

2025

# AHL FOUNDATION ANNUAL BENEFIT GALA AND AWARDS CEREMONY

Church of the Holy Apostles  
296 9th AV  
New York. NY 10001

Saturday. 11. 1, 2025  
5-8 PM



2605 Frederick Douglass Blvd.,#C1, New York, NY 10030

2025



# Evening Host



## MC | Yelin Jo

Danielle Yelin Jo is a seasoned UX researcher, blending creativity and technical expertise. She holds a bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education from Ewha Womans University (2014) and a master's in Human-Centered Design and Engineering from the University of Washington (2021). Danielle's global experiences span Korea, Malaysia, Germany, Singapore, and the U.S. Alongside her professional career, she has showcased her versatile talents as a reporter for the JTBC TV show Talkpawon2si, an English-Korean translator for the G20 Seoul Summit, and as a host for prestigious events like the Seoul International Family Film Festival and the World Writer's Festival.



## K-Comedy Night Performers

**MJ, Standup Korean** (stage name of artist Mina Cheon), has performed spots at various comedy clubs in New York, including The Stand, Eastville, Broadway Comedy Club, Grisly Pear Midtown, and Stand Up NY. She curated and hosted "Echo Mic" at Westside Comedy Club, a curated open mic show. She has performed at the Succulent Comedy Show, Starr Struck Comedy and Combat Zone 360, and regularly for Laugh Pack Productions at the Whiskey Cellar NYC. She is the host of "BOOM MIC," at Dacia Gallery, which is a part of Friday Night Mics LES produced by Laugh Pack, and has been a host for "Let's Go Mental" mic at Edison Hotel in Times Square, co-sponsored by GuberJokes.com and Stand Up NY. Originating from the contemporary art world, known for her global peace projects as Mina Cheon, MJ bridges art and comedy, "peace-building" with laughter. When she was a professor, she always wanted to make her students laugh and began her classes by telling jokes. She is the producer, curator, and host of K-Comedy Night.



**Peter S. Kim** is a writer, comedian, and actor who has been lauded for his role as Paul in the critically acclaimed comedy "A Nice Indian Boy." Named JFL's New Face of Comedy, Peter is also a series regular on the satirical animated comedy "Fairfax" (Amazon) and can be seen on "Shrinking" (Apple TV+), "Frasier" (Paramount+), "Curb Your Enthusiasm" (HBO), "Yes Day" (Netflix) and "Spies in Disguise" (Disney+). As a screenwriter, he staffed on the latest two seasons of "HouseBroken" (FOX) and has pitched and developed his original comedy pilots with ABC, FOX, NBC, Comedy Central, CBS Studios, and Disney Channel. His set includes an unapologetic portrayal of the Korean American experience, and he runs a two queer Korean comedians' "2 Kims 1 Pod" Ajumma show with fellow comedian Eunji Kim. Peter's special appearance at K-Comedy Night is made possible as he is in NY for his hour, headlining at The Brooklyn Comedy Collective with "A Flushing Queen," November 4.



**Alex Kim** is a New York based comedian. He produces "Boba Gays" comedy, an all queer and Asian comedy variety show. He has performed at the Lincoln Center in 2023 and 2025. A nerd at heart, Alex has performed for large audiences at conventions such as "NY Comic Con," "AnimeNYC" and "Anime Expo." He can be seen regularly doing comedy at New York Comedy Club, Stand Up NY, QED, and Broadway Comedy Club. His comedy stems from his story as a Korean-American who is still in the closet to his parents. One day if he gets on the Tonight Show, maybe they will accept him. Alex is the headliner of K-Comedy Night.

# Program

## Program Schedule

**5:00 – 5:40 PM**

**Reception and Benefit Art Sale**

**5:40 – 5:50 PM**

**Welcome Remarks**

Sook Nyu Lee Kim  
President & Founder of AHL Foundation

**5:50 – 6:00 PM**

**Toast Ceremony**

by Wonsook Kim, Artist and T&W Foundation Founder

**5:55 – 6:00 PM**

**Plaque of Appreciation Ceremony**

Recipient: Cristal Kim  
Presenter: Sook Nyu Lee Kim, President & Founder of  
AHL Foundation

**6:00 – 6:45 PM**

**Dinner & ART AND LAUGHTER: K-COMEDY NIGHT**

Produced, Curated, Hosted by MJ Standup Korean  
Feature: Peter S. Kim  
Headliner: Alex Kim

**6:50 – 7:30 PM**

**Awards Ceremony**

**AHL-T&W Foundation Contemporary Visual Art  
Awards**

Presenter: Wonsook Kim, T&W Foundation Founder  
Recipients: Jewan Goo, Heejo Kim, Hyunjin Park

**AHL-Andrew & Barbara Choi Family Foundation  
Project Grant**

Presenter: Andrew Choi, Andrew & Barbara Choi Family  
Foundation President  
Recipients: Junho Peter Yoon, Tamara Khasanova

**AHL-Chun Family Foundation Curatorial Fellowship**

Presenter: Myung-guk Chun, Chun Family Scholarship  
Foundation President  
Recipient: Jungmin Cho

**AHL-Grace Charity Foundation Research Fellowship**

Presenters: Jinsoo & Eunsil Kim, Grace Charity  
Foundation Presidents  
Recipient: Sooa Lim

**AHL-Kim Family Fund Research Fellowship**

Presenter: Myong Hi Kim, Kim Family Fund  
Founder  
Recipient: Sam Blumenfeld

**AHL-AKAA Ran Hwang Fund**

Presenter: Ran Hwang, Artist and Winner of AHL  
Foundation's 1st Competition in 2004  
Recipient: Mina Cheon

**AHL - Founder Sook Nyu Lee Kim AHLumni  
Collective Grant**

Presenter: Sook Nyu Lee Kim, AHL Foundation President  
and Founder  
Recipient: Sung Ho Choi, President of AHLumni  
Collective

**7:30 – 7:50 PM**

**Announcement: Art Work Sale & Raffle**

**7:50 – 8:00 PM**

**Closing Remarks**

Yongsook Park, AHL Foundation Chairperson of the  
Board

**8:00 PM**

**Photoshoot Session**

(A) All Attendees  
(B) Presenters, Recipients, and Board Members



# History

# Mission

AHL Foundation, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit arts organization established in 2003 by Sook Nyu Lee Kim to support artists of Korean heritage working in the United States and promote exposure of their work in today's highly competitive contemporary art world.

Our mission is threefold: 1) to seek, identify and promote talented Korean and Korean-American artists active in the United States; 2) to provide the artists with a platform and resources to further develop their talents; and 3) to host educational, cultural, and artistic events with the goal of building wider public awareness of contemporary artists of Korean heritage. AHL Foundation seeks to accomplish its mission by promoting the work of emerging artists of Korean descent active in the United States through exhibitions, informing and educating artists on the business side of the art practice, and building a community of supporters and art enthusiasts. Our efforts focus on fostering an awareness of the artists and their work through hosting exhibitions, public art showings, artist studio visits, lectures, workshops, museum tours and art history courses. All of AHL's programs are open to the public.

**2002**

Registered in New York State with an office in Northport, Long Island.

**2004**

First Annual Competition Award Ceremony and Benefit Gala held.

**2008**

Launched Public Lecture Series, Art History Class, and Museum and Gallery Tour programs.

Received 501(c)3 Tax Exemption Status; Founding members were Sook Nyu Lee Kim, Sung Mo Jung, Hyun Sun Kim, Eun Ja Kim, Thomas Yun, Mee Sang Jang, and Wolhee Choe.

**2003**

First Exhibition for Competition Winners held.

**2005**

Launched Studio Visit program.

**2007**

Moved office to Chelsea, New York.

**2009**

**2018**

AHL Foundation Artist Fellowship (by Dow Kim Family Foundation) established.

**2020**

Held first ever virtual exhibitions and programs in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. AKAA Senior Research Fellowship established.

**2022**

Launched Space Uptown exhibition project. Chun Family Foundation's Curatorial Open Call (Senior Fellowship) established. Ran Hwang - AKAA General Operating Fund established.

Launched Online Mentoring Workshop Program. AKAA Kim Family Fund Research Fellowship established.

**2021**

## Board of Directors

Sook Nyu Lee Kim (Founder & President)  
 Young Sook Park Chong (Chairperson of the Board)  
 Eunsil Seong Kim (Treasurer)  
 Suzy Taekyung Kim (Secretary)  
 Eun Ju Jo  
 Eunsil Cha  
 Henry K Jung  
 Mi Song Park  
 Ock Hwa Sung  
 Soo Mi Jung  
 Seongmin Austin Jang  
 Yeonchan Lee  
 Soon Jean Lee

## Board of Directors (Honorary)

Hyongnam Ahn  
 Jung Hyang Kim  
 Yeong Gill Kim

## Advisors

Eleanor Heartney, Art Critic  
 Wonsook Kim, Artist  
 John Pai, Artist

## Education

Jinyoung Koh, Ph.D., Lecturer (Art History Class)

## External Relations

Jiwon (Jane) Kim, Director

## Staff

Jiyoung Lee (Director of Programs)  
 Jieun Cheon (Communication Intern)

## Senior Resercher

Soojung Hyun, Ph.D.

## Fellow

Sam Blumenfeld, Research Fellow (AKAA)  
 Sooa Lim, Research Fellow (AKAA)

### 2010

Silent Auction held to raise funds for a Korean Contemporary Art Museum in New York.

### 2016

Launched AHL Forum.

Launched Art in the Workplace program.  
 International Artist Exchange Program and MFA Scholarship established.  
 Archive of Korean Artists in America (AKAA) Project established.  
 AHL – T&W Foundation Contemporary Visual Art Awards established.

### 2013

AHL – Jason J. Kim Grant, AHL – Andrew and Barbara Choi Family Foundation Grant, and AHL – Grace Charity Foundation Fellowship established.

### 2015

Launched AHL - Young Patrons' Circle.  
 AHL - Chun Family Foundation Curatorial Fellowship and AHL - Wolhee Choe Memorial Art Writers Grant established.

### 2017

### 2024

Founder Sook Nyu Lee Kim Alumni Invitational Grant established

Manna's Exhibition Grant established. AAW(Asian Art Works, Inc) Solo Exhibiton Grant established.

### 2023

First AHLumni Collective Exhibition held  
 Murals on Display launched  
 First Changboh Chee Foundation Exhibition held

### 2025

## Greetings from Our President



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Sook Nyu Lee Kim". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Sook Nyu Lee Kim  
President and Founder

Good evening, everyone.

I want to begin by expressing my heartfelt gratitude to all of you who have joined us here tonight. It is truly wonderful to see so many friends, both old and new, gathered together. Many of you have traveled a long way—even from Korea—and taken time out of your busy schedules to be here, and that makes this evening even more special to me. Each year when we gather like this, I feel as though I am meeting old neighbors again, and it warms my heart.

Most importantly, I would like to extend my warmest congratulations to this year's awardees — Jewan Goo, Heejo Kim, Hyunjin Park, Junho Peter Yoon, Tamara Khasanova, Jungmin Cho, and Jean Oh — who are being recognized with both cash awards and exhibition opportunities. I also congratulate Sooa Lim, Dr. Mina Cheon, and Sam Blumenfeld, who will be given the opportunity to conduct research within AHL's Archive of Korean Artists in America (AKAA). Your dedication, creativity, and perseverance not only enrich our community but also light the path forward for the future of Korean contemporary art in the United States.

I also wish to offer my deepest thanks to the generous supporters who have made these awards possible. The T&W Foundation, Andrew & Barbara Choi Family Foundation, Chun Family Foundation, Grace Charity Foundation, Ran Hwang, and the Tchah Sup & Myong Hi Kim Family have each shown remarkable generosity and commitment. Your continued support enables the AHL Foundation to carry forward its mission of supporting Korean artists. More than financial contributions, your gifts are an act of partnership in preserving artists' voices and expanding their histories.

We extend our heartfelt appreciation to Cristal Kim, a longtime friend and supporter of the AHL Foundation. From donating a booth for our first art fair to supporting Hong Seon Jang's solo exhibition at the AHL Foundation Gallery last year, her generosity has been steadfast. We are honored to present her with a Plaque of Appreciation in recognition of her enduring dedication and partnership.

This year, we unveiled a beautiful mural by artist Sungmin Ahn on our gallery's exterior wall, creating a symbolic space for our community—made possible through the support of the Changboh Chee Foundation. We also successfully presented the Echo of Han exhibition through the AHLumni Collective, where artists previously supported by the Foundation came together to share new voices and solidarity. We are thrilled to see the continuous growth of the AHL Artists Alumni community.

Last May, we were honored to hold a special fundraising event for the Space Uptown exhibition fund at the home of renowned sculptor and professor John Pai, whose generosity and hospitality elevated the vision and mission of the AHL Foundation. We also received vital support from the Coalition for Asian American Children and Families (CACF) to advance the Archive of Korean Artists in America (AKAA), and just last month, we were thrilled to be selected for the highly competitive A4 Fund by the Asian American Arts Alliance—a recognition that affirms the importance of our mission.

All of these accomplishments have been possible only because of the care and encouragement of friends like you. To everyone present tonight, and to our dedicated board members, staff, and volunteers who have worked tirelessly, I extend my deepest gratitude. As we look ahead, the AHL Foundation will continue to support the creativity and growth of Korean artists while building connections with broader communities through art. I hope this evening brings you joy and meaning. Once again, I congratulate all of our awardees and thank our friends who are here tonight.

Thank you.

여러분, 안녕하십니까.

오늘 이 자리에 함께해 주신 모든 분들께 진심으로 감사의 말씀을 드립니다. 오랜만에 뵙는 분들, 그리고 새롭게 인연이 된 많은 분들이 한자리에 모이신 것을 보니 정말 반갑습니다. 특히 먼 한국에서까지 와 주신 분들도 계시고, 바쁜 일정 중에도 시간을 내어 주신 모든 분들 덕분에 오늘 이 자리가 제게 더욱 특별하게 느껴집니다. 매년 이렇게 함께 모일 때마다, 마치 오랜 이웃들을 다시 만나는 듯한 따뜻한 마음이 듭니다.

무엇보다 올해의 수상자 여러분께 진심으로 축하의 말씀을 드립니다. 구재완, 김희조, 박현진, 윤준호, 타마라 카사노바, 조정민, 오진 작가님께서는 기금과 함께 전시 기회를 부여받게 됩니다. 또한 임수아, 천미나 박사, 샘 블루멘펠드 세 분께서도 \*AHL 재단의 미주 한인 예술가 아카이브(AKAA)\*를 통해 연구의 기회를 갖게 됩니다. 여러분의 헌신과 창의력, 그리고 끈기는 우리 커뮤니티를 더욱 풍요롭게 할 뿐만 아니라, 미국 내 한국 현대미술의 미래를 밝히는 등불이 되고 있습니다.

이 상을 가능하게 해 주신 후원자 여러분께도 깊이 감사드립니다. T&W 재단, 앤드류 & 바바라 최 가족재단, 전 패밀리 재단, 그레이스 자선 재단, AKAA 황 난 펀드, 그리고 김차섭 & 김명희 패밀리 펀드의 지속적인 후원으로 알재단이 한국 예술가들을 지원하는 사명을 이어갈 수 있었습니다. 재정적 지원을 넘어, 여러분은 예술가들의 목소리를 지키고 그 역사를 확장해 나가는 동반자입니다.

알재단의 오랜 친구이자 후원자인 크리스탈 김 님께도 진심으로 감사의 말씀을 드립니다. 초창기 뉴욕 피어에서 열린 첫 번째 아트페어에 부스를 기부해 주셨고, 지난해에는 장홍선 작가의 개인전을 후원해 주셨습니다. 올해도 예술품을 기증해 주시고, 멀리 한국에서 직접 참석하시며 손님들을 초대해 주셨습니다. 오늘 이 자리에서 감사패를 드리며, 오랜 시간 변함없이 보여주시는 헌신과 따뜻한 동행에 깊은 감사를 드립니다.

올해는 우리 재단에도 매우 뜻깊은 한 해였습니다.

지창보 재단의 후원으로 안성민 작가의 아름다운 벽화가 갤러리 외벽에 설치되어, 커뮤니티를 위한 상징적인 공간을 만들었습니다. 또한 AHLumni Collective를 통해 Echo of Han 전시를 성공적으로 선보였으며, 재단의 지원을 받은 작가들이 다시 모여 새로운 목소리와 연대를 나누는 뜻깊은 시간이 되었습니다. 알재단 수상 작가 커뮤니티가 계속 성장하고 있는 모습을 보며 큰 보람을 느낍니다.

지난 5월에는 저명한 조각가 존 배 교수님의 자택에서 Space Uptown 전시 기금을 위한 특별 모금 행사를 열었으며, 가족의 따뜻한 환대와 후원이 알재단의 비전과 사명을 더욱 빛내주었습니다. 또한 아시아계 아동 및 가족연합(CACF)의 지원으로 AKAA 프로젝트를 한층 발전시킬 수 있었고, 지난해에는 아시아인 아메리칸 예술연맹(Asian American Arts Alliance)의 경쟁력 있는 A4 Fund에 선정되어 재단의 사명이 지닌 중요성을 다시금 확인할 수 있었습니다.

이 모든 성과는 여러분의 관심과 격려 덕분입니다. 오늘 함께해 주신 모든 분들, 그리고 헌신적으로 노력해 주신 이사회, 직원, 자원봉사자 여러분께 진심으로 감사드립니다.

앞으로도 알재단은 한인 예술가들의 창의성과 성장을 지속적으로 지원하며, 예술이 커뮤니티와 함께 성장할 수 있는 다리가 되겠습니다. 오늘 이 자리가 여러분께 의미있는 시간이 되길 바라며, 다시 한번 수상자 여러분께 축하를, 그리고 함께해 주신 모든 분들께 깊은 감사를 드립니다.

감사합니다.

알재단 설립자 & 회장 이숙녀

## Congratulatory Note From Korean Cultural Center New York



I am honored to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the AHL Foundation on the occasion of its 22nd Annual Benefit Gala & Awards Ceremony.

It is a true pleasure to offer my warm regards to the Foundation's dedicated Board of Directors, the talented artists being celebrated, and everyone gathered to support the meaningful mission of this organization.

The AHL Foundation has played an invaluable role in nurturing and championing Korean and Korean-American artists. Its unwavering commitment to amplifying their voices and creativity within New York's vibrant art community is both admirable and inspiring.

As we look toward the future, the Korean Cultural Center New York hopes to engage with the AHL Foundation in ways that further our shared mission of promoting Korean art and culture.

My sincere gratitude goes to the AHL Foundation, and especially to Director Sook Nyu Kim, whose vision and dedication have been instrumental in elevating our artists' global presence.

I extend my warmest congratulations on this special evening and my best wishes for continued success in all of the Foundation's endeavors. Michael Cheonsoo Kim

*Michael Cheonsoo Kim  
Executive Director  
Korean Cultural Center New York*

# AHL Award, Grant and Fellowship Opportunities in 2026

## **AHL – T&W Foundation Contemporary Visual Art Award**

**Total Support: \$25,000**

Established in 2003, the Contemporary Visual Art Awards is an annual competition open to all contemporary artists of Korean descent active in the United States and serves as one of AHL Foundation's core programs. Since 2016, the award has been generously supported by the T&W Foundation, established by Wonsook Kim and Thomas Park Clement, whose continued partnership has been instrumental in nurturing Korean and Korean American artists within the contemporary art landscape.

## **AHL – Andrew & Barbara Choi Family Foundation Project Grant**

**Total Support: \$6,000**

This annual project grant recognizes and supports the accomplishments of talented artists of Korean heritage working in the United States. The grant aims to nurture and assist visual artists of all career stages in realizing forthcoming projects while building their capacity to sustain productive long-term careers.

## **Space Uptown 2026**

**Total Support: \$5,000**

Space Uptown 2025 is a collaborative exhibition project designed to offer opportunities to emerging artists in Harlem and New York City. Selected artists will present their works at the AHL Foundation Gallery in Spring 2025.

## **AHL – Founder Sook Nyu Lee Kim AHLumni Collective Grant**

**Total Support: \$6,000**

Open to all AHL alumni artists, this grant provides selected artist(s) the opportunity to curate a solo or group exhibition at the AHL Foundation Gallery. The AHLumni Collective fosters a supportive community and empowers alumni artists by promoting the exchange of ideas, offering resources, and creating opportunities for collaboration and exhibitions. The collective is always open to alumni interested in joining and participating in monthly meetings.

## **AHL – Chun Family Foundation Curatorial Fellowship Open Call**

**Total Support: \$6,000**

This program offers a \$5,000 stipend to curators of Korean heritage. It aligns with AHL Foundation's mission to encourage curatorial research in contemporary Korean art and promote diversity within the curatorial field. The selected curator will present their exhibition at the AHL Foundation Gallery.

## **AHL – Grace Charity Foundation Research Fellowship**

**Total Support: \$6,000**

This annual one-year fellowship is open to art historians, researchers, and curators with an interest in researching and archiving the activities of artists of Korean heritage. The selected fellow contributes to the development of the Archive of Korean Artists in America (AKAA) as part of AHL Foundation's mission to recognize and support the accomplishments of talented Korean artists working in the United States.

## **AHL – Kim Family Fund AKAA Research Fellowship**

**Total Support: \$6,000**

This annual one-year fellowship supports art historians, researchers, and curators interested in researching and archiving the activities of artists of Korean heritage. The selected fellow contributes to the ongoing development of the Archive of Korean Artists in America (AKAA), furthering AHL Foundation's mission to document and celebrate Korean artists active in the U.S.

## **AHL – AKAA Ran Hwang Fund**

**Total Support: \$6,000**

Established in 2022 through the generosity of renowned artist Ran Hwang, this fund supports selected Research Fellows in advancing the Archive of Korean Artists in America (AKAA) and preserving the legacy of Korean diasporic artists.



## Head Juror's Statement on the 2025 AHL - T&W Foundation Contemporary Visual Art Award Winners

"Presence," in the now, is an inherently unstable thing: images of ourselves, of others, of things and events circulate across screens where they are fragmented, repeated, and hybridized until they lose coherence. To "appear" under such conditions is partial, contingent, and unstable. The three artists shortlisted for this year's Visual Art Award—Jewan Goo, Hyunjin Park, and Hejoo Kim—engage this instability from different angles and, from different perspectives, their works lean into and strategically mine the fractured relationship between representation and truth. Each moves away from traditional notions of the figure as a stable anchor of meaning, instead experimenting with occlusion, flattening, abstraction, and hybridization to probe new modes of visibility, memory, and relation.

Of course, presence has long been theorized as unstable—Walter Benjamin famously wrote of the loss of "aura" in mechanically reproduced images in 1935, and more recently, writers like Boris Groys have discussed the image as a thing endlessly circulated, compressed, and degraded. But the conditions of the present sharpen and intensify that instability in unprecedented ways. Today, with AI-generated imagery, deepfakes, and algorithmically targeted feeds, even the boundary between the fabricated and the documentary is increasingly indistinguishable. To appear in this shattered hall of mirrors is not simply to be seen but to be sorted, dated, and consumed. It is against this backdrop that Goo, Park, and Kim might be situated—each probing how images and figures might still hold space for memory, relation, and critique when presence itself can no longer be taken for granted.

With his photographs of meticulously crafted dioramas depicting the sites of historically significant events, Jewan Goo exposes the formal mechanisms by which state histories reproduce themselves, incisively reframing the archive as both a spatial and ideological apparatus. Rather than working directly with archival materials, Goo fabricates dioramas that restage the institutional spaces where hegemonic knowledge is produced, codified, and enforced—classrooms, science labs,

civic ceremonies, ethnographic displays, and so on. In *The Japanese Botanists Cataloging Korean Endemic Species 1* (2024), for example—an image depicting the sun-drenched laboratory of Tokyo's Koishikawa Botanical Garden—Goo revisits Japan's colonial classification of Korean flora, where what appeared to be neutral science was in fact a tool of domination, rendering the landscape "legible" through taxonomies that erased cultural meaning and reframed native species as imperial resources. Goo makes visible how scientific practice itself became a site of governance and ecological control. Not only are his images void of human figures: through his process, the artist himself becomes a kind of machinic proxy, staging and capturing historical scenes with the cold precision of the very apparatuses he critiques. The machinic labor of reconstruction becomes a counter-visual strategy. Goo's technique mirrors the aesthetic operation of institutional authority but transforms it into a tool of critique. By collapsing documentation and fiction, scale and spectacle, his work exposes the constructedness of history.

If Goo's approach mimics hollowed machinic reconstruction, Park builds speculative beings and scenes that are affectively full. She creates unstable assemblages and bodies that are part animal, part machine, and part mythological or familial figure. Her materials—beeswax, terracotta, LEDs, Korean paper, steel, bones—suggest an oscillation between ancient ritual and speculative technology. Even when their references are opaque, Park's forms are affectively resonant, evoking grief, care, and cultural transmission across generations. Take, as one particularly pertinent example, her 2025 exhibition *Bones Between Air*: an inflatable airplane that floats, but does not fly, held aloft by decorative string lights repurposed as tethers while simultaneously suggesting a starry sky. With the addition of a flock of miniature papier-mâché planes, the scene at once suggests a migrating family of bird-planes and a mass exodus of hundreds of tiny passengers. Elsewhere in her work, live plants, animal bones, and AIBO robot dogs collide in cyborg assemblages. The ambiguity between these readings is precisely what

makes Park's work a potent rethinking of generational transmission—not as a linear matter of biology, but as cyclical, trans-species, and inter-systemic.

If Hejoo Kim's work, at first glance, appears the most traditional among the three, it is no less invested in the displacement of presence in its conventional sense. Her paintings employ a subtle visual language in which flattening becomes a generative force. Refusing the conventions of naturalist figuration, Kim explores the affective and ethical capacities of non-identity. The figures that populate her paintings are dimensionless proxies: they evoke emojis, mannequins, or ISOTYPE pictograms—forms intended for mass readability rather than nuanced expression. They are compellingly non-specific, inhabiting spaces shaped by Kim's vivid color outlines and compositional tilts, all emphasizing formal tension over illusionism. Like Goo, Kim enacts a machinic compression of the human, stripping figuration of depth, expression, and narrative. The flatness of her compositions and their forced perspective, bright outlines, and affective stillness produce bodies that are at once familiar and generic. They resist individuality, functioning instead as placeholders—avatars of emotion, presence, and relation abstracted into signs. The result is a pictorial world where perspective is gently destabilized and intimacy is rendered not through detail but through posture, gesture, and proximity in a surreal plane.

Working across very different mediums, these artists each refuse stable figuration as the ground of meaning. Their strategies of erasure, hybridization, and compression reveal how the figure is no longer a secure site for presence, memory, or relation, but instead a contested field shaped by technological mediation, colonial history, and cultural transmission. In this sense, their works speak to broader contemporary pressures: algorithmic image circulation, ecological collapse, and the commodification of identity. If Goo reveals the machinic coldness of historical apparatuses, Park reanimates affective bonds across species and systems, and Kim distills figuration into a shared visual code.

Goo, Park, and Kim each destabilize the figure—whether by displacing it entirely, hybridizing it, or compressing it—offering reimaginings of what it means to represent presence, emotion, memory, or relation. At a time when identity, memory, and authorship are under stark pressure—from technology, from politics, and from history—these artists model new strategies for how to be present. In refusing to stabilize the figure, their practices remind us that presence may no longer guarantee recognition, but it can still generate new forms of belonging and critique.

Ian Wallace  
Associate Curator, Amant

Ian received his PhD in Art History from the CUNY Graduate Center in 2021 with a dissertation focused on the work of artist Charlotte Posenenske. His research centers on the concept of value in modern and contemporary art, art's capacity to address pressing social issues, and the "lives" of conceptual practices in institutional collections. He has previously worked at Fondazione Prada, the Museum of Modern Art, Dia Art Foundation, and the New Museum, and has contributed to exhibitions at La Fondazione Emilio e Annabianca Vedova (Venice), the International Studio and Curatorial Program (Brooklyn), the Museum of Jurassic Technology (Los Angeles), and Städtische Galerie im Lenbachhaus und Kunstbau (Munich). In 2022, he served as Assistant to the Curator of the 59th Venice Biennale, *The Milk of Dreams*.

## Jurors for the 2025 AHL - T&W Foundation Contemporary Visual Art Awards

Ian Wallace  
Associate Curator at Amant

Leeza Meksin  
Artist  
Faculty at Cornell University College of Architecture, Art and Planning (AAP)

Jeffrey Lee  
Partner at RYAN LEE Gallery

# 2025 AHL - T&W Foundation Contemporary Visual Art Award Recipients - Jewan Goo

Established in 2003, the Contemporary Visual Art Awards is an annual competition open to all contemporary artists of Korean descent active in the United States and is part of AHL Foundation's core program. The awards recognize the work of exemplary emerging contemporary artists of Korean descent and provide them with a monetary prize and the opportunity to have their work presented at a group exhibition in New York. Since 2016, the award has been generously supported by the T&W Foundation, established by Wonsook Kim and Thomas Park Clement.



## Jewan Goo

Jewan Goo is a research-based artist whose image-based practice interrogates colonial juridical visibility through the analytic frameworks of visual culture studies and critical theory. His practice mobilizes forensic excavation and countervisual strategies to expose the regimes of documentation and legal architectures that engineer historical legitimacy and codify ideological narratives within state archives. Drawing on postcustodial archival theory and decolonial praxis, Goo engages in palimpsestic interventions, reconstructing visually undocumented histories and revealing the epistemic violence embedded in archival silences.

By treating shadow archives as contested sites, he asserts representational sovereignty and recuperates subjugated knowledge through images that challenge institutional authority and disrupt hegemonic frameworks. His research excavates how imperial scopic regimes, spatial dispositifs, and juridical infrastructures structure exclusion, mediate access to collective narratives, and naturalize power. Grounded in the analysis of state apparatuses and disciplinary power, Goo reconstructs the ways institutionalized epistemologies shape the perceptual and symbolic orders of the present.

Goo holds an MFA from the University of Pennsylvania and is a 2025–2027 Core Program Fellow at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston.

## Acceptance Statement

I am deeply honored to receive the 2025 AHL–T&W Foundation Contemporary Visual Art Award. My work examines how juridical and architectural infrastructures shape perception, legality, and the institutional production of knowledge. Through reconstructing sites such as botanical gardens, classrooms, and laboratories, I investigate the unrecorded routines and absences within their archival remains, tracing how spatial and documentary systems operate as administrative instruments of governance and epistemic control. This recognition affirms a practice grounded in research and critical inquiry—approaching visual production as institutional analysis that exposes architectures of power while envisioning counter-practices of seeing and knowing. I hope this platform cultivates dialogue across legal, spatial, and visual regimes, positioning artistic practice as a critical apparatus for examining how institutions structure knowledge and collective experience.



Jewan Goo  
*The Japanese Botanists Cataloging Korean Endemic Species 1*, 2024, Dye-sublimation print on polyester fabric, mounted in LED lightbox of a diorama photograph, 64 x 89.5 in

Jewan Goo creates dioramas that he photographs based on his research on the colonial Japanese archival structures that focus power and places of information and exploration such as laboratories, classrooms, scholar's office. These scenes that are very unsettling in how he uses light and shadow to create a sinister mood. The photos are monumental in size, to create the power that these structural places have. Jewan Goo chooses to photograph these places he creates as he states, "photography functions as a legibility apparatus encoding and decoding mechanisms of colonial visibility." Photography has had a large historical role as a medium to disseminate information promoting ideologies by either the image maker or the commissioner of such images. These large scale photographs seem arresting, and make the viewer question what they are looking at and be self-aware of the power structures inherent in such places.

- Jeffrey Lee



Jewan Goo  
*Sovereign Laboratory*, 2025, Dye-sublimation print on polyester fabric, mounted in LED lightbox of a diorama photograph, 64 x 89.5 in

At first glance, Jewan Goo's photographs and collages seem quiet and unassuming. The longer one looks, however, the more they reveal. Through meticulously composed, and then photographed reconstructions of South Korea's classrooms, the artist reveals how his psyche was shaped by an educational system saturated in colonial rule and Cold War divisions. Despite their calm and collected attitude, or maybe because of it, the works speak of resilience in the face of hegemony.

- Leeza Meksin

# 2025 AHL - T&W Foundation Contemporary Visual Art Award Recipients - Heejo Kim



## Heejo Kim

Heejo Kim received an MFA degree in May 2023 from the LeRoy E. Hoffberger School of Painting program at the Maryland Institute College of Art in Baltimore, MD. She received her BFA from the Painting program at Hongik University in Seoul, South Korea, in 2018. Kim's figurative oil paintings focus on reestablishing identity and existence through relationships with others and objects. Her practice explores ambiguity by dissolving visible markers of identity such as gender, age, and ethnicity, allowing her figures to quietly "be" rather than act. Informed by the Buddhist concept of Dependent Arising (Yeongi-sull) and Roland Barthes's notion of tenderness as an ethical mode of being-with, Kim's work embraces the uncertain space between self and other, where understanding is incomplete but connection is still possible. Her figures linger in stillness, their gestures whispering a quiet will.

## Acceptance Statement

I am deeply honored to receive this award and grateful for the recognition and support of my artistic journey. This acknowledgment affirms the value of exploring themes of identity, interconnectedness, and care that are central to my practice. Receiving support from a Korean foundation also carries profound personal meaning for me, as it bridges my roots with my ongoing artistic journey abroad. I see this award not only as encouragement for my work, but also as a reminder of the power of art to connect people across boundaries. With this support, I hope to continue creating works that invite empathy and dialogue, and to share my vision with a broader community.



**Heejo Kim**  
*Messenger*, 2025, Oil and rice paper on canvas, 24 1/2 x 36 in

Heejo Kim's paintings are mysterious, surreal, and open ended. The figures feel like they live in a post human/anime world, focusing on crops of scenes that defy interpretation of a narrative, yet invite some sort reading at the same time. They have an interesting dialogue with surrealists artist like Giorgio di Chirico and early Philip Guston to proto-futurist works like Mark Kostabi from the 80s to contemporary artists like Louise Bonnet and Lisa Bryce. The works focus on the interconnectedness of ourselves and to one another.

- Jeffrey Lee

The paintings by Heejo Kim have an otherworldly quality that blends the mundane and the magical in beautifully articulated tableaux. Light plays a big role in these compositions, guiding the viewer through the picture plane, while highlighting the mood, the charged atmosphere, and the ideterminate time of day. We don't see the faces of her figures, but we see their games, gestures and manners. The artist achieves emotionally redolent pictures, while pressing the pause button and making us slow down to really look.

- Leeza Meksin



**Heejo Kim**  
*Dalgona*, 2025, Oil and baking soda on canvas, 24 1/2 x 36 in

# 2025 AHL - T&W Foundation Contemporary Visual Art Award Recipients - Hyunjin Park



## Hyunjin Park

Hyunjin Park is an interdisciplinary artist and researcher based in New York and Seoul. Working across performance, video, installation, and sculpture, Park explores the affective presence of non-human beings — from living creatures to machines — and how they unsettle boundaries between the modern and the ancient, life and death, and the human and the non-human. Her solo exhibitions include Gallery OOOJH in Seoul (2022), as well as Gallery Chamber in Seoul and Openspace Bae in Busan, both in 2025. Selected as a Kumho Young Artist, she will present a solo exhibition at Kumho Museum of Arts in 2026. She has also participated in group exhibitions at venues such as the Total Museum (Seoul), Onsonggan (Seoul), and Hui Gallery (Hong Kong), among others. Park has been selected for several international residency programs, including Domaine de Boisbuchet in Lessac, France (2024, supported by the Youngmin International Art Program), the Vermont Studio Center in Johnson, VT (2024, fellowship), the Wassaic Project in Wassiac, NY (2025), and the Watermill Center in Water Mill, NY (2025).

## Acceptance Statement

I'm incredibly grateful to receive this recognition from the AHL Foundation, whose support has meant so much to Korean heritage artists and researchers building their careers in America.

My art has always been drawn to those fragile spaces where humans, animals, and technology intersect. Growing up Korean, I carry these memories with me—the women and plants' stories my grandmother told, the powerful movements of traditional lion mask dances—and they keep surfacing in my work in unexpected ways. These aren't just cultural artifacts to me; they're living reminders of how people have always found ways to survive, adapt, and transform.

Being recognized as a Korean artist in the U.S. feels particularly significant right now. It tells me that the questions I'm asking through my art—about belonging, about carrying one culture into another, about what gets preserved and what gets reimagined—these matter to people beyond just me. This award doesn't just validate what I've done so far; it gives me the confidence and resources to keep pushing my practice in new directions and to really establish myself as an artist.

Hyunjin Park's mysterious artworks bridge the divide between human and animal, natural and synthetic, organic and technological. Seamlessly blending, video, kinetic sculpture, photography, installation and performance, the artist plumbs the depth of the human condition in the rapidly evolving techno-state, full of loneliness, missed connections, longing and survival. Echo, her robotic dog companion, takes pictures and videos of the artist in her studio as she works on mythologically inspired dog sculptures as an homage to her pet dog that passed away, combining ancient Korean customs with contemporary fixation on travel, AI and animation.

- Leeza Meksin



Hyunjin Park  
*Two Ends of One*, 2025, Digital print, 27 x 40 in

Hyunjin Park has a multi-discipline practice to investigate the codependence and collision of living and artificial organisms, from humans, plants, animals and machines and what that might hold, which is the new reality that we are heading towards. Her works seem to be interested in the evolution of technology and its affects on our society. The idea of bird being an ancestor to the modern day plane is a major motif in the work, shown as sculpture, installation and photograph. The works have both an ancestral/primitive language and a more futuristic vision. The performance, *Neither Lion, Dog nor Human* has this shamanistic aura, to imagine new kinds of reality yet also examine the lineage of rituals in our history.

- Jeffrey Lee



Hyunjin Park  
*Three Bodies of Cerberus*, 2024, Dog skulls dyed by Impatiens flowers, steel, beeswax, 60 x 73 x 32 in

## AHL - Andrew & Barbara Choi Family Foundation Project Grant

The AHL–Andrew & Barbara Choi Family Grant is an annual project grant awarded to recognize and support the accomplishments of a talented artist of Korean heritage working in the United States. This grant aims to nurture and assist talented visual artists of all career stages in realizing forthcoming projects while building their capacity to sustain productive long-term careers. The main purpose of the grant is to support the artist's creative process and to cultivate innovative and challenging work during key moments in the development of the artist's career.

### Acceptance Statement

We are honored to receive the AHL Foundation's Andrew & Barbara Choi Family Project Grant and deeply grateful for the opportunity to realize an exhibition featuring artists engaging with the histories of the Koryo Saram community. It feels especially meaningful to highlight their practices at a time when so many voices are being suppressed, movements restricted, and contexts ever more alienated from one another. The question of the diaspora and belonging, which is central to this project, is one that is as complicated as it is meaningful to both of us. The very forces that have shaped our own personal stories are very intimately bound to the conditions that inform the artists' works. With AHL Foundation's support, we are able to think through the conundrums of diaspora through the practices of contemporary artists connected to Koryo Saram communities across post-Soviet spaces. Through this grant, we hope to lay the groundwork for a larger project that deepens the connection between Koryo Saram communities and other Korean diasporic contexts, and we are especially excited to



### Junho Peter Yoon

Junho Peter Yoon is a doctoral candidate in East Asian Studies at New York University and the Assistant Director of the Center for Korean Research and the Unson Microcollege Program at Columbia University. He received his B.A. in Comparative Literature from Rutgers University and an M.A. in the Humanities from the University of Chicago. His research spans critical theory, cultural studies, ethics, and ecological thought, with a particular focus on modern and contemporary Korean literature, film, and history.

His dissertation, *Toward Planetary Ethics*, explores the ethical and political impasses of the Anthropocene through a close engagement with Korean cultural texts. He has worked with journals and institutions such as *e-flux Journal* and *Screening Room*, the Literature Translation Institute of Korea, and the New York Asian Film Festival. He is currently co-editing two special issues: "(Un)Archived: The Elsewhere of Photography" (*positions: asia critique*) and "Beyond the Visual: Posthuman Sensoria in Contemporary South Korean Art and Media" (*Journal of Asian Studies*).

## Tamara Khasanova

Tamara Khasanova is an independent curator, researcher and writer based in Brooklyn, New York originally from Ukraine and Uzbekistan. She was a 2024-25 Helena Rubinstein Curatorial Fellow in the Whitney Museum of American Art's Independent Study Program (ISP) and holds an MA degree in Curatorial Practice from the School of Visual Arts. Her research and curatorial work center emergent aesthetics, pedagogical and discursive practices, and forms of collective knowledge production, oriented toward questions of language, ecology, nuclear legacies and colonial histories. She has curated exhibitions, organized screenings, lectured, and contributed to projects across cultural, publishing, and educational institutions including e-flux, Protocinema, Davra Curatorial Lab, White Columns, Minneapolis College of Art and Design, The Clark Art Institute, the Queens Museum, and TransitoryWhite, among others. She currently serves as Studio Director for the artist duo Basel Abbas and Ruanne Abou-Rahme and is part of the adisciplinary publishing platform Bilnaïes.



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# AHL - Chun Family Foundation Curatorial Fellowship

Founded in 2007 by businessman Chun Myung-guk, the Chun Family Foundation has awarded scholarships to over ten Korean students annually. Chairman Chun Myung-guk is actively engaged in philanthropic work throughout the Korean community, as well as in scholarship projects to support students. Since 2017, the AHL Foundation has selected curatorial fellows with the support of the Chun Family Foundation, providing grants and nurturing Korean exhibition planners. In 2024, the AHL Foundation and the Chun Family Foundation launched the Curatorial Open Call grant through a direct sponsorship agreement. Curators selected for the Curatorial Open Call grant will have the opportunity to curate exhibitions at the AHL Foundation Gallery.

## Acceptance Statement

I came to New York—often described as a city of diversity and opportunity—with only a vague yet eager desire to learn through lived experience and to uncover the details along the way. The AHL—Chun Family Foundation Curatorial Open Call, along with the foundation's community, has given me the courage to carry that dream forward as I begin my career after graduate school. In a world that moves at high speed, driven by efficiency and results, the Foundation's support enables me to continue asking questions and reflecting on the world with openness—and to translate those reflections into exhibitions in collaboration with wonderful artists. I am deeply grateful to the AHL Foundation for this support.

## Jungmin Cho

Jungmin Cho, based in Seoul and New York, is an independent curator, writer and also the founder and director of WHITE NOISE—an art space and platform in Seoul dedicated to fostering artistic experimentation and building global art communities while exploring the structures of knowledge and value production since 2018. She tries to pose accessible yet critical questions to the world through art. Her current interest explores Korean modernity and its ongoing transformation of emotional and material residues, focusing on how these elements are symbolized and commodified in art and pop culture from a microscopic lens. Through WHITE NOISE and her independent practice, Cho has collaborated with a wide range of international organizations, including Brief Histories, Canal Projects, Frieze Seoul, GYOPO, Hessel Museum, Montez Press Radio, NOISE Istanbul, Space NN in Munich, and Tiger Strikes Asteroid, among others. Their work has been featured in publications such as The Art Newspaper, Artsy, Hyundai Art Lab, The New York Times, and Spike Art Magazine. Recently, Cho served as a guest curator for Untitled Miami 2024, exploring the theme “East Meets West” and was a part of invited participants in 2025 ICI Curatorial Forum. She graduated Center for Curatorial Studies at Bard College.





# AHL - Grace Charity Foundation Research Fellowship

The AHL–Grace Charity Foundation Research Fellowship is an annual one-year fellowship open to art historians, researchers, and curators with an interest in researching and archiving the activities of artists of Korean heritage. The selected fellow will contribute to the development of the Archive of Korean Artists in America (AKAA) as part of the AHL Foundation's mission to recognize and support the accomplishments of talented Korean artists working in the United States.

## Acceptance Statement

I am truly honored to receive the 2025 AHL – Grace Charity Foundation Research Fellowship. With this opportunity, I can continue my archival research on community-based practices and intergenerational narratives that have long been marginalized in mainstream art discourse. My current work centers on the SEORO Korean Cultural Network, a collective active in the late 20th century whose exhibitions, public programs, and self-organized archives fostered diasporic solidarity among Korean and Korean American artists. I am deeply grateful to the AHL Foundation for recognizing the importance of bringing these stories to light and for supporting the act of remembering as a form of resistance. This award not only promotes scholarly inquiry but also emphasizes the importance of listening deeply to voices that have often been overlooked, to visual languages that communicate across silence, and to the living traces of those who created space for future generations. It is both a privilege and a responsibility to carry these histories forward, and I accept it with profound gratitude and a heart committed to care.

## Sooa Lim

Sooa Lim is an archivist, curator, and cataloguer specializing in Korean and Korean American art history. She holds an MA in History of Design and Curatorial Studies from Parsons School of Design and earned both an MA in Arts Management and a BA in Design from the Korea National University of Arts. Based between Seoul and the northeastern United States, including New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut, Lim has worked with institutions such as the Seoul Children's Museum, Weinberg Modern, and InsideInside. She is also the founder of NaUs Art Collective, a digital platform that highlights Asian diasporic archives and visual culture. Her ongoing collaboration with the SEORO Korean Cultural Network archive, an art collective in New York during the 1980s and 1990s, reflects her commitment to expanding the transnational visual foundations of Korean and Korean American art history through research and curatorial practice.

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**Kim Family Fund**

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**Thank you for supporting korean artists!**

# AHL - Kim Family Fund Research Fellowship

The Kim Family Fund Research Fellowship provides fund to conduct in-depth research on the Archive of Korean Artists in America (AKAA). Established in 2020 with the support of Korean-American artists, the fellowship has been funded since 2021 by the Kim Family Fund, founded by renowned artists Tchah Sup Kim and Myong Hi Kim. The selected Fellow will collect materials related to Korean contemporary artists active in the U.S. and conduct research to further expand the AKAA collection and digital archive.



## Sam Blumenfeld

Sam Blumenfeld is a curator and researcher exploring post-race and post-gender practices through new media, performance, and trans-linguistic visual languages on the web, particularly from the perspective of Korean artists reconciling with the legacy of Orientalism while living and working in the West as they create new modes and methods of identity-building. This research is situated around artist Nam Jun Paik's relationship to the West and his strategies for navigating Orientalism while also priming Korea for a globalist perspective towards art; something that continues to be problematized in the political relationship between Korea and the West, particularly the US and Europe.

Blumenfeld originally studied at the Rhode Island School of Design before finishing their degree at Columbia University. They have lived and worked in Seoul previously for ten years, where they previously co-ran a community printmaking studio, exhibited under Graphite on Pink, and worked on independent research and curatorial projects. She currently lives and works in New York while continuing to pursue curatorial projects both domestically and in Seoul.

## Acceptance Statement

Due to my unique positionality as an ex-migrant having returned back from South Korea, I have made it my work to continue to build bridges between Seoul and New York to platform underrepresented artists and practitioners. The AHL–Kim Family Fund Research Fellowship gives me the essential support I need to continue this work and continue to support the Korean community both in New York and overseas. I am so grateful for the opportunity to deepen my connections to the Korean and Korean-American community in New York, a place I most recently call home, and to continue my research while working with artists and curators I've come to consider family, and for the opportunity to expand this by meeting new artists, curators, and researchers involved with AHL Foundation.

# AHL - AKAA Ran Hwang Fund

In September 2022, AHL Foundation launched the AKAA – Ran Hwang Fund in collaboration with sculptural artist Ran Hwang. This funding will enable AKAA (The Archive of Korean Artists in America) to bring in expertise to enhance our goals of collecting and preserving crucial archival materials of artists of Korean heritage working in the United States.

## **Mina Cheon**

Dr. Mina Cheon, author of *Shamanism + Cyberspace* (Atropos Press, 2009), Professor Emerita and former Dean of the Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA), is a scholar, cultural producer, arts and culture advisor, and a human rights advocate. She has contributed writings to *ArtUS*, *Wolgan Misool*, *New York Arts Magazine*, and *Artist Organized Art*, and was an editor of the academic journal *Media-N*. As a global Korean political pop new media artist, her recent projects include merging art and comedy, as well as peacebuilding with laughter, coinciding with her art retrospective, "Haunted Koreas," at KODA NY. Cheon is represented by the Ethan Cohen Gallery and collaborates with the Stephanie Kim Gallery, both in New York.



## **Acceptance Statement**

I am honored to receive the 2025-2026 Ran Hwang AKAA Research Fellowship from the AHL Foundation. This fellowship enables me to conduct independent research and pursue a project examining the connections between past, present, and new generations of Korean American feminist artists, serving as a critical intergenerational study on diaspora and transnational identity, while contributing new material for the Archive of Korean Artists in America (AKAA). I'm grateful for this opportunity and would like to thank the Foundation for its key role in supporting Korean American artists and scholars, as well as bringing visibility to Korean American creative and scholarly practices in contemporary art.

# AHL - Founder Sook Nyu Lee Kim AHLumni Collective Grant

AHL – Founder Sook Nyu Lee Kim AHLumni Collective Grant is an open call for AHL alumni artists to present their work in a distinguished exhibition at the AHL Foundation Gallery in 2026. Made possible through a generous \$6,000 contribution from Sook Nyu Lee Kim, Founder and President of AHL Foundation, this grant offers a special opportunity to celebrate the creativity and growth of our alumni community. An invited juror will review submissions and select one outstanding proposal to be presented as a featured exhibition at the gallery. The AHLumni Collective, a voluntary group of AHL alumni artists, is dedicated to fostering a supportive and collaborative community. Through regular meetings, resource sharing,



## **Jean Oh**

Jean Oh is a New York–based artist whose work explores imperfection, instability, and the tension between concealment and revelation.

Combining painting and sewing, she creates layered surfaces shaped by repetition, disruption, and repair.

Her sewn paintings feature rough seams and misalignments, while her Nobang textile installations, made with translucent Korean silk, shift with the movement of air, light, and the viewer.

Oh received her BFA from the Maryland Institute College of Art and her MFA from Pratt Institute.

She has held solo exhibitions in New York and Seoul, as well as group exhibitions at Eli Klein Gallery, Kunstraum LLC, and the CICA Museum.

## **Acceptance Statement**

I am deeply honored to receive this award, which affirms not only my artistic practice but also the values I hold close: embracing imperfection, instability, and the moments that slip beyond control.

My work grew into a language of seams, traces, and interruptions that reflect how we live and connect as human beings.

This recognition encourages me to continue expanding the possibilities of sewn paintings and Nobang installations, to create spaces where fragility and resilience coexist.

I am grateful to the foundation, to my community, and to those who have supported me along the way.



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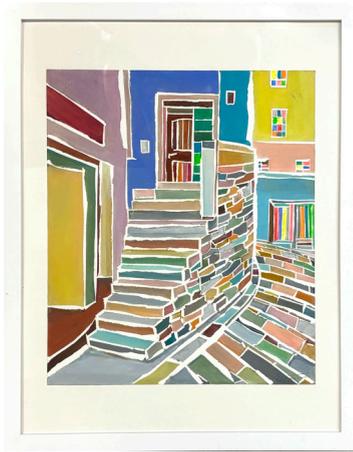
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# 2025 Gala Fundraising Benefit Artwork Sale



**Heejung Cho**  
*Alley, 2023*  
16" x 12"  
Oil Pigment and Paper  
\$700



**Suzy Taekyung Kim**  
*Spring Snow, 2023*  
20" diameter  
Acrylic, mica, mother of pearl, Korean rice paper  
on wood panel  
\$2,800



**Jiyoun Lee-Lodge**  
*Waterman- happy hour #2*  
12" diameter  
Ink and acrylic on canvas  
\$900



**Kakyoung Lee**  
*Another Beginning 3, 2023*  
Image: 11" x 16", Paper: 16 1/2" x 21 1/2"  
Reduction Woodcut on Gampi yellow paper  
Edition of 12, 3 APs  
\$1,200



**Christine Ho Jung Seo**  
*Race for the triple crown, 2025*  
24" x 20"  
oil/ Mixed  
\$2,700



**Hongbin Kim**  
*Synesthetic Reverie 24-01-81, 2024*  
10" X 10"  
Acrylic on paper in a frame  
\$500



**Mija Jung**  
*Blue Biomes Dome, 2025*  
20" x 20"  
Oil and Acrylic on Canvas  
Original  
\$850



**Hye Kyung Cho**  
*Mending the wings, 2025*  
30" x 30"  
Acrylics plastic and sand on canvas  
\$1,200



**Ho Bong Kim**

*Others, passing by 21, 2025*

30" x 30"

Oil on linen

\$6,500



**Bong Jung Kim**

*Harmony 171, 2025*

24" x 24"

Mixed Media on Canvas

One of a kind

\$3,000



**Nam Joo Kim**

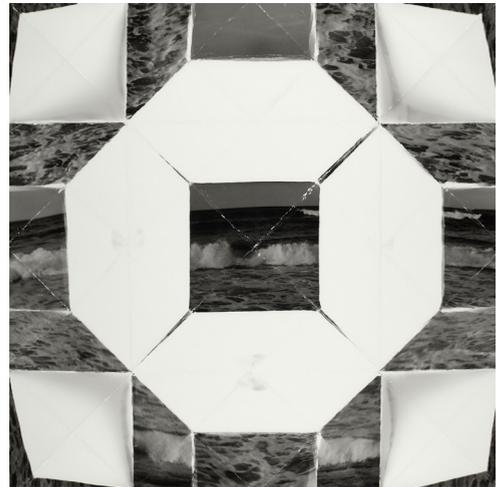
*Early dream, 2023*

24" x 18"

Mixed Media on Paper

Edition: 1st Edition

\$2,000



**Paul Rho**

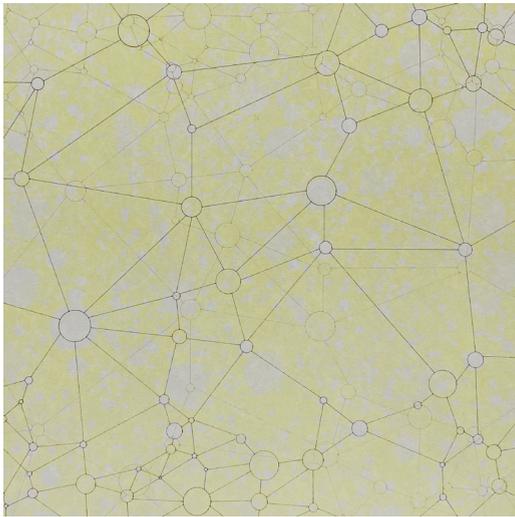
*Shirt, 2025*

16" x 16"

Gelatin silver print

unique

\$2,500



**Mizin Shin**

*Small World Network Model, 2021*

9.5" x 9.5"

Screenprint, Laser Etching

Edition of 5 (Artist Proof)

\$800



**David Lee**

*To the Unknown, 2025*

37" x 31" x 3"

Oil pastel (bar) on canvas panel

\$1,650



**Hyesook Park**

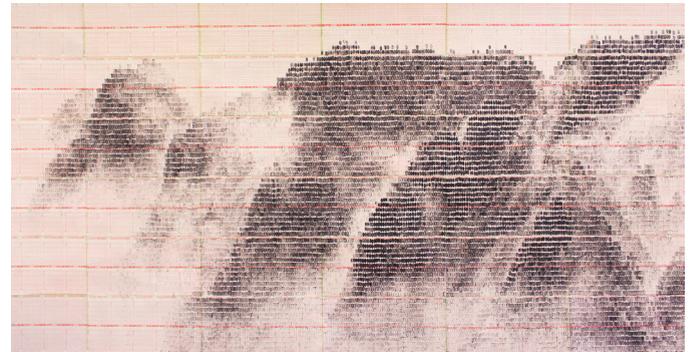
*You and Me, 2025*

17.7" x 11.4"

Oil on palette

Donated by Cristal Kim

\$4,000



**Sung Ho Choi**

*Encoded Tranquility, 2022*

20" x 43.25"

seal ink, lottery ticket, paper

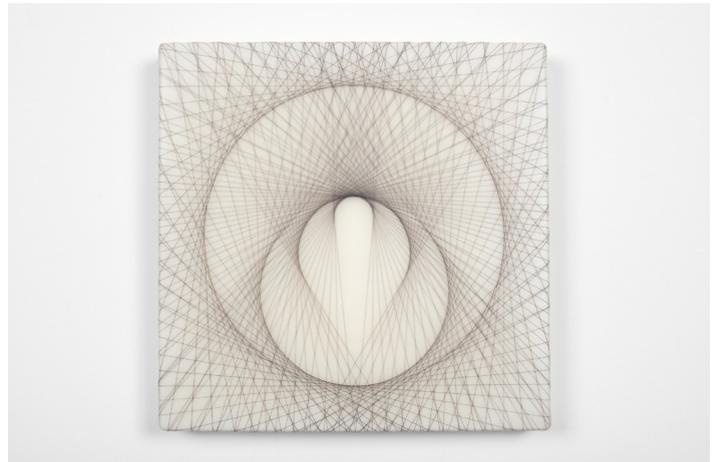
\$4,000



**Bo Kyung Woo**  
*Grace in the Wind*, 2020  
35" x 19"  
Asian watercolor, Korean paper  
\$6,000



**Hyanglan Yun**  
*My Heart*, 2022  
35" x 19"  
Bike wheel, bamboo, Hanbok silk fabric  
and Mixed media  
\$1,000



**Jayoung Yoon**  
*Empty Void 28*, 2020  
8" x 8" x 1"  
Artist's hair, Acrylic medium on panel  
\$2,150



**Joon Park**

*Mount Rainier Washington.386, 2019*

44" x 32"

photography on archival paper

5/30

\$2,000



**sooim lee**

*Unknown town, 2025*

6" x 9"

moniprint

\$1,500



**Ran Hwang**

*Ode to Second Full Moon, 2021*

47.2" x 35.4"

Mulberry paper buttons, Beads, Pins on Plexiglas

\$51,000



**In Ja Yun**

*진달래, 2022*

72.7" x 40"

Oil on canvas

\$2,500



**SEIVIN**  
*Tape Series, 2024*  
11" x 14"  
Tape and Oil pastel on Paper  
\$800



**Jong kang**  
*Plate & Cups, 2025*  
Plate 14" x 14" x 3"  
Cup 3.5" x 4" x 3"  
Clay glazed firing  
\$900

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Jung Hyang Kim(Art Work)

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Youngmi Jin

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Eun Ja Kim Lee

Eun-Kyung Chun

Hae Yoon

Heejeong Kim

Hye Jin Han

Jeewon Lee

Jennifer Ban

Jeonghae Kim

Jin Hee Stevens

Jong Sook Kang

Jung Eun Ha

Jung-eun Lee

Kate Shin

Keneth & Susan Gimm

Kwang Ho Lee

Unsoo Lee

Mina Kim

Sharon Kim

Sun Hee Chang

Thomas Taylor

Year K. Kim

Young Ok Kwon-Kim

## How to Support | 후원 안내

### Your support keeps the AHL Foundation going.

Whether it's helping an artist pursue their creative practice or sustaining our Korean-language art education programs for recent immigrants, your contribution directly nurtures the growth of our Korean contemporary art community

여러분의 후원은 AHL 재단의 활동을 지속하게 합니다. 예술가의 창작 활동을 지원하거나, 이민자를 위한 한국어 현대미술 강좌 프로그램을 운영하는 일까지, 여러분의 소중한 기부는 미국 내 한국 현대미술 커뮤니티의 성장을 돕습니다.

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Please make your check payable to **AHL Foundation, Inc.** and send it to the address below. In the memo section of your check, please indicate the specific fund or program you wish to support.

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익심은 알래스카 밀자락 산동네에 사는  
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- 항암에 뛰어난 베타글루칸이 함유되어 있음



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- 엑센 부분이 거의 없음
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# Previous Grant / Award / Fellowship Recipients

## AHL – T&W Foundation Contemporary Visual Art Awards (Formerly AHL Visual Art Competition)

2004  
Hyun Jean Lee  
Ran Hwang  
Jeong Han Kim  
Jung Su Han

2005  
Seok Hee Jung  
Sung Ho Choi  
Jaye Rhee  
Aegi Park

2006  
Suk Won Shin  
Haegeen Kim  
Dooeol Lee  
Sang Woo Koh

2007  
Hae Ri Yoo  
Kyung Woo Han  
Jia Lim  
Shin Il Kim

2008  
Zaun Lee  
Jane Jin Kaisen  
Eun Hyung Kim  
Jong Il Ma

2009  
Jinkee Choi  
Kakyoung Lee  
Jaye Moon  
Jarrett Min Davis  
Yeon Jin Kim  
Jeong Hyun Lee

2010  
Ji Eun Kim  
Eun Jung Hwang  
Heejung Cho  
Keosang Yoo  
Ha Lee

2011  
Sung Rok Choi  
Jee Young Lee  
Sandra Eula Lee  
Seungwook Sim  
Jiyoun Lee-Lodge  
Jonggeun Lee  
Kiseok Kim

2012  
Hong Seon Jang  
Jung Sun Kim  
Seung Jae Kim  
Grace Kim

2013  
Seong-min Ahn  
Inmi Lee  
Young-mi Song  
Jang soon Im

2014  
kate hers RHEE  
John Seung-Hwan Lee  
Yusam Sung  
Sang-Mi Yoo

2015  
Eunsook Lee  
Buhm Hong  
Yoosamu  
Heelim Hwang

2016  
Ji Yeon Lim (Yaloo)  
Kira Nam Greene  
Soi Park

2017  
Tai Hwa Goh  
Xavier Cha  
Joo Yeon Woo

2018  
Valery Jung Estabrook  
Hyunjung Rhee  
Myung Gyun You

2019  
Jennifer Moon  
Jean Oh  
Mary Laube

2020  
A young Yu  
Chang-Jin Lee  
Cheon pyo Lee

2021  
Jin Yong Choi  
Aeum Yang  
Jiwon Rhie

2022  
Priscilla Jeong  
Kyuri Jeon  
Sun You

2023  
Soeun Bae  
Dana Davenport  
Mija Jung

2024  
Kyung-Me  
John Chae  
C.Ryu

### Scholarship

2012  
Yusam Sung  
Eunice Koo  
Seung Yeon Huh

2013  
Eun Sun Choi  
Meeson Pae Yang  
Sung B. Lee

2014  
Nari Kim  
Elizabeth T. Lewin  
Yenim Jenny Park

### AHL Foundation Project Grant (Previously AHL- Jason J. Kim Grant)

2015 Nancy Hwang, Jaye Rhee  
2017 Ran Hwang  
2019 Kate-hers RHEE

### AHL Wolhee Choe Art Writer Grant

2017 Jennifer Hope Choi  
2018 Paul Laster  
2020 Sun Young Lee  
2021 Yunlee Hong  
2023 Jeesoock Beck

### AHL Foundation Artist Fellowship

2019  
Dayeon Kim, Judy Junghee Koo  
Woojin Lee, ChaeWon Moon

2020  
Mookwon Han, Sungjae Lee  
Yi Sa-Ra, Jayoung Yoon

2021  
Heehyun Choi, Gyun Hur, Dohee Lee, Yozmit

2022  
Suhyun Choi, Jae Hwan Lim,  
Ken Gun Min, Kayla Tange

### Andrew & Barbara Choi Family Project Grant

2017 Xavier Cha  
2018 Sun You  
2019 Sunhee Kim Jung  
2020 Aram Han Sifuentes  
2021 Mina Cheon  
2022 Mizin Shin  
2023 Mire Lee  
2024 Priscilla Jeong

### AHL – Chun Family Foundation Curatorial Fellowship & Open Call

2017 Jinkyoung Choi  
2018 Hye Seong Tae  
2019 Jeon Young  
2020 Dahye Kim  
2021 Jiyoung Lee  
2022 Katie Yook, Jiyoung Lee  
2023 Joyce Chung  
2024 Sophia Park

### AHL – Grace Charity Foundation Research Fellowship

2015 Juyoung Yoo  
2016 Joo Yun Lee  
2017 Jeong-A Kim  
2018 Suzy Taekyung Kim  
2019 Soojung Hyun  
2020 Jiyoung Lee  
2021 Joohee Kim  
2022 Youngshin Yook  
2023 Hyunsoo Kim  
2024 Taeyi Kim

### Kim Family Fund AKAA Senior Research Fellowship

2021 Jiyoung Lee  
2022 Jinyoung Koh  
2023 Joohee Kim  
2024 Hyunsoo Kim

### AKAA-Ran Hwang Fund

2022 Jiyoung Lee  
2023 Jiyoung Lee  
2024 Soojung Hyun

### AHL – Founder Sook Nyu Lee Kim AHLumni Collective Grant

2023 Ran Hwang  
2024 AHLumni Collective Group Exhibition



## Closing Message from the Chairperson of the AHL Foundation

I am pleased to greet you as the Chairperson of the AHL Foundation, which is giving dreams and hope to many young people trying to find the meaning of existence in New York, the home of art.

As the Foundation enters its 22nd year, it has established itself as an organization that provides support to both artists and art-loving New Yorkers.

Following the completion of the foundation's task of establishing a gallery, this year, in collaboration with the Changboh Chee Foundation, we have achieved the significant task of creating a facility that allows us to see our culture on a larger scale within the vastly different culture of Harlem, by establishing a gallery for a branch outside the gallery.

Of course,

Art Classes have been continued for over 10 years to the general public who love art.

Following the surprising news of author Han Kang winning the Nobel Prize last year, K-culture has also grown immensely this year.

Starting with the musical "Maybe Happy Ending" winning a whopping six Tony Awards, the music and scenery in our animated film "K-pop Demon Hunter" is now being talked about all over the world every day.

I believe our art world is experiencing an equally strong wind. I sincerely congratulate the artists who have received awards from the foundation this year, who will further demonstrate the power of K art. I hope that today, as you encounter the works of these artists who support the foundation's growth and mission, will be a truly meaningful and joyful time. I thank all of you who have generously supported the AHL Foundation and graced this occasion. I wish you continued health and happiness in your daily lives.

Chairperson of Board  
Young Sook Park



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