

FFWPU USA: 2022 Blessed Culture and Sports Festival - Being One Family

Naokimi Ushiroda
August 22, 2022



Photos courtesy of BCSF

"This year's BCSF was special because it was the first one after two years of being online," said Denthew Learey, director of the 2022 Blessed Culture and Sports Festival ([BCSF](#)). "This social-ness is what made it special, where people from all walks of life ... got to spend quality time together playing games, catching up, and competing in sports. This really brought back the feeling of us as a larger community being one family, being brothers and sisters."

Since transitioning online during the Covid-19 pandemic, BCSF returned in person for its 18th year better than ever. Some 400 participants from across North America came out to the Aug. 10-14 event at the Unification Theological Seminary ([UTS](#)) in Barrytown, New York.



"People clamored for the opportunity to come back in person and get to once again meet and talk throughout UTS," said Learey, who led an entirely new staff this year. "We had an extra 50 or so people that came during the weekend, and more than 40 participants from [Nevada and California], as well as 20 people from Canada."

The five-day festival also catered to families, Learey said, with about 20 young families and 30 kids participating in the Family Day Children's Olympics. The jam-packed program had all the hallmarks of BCSF, including volleyball, ultimate frisbee, soccer, basketball and intramural sports, as well as a fashion show, talent show, and a revival night.

"The quaint cafe [we set up], the vibe of the performance stage, and the whole feeling of Sports Fest

showed this is an event for family," said Learey. "We are all here as one family, no matter where we are from."

"BCSF is a space to truly celebrate and acknowledge the talents and skills each individual has to offer," said one participant. "For me, the [HJ Stars](#) talent show and all the evening events were the cherry on top. But the real insight I gained was on the sports fields, where I finally realized that I can play and give 100 percent without being worried about what people think, and I'm so grateful for that."



Apart from the incredible turnout, players came ready to compete with very strong knowledge of their sports. "The teams really have athleticism," said Nathan, one of BCSF's live stream sports commentators. "They can play, they've got the moves and the jumps, and that's key for them."

"We saw pretty crazy games," added Keanu, another commentator. "It was pretty intense. I saw players on both sides looking pretty nervous and scared to start the game as they warmed up and were ready to go, but what it comes down to is pure skill."



BCSF was also able to raise \$25,000 from generous donors for future activities. "The organizations and businesses that donated wish to stay anonymous," said Learey, "but their support has really helped a lot."

"BCSF was received quite well," he continued. "Everyone I have talked to has told me how nice and memorable this experience was - people really found their stride in recognizing and being there with each other and celebrating the culture that BCSF creates."

You can enjoy more photos and videos of BCSF 2022 [here](#).

REGISTRATION OPEN FOR BCSF 2022!

BCSF XVIII

August 10-14, 2022

BCSF strives to create a hub for Unificationists and their friends to connect and celebrate the values of our community through sports and culture.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

"We need to graft the authentic spirit of sports onto a foundation of the truth that teaches us to live, like God, for the sake of others, and we need to put this spirit and truth into practice."

-Rev. Sun Myung Moon



About

The Blessed Culture and Sports Festival (BCSF) is traditionally 5-day culture and sports event that was started in 2005 and has taken place every year since.

BSCF is a grass-roots lead project of Family Federation for World Peace and Unification. All staffing, program design and management is done by unpaid volunteers. There is a core team of about 10 people who work with dozens of volunteers around the world each year.

BCSF is usually held at 30 Seminary Drive, Barrytown, NY 12507.

Join our [Facebook page](#) or [follow us on Instagram](#) for regular updates, videos, photos and more.





Vision Statement:

Positively influence the culture of the world by:

- Creating a hub for Unificationists and their friends
- Infusing the belief that individuals and communities can impact the world
- Empowering those people to share their talents, skills and values

Culture

The cultural aspect of BCSF involve various expressions and venues for fine art, cinema, dance, and music. Cultural elements include:

- Evening programs
- Social gatherings
- Artistic avenues
- and more...

Sports

The sporting aspect of BCSF involve multiple competitive and intramural sports tournaments with teams from around the world coming to compete.

- Frisbee
- Volleyball
- Table tennis
- Basketball



Donate

Because of your contribution, participants will walk away with new friends and a positive and healthy perspective of their faith community. Our hope is that they can leave BCSF more confident and connected in their faith than ever before.

YOU CAN MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

HSA-UWC
C/O FINANCIAL OFFICE/BCSF
481 8TH AVENUE, BOX A12
NEW YORK, NY 10001

Please note that the BCSF is a grass roots led and funded event supported and fiscally sponsored by HSA-UWC, a 501-c3 non-profit group. We appreciate any donations which are used directly for the event and are tax deductible.

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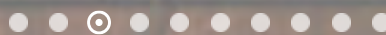
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NEVER DEFEATED: *Father Moon in Danbury*



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TUESDAY, JULY 19, 2022 | 8 PM ET



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UTS NEWS



UTS Plans to Close its Master of Religious Education Program

UTS Communications

Unification Theological Seminary plans to close its Master of Religious Education (MRE) program and remove it from its Inventory of Program Offerings as of August 31, 2023.



UTS Hosts Retreat for Full-Time Faculty and Staff

UTS Communications

UTS full-time faculty and staff participated in a one-day retreat at East Garden in Irvington, NY.

Announcements

- ["Never Defeated": Father Moon in Danbury](#)
- [A Big Thank you to Robert Pumphrey and a Warm Welcome Ken Sohn!](#)
- [Dr. Drissa Kone Named Director of Doctor of Ministry Program](#)
- [Steven Boyd to become Director of Enrollment Management and Student Life](#)

Other News

HOME OF THOUGHT:



PERSPECTIVES FROM UTS

[Home of Thought: Perspectives from the Unification Theological Seminary](#)

UTS Webmaster (PandaSites)

Unification Theological Seminary is excited to announce the launching of a new YouTube series, Home of Thought: Perspectives from the Unification Theological Seminary.



[UTS congratulates students and recent graduates who were Blessed in Marriage in April 2022](#)

UTS Communications

Family remains a pivotal value for many students at UTS: Five Unification Theological Seminary current students and recent graduates were among the 2,100 couples who participated in the recent Hyejeong Cosmic Marriage Blessing on April...

- [UTS congratulates students and recent graduates who were Blessed in Marriage in April 2022](#)
- [Congratulations to the Class of 2022!](#)
- [Faculty Roundtable: The Victory of the Cross](#)
- [Dr. Thomas G. Walsh named as the 7th President of Unification Theological Seminary](#)

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SINCE 孝情 2022

#HJSTARS

Final Round

Friday, August 12 at 8:30 PM EDT

Support YAYAM


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SINCE 孝情 2022

#HJSTARS

RAISING FUNDS TO SUPPORT OUR YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT
MINISTRIES IN NORTH AMERICA THROUGH THIS VIRTUAL
TALENT COMPETITION SERIES

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You may vote for 1 contestant. Voting closes at the end of the show.












YASUNO
Takeshige



**RICE
PADDY**
Chloe



MICHEAL
Cardano

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Support YAYAM

Virtual Talent Show to allow our talented youth to share their talents as well as support their talent endeavors with cash prizes.

Funds raised from this event will go towards future events and programs dedicated to building our Youth & Young Adults in North America.

Funds raised from this event will go towards future events and programs dedicated to building our Youth & Young Adults in North America.

Select amount

\$7,800 raised

\$10,000 goal

\$10	\$25
\$50	\$100
\$250	\$500
\$1,000	\$ Other