

APRIL 23, 2016

UTSA EAST ASIA INSTITUTE



SAN ANTONIO'S 4TH ANNUAL KIMCHI FESTIVAL



UTSA East Asia Institute hosted San Antonio's fourth Kimchi Festival on Saturday, April 23th, 2016 with more than 300 people in attendance. This annual festivity was sponsored by Houston Korean Education Center and the Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Houston.

Other contributors to the day's program included the Korean American Association of San Antonio (KAASA), Korean American Cultural Center

(KAASA), Korean American Cultural Center of San Antonio (KACCSA), San Antonio Joong Ang Dance Team, and UTSA's Korean Culture Club.

The festival began at 2:00 p.m. and guests were invited to visit cultural and educational booths through games, art and craft activities, and short presentations. Many were attracted to the craft booths where they made Korean and American flag ornaments and participated in Korean paper folding.



FOOD TASTING



TRADITIONAL CLOTHES



TALK/EPK INFO BOOTH

Other popular attractions included Yut (four-stick game), the trivia game, kimchi demonstration, and informational booth on the Korean language and TaLK (Teach and Learn in Korea)/EPIK (English Program in Korea) programs. Participants were able to try on Korean traditional clothing as well as playing other games such as the chopsticks game, Gong-Ki-no-ri (Korean jacks), and Jegi (Korean hacky sack).

After spending time enjoying the fair, guests were invited to the auditorium. Jenna Scott, the MC, welcomed everyone to the kimchi festival, and briefly introduced the upcoming performances. After that, the much anticipated performances began. Members of the KACCSA Youth Dance Team started with the Janggo drum dance. The youth team dancers were elegantly dressed in traditional Korean clothing and danced energetically with drums.

While the dance team was getting ready for the next performance, Dr. Deukhee Gong, professor of Korean at UTSA and director of the KACCSA came on the stage to give thanks to the East Asia Institute for organizing

this event. Gong also introduced Mimi Yu, associate director of the East Asia Institute who officially welcomed the guests. Yu expressed appreciation to the sponsors and volunteers. Next up was John Kim, president of KAASA who took up the microphone and spoke about history of the Kimichi festival and Korean food preparation for this event.

After the official welcome, the youth dance team resumed their Korean traditional dances. Hat dance, Salmulnori, and 4-drum Nanta were performed. Other traditional dances included the Fan dance, Crown dance, Dance of Angel, and Traditional Sword Dance which were all performed by the SA Joong Ang Dance Group. In addition, UTSA Korean Culture Club members took the stage and performed modern K-pop dances. The Korean martial arts demonstration was performed by the KACCSA's Taekwondo team. The performances were concluded by the 2016 Korean Speech contest winners Mei Li and Eunice Gurung who recited their speeches. The audience was listening in awe. All performers received a big round of applause on each of their performances. After the performance program concluded, audience members



EVENT ORGANIZERS



K-POP DANCE



TAEKWONDO



PAPER HANBOK MAKING



YUT (FOUR STICK GAME)



JANGGO DRUM DANCE



CHOPSTICK CASE MAKING



DDAKJI PAPER PLAY



SPEECH CONTEST WINNERS
EUNICE GURUNG MEI LI



CROWN DANCE



SAMULNORI



HAT DANCE

After the performance program concluded, audience members were invited to homemade Korean food tasting with assortment of dishes waiting for them outside of the auditorium. All dishes were graciously prepared by the wife of the KAASA President John Kim. They were Kimchi (pickled cabbage), Oi Kimchi (pickled cucumber), Jap-cha (stir fried noodles), Kong Na-mul Mu-chim (bean sprout side dish), and Muk Mu-chim (Seasoned Acorn Jelly). Some of the participants enjoyed the dishes so much that they wanted to learn how to make them.

As the event grew to a close, all of the guest seemed very pleased with their experiences. "All the information booths were very educational and I learned a lot about Korean culture," said an audience member. "I didn't know the Korean cultural event is available in San Antonio," Another young participant exclaimed, "I liked the festival! I hope next year will be bigger!" The East Asia Institute is looking forward to hosting the 5th annual Kimchi festival next year to promote Korean language and culture in the San Antonio community.

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The UTSA East Asia Institute's mission is to promote appreciation and understanding of East Asian societies and cultures both on campus and in the community through research, outreach, networking, education, student/faculty exchange, and business development and cooperation.

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