

# 2024 JANUARY-APRIL EVENTS CALENDAR



THE  
KOREA  
SOCIETY





# JANUARY



Thursday, January 4, 2024 | 6:00 PM

**In-Person & Online**

***Beyond Utopia: Screening and Q&A with Sue Mi Terry and Seohyun Lee***

Join us for a screening of the documentary film BEYOND UTOPIA, winner of the Audience Award for US Documentary Features at the 2023 Sundance Film Festival. BEYOND UTOPIA is a suspenseful look at the lengths people will go to gain freedom. It follows various individuals as they attempt to flee North Korea, one of the most oppressive places on earth.

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Jan 8 - March 18, 2024

**In-Person & Online**

***Korean Language Program: Winter Session***

Whether you are new to Korean language study or an advanced speaker, The Korea Society has a class for you! We currently offer nine-levels of study ranging from Beginning Korean I to Advanced Reading and Discussion. And we offer conversation courses at all levels that provide greater speaking practice.

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Tuesday, January 9, 2024 | 6:00 PM

**Hybrid Program**

***The U.S.-South Korea Alliance: Why It May Fail and Why It Must Not***

Join us for a book talk with the Council on Foreign Relations Senior Fellow for Korea Studies and Director of the Program on U.S.-Korea Policy **Scott Snyder**. This new work provides an authoritative overview of the internal and external pressures on the U.S.–South Korea alliance and explores its future prospects. He argues that exclusive-nationalist leaders' accession to power and domestic political polarization in the United States and South Korea could put past successes at risk and endanger the national security objectives of both countries.

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**Wednesday, January 10, 2024 | 6:00 PM**

**Hybrid Program**

***Y. T. Hwang Family Foundation Series on Ethics & Common Values Inaugural Lecture by Dr. Jim Yong Kim***

With the ever-growing need to understand ourselves and humanity as a whole, it is necessary to examine the concepts of morality, ethics and universal values as guiding principles of the human condition. With generous support from Y.T. Hwang Family Foundation, The Korea Society is launching a new lecture and conversation series titled Series on Ethics and Common Values.

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**Thursday, January 18, 2024 | 6:00 PM**

**Video Release**

***Interview with Governor of Gyeonggi Province Dong Yeon Kim***

Join us for the “Local Leadership in a Global Context” series with Governor of Gyeonggi Province **Dong Yeon Kim**, moderated by Ambassador **Kathleen Stephens**, Korea Society Board Chair. Governor Kim and Ambassador Stephens discuss the transformation of Gyeonggi Province into a “center of opportunity,” highlighting its growing global reach through international cooperation, including with U.S. businesses and institutions.

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**Monday, January 22, 2024 | 5:00 PM**

**Grant Application Deadline**

***Undergraduate Korea Study Abroad Travel Grant***

Given the Society’s commitment to promoting a greater awareness, understanding and cooperation between the people of the U.S. and Korea, this travel grant, initiated in fall 2023, has been created to ensure a wide-range of undergraduate students have the opportunity to study and live in Korea.

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# JANUARY



**Tuesday, January 23, 2024 | 6:30 PM**

**Hybrid Program**

## ***An Evening of Korean Traditional Dance***

Join us for an enchanted evening of Korean traditional dance performances. Kim Myoseon, Master Instructor of Seungmu (monk's dance), the 27th Important Intangible Cultural Property of the Republic of Korea, and her company present a series of dance performances and provide a fascinating account behind the formation and evolution of Korean dance.

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**Wednesday, January 24, 2024 | 6:00 PM**

**Hybrid Program**

## ***Startup Scene: Entrepreneurs of Tomorrow - Saeju Jeong: An Unwavering Visionary Behind Noom***

Join us for our inaugural program of Startup Scene: Entrepreneur of Tomorrow, featuring **Saeju Jeong**, the Co-Founder and former CEO, and now serving as Executive Chair of Noom. Noom, established in 2008 with Saeju's friend, Artem Pekatov, introduced a pioneering weight loss app in 2017, integrating behavioral psychology with an empathetic human approach. Since then, Noom has disrupted the weight loss industry, achieving a valuation of \$3.7 billion, and benefited over 50 million people with their health and diet.

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**Jan 25 - April 18, 2024**

**Exhibition**

## ***Jian Yoo | Iridescent Hue***

Working in the precise and fine medium of mother of pearl - "jagae" in Korean - **Jian Yoo's** iridescent art bridges historical and contemporary, nature and artificial, arts and crafts. Made of thousands of mother-of-pearl pieces layered in intricate patterns, Yoo's art respectfully acknowledges the long tradition of master craft workers while reinventing the genre with distinctively modern sensibilities.

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# JANUARY-FEBRUARY

**Tuesday, January 30, 2024**

**Video Release**

**Author Talks: Bora Chung & Anton Hur**

A rising star of Korean literature, **Bora Chung** burst onto the American literary scene last year with the publication of her astounding debut, *Cursed Bunny: Stories*, translated by **Anton Hur**. Met with universal praise, these surreal, chilling fables that take on patriarchy, capitalism, and the reign of big tech were a National Book Award Finalist for Translated Literature and shortlisted for the International Booker Prize. Chung and Hur returns with her striking sophomore collection, *Your Utopia: Stories*.

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**Wednesday, January 31, 2024 | 12:00 PM**

**Hybrid Program**

***Rumbles of Thunder and Endangered Peace on the Korean Peninsula***

Recent events have heightened military tensions on the Korean Peninsula—North Korea’s successful launch of a military satellite resulting in Seoul’s decision to partially suspend the inter-Korean Comprehensive Military Agreement (CMA), and followed by Pyongyang’s deployment of additional forces near its border with South Korea—increasing the chances of conflict on the Korean Peninsula

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**Tuesday, February 6, 2024 | 6:00 PM**

**Video Release**

**Concrete Utopia: A Director’s Talk**

The story begins in the immediate aftermath of a catastrophic disaster. What if our apartment complex is the only building left standing after a devastating earthquake? Produced by Climax Studio, the production house known for their creative storytelling and exceptional directing in Netflix’s *Hellbound* and *D.P.*, *Concrete Utopia* is “a dystopian disaster movie with a difference” that makes you think, “if I were in this movie, what would I do?” – *Variety*

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# FEBRUARY



**Wednesday, February 7, 2024 | 6:30 PM**

## ***Annual Membership Party***

Welcome the Year of the Dragon!

We are delighted to invite you to our members-only Annual Membership Party on Wednesday, February 7th at 6:30 PM (EST). Join us in honoring The Korea Society's valued members with the start of the 2024 Lunar New Year!

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**Tuesday, February 20, 2024 | 5:00 PM**

## **Video Release**

### ***Author Talks: Hwang Bo-reum***

The charming slice-of-life novel *Welcome to the Hyunam-Dong Bookshop* by debut novelist **Hwang Bo-reum** became an instant smash hit with Korean readers. Now, the irresistible bestseller is available to English readers for the first time with an effervescent translation by Singaporean translator **Shanna Tan**.

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**Thursday, February 22, 2024 | 6:00 PM**

## **Hybrid Program**

### ***Detering North Korea: A Conversation with Ambassador Bonnie Jenkins***

Join us for a discussion on deterrence and North Korea with Ambassador **Bonnie Jenkins**, United States Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security. Together in conversation with US Air Force Major **Jessica Taylor** and Korea Society Policy Director **Jonathan Corrado**, Ambassador Jenkins will discuss the US-ROK Alliance and the growing threats posed by Pyongyang's evolving nuclear, missile, and space capabilities as well as its proliferation and procurement activities, including its growing ties and trade with Russia.

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# FEBRUARY- MARCH

**Tuesday, February 27, 2024 | 6:30 PM**

**In Person & Recorded**

***Snowglobe with Soyoung Park and Jungmin Lee Comfort***

*Snowglobe* by **Soyoung Park**, the first book in a powerful young adult dystopian duology, is a groundbreaking exploration of personal identity, and the future of the world as we know it. The winner of the Changbi X Kakaopage Young Adult Novel Award, the novel has been translated into English by **Jungmin Lee Comfort**, introducing a new readership to this cutting-edge commentary on climate change, socioeconomic inequality, and personal identity.

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**Wednesday, February 28, 2024 | 6:00 PM**

**Hybrid Program**

***Charting Entrepreneurial Paths: Curtis Lee, From Luxe to Pinwheel and Beyond***

Navigating the uncertainties of quitting an established career to venture into entrepreneurship is a common challenge for many aspiring startup founders. The question of when to take that leap adds another layer of complexity to the journey. To shed light on these dilemmas, we invite you to join our conversation with **Curtis Lee**, a seasoned startup founder, currently serving as the VP of Global Payments and Cash at Microsoft.

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**Wednesday, March 6, 2024 | 8:00 AM**

**Live Webcast**

***Korean Unification: A Fading Prospect?***

Join us for this conversation about prospects for Korean Unification with **Jeongmin Kim**, Lead Correspondent at NK News / Editorial Director at Korea Pro, **Dr. Lee Sang-shin**, director of the Center for the Study of Liberal Democracy at Korea Institute of National Unification (KINU), and **Dr. Nicholas Eberstadt**, the Henry Wendt Chair in Political Economy at the American Enterprise Institute (AEI), in conversation with Korea Society policy director **Jonathan Corrado**.

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# MARCH - APRIL



**Wednesday, March 27, 2024 | 6:30 PM**

**Hybrid Program**

***Starry Field* with Margaret Juhae Lee and Grace M. Cho**

In her intimate and touching debut, *Starry Field: A Memoir of Lost History*, journalist **Margaret Juhae Lee** uncovers her family's lost history that had been buried in the darkness of Korea's colonial decades.

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**Thursday, April 11, 2024 | 6:00 PM**

**Live Webcast**

***Rapid Reaction: Unpacking the Korean Election***

Join us for a rapid reaction analysis of the Republic of Korea's high stakes 2024 legislative election, held in South Korea one day prior on April 10. This election could shift the control of power in the National Assembly, resulting in an emboldened electoral mandate for President Yoon Suk Yeol, or else creating a new challenge for his administration's agenda.

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**Thursday, April 18, 2024 | 6:00 PM**

**Hybrid Program**

***Korea: A New History of South and North* with Victor Cha and Ramon Pacheco Pardo**

Join us for a book talk with authors Professor **Victor Cha** and Professor **Ramon Pacheco Pardo**, who discuss their new book, *Korea: A New History of South and North* with policy director **Jonathan Corrado**. The Korea Society is proud to be a stop on the famous pink book tour! This important new work of history draws on "decades of research to explore the history of modern Korea, from the late nineteenth century, Japanese occupation, and Cold War division to the present day.

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# SUPPORT THE KOREA SOCIETY!

Support the United States' premier independent non-profit organization educating Americans on Korea. Enrich your knowledge of policy, business, language, arts and culture. The Korea Society offers public programs, private roundtables, language study, educational exchange, and robust performing and visual arts in its stunning gallery. Join at an enhanced giving level and enjoy all programs included. Membership, live webcasts and more at **[koreasociety.org](http://koreasociety.org)**

Pre-registration is now required for all Korea Society events and an ID is required for security.



The Korea Society  
350 Madison Ave., 24th Floor  
New York, NY 10017  
Tel: (212) 759-7525  
Fax: (212) 759-7530  
[www.koreasociety.org](http://www.koreasociety.org)

