



Korean American Youth Leaders in Training **Summer 2018**

The K.W. Lee Center for Leadership is sponsoring an exciting leadership development initiative for high school and college students called the Korean American Youth Leaders in Training. *Sa-i-gu* (April 29, 1992 Los Angeles civil unrest), which serves as the impetus for this program, exposed many deep-rooted problems in the Korean American community, particularly the lack of leadership. The purpose of this program is to take deliberate steps to fill that void by developing and supporting a new generation of Korean American leaders. The program provides an opportunity for Korean American students to develop leadership skills, explore their culture and history, experience hands-on community organizing, and develop a larger perspective of themselves in relation to their own community as well as the larger public arena.

Who Should Apply?

High school and college students who have an interest in the Korean American community and want to develop their leadership skills to create social change may apply. Non-Korean applicants are encouraged to apply. Each program is limited to 8 college and 12 high school interns. College interns will receive a \$500 stipend. College interns not from the Southern California area are eligible for an additional stipend to partially cover travel and housing. High school students must be at least in the 9th grade when applying for the program. High school students will receive community service hours for their participation in the internship, if requested. The high school program tuition is \$150.00 for the entire eight-week program.

Program Components

College interns will meet Monday through Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 5 p.m. High school interns will meet Monday through Friday from 1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

EDUCATION emphasizes community organizing, power, politics, cultural diversity, gender, and generational issues.

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT entails interviewing skills, coalition building, facilitation, and strategic planning.

COMMUNITY PROJECTS provide an opportunity to organize around critical issues facing the Korean American community.

Tentative Curriculum

- Session 1: Orientation
- Session 2: Site Visits to Koreatown Organizations
- Session 3: Korean American Pioneers
- Session 4: Asian Gangs
- Session 5: Retreat: Family Session
- Session 6: Asian American Movement
- Session 7: Workers' Rights
- Session 8: Asian Americans in Entertainment
- Session 9: Saigu (1992 Los Angeles Civil Unrest)
- Session 10: Coalition Building
- Session 11: Interview with Elected Official
- Session 12: Korean American Adoptees
- Session 13: Student-led Training
- Session 14: Hate Crimes
- Session 15: Personal Legacy

Application Timeline

- Application Deadline: April 8, 2018 (email submission only)
- Program Begins: June 18, 2018
- Program Ends: August 10, 2018

Who is K.W. Lee?

K.W. Lee is a renowned journalist, having worked in the mainstream and ethnic media for 40 years as a reporter, editor, and publisher. He has covered such issues as civil rights struggles in the South in the early 1960s, massive vote buying practices in southern West Virginia, and the plight of Appalachian coal miners, but he is best known for authoring an investigative series on the 1974 San Francisco Chinatown gangland murder conviction of immigrant Chol Soo Lee, upon which the film "True Believer" was based. His five-year-long coverage with more than 120 articles led to a new trial and an eventual acquittal and release of the prisoner from San Quentin's Death Row.

Inspired by the lifetime of service of civil rights activist K.W. Lee, the Center reflects his passion for community consciousness and his dedication to fostering young leaders. The mission of the Center is to train young people to take proactive steps toward improving and enriching the quality of life in their communities.

More Information

If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Do Kim at (213) 321-7220 or at dokim@kwleecenter.org.

