



History of Exchange

Busan, Republic of Korea
Chicago's Sister City Since 2007

Chairs: Nam Hung Paik and Susan Hollender

2007

May 7

Focus: Signing Agreement

The Official Signing of the Chicago-Busan Sister City Agreement took place at the Chicago Cultural Center on Monday, May 7, 2007. The agreement was signed by The Honorable Richard M. Daley, Mayor of Chicago and The Honorable Hur Nam-sik, Mayor of Busan.

October 10

Focus: Culture

Hyden Yoo, from Akira Men, represented Busan in the World Fashion Chicago runway show, which featured designers with roots in Chicago's 27 Sister Cities.

December 28

Focus: Culture

Busan was represented in ABC-7's week-long "Christmas Around the World" segment. Dduk Gook (rice-cake soup) and mandarin oranges were presented as a Christmas custom Korea.

2008

May

Focus: Education

Korean Language students from Northside College Prep High School visited their counterparts in Busan over spring break.

June 2-6

Focus: Culture

Delmonico Restaurant represented Busan during the Chicago Sister Cities International Festival.

July

Focus: Education

Principals of Chicago's Northside College Prep and Busan's Korea Science Academy sign Sister School Agreement.

October 10

Focus: Culture

Suk Ja and Beth Lambert, Scarlet Designs represented Busan at the World Fashion Chicago runway show.

2009

January 1

Focus: Government

Mayor Daley welcomed Mayor Hur, Nam-Sik to Chicago and they shared ideas about strengthening the Sister Cities relationship between Chicago and Busan. In addition, Mayor Daley appointed new Busan committee chair, Nam Hung Paik.

February 3

Focus: Government

Mayor Richard M. Daley met with The Honorable Dong Guen Seol, Head of the Metropolitan Office of Education in Busan, Korea, at City hall to share ideas about strengthening the educational partnership between Chicago and Busan. In 2007, Chicago Public Schools and the Busan Metropolitan City Office of Education signed a Memorandum of Understanding to develop and implement an educational cooperation and exchange relationship.

April

Focus: Education

Von Steuben Metro Science Center signed a Sister School agreement with Hae Gang High School in Busan.

April 27-28

Focus: Government

The Honorable Bae Young-Kil, Deputy Mayor of Busan, attended the Chicago Global Cities Forum.

May

Focus: Education

Pershing West Middle School signed a Sister School agreement with Busan Naesung Middle School.

September

Focus: Government

Visit of the Honorable Kathleen Stephens, United States Ambassador to the Republic of Korea and the Honorable Han Duk-soo, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to the United States

October 1-4**Focus: Medical**

Dr. Youn Joo from the Pusan National University Hospital participated in the Lynn Sage Breast Cancer Symposium – Sister Cities Medical Initiative.

November 17**Focus: Government**

Visit of Mr. Chung Suk-koo, Deputy Superintendent, Busan Metropolitan City Office of Education.

2010**January 22****Focus: Education**

Teachers from Busan visited Chicago as the second group participating in the 22-week Professional Bridge Development Program of the expanded Visiting Teachers MOU between Chicago and Busan.

January 27-28**Focus: Education**

Dr. Seol, the Busan Mayor of Education, along with a delegation of four, visited Chicago to visit CPS schools and meet with teachers and principals. During this visit, the delegation visited with Sunghwan Son, Consul General of the Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Chicago, Thorp Elementary School, Ogden International High School and Chicago Public Schools officials. They also met with CPS CEO Ron Huberman, Chicago Sister Cities International, assistant principals from Lane Tech and Schurz high schools, and the Mayor's Office.

April 25-27**Focus: Government**

The Honorable Baek, Seong-taek, Ambassador and Vice Mayor for International Affairs, participates in the Richard J. Daley Global Cities Forum.

August 22**Focus: Culture**

The Busan Committee of Chicago Sister Cities International presented Busan Fantasy at Northeastern Illinois University. The Busan Metropolitan Dance Company is Busan, Korea's premiere dance ensemble and has performed throughout Korea and abroad for over 30 years. These performances allowed Chicagoans the opportunity to experience and learn more about the culture, traditions and history of Busan through traditional and contemporary-themed dance by this internationally renowned company.

August 23 to 27**Focus: Culture**

The Busan Metropolitan Dance Company from Busan, Korea opened this year's the 5th Annual Chicago Sister Cities International Festival at Millennium Park with a traditional Korean dance performance. After watching the performance, attendees sampled Korean dishes provided by Bowl Square representing Busan, Korea.

September 21**Focus: Government**

Mayor Richard M. Daley met with Busan Mayor Hur Nam-Sik to discuss business, educational and cultural opportunities between the two cities. This was the first time the Mayor traveled to Korea, and the city of Busan, which became a Chicago Sister City in 2007.

October 18**Focus: Government & Culture**

Eight members of the Administration, Culture and Education Committee of the Busan City Council visited Chicago, and met with various members of the Chicago City Council, including Aldermen Bernard Stone, Margaret Laurino and Daniel Solis. The purpose of the visit was to learn about the Chicago City Council, exchange views with members of the City Council, and broaden and deepen relations between the two cities. This was a good opportunity for the members to discuss various similarities and differences between each respective City Councils.

2011**August 8****Focus: Culture**

Muju Taekwondo, visiting from the Republic of Korea, opened the Sixth Annual Chicago Sister Cities International Festival. The group was accompanied by famed Dr. Sammy Lee, a Korean-American, who became the first U.S. male diver to win back-to-back gold medals at the 1948 London Olympics and the 1952 Helsinki Games. This was the second straight year a visiting group from Korea served as the festival's opening act.

October 14**Focus: Government**

President Lee Myung-bak of the Republic of South Korea made his first visit to Chicago.

2012**May 26****Focus: Sports**

The Busan Committee purchased a block of tickets at US Cellular's right field for a game between the Chicago White Sox and the Cleveland Indians to get a view of Cleveland's right fielder, Shinsoo Choo.

June 2**Focus: Music**

The Busan Committee partnered with the Korean Consulate of Chicago in hosting a performance of the Busan Metropolitan Traditional Music Orchestra at the Claudia Cassidy Theater of the Chicago Cultural Center. In attendance was Busan's Vice Mayor for Political Affairs, Mr. Un-hyeon Baek.

October 4-7**Focus: Medical**

The 14th Annual Lynn Sage Breast Cancer Symposium was a professional educational event highlighting the most recent clinical and scientific advances in breast cancer research. Dr.

Taewoo Kang from Pusan National University Hospital participated and represented Busan in the 2012 symposium.

October 24

Focus: Business

Busan Financial Supervising Service Delegation met with Jim Raussen, Managing Deputy Comptroller at City of Chicago.

2013

August 5-9

Focus: Culture

The 8th Annual Chicago Sister Cities International Festival transformed Daley Plaza into an international village filled with merchants, food, music, and dance from Chicago's 28 Sister Cities. Food vendor Korean Kitchen served traditional and authentic Korean food and performer Chicago Youth Poongmul performed Korean music, both representing the culture and heritage of Busan.

September 9

Focus: Culinary

Chicago food lovers dined on a five-course Korean feast prepared by renowned Chicago husband and wife chef team Beverly Kim and Johnny Clark. Chefs Kim and Clark created the meal in collaboration with Kendall College's Monday Night Dining Series class, providing an educational experience while astounding diners' taste buds. 76 people attended the wine and appetizer reception from 6–7 p.m. followed by the sit-down dinner.

September 26-28

Focus: Medical

The 15th Annual Lynn Sage Breast Cancer Symposium was a professional educational event highlighting the most recent clinical and scientific advances in breast cancer research. Dr. Jeeyeon Lee of Busan National University Hospital participated and represented Busan in the 2013 symposium.

2014

2015

September 12

Focus: Arts & Culture

The Busan Committee sponsored an exhibition and workshop hosted by the Korean Cultural Center of Chicago featuring contemporary art made of traditional Korean handmade paper (hanji). Made from mulberry trees, hanji is smooth, translucent, shiny, permits ventilation, and is extremely durable. An old saying states that "silk can last five hundred years, yet Korean paper can last over a thousand years."

Six award-winning hanji artists travelled from South Korea to Chicago seeking to share information about the use of this traditional paper in art, to exhibit contemporary artworks

made of hanji, and encourage American artists to learn about hanji making and the potential for this material in a variety of artworks. After a lecture on Hanji making, the artists hosted a workshop to demonstrate how to create Hanji paper.

2017

June 7

The 10th Anniversary of Chicago-Busan sister city partnership was celebrated at the Busan Day Celebration at the Millennium Park, Jay Pritzker Pavilion. The program feature Busan attractions, Korean food, trying on Hanbok (traditional Korean costumes) and a hands-on Taekwondo. It also showcased the Korean community in Chicago and its heritage and businesses.

June

Suh Byung-soo, Mayor of Busan, South Korea attended at the 2017 Chicago Forum on Global Cities from June 7-9, 2017. Chicago Sister Cities International was a civic partner of the forum. Hosted annually by the Chicago Council on Global Affairs and the *Financial Times*, the forum raises provocative questions about the influence of global cities and how they can solve pressing global challenges.

August

DJ Virgil 7 was a featured entertainment that represented sister city Busan on August 3 at the CSCI's "*Unifest on the River: One Globe, Many Cultures*".