

Apply to the Blessed Culture and Sports Fest 2012 - Jin Kwon Kim

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The annual Blessed Culture and Sports Fest (BCSF) is one of the most anticipated events by Unificationist communities nationwide, and organizers aspire to make this year's BCSF the most memorable yet. More than 600 participants are expected to attend 2012's BCSF, which is scheduled to begin at the Unification Theological Seminary (UTS) on Wednesday, August 8, and culminate on Sunday, August 12 with Lovin' Life Ministries (LLM) Sunday Service.



Along with the favorites such as Ultimate Frisbee (pictured), new sports for BCSF 2012 will include Flag Football, Dodgeball, a run and Mountain biking.

The organizers of BCSF, a team of LLM staff and local volunteers, have chosen "Own It" as this year's theme. Past BCSF themes include "Rise Up" in 2010 and "All In" in 2011.

In an interview with Unificationnews.com, co-director of BCSF Jin Kwon Kim said, "We are introducing several new events this year. On the cultural side, we are showcasing a game show run by CARP [Collegiate Association for the Research of Principles] in which each of our 12 districts in the United States will send representatives to compete. We also have some new cultural workshops held during the week such as music- and songwriting workshops with Sonic Cult as well as other musicians. As for sports, we are testing out Flag Football, Dodgeball, a cross-country 5-kilometer run, as well as Mountain Biking as intramural sports. Each year, we plan to increase the number of events according to popular demand and availability."

Competitive sports include Ultimate Frisbee, Volleyball, Basketball, Tennis and Table Tennis. Kim clarified the difference between "intramural" and "competitive" sports: "Intramural sports are not trophy sports and the teams are set up on site to provide even teams. They are also to gauge interest in a sport to see if we have strong enough interest to turn it into a competitive sport. Competitive sports are trophy sports where the intent is to provide a highly competitive tournament. The idea behind having these two categories is to allow people both a place to interact and have fun and a place to get competitive and play to win."

In addition to sports, "Junction," a weekly, young-adult service developed to allow young adults to interact and to learn about the vision of LLM, will take place on Wednesday, and a ballroom-dance social will follow on Thursday. Friday will feature CARP's Game Night, which will include a Super Smash

Brothers videogame competition, a poker tournament, and various board games. The Ballroom Dance Competition, Fashion Show, and Talent Show will be held on Saturday.

LLM Sunday Service will take place on site at UTS and will be followed by the final Soccer and Ultimate Frisbee rounds. "This will make the event open to families to cheer on their family and friends and to raise the intensity of play on the field," said Kim. "We hope to draw an even larger crowd to cheer the athletes on to even higher levels of intense play."

Rallying the Global Community through BCSF

Although the crowd at BCSF is primarily Unificationist, non-Unificationists always have been welcome to participate. "Several teams in different sports have already been bringing their friends for the past several years," said Kim. "We have also begun reaching out to the local community, inviting them to participate in events such as the art gallery.

"On the cultural side of things, we are always looking for what areas we can incorporate to provide people the opportunity to express themselves and their God-given talents and abilities. Also, as we expand the community awareness and involvement in the event, the potential for growth is endless."

As for international participants, Kim said, "We are expecting some Canadian teams to join us this year. We are also anticipating some players from the UK, although they will most likely join a US team. It's our hope that in the future, we'll be able to draw entire teams from different countries."

Kim cites one of his goals as using BCSF not only to develop a healthy East Coast-West Coast- and even international rivalry, but also to prepare Unificationist athletes to compete in the Unification Church's annual Wangu Peace Cup in Korea, which draws semi-professional and non-Unificationist athletes from around the world. Kim also plans to invite other organizations to sponsor and send athletes to BCSF in the near future.

"It's pretty astonishing how far it's come from a small dirt field in Paterson, NJ to the grounds of UTS, where we are now in the 7th year," Kim reflected. "As UTS and Barrytown College update their facilities and increase the capacity of the dorms as well as the athletic facilities, we can improve the quality of playing conditions and tournaments. With such planned improvements, we foresee UTS as the home for BCSF."

Registration for BCSF is \$40, with an additional \$5 required to attend each competitive event, in both sports – and culture categories. Housing is available in the dorms and is first-come-first-serve for \$10/night or \$10 total per person to camp on the UTS grounds.

To register for BCSF, visit: www.bcsfusa.com.



REGISTRATION

Admission

General Admission (August 8 - 12): **\$40**

- All sport events are open to watch
- All cultural workshops unless indicated (some may require registration, first come first served)
- All evening programs including Junction, Ballroom Social, Open Mic, Game Night (sponsored by CARP, includes Game Show, SuperSmash Tournament, Poker Tournament), Fashion Show, Talent Show
- Intramural Events
- online registration closes at midnight 7/29, \$50 for onsite registration
- Team Registration closes 7/25
- Food is not covered in General Admission (meal plan can be bought)

Tent (+\$10/per person for entire event)

I am staying in a tent

Dorm (+\$10/night per person)

- Wednesday 8/8/2012
- Thursday 8/9/2012
- Friday 8/10/2012
- Saturday 8/11/2012

Meal Plan (+\$75 Covers Thursday Breakfast - Sunday Breakfast)

I would like to purchase the meal plan

If meal plan is not purchased food arrangements must be made by participant

AM Sports (+\$5)

NONE Soccer Volleyball

PM Sports (+\$5)

NONE Ultimate Basketball Tennis

Intramural (Free - Included)

- Cross Country Run (5k distance)
- Mountain biking
- Flag Football
- Table Tennis

Art Workshops

This year we will be holding various art workshops. Click [here](#) on more information about each workshop session.

Art Workshops

- Legitimize your Art
- Beads for All
- Gift Card Line Pitch
- Wax Painting (+\$40)
- Fruit Ninja (+\$20)

Contests (+\$5 for each contest entered)

- Photography
- Ballroom Dance
- Talent Show

Total Cost

\$