

Editor's Remarks

Based on the cooperation and contributions of domestic and international Editorial Board members, we are pleased to publish the fourth volume of the *International Journal of Crafts and Folk Art* this year.

First of all, I would like to thank the Editorial Board members.

The theme of our journal this year is “Strengthening and Revitalizing the Local Cultural Ecosystem,” which was the theme of the Jinju UNESCO Creative Cities International Forum held on July 7, 2023.

The reason we chose this topic was because we wanted to analyze the cultural policies and cultural phenomena of creative cities from the perspective of the cultural ecosystem. In particular, we sought to shed light on how the local cultural ecosystem should be established to revitalize creative industries.

The papers published in this volume discuss the concept and application of the cultural ecosystem, the cultural ecosystems of Linz, Seongbuk-gu, and Matera, the role of local museums in revitalizing the cultural ecosystem, and UCLG’s “Culture 21 Plus.”

The discussion section of this issue also discusses the same topic, focusing on Jeonju and Jinju in Korea, Ballaret in Australia, and Bida in Nigeria. We would like to express our sincere thanks to all the authors and panels who contributed to this volume.

Seventeen cities contributed to the Creative Cities Activities and Heritage, Interview, and Reviews section. We express our thanks to the Focal Points and contributors in each city for their efforts. In my view, the fact that the number of participating cities has increased significantly compared to last

year means that this journal is establishing itself as the official medium of our sub-network.

We hope that this journal will continue to serve as a forum for sharing the knowledge, experiences and practices of UNESCO Creative Cities. We also hope that our journal will provide a theoretical and practical basis for creative city activities.

Finally, we would like to thank the UNESCO Creative Cities Network Secretariat and Jinju City for their continued moral and financial support in publishing this journal. We look forward to seeing everyone at next year's annual meeting in Braga, Portugal.

Byung Hoon JEONG
Editor-in-Chief