


[2024-73]

| | | | |
|--|---------------------------|---------|---------------------------------------|
|  한국문화원 Korean Cultural Center Los Angeles | Press Release | | 다시, 대한민국! 새로운 국민의 나라 |
| Request | For Immediate Release | | Pages: 2 |
| Release Date | August 8, 2024 (Thursday) | Contact | Michelle Noh, (323) 936-7141(ext.131) |

FINDING FAMILY: Korean adoptees share DNA reunion stories

8.19 at KCCLA Ari Hall

Featuring storytelling from the anthology *Together at Last* and the forthcoming documentary *Relative Strangers*



FINDING FAMILY
Korean adoptees share DNA reunion stories

책과 영화로 만나는
해외 한인입양인 이야기

August 19, 2024 at 6pm
KCCLA Ari Hall

- ▶ **Event:** FINDING FAMILY: Korean adoptees share DNA reunion stories
- ▶ **Date/ Location:** August 19 (Monday) 6 PM/ KCCLA Ari Hall
- ▶ **Organizer/Host:** Korean Cultural Center Los Angeles, 325 KAMRA
- ▶ **Inquires:** Michelle Noh, young@kccla.org

Korean Cultural Center Los Angeles, led by director Sangwon Jung, will host the Korean American Adoptee Storytime event "Finding Family" on August 19 at 6 PM in Ari Hall.

Co-hosted with 325KAMRA, a global non-profit organization dedicated to reuniting Korean families through DNA testing, the event will feature six Korean adoptees sharing excerpts from their stories, published in a first-of-its-kind anthology, *Together at Last*. Through these readings, they will convey the frustrations, anger, healing, and hope experienced in their journeys of adoption and discovering their roots. All the adoptees were born in Korea and adopted into American families, and they will each share their unique adoption story and the experience of searching for and finding their birth family through DNA.

Additionally, the event will screen scenes from *Relative Strangers*, a forthcoming documentary by Emmy Award-winning director Deann Borshay Liem. The documentary follows a group of mixed-race adopted Koreans — the adult children of U.S. servicemen and Korean women — as they team up with search experts and DNA specialists in their decades-long quest to find their first families. Liem, a Korean adoptee herself, is known for her documentaries that explore themes of war, memory, family and identity. Her notable works include *First Person Plural*, *In the Matter of Cha Jung Hee* and *Geographies of Kinship*. She has also directed films about the Korean War, including *Memory of Forgotten War* and *Crossings*.

The event is open to anyone interested in the stories of Korean adoptees and the diversity of family experiences. Attendees will also have the opportunity to learn about using DNA as a birth search tool and will have access to free DNA testing kits. An RSVP is required and can be made on the KCCLA website (kccla.org).

Director Jung of KCCLA expressed and emphasized the importance of this event. "After the Korean War, many Korean adoptees were dispersed abroad, with a significant number moving to the United States. We hope this inspiring event offers a heartfelt and moving experience through written and visual storytelling that convey the hope of Korean adoptees while addressing the healing of Korean adoption's painful history."