

WCU Global Music Residency 2021-2022



End-of-Year Report for Global Music Residency Program at WCU
Innovation in Diversity & Inclusion Grants Program 2021-2022
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Summary of the Program Outcomes:

The inaugural Global Music Residency Program at WCU, supported by the Innovation in Diversity & Inclusion Grant, took place from February 21 to 24, 2022. The guest musician for the residency was **gamin**, a virtuoso on Korean traditional wind instruments, who engaged in interactive workshops, seminar visits and concerts in collaboration with WCU faculty and student musicians. This residency, the first of its kind at WCU, was an incredible success in fulfilling its aim of student engagement. The residency provided a variety of experiences and hands-on learning opportunities to WCU community, and it garnered an enthusiastic response from students, faculty and audience members.

Program Highlights:

gamin introduced Korean traditional instruments and musical elements in a diverse array of classes (5 different classes, ranging from music theory, world music, gender studies to music composition seminars), reaching music majors, graduate students, non-music majors and women/gender studies students. The most important outcome of this residency was the hands-on learning experience: students learned to play *danso* (Korean vertical flute) and *janggu* (Korean hour-glass drum), and students learned to improvise on their own instruments, based on Korean traditional tunes. This interactive experience, along with lectures on Korean traditional music, provided students a rare opportunity to engage with the repertoire and tradition of music unfamiliar to them. In addition to gamin's solo lecture recital on the opening day of the residency, the finale concert of the residency, attended by over 80 audience members, featured students who learned the *danso* in just four days, along with WCU music faculty (Drs. In Young Lee and Nicolas Provenzale), and the graduate string quartet, who performed traditional and contemporary Korean musical pieces, with gamin. This concert was livestreamed and was attended by over 100 viewers on-line. In planning and facilitating the residency, three student curators (Malaika Paralkar, Emma Rolecki, and Caleb Sharp, majoring in music history, composition, music education and performance) were instrumental in overseeing every aspect of the residency, including recruiting fellow students to participate in interactive workshops. Not only did they gain an invaluable experience working for this residency and in close collaboration with gamin, they performed their curatorial duties with admirable dedication and professionalism.

Impact to WCU Campus:

This residency marked a significant milestone for WCU as gamin introduced Korean traditional musical instruments, elements, repertoire and performance styles that are so different from the Western musical tradition, usually taught and performed at the WSOM. There were also two related events at the WCU Libraries: Lunar New Year decorations and a map exhibit of Asia, displaying Lunar New Year celebrations and musical instruments of several Asian countries (Presser); and a poster display, explaining gamin's three instruments (entrance to Green Library). One of the unusual events of this residency was the "Contemplative Music of Korea," featuring gamin performing Korean spiritual music in a meditation session at the Center for Contemplative Studies. The WCU students, faculty and community opened their ears to new sounds, experiences and an opportunity to learn about Korean culture through this important residency.

Challenges of the Program:

The Global Music Residency was originally planned for January 31 to February 7, 2022, in conjunction with the celebration of the Lunar New Year. A family concert and community events were also a part of the original plan, along with additional days of seminars and workshops. However, due to WCU's shift to remote instruction during the first two weeks of the spring semester 2022, in response to another rising case of COVID-19, the residency had to be condensed to 4 days and re-scheduled for two weeks later. All the planning, advertisement, booking of teaching and concert venues had to be re-scheduled, which was an immense challenge, but the re-scheduled events were held successfully, thanks to the willingness of gamin to postpone the residency and to an immense effort of the staff of the Wells School of Music.

Narrative description of the budget spending

The program adhered to the total \$5,000 budget received, which was used to pay for the guest artist's honorarium and travel. Also, three student curators received a stipend of \$400 each (total of \$1,200). Craft and exhibition supplies were purchased for the map exhibit and decorations at the Presser Library. Snacks and meals for the guest artist and musicians were purchased so that they would be able to eat before evening rehearsals and concerts. Post-residency dinner meetings with curators and performers will be held in April 2022 to reflect on this year's events and to plan for next year's residency. The residency received additional support from WSOM to cover the expenses that exceeded the original budget: the artist's accommodations at Hotel Warner (original budget was for the on-campus accommodation, which became unavailable) and a purchase of Korean instruments used in the interactive workshop and concerts.