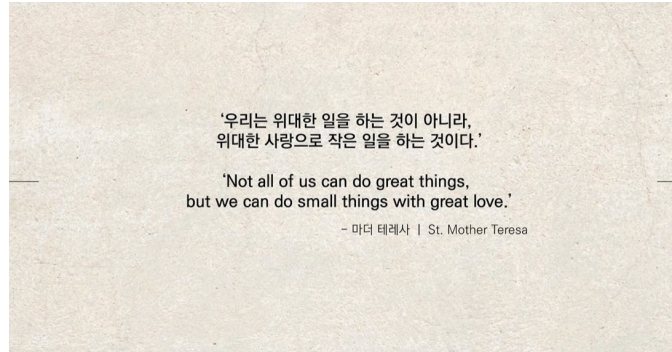


# The Ongoing History of Korean Diaspora

2024 - Marks the 121st anniversary of Koreans' official immigration to the U.S.



## Summary

The history of Korean immigrants is a story of courage and love. The unraveling future shows how the Korean spirit lives on.

## About the Remarkable Accomplishments

When the Korean Empire was devastated by the invasions of imperialist Russia and Japan, the government promoted the first official immigration. In 1903, 121 Koreans chose to immigrate to escape poverty, and 102 Koreans arrived in Hawaii. Since then, Koreans have triumphed over immense challenges and have forged a distinguished global presence, marking their enduring legacy with resilience and pride. Currently, approximately 50,000 ethnic Koreans reside in Hawaii.

- Ronald Moon, first and only Korean-American Chief Justice

- Florence Ahn, first Asian admitted to Juilliard School



- Harry Kim, first Korean mayor

- Sammy Lee, first Asian to win Olympic gold in platform diving



- Karen S.S. Ahn, first Korean female State Judge



- Sylvia Luke, first Korean American Lt. Governor



- Elizabeth Ahn Toupin, first Asian-American Dean at Tufts University

- Nodie Kim, first woman principal in Hawaii

- Michelle Wie, first youngest player in history to make the cut at an LPGA Tour

- Keeaumoku St., Koreatown in Honolulu receives official recognition from the State of Hawaii

- University of Hawaii at Manoa's Center for Korea Studies, oldest and largest Korean studies institution outside of Korea

