All Roads Lead to Ceramics!
The World Ceramic Exposition 2001 Korea (WOCEK) in 2001 was a significant beginning for the Korea Ceramic Foundation (KOCEF). KOCEF has since been writing a new chapter in the history of Korean ceramic culture and creating a new legacy for it. KOCEF has continually strived to overcome the challenges of the Korean ceramics community and to uphold and build upon the values of beautiful Korean ceramics through programs and projects aimed at spreading ceramic culture, marketing ceramics and supporting ceramic art, and revitalizing ceramics tourism, among other purposes. Galleries and museums specialized in ceramics are major facilities of KOCEF, and it is striving to extend their limited regional reach and improve their difficult financial situation by promoting ceramic culture among the public, particularly by the ‘Ceramics Tour Line’ connecting the cities of Gwangju, Icheon, and Yeoju.

The Gyeonggi International Ceramic Biennale (GICB), which KOCEF has hosted for more than 15 years, has shed light on the values of traditional Korean ceramics, and has played a pivotal role in making Gyeonggi-do Province in Korea the global center of ceramics. Also, by carrying out public projects such as the Ceramic Public Art Project, KOCEF has changed the public perception towards ceramics, while creating jobs for ceramic artists. KOCEF is committed to its mission of exploring the boundless domains of the Korean ceramic culture industry, which is alive and well in Korean history, and building ceramic culture together with the general public.
01 Spreading of ceramic culture
06 Gyeonggi International Ceramic Biennale
08 Hands-on ceramics classes
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10 Increasing opportunities for more people to enjoy culture

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13 Special sales events
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14 Providing information on ceramics and supporting research on ceramics
15 Support for creative work & startup of young artists
15 Implementing ceramic public art projects

03 Journey to Ceramic Culture
16 Icheon Cerapia
18 Gonjiam Ceramic Park
20 Yeoju Dojasesang

Ceramics permeates into the public psyche

Through three public museums – Icheon World Ceramic Center, Gyeonggi Ceramic Museum, World Ceramic Livingware Gallery – KOCEF arranges exhibitions and events such as the Gyeonggi International Ceramic Biennale (GICB), special exhibitions, and joint exhibitions on ceramic culture with foreign institutions. It runs ceramics learning programs, hands-on activities, and a ceramics sharing program that make ceramics more approachable by ordinary visitors and enable them to become more familiar with ceramics. All of these are part of a constant effort by KOCEF to widely promote ceramics.
Since its foundation in 2001, GICB has become firmly established as an event that represents Korea: it is no longer merely a regional event. Ceramic artists from more than 70 countries all over the world come to Korea, and world-famous ceramics are shipped to Korea. Having continued for more than fifteen years, the biannual GICB, a festival of true ceramic art, has played a pivotal role in illuminating the values of Korean ceramics and making Korea the center of world ceramics. Over the last fifteen years, the GICB has built recognition of ceramics as a genre of contemporary art, while eliciting interest and positive reviews from various quarters by making diverse attempts to blur the boundaries between ceramics and to expand the domain of ceramics.
KOCEF runs hands-on ceramics classes where people of every age can learn about ceramics and make ceramics themselves. In the Hands-on Ceramics and Play with Clay programs, everyone can become familiar with ceramics by making ceramics by diverse techniques by themselves. For children, there is a playground where they can play with clay.
Exhibitions specialized in ceramic culture

KOCEF organizes and hosts interesting exhibitions on ceramics at the Icheon World Ceramic Center, Gyeonggi Ceramic Museum, and World Ceramic Livingware Gallery and runs travelling exhibitions on ceramics featuring pieces in its own collection.

Increasing opportunities for more people to enjoy culture

KOCEF is expanding opportunities for exposure to ceramics through its culture sharing program for those members of society who have little opportunity to enjoy culture, including people with disabilities and multicultural families.

Marketing and supporting ceramics

A crisis offers an opportunity!

In order to help ceramic artists help themselves, KOCEF supports diverse marketing and ceramics projects in such ways as exploring new ceramics markets at home and abroad, supporting marketing, promoting creative activities, and providing spaces for creation. These efforts help improve the financial situation of the Korean ceramics community and facilitate its succession and development of the values of Korean ceramics.
G-Ceramic Life Fair

This is the largest domestic ceramics sales event where ceramics shopping and ceramics culture come together to present culinary trends. This is Korea’s best ceramics festival. Visitors can not only purchase good quality products produced at some two hundred studios and ceramics businesses all over Korea at reasonable prices and appreciate beautiful works of ceramic art by professional artists, but experience the culinary culture suggested by famous chefs and food stylists and enjoy ceramic-making demonstrations by master potters and hands-on ceramics activities.

Consignment Sales

KOCEF sells some 630 kinds of ceramics produced at 115 studios throughout Korea at the ceramics shops of Korea’s largest ceramics shopping mall in Yeoju Dojasesang and Doseondang Artshop of Icheon Cerapia on consignment. Consumers can buy wide range of quality ceramics products at low prices.

Special sales events

KOCEF helps increase demand for ceramics and facilitates exploration of markets for ceramics by arranging one-time ceramics sales events at large department stores and retailers and participating in well-known crafts expositions at home and abroad.
Joint exhibitions and support for succession of tradition

KOCEF is helping to revitalize the ceramic culture industry by supporting symposiums of ceramics exhibitions and joint events at home and abroad, offering exhibition space to ceramic artists free of charge, and defraying some of the costs of firing of wood-fired kilns.

Support for creative work & startup of young artists

KOCEF continues to help develop ceramic art by supporting new artists and revitalizing the ceramics industry through support for startup and creative activities of young artists engaged in ceramics and other crafts, as well as diverse programs linked with ceramics such as an open studio for communication with visitors.

Providing information on ceramics and supporting research on ceramics

KOCEF renders support for Korean ceramics in many ways to foster ceramic culture and art and the ceramic industry. These include registration of ceramists in a database, provision of online and offline library resources specialized in ceramics, conducting a ceramics census, and supporting test analysis of ceramic products and technical training of ceramists.

Implementing ceramic public art projects

KOCEF implements ceramic public art projects that involve art recycling. Old buildings, walls, and desolate public facilities that need environmental improvement are recreated in truly imaginative ways by ceramic artists using primarily semi-permanent, aesthetic ceramics. This not only beautifies public spaces but also creates more employment and business opportunities for the ceramic community.
ICHEON CERAPIA

A Space for Creation and Convergence of Contemporary Art

Located in the city of Icheon, a major city for ceramic arts in Korea, the Cerapia is a global ceramic arts park. Cerapia derives its name from a combination of the words “ceramic” and “utopia,” signifying a utopia made of ceramics. The major facility of Cerapia is the World Ceramic Center, which houses a collection of more than 2,000 works of contemporary ceramic artworks from all over the world, allowing visitors to see, appreciate, and learn more about global ceramic works through diverse special exhibitions. The Center is a multi-cultural complex that also includes artist residency, workshop, and hands-on experience facilities. In particular, the CeraMIX Creativity Residency Studio located on the first floor of the World Ceramic Center (CeraMIX Creativity Center) invites visitors to see and learn from the demonstrations of ceramists as well as glass artists performing glassblowing and lampworking. Moreover, the Center includes the Toyaseum, a storage-like museum; Gumiho Lake; Doseondang Artshop; and beautiful outdoor ceramic environmental facilities and culture contents such as the Singing Tree.
GONJIAM CERAMIC PARK

A Place Where the Past and Present Coexist

Gwangju, located in Gyeonggi-do Province, is a city with a rich historical legacy in which royal kilns were established to produce white porcelain for the Joseon royal court. In particular, the Gonjiam Ceramic Park encompasses the Sam-ri Paleolithic Site within its 160 acres of land, and therefore reveals the history and tradition from the prehistoric times to the present. Gonjiam Ceramic Park is a multi-cultural complex to experience a diverse range of activities from tradition, culture, art, education, recreation, and relaxation. It includes a traditional handcraft workshop, hands-on classes, outdoor performance stages, ceramics shopping mall, sculpture parks, and a gallery cafe that operate year-round. These facilities are established centering the Mosaic Garden that has public artworks and the Gyeonggi Ceramic Museum showcasing major ceramic works dating from ancient times, when ceramics were first made in Korea, to the modern times.

727 Gyeongchungdae-ro, Gonjiam-eup, Gwangju-si, Gyeonggi-do Province
Tel. +82-31-799-1500 (※ Closed January 1 and Mondays)

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01 Gyeonggi Ceramic Museum
02 Mosaic Garden
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05 'Clay Play' Hands-on Class
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08 Expo Sculpture Park
09 Hongbaekwon, a Colony of Lotus
10 Toy Clay Ground
11 Traditional Korean Garde
12 Tea House
13 Outdoor Performance Stage
14 Mugunghwa Land
15 Children’s Playground
16 Paleolithic Site
17 Gallery Cafe Gabi
A Multi-Shopping Venue for Livingware Ceramics

Dojasesang is located in Yeoju. Well known for its abundant natural resources including clean water, dense forest of pine trees, and high-quality kaolin, Yeoju has established itself as a major production site for ceramic livingware in Korea. Dojasesang includes the World Ceramic Livingware Gallery specialized in ceramics for everyday use, and the largest ceramics shopping mall in Korea comprising four major shops—Art Shop, Living Shop, Brand Shop, and Gallery Shop—organized according to the characteristics of the products and tastes of the consumers. With many famous tourist attractions being located nearby including the Riverside Park, Silloksa Temple, Birthplace of Empress Myeongseong, and Yeongneung and Nyeongneung (Tombs of King Sejong and Queen Soheon), Dojasesang allows visitors to see, create, enjoy, and purchase livingware ceramics while enjoying the view.

7, Sillok-sa-gil, Yeoju-si, Gyeonggi-do Province Tel. 031-884-8644 (※ Closed January 1 and Mondays)
HISTORY OF KOCEF

2016
- 06. 16 - 06. 19  G-Ceramic Life Fair 2016 held
- 10. 24 - 10. 26  Beautiful Korean Ceramics Drawing Contest held
- 07. 17 - 06. 30  The Promenade: Healing in Nature exhibition jointly presented with the National Folk Museum
- 04. 24 - 05. 31  Gyeonggi International Ceramic Biennale 2015 held

2015
- 10. 18 - 10. 22  Participated in the Jingdezhen International Ceramic Fair China 2015
- 07. 07 - 07. 09  The World of Eric Carle in Korea held in Icheon Cerapia

2014
- 10. 21 - 11. 07  Korea-China Ceramic Art Exchange Exhibition held in Jingdezhen, China
- 05. 10 - 11. 16  The 1st Beautiful Korean Ceramics held
- 09. 24 - 11. 17  Contemporary Ceramic Livingware Exhibition held in Philippines
- 05. 02 - 09. 09  Icheon Cerapia Opened

2013
- 04. 09 - 07. 07  The 1st Toya Tableware Festival held
- 09. 14 - 09. 19  ManGwonDang, a library specialized in ceramics opened

2012
- 09. 26 - 12. 31  Gyeonggi International Ceramic Biennale 2012 held
- 11. 07 - 11. 16  The 2nd Toya Tableware Festival held
- 07. 14 - 10. 13  Asia Ceramic Art Exchange Exhibition jointly presented with Taiwan and Japan
- 04. 09 - 07. 07  The Promenade: Healing in Nature exhibition jointly presented with the National Folk Museum

2011
- 09. 23 - 11. 25  Icheon Cerapia Opened
- 06. 01 - 07. 15  1001 Cups Exhibition held
- 10. 18 - 10. 22  Icheon Cerapia Opened

2010
- 09. 02 - 09. 09  Korea Contemporary Ceramic Exhibition held for the IAC General Assembly
- 09. 12 - 09. 19  Icheon World Ceramic Center opened

2009
- 12. 23 - 04. 05  A ground-breaking ceremony of Toyaseum held
- 04. 25 - 05. 24  Gyeonggi International Ceramic Biennale 2009 held

2008
- 04. 25 - 05. 05  Gyeonggi International Ceramic Fair 2008 held
- 11. 14 - 11. 18  The 4th Toya Tableware Festival held

2007
- 04. 28 - 06. 24  Gyeonggi International Ceramic Biennale 2007 held
- 09. 14 - 09. 19  Asia Ceramic Art Exchange Exhibition jointly presented with Taiwan and Japan

2006
- 09. 28 - 10. 02  The 3rd Toya Tableware Festival held
- 09. 26 - 12. 31  Asian Ceramic Art Exchange Exhibition jointly presented with Taiwan and Japan

2005
- 09. 06 - 09. 10  The 2nd Toya Tableware Festival held
- 04. 23 - 06. 19  Gyeonggi International Ceramic Biennale 2005 held
- 04. 01  ManGwonDang, a library specialized in ceramics opened

2004
- 09. 14 - 09. 19  The 1st Toya Tableware Festival held
- 05. 02  Designated as specialized art foundation by Gyeonggi-do Province
- 07. 01 - 08. 21  The 1st Beautiful Korean Ceramics held

2003
- 08. 26 - 08. 30  IAC 2004 General Assembly held in Korea

2002
- 03. 14  Gyeonggi Ceramic Museum and Icheon World Ceramic Livingware Gallery opened
- 03. 13  Icheon World Ceramic Center opened

2001
- 08. 10 - 10. 28  1st GICB 2001 (World Ceramic Exposition 2001 Korea) held

KOREA CERAMIC FOUNDATION

ICHEON CERAPIA
- 263, Gyeongchungdaero 2897 beon-gil, Icheon-si, Gyeonggi-do Province. Tel. +82-31-631-6501
- By car
  - From the Seoul Beltway: Take Seongnam IC → Naebu Route 43 to Icheon-Janghowon
  - From the Jungbu Expressway: Take West Icheon IC → Naebu Route 43 to Icheon-Janghowon
- Incheon Intl Airport → Gimpo → Dong Seoul Bus Terminal (Inter-city bus) → Seolbong Park Stop
- Bus runs every 10 minutes. First bus 07:30
- By Express City Bus

GWANGJU GONJAM CERAMIC PARK
- 727 Gyeongchun-dong, Gonjiam-eup, Gwangju-si, Gyeonggi-do Province Tel. +82-62-795-1500
- By car
  - From the Seoul Beltway: Take Seongnam IC → Naebu Route 43 to Icheon
  - From the Jungbu Expressway: Take Gwangju C. → Naebu Route 45 to Icheon
- Incheon Intl Airport → Gimpo → Dong Seoul Bus Terminal (Inter-city bus) → Seolbong Park Stop
- Bus runs every 20-60 minutes. First bus 08:40
- By Airport Limousine Bus
- By Express City Bus

YEJOU DOJASESANG
- 71, Silleuksa-gil, Yeosu-si, Gyeonggi-do Province. Tel. +82-55-387-0001
- By car
  - From the Yeongdong Expressway: Take Yeoju IC → Nat’l Route #37 (to Icheon·Yeoju)
- From the Jungbu Expressway: Take West Gonjiam IC → Nat’l Route #37 (to Icheon·Yeoju)
- Icheon Bus Terminal (Inter-city bus)
- Bus runs every 10 minutes. First bus 07:30
- By Express City Bus