Media And Publishing, is also a co-editor of the anthology *Parenting As Adoptees*. Additionally, Jared Rehberg and Kevin operate the adoptee-centric film website *Watch Adoptee Films*. In his previous life, Kevin studied communication at Gustavus Adolphus College and the University of Minnesota, worked for Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota (LSS) and Children's Home Society & Family Services (CHSFS), and fundraised for the George Washington University and Second Harvest Heartland.

Weaver, SuLyn

SuLyn is an adult adoptee, adopted from Korea at age 3 with her younger biological sister. She was raised in rural, northern Michigan and moved to West Michigan after graduating from college, where she now resides with her family. SuLyn is a teacher in a large suburban district and is pursuing a counseling degree to work with adoptees. SuLyn is one of the administrators for the Michigan Adoptee Association.

Wilkinson, Sook

Dr. H. Sook Wilkinson, Ph.D. is a renowned clinical psychologist, author, and respected community leader in Michigan. She was appointed by the Governor of Michigan to serve as Chairwoman of the Michigan Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission and the Board of Trustees member of Northern Michigan University in Marquette, MI. Dr. Wilkinson is also a leading expert in the field of international adoption as a clinical psychologist. She has devoted over 30 years of her professional life to help adoptees develop healthy identities and find their voices. She is the author of *"Birth is More Than Once: The Inner World of Adopted Korean Children"* (third printing, 2007) and a lead editor of *"After the Morning Calm: Reflections of Korean Adoptees"* (2002).

Woodwyk, Carissa

Carissa Woodwyk is a writer, speaker, counselor/marriage and family therapist, wife, mom, advocate for the human heart. In each of these roles, she offers her story and voice in ways that invite people to connect with themselves, with

others, with the world around them. She is a co-author of *Before You Were Mine: Discovering Your Adopted Child's Lifestory*. She and her husband have two children and live near Grand Rapids, MI.

Yost, Alyson Thomas

Alyson Yost is 29 years old and was adopted at 4 months of age. She was born in Busan South Korea. She has returned to Korea once to search for her birth family without success. She has been a Registered Nurse for the past 6 years at Penn State Hershey Medical Center. She resides in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania with her 1 year old son and husband.

Zielaskowski, Kate

Kate Zielaskowski was born in South Korea in 1984 and was adopted by two awesome American parents of Polish descent. She grew up in Schenectady, NY, attended the College of Saint Rose as an undergraduate, and received master's degrees in experimental and social psychology from Central Michigan University and Florida State University. She currently resides in Schenectady with her fiancé. This is her second KAAN conference.

Zimmerman, Jill

Jill Zimmerman is an adoptive parent to two children born in Korea, ages 17 and 14. Both children have participated in day camp and overnight SaeJong Camp. Zimmerman has volunteered many years at the day camp and currently serves on the Board of Directors for SaeJong Camp.

★★★★★★★★

Thank You

Many thanks to our speakers for volunteering their time and expertise to the community. We value these voices as part of what makes us strong.

If you are interested in applying to be a speaker at KAAN 2014, see page 22 or visit www.KAANet.org.



Thank You . . .

To all the local team leadership and community supporters (page 10)

To all of this year's speakers and presenters (pages 39-49)

To this year's youth planning team and adoptee mentors (pages 4, 34)

To all of KAAN's volunteer staff and leadership (page 4)

A special thank you

To the Korean consulates in Chicago and New York for their support

We also express deep gratitude to these additional supporting individuals and organizations, businesses, advertisers, exhibitors, and vendors:

108 Media Corp
Airy Hill Farm Bed and Breakfast
Kyung Ae Bae/Ralph Miller
Kerry Bondy
Suzanne d'Aversa
Michael/Maggie Dinneen
CourageInStone.com
John/Karen Fischer
Dillon International, Inc.
Eric/Carolyn Hathaway
Holt Korea
InKAS
Institute for Corean-American Studies
Stephen/Carolyn Kang
Grace Ko
KoreAm Journal
Thomas Merchant

Michigan Blue Lake Production Group
Charles/Noreen Myers
Korean Quarterly
Korean Focus
Korean Tourism Organization
Land of Gazillion Adoptees
Roger Rapoport
Matt/Stacy Schroeder
Morgan Stanley
Sejong Cultural Education, Inc.

. . .for your support!

Current as of 6/30/12. Please excuse any accidental omissions.

Rest up...

... See you @ #KAAN2014!

... Tick Tick Tick ...

KAAN 2014:
The Time is NOW

June 27-29, 2014
Minneapolis, MN

