Excellence in Diversity Award

Graduate Student:
Name: Hyojin Jang  
Email: hyojinjang@tamu.edu  
Organization: Texas A&M University  
Department: Visualization

Title:
Multicultural Poetry Video based on Korean Culture

Abstract:

It’s my passion to introduce Korean culture to the world using art. Specially, I enjoy creating unique artworks across the boundaries. For example, for this, I usually prefer to combine literature and art, or tradition art and new media art.

This “Multicultural Poetry Video based on Korean Culture” includes two positive effects: i) audience can explore both the beauty of Korean language and literature via new media, and ii) audience’s emotion can be touched via one of the most touching Korean poems.

In recent years, the “Korean Wave” made young people in the world to learn Korean language. For this reason, the number of people who are interested in learning Korean is increasing. The Korean language, called Hangul, is considered one of the most scientific alphabetical systems in the world. It is formed by the combination of 14 consonants and 10 vowels. Reading Korean literature is one of the most effective ways to explore Hangul. For this, I selected a beautiful Korean poem “Flower” by Chun-soo Kim. To observe a semantic effect, I created petal-shaped Hangul font.

When we feel frustrated and anxious, poetry makes us happy and cozy. It is because poem has a variety of meanings in life. Through them, we may have new experiences, such as emotional and aesthetic responses. Through discovering the meaning of the poem, you not only learn good lessons that you didn’t think about before, but also find important messages that you can agree with what the poet said. Of course, you can also enjoy plenary satisfaction in the art itself.

The poem ‘Flower’ informs a philosophical lesson. For example, have you ever thought about the hidden meaning of your name? This poem tells us what the hidden meaning behind your name is. Imagine if you meet someone for the first time. You know nothing about him/her until you ask his/her name. When you ask and call the name, he/she will become somebody, not anybody. Through the multicultural poetry video, audience can think deeply why we call someone’s name.
I used multi-layered screen (a double layered thin fabrics and one black board). The poetry video will display with a blank background on fabric. In other words, the audience will appreciate the three-dimensional Korean poem through the multi-layered screen. If the audience touch fabric, the poetry video will play. During presentation, the lights need to be turned off.

In addition, I attached an image that is electronic art based on Korean language. For this artwork, I tried to combine Yarn art using various colors of thread and electron art using Arduino. The interactiveness of the system will motivate the audience to explore and learn Korean culture, art, and language.

**Keywords:**
Korean alphabet, Korean Poem, Electronic Art, Video Art, Interactive Art

**Sub-themes:**
Interdisciplinary platforms for coexistence
The cultural dimensions of bio-creation and peace
Design, Art, Science, and Technology