



## Spring Newsletter from Boston Korean Adoptees, Inc.

1 message

Boston Korean Adoptees, Incorporated <info@bkadoptee.org>

Thu, Jun 12, 2014 at 10:16 AM

Reply-To: info@bkadoptee.org

To:



### BKA Newsletter Spring 2014

#### In This Issue

- Letter From The Board
- Recap of Past Events
- KADtalk
- Upcoming Events
- Meet New Board Member
- Anniversary Conference

Issue 6.0

June 2014

#### Letter from the Board of Directors

Dear BKA Member,

The past few months have been busy, yet exciting. We've gone bowling, ran a 5k, facilitated a panel discussion at a high school conference for Asian-American students, and helped organize the annual Dessert Fundraiser at the Korean Church of Boston.

This quarter we also welcomed a new board member to the BKA board. Oh-Mee Howard has helped to plan the BKA Anniversary Conference since the beginning of last year and has volunteered with other local organizations. As a board member, Oh-Mee will be supporting Mark with BKA event promotions and Alice with new member services.

We have some great upcoming events, including a spring social on the rooftop deck at Daedalus! Keep reading to learn about all of our past and future events.

Also, don't forget to register for the BKA Anniversary Conference which takes place August 14-17, 2014 at the OMNI Parker House Hotel. To register for the conference, [please click here](#).

Sincerely,

#### Quick Links

- [Find us on Facebook](#)
- [Follow us on Twitter](#)
- [Follow us on Instagram](#)
- [Visit our website](#)

#### 2014 Conference Links

- [Main Page](#)
- [Submit Your Digital Story Project \(DSP\)](#)
- Like us on Facebook!
- Twitter: #BKA14

#### Join Our List

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

### The 2014 BKA Board of Directors

Nate Bae Kupel, President  
Sarah O'Neill, Treasurer  
Mark Zastrow, Events Coordinator  
Laura Knuttunen, Clerk  
Alice MacMillan, Secretary  
Tony Cova, Board Member  
Chris Albrizio, Board Member  
Oh-Mee Howard, Board Member

### Recap of Past Events

On December 14 this past winter, we made it out in a snowy storm to celebrate the season for the **Holiday Party** at the Third Square Apartments in Cambridge for a potluck, board games, and a Yankee swap.



On February 1, 2014, we welcomed the Year of the Horse at our annual **Lunar New Year celebration** at Chung Ki Wa Restaurant in Medford Square. Eileen Thompson, one of our founding members made an appearance, and Tony showed off his magical abilities to an appreciative audience.



On March 1, we hosted the 1st **Open Dialogue Workshop** at East Meets Words in Cambridge. This unique open discussion format allowed a group of 10 adoptees to pitch their own conversation topics and participate in a variety of self-facilitated conversations. We hope to continue these events in the future; stay tuned for details!

On April 26, BKA partnered with local Asian-American organizations for our annual **A Little Peace: Dessert Night** fundraiser at the Korean Church of Boston in Brookline. There were dozens of desserts and savory appetizers to taste, raffle prizes to win, and lots of fun and socializing! It's one of our biggest fundraisers of the year. This year, our collaborators included AARW (Asian American Resource Workshop), API Movement, and Activist Training Institute.





Thank you for joining us at our events; it is always great to see a new face. We hope to see you again soon!

### **KADtalk: A literature and film discussion group**

KADtalk is a group of adult Korean adoptees that meet bi-monthly to discuss materials created by those who are Korean, Korean American (especially materials focusing on identity), or members of the adoption triad (birth parents, adoptive parents, adoptees). We also discuss materials about transracial adoption and Korea. We aim to provide a safe and comfortable space for Korean adoptees to explore topics personal and related to us, and to discuss literature and other materials with an astute and critical eye. As we meet together, we also seek to build community by sharing our thoughts and experiences and learning from one another.

We've had great discussions this year about some fantastic works, including:

- Thomas Park Clement's memoir "The Unforgotten War: Dust of the Streets," hosted by Stacy in February
- "Perpetual Child: Dismantling the Stereotype," an anthology of pieces by adult adoptees, hosted by Alice in April
- The novel "Wait for Me" by An Na, hosted by Molly in May
- The film "Approved for Adoption," a film memoir by Belgium animator and Korean adoptee Jung Henin

If you're interested in becoming part of our group contact Saebom at [bookclub@bkadoptee.org](mailto:bookclub@bkadoptee.org).

### **Upcoming Events**

Spring Social Mix & Mingle on June 20th at 6pm at Daedalus near Harvard Square in Cambridge. New members are especially welcome! RSVP by emailing [eventscoordinator@bkadoptee.org](mailto:eventscoordinator@bkadoptee.org) or joining the event on Facebook.

Happy Hour! Join us on July 11th at Towne Stove & Spirits in Boston & July 25th at Meadhall in Cambridge.

Our annual Summer BBQ is TBA; keep an eye out for details!

## Meet Our Newest Board Member, Oh-Mee Howard

Please welcome Oh-Mee! She steps into the role as Board Member at large due to a mid-term vacancy and we're excited to have her.

Oh-Mee was born in Mapo-gu in Seoul, Korea. She was adopted with her brother when she was 4 ½ years old. She grew up in Southern Massachusetts with her biological brother, a sister who was also adopted from Korea, and four other siblings that are biological to her adoptive parents.

Oh-Mee has been a part of the BKA Anniversary Conference Social Activities Committee since the beginning of 2013. She is also a volunteer Treasurer for Korean Youth Cultural Outreach (Atti), and a volunteer mentor for ConnectAKid. She really enjoys being involved in the Adoptee/Korean committee and appreciates all the new people she has been able to meet and reach out to.



Oh-Mee at the 2013 Annual Meeting

Oh-Mee currently works at an investment management firm as a trader in high yield bonds and leveraged loans. She loves taekwondo and teaches part time on the weekends. In her spare time, she also plays golf, shops, and dabbles in random craft projects.

She looks forward to meeting everyone at an event or online soon. She can be reached at [ohmee@bkadoptee.org](mailto:ohmee@bkadoptee.org).

## #BKA14 Conference Updates

### What's (Y)our Story? #BKA14 August 14-17th at the Omni Parker House Hotel

Join us in celebrating 15 years as an organization and 10 years as a nonprofit (YAY!). We're looking forward to four days of great food, interactive learning, interesting workshops, fun social activities, and meaningful storytelling.

BKA14 will bring together Korean adoptees from around the world to share our experiences and bond over new ones. Come to meet new friends and reconnect with old ones. What is your story? We want to hear it. And what is our story--as a community? Join us to write the next chapter of KAD history.

### Call For Submissions for Digital Story Collection (DSC)

As adoptees, we all have stories to tell, and there is great power in sharing that story with each other. Our individual stories shape the story of our community as a whole. Our

tagline--"What's (Y)our Story?"--alludes to how our narrative is made up of your stories, and vice versa. We want to hear those stories, and share them with each other at the conference.

The BKA14 Digital Story Collection is a platform for adoptees to tell stories through videos, poems, photos-however you wish. It's a chance to share what's important to you with the community. We will watch and react to them together at a workshop at the conference.

They don't have to be anything fancy. Need help getting started? Check out <http://bka14.tumblr.com> and email [mystory@bkadoptee.org](mailto:mystory@bkadoptee.org).

### **Registration**

Don't forget to register for the conference! The current Spring rate is \$150 and covers your admission to all of the conference workshops and plenaries, the Saturday night Gala Dinner, breakfast buffets, and afternoon/evening social events. Spots are filling up fast so please don't forget to register. To register, click [here](#).

Conference registration rates and deadlines:

- Spring rate (until July 15): \$150
- Summer rate (after July 15): \$200
- Leadership Conference: additional \$10

### **#BKA14 Seeking Sponsorships**

The Sponsorship Committee is aiming to raise \$26,000 to put on BKA's Anniversary Conference. We have already made substantial progress through fundraising events, (like last year's Tag Sale), a grant from the Korean Ministry of Health and Welfare, and generous donations. To put us over the top, we are looking for conference sponsors. If you know anyone who may be interested in buying ad space in the conference program or sponsoring an event/meal at the conference, please contact [fundraising@bkadoptee.org](mailto:fundraising@bkadoptee.org) for more information.

You can stay connected with BKA through social media. Join the BKA [Facebook page](#) and follow our accounts on Twitter and Instagram: [@bkadoptee](#).

Keep yourself informed on what's happening, details on Open Dialogue Workshops, KADtalk meet-ups, Game Nights, and current events by [checking our website](#).

Thank you for being part of our community!

Sincerely,

Nate, Sarah, Chris, Laura, Mark, Alice, Tony, Oh-Mee  
BKA Board of Directors

You are receiving this email because you are a member of Boston Korean Adoptees, Inc. If you wish to opt out of the BKA newsletter in the future, please contact [info@bkadoptee.org](mailto:info@bkadoptee.org).



[Forward email](#)



This email was sent to [sarah@bkadoptee.org](mailto:sarah@bkadoptee.org) by [info@bkadoptee.org](mailto:info@bkadoptee.org) | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

Boston Korean Adoptees, Incorporated | P.O. Box 120841 | Boston | MA | 02112