

ICAS Annual Liberty Award Dinner 2013 Held

The Honorable Kurt Campbell, Former State Department Official, Honored to Receive the Award

Washington, DC December 6, 2013 – A Philadelphia based non-profit organization, **ICAS** (Institute for Korean-American Studies) held its *ICAS* Annual Liberty Award Dinner at the Kennedy Caucus Room, United States Senate, Washington, DC, on December 6, 2013.

At this occasion, Dr. Kurt Campbell, Chairman and CEO of the Asia Group LLC, a strategic advisory firm based in Washington, DC, was honored to receive the prestigious *ICAS* Liberty Award (<http://www.icasinc.org/liberty.html>) “for his outstanding professional achievements with distinction and in recognition of his distinguished service to the nation and the people, and for his exemplary leadership in advancing humanitarian values,” said Synja Kim, **ICAS** President and Chairman. **ICAS** also conferred him the title of *ICAS* Liberty Foundation Distinguished Fellow. There are currently 128 **ICAS** Fellows on its roster. (For more information, please visit <http://www.icasinc.org/roster.html>)

Chairman Campbell served as Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs during the first Obama administration. As the top Asia hand in the administration, he has been considered as one of the architects of the "Pivot to Asia" policy, the administration's effort to move the center of focus of American foreign policy to the Asia-Pacific region. Chairman Campbell is currently writing a book about his experiences in the Obama Administration, tentatively entitled *The Pivot*.

During his award acceptance speech, Chairman Campbell - introduced by Dr. Patrick Cronin, **ICAS** Fellow - inspired young generations of Korean-Americans by sharing his ideas and views on Life, Liberty and Pursuit of Happiness. He especially stressed the importance of working toward something that one is truly passionate about.

“The thing that matters the most in being successful is that you have to be prepared in certain circumstances to absolutely lay it on the line. You have to have something that you believe in so strongly that there is nothing that you will not do to support it,” said Chairman Campbell.

The **ICAS** Annual Liberty Award Dinner 2013 (<http://www.icasinc.org/2013/2013f/2013flib.html>) was graced with over 100 invited guests, enjoying an uncommon opportunity to meet and greet prominent friends and colleagues including leaders of the Korean American community over cocktails and elegant dinner. In a special tribute, two talented musicians, violinist Daniel Aum and cellist David Cho dedicated *Salut d'Amour* by Edward Elgar and *Concerto in D Major Hob. VIIb2* by F J Haydn to the honoree, his wife Lael Brainard, and the ebullient guests in a festive mood.

The event was sponsored, in part, by UNICOM Global, a California-based global information technology company.

ICAS (*Institute for Korean-American Studies, Inc*) is a non-profit, non-partisan, and private educational and research organization established in 1973. It seeks to promote the cause of Humanity, Liberty, Peace, Prosperity, and Security through cultural, educational, and research activities with the motto “Life, Liberty, and Pursuit of Happiness.” To learn more about **ICAS**, please visit www.icasinc.org.