The Korea Ceramic Foundation (KOCEF) is Korea’s only public organization that specializes in ceramics and represents Korean ceramic culture. The KOCEF is striving to create new heritage and values of Korean ceramic culture. Its mission is to make ceramics a part of everyday living and to globalize ceramic crafts, in turn ‘spurring innovation in the ceramics industry’. Part of this involves establishing a cooperation platform that would lead ceramic culture industry to discover and facilitate promising projects.

In response to change in the business environment including, in particular, the Fourth Industrial Revolution, the KOCEF is making every effort to raise the competitiveness of the ceramics industry and expand the market for ceramics by establishing a network and platform for ceramic crafts including entities such as the ‘Gyeonggi Crafts Center,’ ‘Online Ceramics Business Platform,’ and ‘Biennale Online Platform.’ The KOCEF is also working hard to expand opportunities for the culturally underprivileged and residents of Gyeonggi-do Province to enjoy ceramic culture through programs such as the Museum’s outreach program to share ceramic culture, lectures on ceramic culture, and development of contents for ceramic crafts. With the museums specialized in ceramics in Icheon, Gwangju, and Yeoju at the center, the KOCEF has been creating a tourist belt utilizing ceramic resources in its aspiration to write a new chapter in popularization of ceramic culture.

By taking a new approach to the Korean International Ceramic Biennale (KICB), which has been held over the past 20 years, and by expanding it, the KOCEF is playing a pivotal role in making Gyeonggi-do Province a center of world ceramics.

The KOCEF is committed to exploring the unlimited domain of ceramics alive in our everyday living and to creating ceramic culture together with the public.
## 01 Innovation of ceramic culture industry

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## 06 Realizing social values

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Ceramics undergoing change through fusion and innovation...!

The KOCEF is committed to making the ceramic crafts industry more competitive by discovering and facilitating a wide range of businesses with a view to rejuvenating the ceramic culture industry in response to change in business environment wrought by the Fourth Industrial Revolution.
Online ceramics business platform

The KOCEF established its new Online Ceramics Business Platform to fundamentally rationalize the distribution of the ceramics industry and increase ceramics sales, ultimately to increase the competitiveness of the ceramics industry and expand the ceramics market.

www.k-ceramic.com

Marketplace selling directly to buyers (shopping)
Space for communication and sharing of information (agora)

Gyeonggi crafts center

Established to support and innovatively change the ceramics industry amid the Fourth Industrial Revolution, the Gyeonggi Crafts Center aspires to facilitate the development of the ceramic crafts industry in Gyeonggi-do Province and revitalize the regional economy. The Center supports craft artists engaged in ceramics, glass, metalwork, woodwork, and other fields as well as entities leading the fusion of contemporary digital crafts through its specialized digital equipment. It seeks to create a virtuous cycle of production, distribution, sales, and tourism, through which it intends to realize development of the crafts industry in Gyeonggi-do Province and invigoration of the regional economy.
Gyeonggi crafts center

While supporting the development and invigoration of the crafts industry, including support for start-ups of crafts business, support for production of prototypes, and support for production of contents for online education of crafts, the KOCEF renders customized educational programs for crafts makers and ordinary citizens in the fields of ceramics, glass, metalwork, woodwork and digital work in order to help crafts develop in Gyeonggi-do Province and to enable more citizens to enjoy crafts.

**Customized programs**
- Support for crafts start-ups
- Training and support for crafts makers
- Hands-on educational program for the public

**Space for creativity and innovation**
- Operation of platform linked online and offline
- Establishment of cooperation networking

**Open art space**
- Facilities opened to the public
- Equipment made available to the public

**Programs to help increase crafts makers**
- Y-Maker Festa
- Events to invigorate crafts industry

**Smart museum**

In response to the Fourth Industrial Revolution, the KOCEF has established the Smart Contents Museum using future technologies. Works in the collections of the Museum are realized as VR contents by 3D modeling, and a hands-on search guidance system enables communication with the audience.

The KOCEF also developed the Mobile Platform using IoT and ICT to operate the Mobile Smart Museum. It provides information on the history and culture of the Gwangju royal ceramics.

Through the Smart Museum, exhibitions and works in the collection of the Museum can be viewed at home in three-dimensions, and information on historic sites and ceramic workshops can be searched at a click.

Hands-on Museum (Gyeonggi Ceramic Museum)
Mobile Platform Ceramic City (Gyeonggi Ceramic Museum)
The more you know about ceramics, the more fascinated you become...!

The KOCEF is working hard to popularize ceramics. It is developing systematic ceramics education and hands-on programs; runs a ceramics-sharing program to help visitors to the museums more easily approach and understand ceramics; and it of course promotes and arranges the biannual KICB and a wide range of exhibitions and events including special exhibitions in Korea and exhibitions overseas for exchange of ceramic culture, all of which is based on public museums specialized in ceramics. Gyeonggi Museum of Contemporary Ceramic Art, Gyeonggi Ceramic Museum, and Gyeonggi Museum of Ceramic Design all play major roles in these efforts.

Biennale online platform

The Korean International Ceramic Biennale (KICB) intends to connect ceramic art throughout the world by the fastest and the most efficient way, which is by establishing a digital network. The KICB Online Platform is a huge exhibition archive and an online PR space. It enables anyone to view artworks by contemporary ceramic artists anytime, anywhere. Programs held on-site, such as exhibitions and workshops, can be viewed on this Online Platform. Diverse contents such as statements on art, art-making demonstrations, and performances by artists, can be viewed on mobile devices at www.kicb.co.kr

www.kicb.co.kr
Korean international ceramic biennale (KICB)

First held in 2001, the KICB is now a prestigious global art and culture event that assesses ceramic art today.

Ceramic artists of the world come to Korea; world famous ceramic works come to Gyeonggi-do Province...!

Held every odd-numbered year, the Korean International Ceramic Biennale is joined by ceramic artists from some 80 countries throughout the world. It has been reborn as an innovative art and culture event in that the KOCEF is working hard in many ways to reach out to a greater number of people by, for example, blurring the boundaries between ceramic art and other genres of art and presenting more art online, in consideration of the trends of the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

Hands-on ceramics class

The KOCEF offers a hands-on ceramics class and educational programs where people of all ages can learn and make pots themselves. Making their own pots by interesting pottery making techniques is a good way for anyone to become familiar with pottery.

Lectures on ceramic culture

This is a liberal art lecture series that helps Gyeonggi-do residents learn more about liberal art and better appreciate Korean ceramic culture. The lectures address ceramics with respect to history, culture, and society. More than 3,000 citizens participate annually in this program featuring online lectures and a field survey by the KOCEF.
Exhibition on ceramic culture

The KOCEF arranges and hosts innovative, interesting exhibitions on ceramics that embrace both tradition and modernity at its museums. In addition to the permanent exhibitions showing selected works from its collection of some three thousand ceramic works, it conducts each museum’s outreach program that includes cultural events both at home and overseas and special exhibitions at remote locations.

Museum’s outreach program to share ceramic culture

The KOCEF brings culture in many ways to those in remote locations who have few opportunities to otherwise enjoy culture via community cultural centers, community welfare centers, child welfare centers, multicultural family service centers and the like.

Scientific survey and research on cultural heritage

The KOCEF strives to help ceramic artists and the people of Gyeonggi-do better understand cultural heritage by excavating and preserving Joseon white porcelain kiln sites in Gwangju and disclosing the findings of its archeological research to the public.

Redefining the ceramics market

Korean ceramics advancing onto the world stage...!

The KOCEF has secured a bridgehead to the international market by surveying foreign ceramics markets, producing e-catalogues, and by other such means in an effort to attract foreign buyers and expand export markets, and it has simultaneously been building the foundation for B2B business by successfully hosting the G-Ceramic Fair and securing excellent locations for ceramics shops in the Seoul metropolitan area and other big cities in its effort to expand the domestic ceramics market.
G-Ceramic online fair

The KOCEF hosts the G-Ceramic Online Fair, which introduces elegant, alluring ceramic products, from trendy livingware to props, accessories, and sculptures produced by some 170 studios and companies in Gyeonggi-do Province. Suggesting convenient shopping for ceramics at low prices through an online ceramics store opened at domestic major portal shopping platforms, the G-Ceramic Online Fair sells bundle of ceramics and conducts events and diverse promotions, while expanding the ceramics market through diversification of distribution channels for potteries.

www.ceramicfair.co.kr

Supporting exports and exploring overseas markets

In order to help boost exports of Korean-made ceramics and explore foreign markets, the KOCEF has made actual inroads into American and Southeast Asian markets by means of Australia and Vietnam, and it hosts an annual open competition for “global export strategic products.”

The KOCEF has staged an aggressive overseas marketing campaign. It selected agencies in Australia and Vietnam who assist the KOCEF and Korean companies with finding buyers, participating in online and offline export expositions, holding of online counseling on exports, conducting on-site market surveys, and translation and interpretation for exports and customs clearing.

The KOCEF developed the export brand, K-Ceramic, under which some 1,000 good-quality ceramics both for everyday use and as expression were registered. In order to help K-Ceramic with direct selling both at home and overseas, the KOCEF operates an online shopping mall.
Supporting sales at home

The largest ceramics shopping mall in Korea housed in Yeoju Dojasesang sells 630 different ceramic items produced by 115 potteries from all over Korea on consignment. Consumers can buy a wide range of trendy ceramic products at low prices. Also, the KOCEF makes the good quality of Korean ceramics known all over the world and provides ongoing support for building distribution channels by operating an online shopping mall specialized in ceramics (K-Ceramic.com) in its effort to cope with the rapidly changing e-business market environment.

Nurturing Ceramic Artists and Supporting Creative Activities

Growth engine for future of ceramics industry...!

The KOCEF nurtures young artists by developing and operating diverse programs to support creative activities of ceramic crafts makers. It also supports ceramic artists so that they can devote themselves wholly to making pottery.

Information on ceramics and supporting research | Protecting ceramic design
Supporting creative works and start-ups of young artists | Joint marketing of exhibitions and supporting inheritance of tradition
**Information on ceramics and support for research**

The KOCEF facilitates the development of Korean ceramic technology and improvement in the quality of Korean ceramics in many ways, including administration of the ceramic artists registration system and construction of a database to support ceramic artists and related groups based in Korea, operation of the ceramics information center, conducting surveys of the ceramics census and test analysis of ceramic products, and provision of training for ceramic artists.

**Protecting ceramic design**

Protection of ceramic design is another important function of the KOCEF. It acts as a proxy for ceramic design registration and conducts programs to protect ceramic design, such as education on how to counter design-theft. All of this is ultimately intended to encourage more creativity by ceramic artists and maintain fair distribution for them.

**Supporting creative works and start-ups of young artists**

The KOCEF continues to develop ceramic culture and art through diverse liaison programs for community outreach in Gyeonggi-do Province, not to mention efforts to cultivate young ceramics and crafts artists and create jobs for them by supporting their start-ups and creative activities.

**Joint marketing of exhibitions and supporting inheritance of tradition**

The KOCEF helps revitalize the ceramic culture industry by promoting creative activities and exchange of ceramic artists. It supports exhibitions and symposiums on ceramics and events for exchange of ceramic culture both at home and abroad, offers exhibition spaces rent-free, and supports the use of traditional kiln.
### History

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### Icheon Cerapia, venue for international exhibitions/hands-on activities international exchanges on ceramics

‘Cerapia’ is a portmanteau of ‘ceramic’ and ‘utopia.’ It signifies a utopia of ceramics. The major facility of Cerapia, Gyeonggi Museum of Contemporary Ceramic Art, houses a collection of some 2,000 works by contemporary ceramic artists from all over the world and hosts special exhibitions to introduce global ceramics to the public. Visitors can see the pottery-making process, make pots themselves, and meet with artists in-person at the residency studio and other hands-on facilities.

Icheon Cerapia opened in May 2019 as a hub of exchange and community of global ceramic artists.
Gonjiam Ceramic Park, a ceramic theme park of nature and tradition

Gonjiam Ceramic Park is in Gwangju, Gyeonggi-do province, home to the royal kilns that produced the white porcelain for the royal household during the Joseon dynasty. Covering an area of 440,000㎡ for Gyeonggi Ceramic Museum, Supsok-osol-gil (“Forest Path”) formally called Spanish Sculpture Park, Iyagi-madang (“Story-telling Yard”), formally called Expo Sculpture Park, and Sam-nil Historic Site from the Old Stone Age, the park has established itself as a live space of art, and history and culture. Gonjiam Ceramic Park is a multiple cultural complex that offers a wide variety of hands-on activities and facilities for recreation and rest. Its facilities include Gyeonggi Ceramic Museum where ceramics from ancient times, when ceramics were first made in Korea, to modern times are displayed; a children’s playground named Useum-sori-eondeok (“Hill of Laughing Sound”), Geoul-yeonmot Square (“Mirror Pond Square”), Traditional Craft Studio, a hands-on activities class, outdoor concert halls, a ceramics shopping mall, and a gallery café.

In September 2019, Gonjiam Ceramic Park opened anew as a ceramic theme park providing a rest place in nature with a promenade, picnic garden, and eye-catching benches, all made of waste ceramics. With these facilities together with Ceramic Flower Garden and a beautifully landscaped garden, and newly installed lighting, the park became a major tourist attraction.

Yeoju Dojasesang, a trend-setting ceramic crafts cluster of living culture

Comprised of the Gyeonggi Museum of Ceramic Design, an art museum specialized in functional ceramics, and the largest ceramics shopping mall in Korea housing three shops - Art Shop, Living Shop, and Gallery Shop – Yeoju Dojasesang is a major hub of distribution of livingware ceramics. Close to major tourist attractions including Riverside Park, Siljeuksa Temple, the Birthplace of Empress Myeongseong, and the Tomb of King Sejong, Yeoju Dojasesang is a multiple cultural complex where you can see, shop, make pots, and rest and enjoy yourself.

In 2019, idle space in Yeoju Dojasesang was put to use as the new Gyeonggi Crafts Center. It is an innovative platform and base for distribution of creative crafts by artists engaged in ceramics, glass, metalwork, woodwork, and digital crafts.
Realizing social values

As a public institution, the KOCEF has been realizing social values through charity and corporate philanthropy and culture-sharing programs, a win-win for the KOCEF and local communities.

Corporate philanthropy through nurturing of young potters
Corporate philanthropy to share culture with the underprivileged
Invigoration of small local businesses and shopping at traditional marketplace
Collecting donations to help victims of natural disasters in our neighborhood.
All Roads Lead to Ceramics