

Fall 2025

ISSUE 01

KCS Korean Art

COMPETITION GALLERY

OVER
60+
ENTRIES!

Theme: The Faces of My
Community

Take a look at what
our Korean youth
have created!



KCS Korean Art Competition

Gallery Booklet

Fall 2025 | Issue. 01

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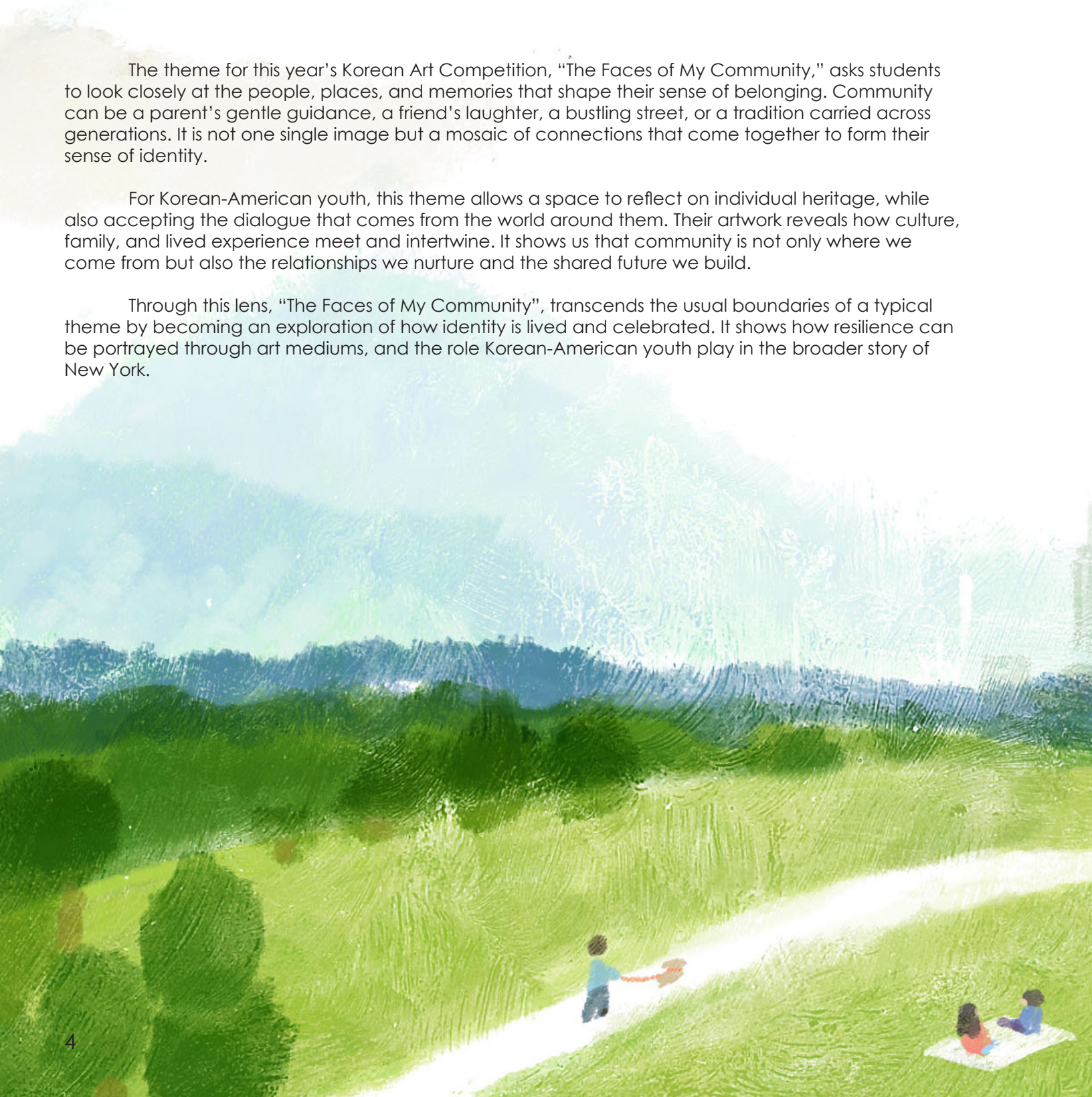
Made possible through the generous support from the Asian
American Federation (AAF).

About: The Faces of My Community

The theme for this year's Korean Art Competition, "The Faces of My Community," asks students to look closely at the people, places, and memories that shape their sense of belonging. Community can be a parent's gentle guidance, a friend's laughter, a bustling street, or a tradition carried across generations. It is not one single image but a mosaic of connections that come together to form their sense of identity.

For Korean-American youth, this theme allows a space to reflect on individual heritage, while also accepting the dialogue that comes from the world around them. Their artwork reveals how culture, family, and lived experience meet and intertwine. It shows us that community is not only where we come from but also the relationships we nurture and the shared future we build.

Through this lens, "The Faces of My Community", transcends the usual boundaries of a typical theme by becoming an exploration of how identity is lived and celebrated. It shows how resilience can be portrayed through art mediums, and the role Korean-American youth play in the broader story of New York.







Korean Community Services of Metropolitan New York (KCS)

A Message of Congratulations from Our President & CEO

Dear Artists, Families, and Friends,

This year's theme, "The Faces of My Community," speaks to the heart of what we celebrate today. Community is shaped by family and friendship, by traditions carried forward, and by the places we call home. In asking our students to reflect on these connections, we invite them to share how identity and belonging take form in their lives.

Through this competition, we are reminded that art is more than images on a page. It is a language that speaks across generations, preserves memory, and brings community to life. Each student's work reveals the resilience, pride, and imagination that define our shared Korean heritage while also embracing the diverse experiences of growing up in New York today.

At Korean Community Services, we are proud to provide a space where these young voices can be seen, heard, and celebrated. I extend my deepest gratitude to the students for their creativity, to the families and educators who nurture them, and to our partners and supporters who make this event possible.

As we look ahead, may this competition become not only a showcase of talent but also a lasting tradition that inspires pride in our culture and confidence in the next generation.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Myoungmi Kim', with a stylized, flowing script.

Myoungmi Kim

Competition Overview:

Meet the Judges



Bonam Kim
Professional Artist

Bonam Kim is a sculptor based in Brooklyn, NY. She received her BFA and MFA from Hongik University in Seoul, South Korea, and a second MFA in Sculpture from Pratt Institute in Brooklyn. Her practice translates personal experiences into intimate-scale narratives through architectural models, miniatures, and analog games that invite viewers into her psychological landscapes.

As an immigrant artist from Korea, she was honored to serve as a judge and contribute her perspective to the Korean American community. Witnessing the imagination and technical skills of young participants was profoundly inspiring. This year's theme, *The Faces of My Community*, felt especially meaningful, and she extends her congratulations to all students for their creativity and vision.



Katie Bellomo
Gallery Director at The Art Guild

Katie Bellomo is the Gallery Director at The Art Guild, where she oversees ten exhibitions each year, both in-house and off-site. Her creative journey began in fashion design with Perry Ellis and Joseph Abboud, before moving into PR and advertising with *Talk* and *Esquire* magazines. Even while working in media, her love for textiles and design never faded, eventually guiding her back to the arts.

Today, Katie is passionate about sparking creativity in young artists and believes in the power of visual storytelling. Serving as a judge for this year's exhibit is a true honor and she is excited to support the next generation of talent.



Geena Lee
Art Educator/Graphic Designer

Geena Lee is an artist, designer, and educator who has guided learners of all ages through creative exploration and studio practice. She teaches at RMNT Korean School and leads art classes for children, teens, and adults, drawing inspiration from modern and contemporary movements. Her earlier teaching experience at PS 11 and PS 347 shaped her belief in building artistic confidence from a young age.

Beyond teaching, Geena brings more than twenty years of design experience. Her portfolio includes the LG Art Center identity work and the Penn Station signage system created in collaboration with Lance Wyman. She has held design director roles at Sykel and KP Architects, with clients such as Adidas, Tournéau, and Coach. She is proud to support this year's Korean Art Competition.



Sangheon Kim
Professional Artist/Art Educator

S.H. Kim is a painter and art educator based in New York City. His work explores human emotion, memory, and visual energy through bold color and expressive mark-making. With experience teaching and exhibiting internationally, he believes art is a language that connects people beyond culture and age.

Participating as a judge in the Korean Art Competition has been a meaningful experience to witness young artists' creativity and dedication. Seeing how each student translated their personal stories into visual form reminded him of the universal power of art to question, to express, and to inspire.



Winners List

Grand Prize

Ainsley Pang
Grade 1

Category Winners

Elementary School

Bennett Chawla
Grade 2

Middle School

Yoonju Sheen
Grade 8

High School

Ara Ko
Grade 9

Honorable Mentions

Siena Cheung
Grade 6

Kaitlyn Chun
Grade 11

Kaylin Roman
Grade 11

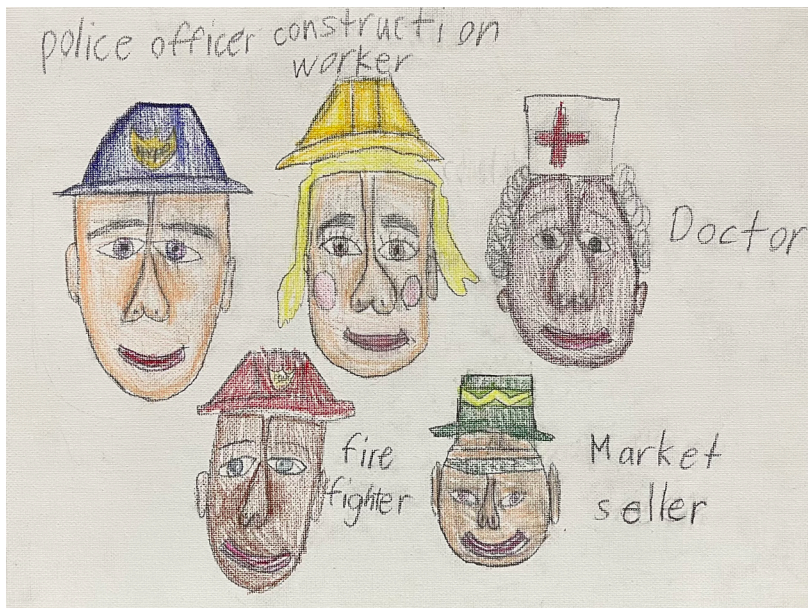


A young girl with dark hair styled in two pigtails with yellow hair ties. She is wearing a dark blue cardigan over a white-collared shirt with a small brooch. She is smiling and standing in front of a light-colored stone wall.



Using collage from New York public transportation maps, I created a self-portrait of myself in front of the view from my window.

Category Winners



Faces of the
Helpers of My
Community
*Color pencils and
pencil*

Bennett Chawla
Grade 2

It showcases important people who help our community. Highlighting people like the NYPD and how they support our neighborhoods.



Friendly Faces in
My Community
Acrylic paint

Yoonju Sheen
Grade 8

My painting is about the many different people I see in my daily life. I wanted to show the diversity and kindness in my community.

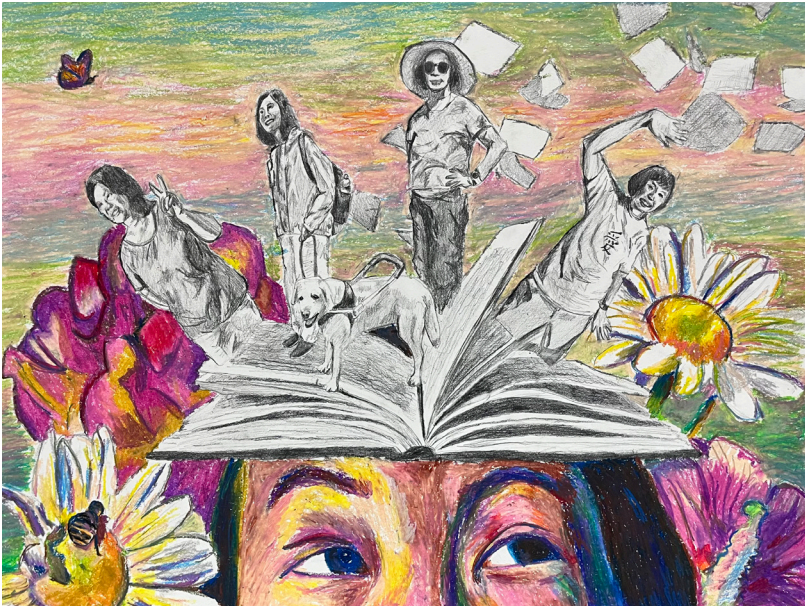


community
Water colors

Ara Ko
Grade 9

My project represents the theme by showing people doing community service. Doing something simple as an everyday task makes a difference in the community.

Honorable Mentions



Sharing the
Wisdom of Time
*Graphite and oil
pastels*

Siena Cheung
Grade 6

My artwork is about the women who have been supportive of me. They share stories of wisdom based on life experiences. From the left, there's Auntie Ruby, Auntie Elaine, my grandmother, and Auntie Lois who all taught me that life is a fun journey and I am just getting started!

Threads of
Tradition
*Water color and
gouache*

Kaitlyn Chun
Grade 11



My artwork shows my family standing before Gyeongbokgung Palace in Korea. This artwork relates to the theme as it shows the connection between my heritage and everyday life. Through my artwork, I aim to show how my tradition continues to shape the faces of my community.





Our Mugunghwa Spirit
*Acrylic paint and marker
on canvas*

Kaylin Roman
Grade 11

This painting is a picture of me when I turned 1 year old, wearing a traditional Korean hanbok. I painted a picture of the official Korean flower over my face because no matter what our individual faces look like, we all carry the same Korean spirit.



Participants



Faces of My Family

Julie Park
Grade 1



Feeling Friends

Celina Lee
Grade 1



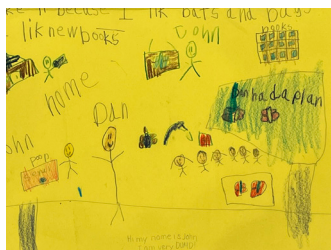
Even Though I'm Sick, I Have Warm Neighbors Around Me.

Benjamin Kim
Grade 1



NYC on Wheels

Logan Schneider
Grade 1



My Library

John Seo
Grade 1



Many Different Faces

Taeyang Oh
Grade 1



My Favorite Places in My Community

Julia Yang
Grade 1



My Family, My Community

Adelyn Yang
Grade 1



Neighbor

Jinny An
Grade 1



I Love My Friends and People

Gordon Jeong
Grade 2



The Faces of My Community

Arlo Ryu Zhao
Grade 2



Faces of My Community

Joan Hicks
Grade 2



Sweet Pumpkins

Abraham Kim
Grade 2



Murray Hill Hose Co.

Logan Choe
Grade 2



Love of the United States

Sophie Gim
Grade 2



Naturous

Claire Lee
Grade 3



All of Me, All My Communities

Lennon Schneider
Grade 3



We Can Be Safe in Our Community

Keristin Joseph
Grade 3



My Sunshine Neighborhood

Ian Lim
Grade 3



Great, Awesome Queens

JaeHyung Lee
Grade 3



My Community

Paul Jr. Kim
Grade 3



Help Others in Need

Ellia Lee
Grade 3



What's in Flushing?

Iona Bae
Grade 3



Our City Has So Many Colors

Landon Chung
Grade 3



We Live Together

Olivia Lee
Grade 3



Amazing Things Happen
If You Smile

Christopher Dean
Grade 3



Welcome to Our
Community

Kwangsup Chwe
Grade 3



Community Drawing

Louis Ru
Grade 3



Faces of My Community

Yunna Cho
Grade 3



My Family and Korean
Favorites

Jude Han
Grade 3



Good Morning

Riley Kim
Grade 3



People Who Make the
Community Alive

Theodore Yang
Grade 3



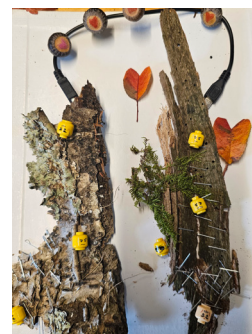
My One World Puzzle

Moon Kim
Grade 3



Important People
Around Me

Eden Jeong
Grade 4



Let's Love More in Our
Hearts

Joseph Kim
Grade 4



The Various Faces in the
Window

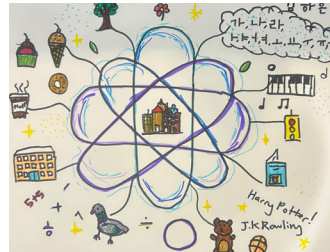
Sarang Oh
Grade 4



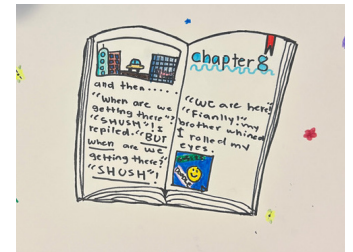
Sunset Park
Grace Seo
Grade 4



Community of New York
Aliya Gim
Grade 4



My Busy Blooming
Neighborhood
Isabelle Kim
Grade 4



The Chapters of My
Community
Amelia Jung
Grade 4



The Circle of Happiness
Lael Lee
Grade 4



My Peaceful
Neighborhood
Yunseo Nam
Grade 4



Community Puzzle
Eun Ji Kim
Grade 5



Emma's Joy
Emma Samuel
Grade 5



My Imaginary
Koreatown
Grant Han
Grade 5



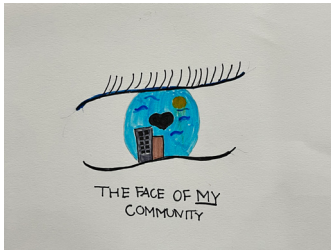
My Community Flower
Ferris Wheel
Olivia Kwon
Grade 5



My Favorite Memories of
My Community
Emma Benayoun
Grade 5



My Body as Community
Avery Suh
Grade 5



The Community in My Eyes
Carolina Rhee
Grade 5



The Walk Through the Park With My Family
Ethan Kang
Grade 5



The Faces of My Long Island
Lena Ryu Zhao
Grade 6



Portraits
Lila Yu
Grade 6



My World
Eliana Uy
Grade 6



Power of Friendship
Victor Kang
Grade 6



Working Differences, Can Make a Community Better
Ine Ko
Grade 7



The Creativity of My Community
Eunice Kim
Grade 7



What I Love About My Community
Mila Benayoun
Grade 7



The Community That's Around Me
Clare Kim
Grade 8



Korean Culture Festival
Olivia Lee
Grade 8



"Hello, good neighbors!"
Noori Na
Grade 9

Acknowledgements

KCS Education Department (NY)

Teresa Baik
Director

Seungmin (Kathy) Kim-Cho
Senior Program Manager

Alicia Chum
Senior Program Coordinator

Sophia Shi
Program Coordinator/Designer

Jieun Baek
Program Coordinator

Sue Mak
Program Coordinator

Flora Ho
Program Coordinator

Geumsuk Yun
Program Assistant





Supporting Our Community Since 1973

KCS envisions a world where immigrant communities remain grounded in their heritage and work together with the broader community to build a better society at large.



Education



Aging



Mental Health Clinic



Public Health & Research
Center



Workforce Development



718-939-6137

www.kcsny.org

203-05 32nd Ave. Bayside, NY 11361





YOUNG ADULT SERVICE PROGRAM

YASP connects Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) high school and college students with internships at various community organizations and the offices of local elected officials throughout NYC.

Students must currently be enrolled in a NYC high school or college and/or live within NYC (five boroughs).

The host sites include the offices of elected officials at the city and state levels, Queens Botanical Garden, Fifth Avenue Committee, and the MinKwon Center for Community Action.

Learn More



Dr. Lee Hoon Scholarship

For High School Seniors of Korean Descent

Dr. Lee Hoon was a dentist from San Francisco, California, whose own education was only possible because of the support of various scholarship programs.

Each year, scholarships will be awarded to students of Korean descent entering four-year colleges or universities in the fall to assist with tuition payments during their first year of higher education.

Learn More



KCS Kids Program & Creative Studio

Open to 1st to 8th Grade

Open to AAPI students residing in NYC, the Kids Program and Creative Studio program is a 12week K-pop and arts and crafts class that takes place every Saturday.

Students get to complete multiple art projects and learn choreography from popular K-pop songs. Parents have the opportunity to see what their children have learned and created during the Canvas & K-pop Showcase at the end of the program.

Learn More



KCS Education Department Programs



ESOL Classes

Free adult literacy English classes
무료 성인 ESOL 프로그램



Citizenship Classes

Free citizenship classes
무료 시민권 인터뷰 준비 프로그램



YASP (Young Adult Service Program)

Summer internship opportunities for
high school & college students
여름 방학 고등학생과 대학생 인턴십 프
로그램



Scholarship Program

For graduating high school seniors of
Korean heritage, supported by Dr. Lee Hoon
이훈 박사 후원의 한국계 12학년 고등학생을 위한
장학 프로그램



Korean Language Classes

Adult Korean classes over a 10 week
period
무료 성인 한국어 프로그램



Cultural Programs

AAPI cultural programs & education
AAPI 문화 프로그램과 문화 교육 프로그램



education@kcsny.org



718-939-6137