



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Shaena Engle  
Manager, Public Relations  
213.200.4728  
[engles@lacitycollege.edu](mailto:engles@lacitycollege.edu)

**LACC UNVEILS STATUE OF SEJONG THE GREAT (1397-1450),  
THE 4<sup>TH</sup> JOSEON DYNASTY KING AND INVENTOR OF  
HANGEUL, THE KOREAN ALPHABET**

*College holds statue unveiling ceremony and celebrates Hangeul Day*

(September 25, Los Angeles) – Los Angeles City College (LACC) will host a ceremony to unveil the statue of Sejong the Great on Thursday, October 5, 2023, from 11:00am to 12:00pm in the Main Quad on campus. The event will also celebrate Hangeul Day (October 9), commemorating the invention and proclamation of the Korean alphabet.

The statue of King Sejong in central Seoul is considered South Korea's most iconic statue. The LACC King Sejong statue is sure to become a major landmark in Los Angeles, as the campus is near Koreatown.

LACCD Chancellor Dr. Francisco C. Rodriguez, Board Trustee (1<sup>st</sup> Vice President) Nichelle Henderson, and LACC President Dr. Amanuel Gebru will attend the event.

Andrew Lee, Chairman of Imperial Family Companies, who donated the statue and \$100,000 endowment for the LACC Korean Program; Yi Seok, the founding leader of Imperial Cultural Foundation of Korea, former congressman Mike Honda and Peter Asmar of Asmar Studio which created the statue will also be in attendance.

LACC students, staff, faculty, and local and community partners will join in the ceremony. The ceremony will conclude with congratulatory calligraphy performance by Laura C. Kim, the president of the Korean-American Calligraphy Association.

“We are thrilled to unveil the Sejong the Great statue on our campus. This remarkable work of art serves as a symbol of our commitment to embracing diversity, fostering cultural understanding, and celebrating the contributions of the Korean community and its rich heritage,” said LACC President Gebru.

“Our Korean Program is now one of the largest in the U.S. No college or university can match us in accessibility, and the diversity of our students learning the Korean language and culture. King Sejong created Hangeul to make literacy available for all, beyond the ruling class. The statue of King Sejong at LACC is not only to feature its Korean Program, but his spirit of empowering the people with education,” said Professor Mickey Hong, LACC Race, Equality, & Social Justice Center APIDA (Asian Pacific Islander Desi American) Faculty Leader & Korean Program Director.

### **About Los Angeles City College**

Established in 1929, Los Angeles City College is one of the oldest of the California Community Colleges. Located in the heart of Hollywood, LACC provides a dynamic innovative learning environment offering more than 100 vocational and professional programs including degrees, transfer programs and certificates to more than 18,000 students. Los Angeles City College is home to one of the most vibrant and diverse campuses in the country. The campus provides a wide range of professional and vocational programs at a fraction of the cost of state and private colleges.