



KOREAN STATE DINNER

In Honor of

HIS EXCELLENCY LEE MYUNG-BAK
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

and

MRS. KIM YOON-OK

THE WHITE HOUSE

October 13, 2011



Overview

Arrival Ceremony

Today, the President and First Lady host His Excellency Lee Myung-bak, President of the Republic of Korea and Mrs. Kim Yoon-ok, at the White House for a State Visit. This marks the fifth State or Official Visit of the Obama Administration, after visits by India in November, 2009, Mexico in May, 2010, China in January, 2011, and Germany in June, 2011.

The President and First Lady invited more than 200 students ages 7 to 16 from the Washington area to help welcome the Korean delegation at this Arrival Ceremony. Schools in attendance included Centreville High School of Clifton, VA, Colin Powell Elementary School of Centreville, VA, Bruce Monroe Elementary School of Washington, DC, and Braddock Elementary School of Annandale, VA.

In addition, the Arrival Ceremony marked the largest White House Tweetup to date — an in-person meet up with people that engage with the White House through social media. The White House invited hundreds of @WhiteHouse followers on Twitter and fans on Facebook to attend the ceremony. Tweetup attendees shared their experience with their friends and followers using the hashtag #WHTweetup. Korean and American citizens are active users of social media and both the Blue House, the Republic of Korea's presidential office and residence, and the White House utilize social networking sites like Twitter and Facebook, as well as mobile technology for public outreach.

Mrs. Obama, Mrs. Kim Visit Local High School

As part of the Administration's activities to welcome the President and First Lady of the Republic of Korea, and Mrs. Obama's tradition of extending the reach of the State Visit beyond the gates of the White House, Mrs. Obama and the Republic of Korea's First Lady Mrs. Kim Yoon-ok today visited Annandale High School in Virginia. Annandale is home to one of the largest Korean-American communities in the Washington area and the school's 2,500 students derive from nearly 90 countries and speak over 50 languages. The school offers an International Baccalaureate program and is known for its musical and theater programs. At the school, Mrs. Obama and Mrs. Kim watched a musical performance featuring Jennifer Koh, the World Children's Choir, and Annandale High School students. Koh was born in Illinois to Korean parents; her mother was born in North Korea, escaped and was a refugee in Seoul where she met her husband before moving to the United States. The World Children's Choir is comprised of children of many cultures and nations who come together to sing about friendship and peace, while learning how music expresses emotion and creates shared experiences.

State Dinner

The President and Mrs. Obama will host His Excellency President Lee Myung-bak and Mrs. Kim Yoon-ok for a State Dinner on the night of October 13th, 2011. The State Dinner will be held in the East Room of the White House. White House Executive Chef Cris Comerford and White House Executive Pastry Chef William Yosses have constructed the evening's menu using local ingredients, including produce grown in the White House Kitchen Garden.

A Fall Harvest Dinner

The Korea State Dinner Menu is a celebration of an early Fall Harvest. Last week, on October 5, the First Lady and local students from Tubman and Bancroft Elementary Schools in Washington, DC worked together to harvest vegetables in the White House Kitchen Garden as part of Mrs. Obama's *Let's Move!* initiative. Vegetables from that harvest are highlighted in this evening's dinner and perennial herbs from the garden are used throughout the meal.

Local Menu Selection

The first course, Butternut Squash Bisque, represents the best in local, seasonal fare: the dish is light yet robust and features the scents of fall. It includes squash from the White House Kitchen Garden and honey from the White House beehive.

The Early Fall Harvest Salad, featuring daikon sheets and masago rice pearl crispies, is a nod to Korean traditions, and includes greens from the White House Kitchen Garden.

The main dish features wagyu beef from a Texas ranch, fresh kale from a DC-area source and squash from the White House Kitchen Garden.

The dessert features a classic recipe of chocolate cake layered with a harmonious blend of Korean and American pears.

Dinner Menu

First Course

Butternut Squash Bisque, Honey Poached Cranberries,
Virginia Cured Ham, Pumpkin Seed Praline, Crème Fraiche



Second Course

Early Fall Harvest Salad on Daikon Sheets,
Masago Rice Pearl Crispies, Rice Wine Vinaigrette



Main Course

Texas Wagyu Beef, Orange-Ginger Fondue,
Sautéed Kale, Roasted Kabocha Squash



Dessert

Chocolate Malt Devils Food Layers
With Pear and Almond Brittle



An American wine will be paired with each course

Entertainment

The White House will host entertainment in the State Dining Room following the dinner in the East Room, featuring performances by the Ahn Trio and selections by Janelle Monáe.

Performances by

THE AHN TRIO

Angella Ahn, Violin

Lucia Ahn, Piano

Maria Ahn, Cello



Selections by

JANELLE MONÁE

Janelle Monáe, Vocals
Terrence Brown, Keyboard
Kellis Parker Jr., Guitar
Michael Phillips, Drums
Jonathan Webb, Bass
Lance Powlis, Trumpet
Marcus Lewis, Trombone

The Ahn Trio—Born in Seoul, Korea, and educated at the Juilliard School in New York City, the Ahn Trio brings a new energy and excitement to the music world. Hailed as “exacting and exciting musicians” by the Los Angeles Times, these three American sisters have earned a distinguished reputation for embracing 21st century classical music with their unique style and innovative collaborations.

The Ahn Trio has recorded six albums including trios by Dvorak, Suk, and Shostakovich that won Germany’s prestigious ECHO Award. They have performed in all 50 States and in over 30 countries including Austria, Argentina, Germany, Korea and Turkey where they continue to share their innovative spirit and ever-evolving vision of music. The sisters are members of the Montana State University music faculty.

Janelle Monáe—A singer, songwriter, producer, and performer from Kansas City, Kansas, Janelle Monáe’s innovative style melds a redefined pop sensibility with an extraordinary mash-up of soul, funk, and rock n’ roll. Monáe’s debut album “The ArchAndroid” was released to widespread acclaim, earning her multiple Grammy nominations, and the Associated Press, the Guardian, the Chicago Tribune, and the Los Angeles Times all named the album “The #1 Album of 2010.” Monáe was also a recipient of the 2011 ASCAP Vanguard Award and was included in the first-ever Women Who Rock exhibit at the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame earlier this year.

A dynamic performer and artistic entrepreneur, Ms. Monáe has launched her own record label called the Wondaland Arts Society and performed worldwide with artistic legends such as Stevie Wonder and Prince.

Décor and Arrangements

The inspiration for the Republic of Korea State Dinner is American Hospitality. At State Dinners, we extend our hand in friendship and convey a generosity of spirit designed to welcome guests. In the spirit of that hospitality, some of the design elements are a reflection of Korea's culture and craftsmanship.

The art of Korean knotting is depicted on the menu card for the evening. The union of string and tassel represents perfect harmony. Bamboo containers are featured on some of the dining tables, and chrysanthemums are included in the floral arrangements. In Korea, bamboo represents integrity and chrysanthemums are a sign of a productive and fruitful life. Hibiscus is the national flower of the Republic of Korea and will be featured in an art installation made of paper flowers in the Upper Cross Hallway.

Additionally, tonight's design, created by Rafanelli Events, is a celebration of autumn. It embraces a bright fall palette of oranges, reds and greens, with apples featured in centerpieces, wall installations and window medallions. The featured chrysanthemums also symbolize fall in Korean culture.

Previous Korean State Visits

There have been five State visits by the Republic of Korea:

- President Rhee Syngman State Visit. July 26-31, 1954
- President Park Chung-hee, State Visit. May 17-19, 1965
- President Roh Tae-woo State Visit. July 1-3, 1991
- President Kim Yong-sam State Visit. July 25-28, 1995
- President Kim Dae-jung State Visit. June 8-11, 1998