**Forum on Current State and the Future of the Korean Peninsula**
Wednesday, December 11, 5 – 7 p.m.

The Council of Korean Americans and Holt International presents a forum on the Korean Peninsula with guest speakers followed by a reception. Speakers are Kathleen Stephens, President/CEO, Korea Economic Institute of America and former U.S. Ambassador to Korea, Dr. Kee Park, Global Health and Social Medicine, Harvard Medical School and Director of N. Korea Program, Korean American Medical Association, and Dr. Abraham Kim President, Council of Korean Americans. Please RSVP to sykim@holtinternational.org.

**SPEAKER BIOS

Kathleen Stephens**

**President and CEO, Korean Economic Institute**

**Ambassador (retired)**

Kathleen Stephens assumed leadership of KEI as President and CEO in September 2018. Ambassador Stephens was a career diplomat in the United States Foreign Service, 1978-2015. She was U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Korea 2008-2011, the first woman and first Korean-speaker to serve in that position. Other overseas assignments included postings to China, former Yugoslavia, Portugal, Northern Ireland, where she was U.S. Consul General in Belfast during the negotiations culminating in the 1998 Good Friday Agreement, and India, where she was U.S. Charge ‘d Affaires (2014-2015).

Ambassador Stephens served in a number of policy positions in Washington at the Department of State and the White House. These included acting Under Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs (2012), Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs (2005-2007), Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs (2003-2005), and National Security Council Director for European Affairs at the Clinton White House.

Ambassador Stephens has received U.S. government awards including the Presidential Meritorious Service Award (2009) and Linguist of the Year (2010). She holds the Kwanghwa Medal of Diplomatic Merit, the Sejong Cultural Award, the Korean-American Friendship Association Award, the Outstanding Achievement Award from the American Chamber of Commerce in Seoul, the Korea YWCA Special Prize for Leadership, and was Hangul Goodwill Ambassador as well as Korea National Museum Goodwill Ambassador. She holds honorary doctoral degrees from the University of Maryland and Chungnam National University.

Stephens was an undergraduate at Prescott College, University of Hong Kong and Oxford University, and holds a BA Honors from Prescott. She holds a Master’s degree from Harvard University’s Kennedy School.

**Kee Park**

**Paul Farmer Surgery Scholar, Harvard Medical School**

As the Paul Farmer Global Surgery Scholar at the Department of Global Health and Social Change at Harvard Medical School, Dr. Kee Park strives to bring safe, timely, and affordable surgical care to the neglected people in low-income countries.

From 2013 to 2016, as the World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies (WFNS) country representative for Cambodia, Dr. Park assisted Cambodian neurosurgeons and the Ministry of Health in increasing coverage of neurosurgical services throughout the country. Before Cambodia, he taught the first cadre of neurosurgery residents in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Dr. Park leads an effort to support DPRK doctors in caring for North Korean patients, a population that is perhaps most vulnerable and neglected. Since 2007, he has directed a medical exchange program in conjunction with the DPRK Medical Association and the Korean American Medical Association (KAMA). He serves as the chair of Global Health for KAMA and senior advisor to Friends in Health: DPRK, a group dedicated to improving the quality of healthcare for the people of North Korea.

He is a member of the advisory committee of the Foundation of the World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies, a board member of KAMA, and a consultant for the Emergency and Essential Surgical Care Programme at the World Health Organization.

After obtaining his medical degree at the Rutgers University, he trained in neurological surgery at the Temple University. He is a diplomate of the American Board of Neurological Surgeons.

He lives in Boston with Susan, his wife, and their three daughters.

**Abraham Kim, PH.D.**

**Executive Director, Council of Korean Americans**

Abraham Kim, Ph.D., is the Executive Director at the Council of Korean Americans (CKA). He comes to CKA with 20 years of experience in foreign policy analyses, leadership development and innovation consulting. Previously, Dr. Kim served as Executive Director at the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center located on the campus of the University of Montana, where he oversaw 50 staff, faculty and affiliates. During Dr. Kim’s tenure, the Center became one of the foremost U.S.-Asia policy and leadership development institutes in the Pacific Northwest and Northern Rockies region.

Prior to the Mansfield Center, Dr. Kim also served as the Vice President and Interim President of the Korea Economic Institute of America (KEI) in Washington, D.C. In addition, he also functioned as the research manager for government services and principal Asia analyst at the global political risk consulting firm, Eurasia Group. He was a project manager and strategic planner at the Science Application International Corporation (SAIC) and a national security analyst at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) in Washington, D.C.

Finally, Dr. Kim was a founding board member of CKA (2011-2013) and served as an adviser/instructor for NetKAL. Dr. Kim is a graduate of Boston University and Harvard University. He received his Ph.D. in Political Science from Columbia University.