



WORLD HISTORICAL CITIES



128 Member Cities

AFRICA

Alexandria / Algiers / Fès / Giza / Luxor / Tunis

ASIA

Andong / Buyeo / Chengdu / Chiang Mai / Dujiangyan / Gongju / Gyeongju / Hanoi / Harbin / Himeji / Hue / Kaesong / Kamakura / Kanazawa / Kathmandu / Kurunegala / Kyoto / Lahore / Masuda / Matsue / Nanjing / Nara / Suwon / Taichung / Tainan / Ulaanbaatar / Varanasi / Vigan / Vyas / Wuxi / Xi'an / Yangon / Yangzhou / Yogyakarta / Zhengzhou

EUROPE

Alba Iulia / Amsterdam / Athens / Bad Ischl / Barcelona / Bordeaux / Bratislava / Brussels / Budapest / Chernivtsi / Cologne / Constanța / Córdoba / Dublin / Edinburgh / Florence / Geneva / The Hague / Helsinki / Iași / Izhevsk / Kazan / Klaipėda / Kraków / Kutaisi / Kyiv / Lisbon / Ljubljana / Lutsk / Lviv / Minsk / Montpellier / Mtskheta / Nicosia / Niš / Norwich / Odesa / Paris / Prague / Riga / Rome / Santiago de Compostela / Sarajevo / Sheki / Shusha / South East Region of Malta / Strasbourg / Tashkent / Termez / Veliko Tarnovo / Venice / Vienna / Vladimir / Zagreb

LATIN AMERICA

Cartagena / Cuenca / Cusco / Guadalajara / Mexico City

MIDDLE EAST

Ankara / Ardabil / Baghdad / Bursa / Hebron / Isfahan / Istanbul / Jerusalem / Kashan / Kong / Konya / Masouleh / Nayshabur / Osmangazi / Şanlıurfa / Selçuklu / Semnan / Shiraz / Tabriz / Tehran / Yazd

NORTH AMERICA

Boston / Montreal / Quebec City

PACIFIC

Ballarat / Melbourne / Norwood Payneham and St Peters / Whanganui

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Commendation Ceremony for the Former Secretary General

According to the decision of the FY2022 Board of Directors' Meeting, a commendation ceremony to recognize Mr. Shibata's achievements over the years was held on his resignation from the post. On behalf of the League of Historical Cities, Chairperson Daisaku Kadokawa presented Mr. Shibata the certificate of commendation.

Mr. Shibata has been involved in a total of eleven World Conference of Historical Cities in the past, starting with the first one in 1987. His faithful service to the League has greatly contributed to developing the organization and promoting interaction among cities. He shall continue to support us as Advisor to the LHC Secretariat from April 2023. Concerning a new Secretary General, Takuya Nishimatsu, Senior Director of the International and Multicultural Affairs Office, the City of Kyoto, has assumed the office. ([News on the website](#))



Partial Report of the 18th World Conference of Historical Cities

Youth Program

History continuously links the past to the present. It is our turn to pass on the cherished history to the future. In historical cities around the world, it is one of the most crucial issues to foster the young generation to lead the future. The League has encouraged them to be involved in our activities by organizing youth forums and children's painting exhibitions at the World Conferences of Historical Cities in the past. There held some speeches in English by the youths of Andong, a drawing and painting contest, and a video contest.

Thoughts of High School Students in Andong - Passing on to the Future

An aging society with a low birthrate is a major concern in many of our member cities. However, even under such circumstances, young people in Andong are proud of their hometown and think over those issues to make proposals for the future of the historical city. They are our hope. Here are their speeches on the potential of historical cities in the future.

◆ Kim YeonSoo, Gyeongil High School

In Korea, due to centralization in the Seoul metropolitan area, local governments need to revitalize rural areas and promote global tourist attractions in order to grow. The impact of culture is huge. A video promoting tourist attractions on YouTube called "Feel the Rhythm of Korea Seoul" was created by the Korea Tourism Organization, and features a unique dance to the modernized Pansori, an old Korean music. It has gained great popularity in Korea and abroad, plus various advertisements are being made to introduce various domestic cities such as Andong and Gyeongju in addition to Seoul. Public institutions and private companies should continue to promote local cities through tourism resources and products that can maintain regional identity in these trendy advertisements. By doing so, it will generate interest both regionally and globally.



◆ Kang Junwoo, Gyeongil High School

I think that the historical city of the future is the place where residents can enjoy the traditions of the previous generations in the way that we do so presently. Places within Andong inherit the spirit of Hahoe Byeolsingut Talnori. In this festival, there are many activities harmonized for the current generation to enjoy, such as mask making, various foods, and performances. I believe that this would be the ideal historical city of the future. I think the combination of the past and the present should be a person as well as a culture.

◆ Kim Ji-woo, Gyeongbuk High-tech High School

History exists because of us all, but it is our ancestors who preserved the history for our futures. More than just admiring the amazing architecture of Byeongsan Seowon Confucian academy, you can also feel the teachings and rituals of Confucianism, that our ancestors preserved long ago. To protect both the ancient and modern history of our country, it is important that the young people of today understand and appreciate the history of Korea. Forgetting the past is just the same as neglecting the future. The responsibility falls upon us, the young people of our generation, to preserve the history of today, and let the rivers of history keep flowing forever.

◆ Yu Eun-yong, Angong Girls' High School

The first step in promoting the culture of Andong is to have people experience it. The development of tourism products using the metaverse will help visitors to have experiences. Metaverse is an essential tool in marketing in the pandemic. In Andong, each tourist spots are located far apart, which makes tourists difficult to visit places in a short time. However, the metaverse makes tourists more accessible to Buddhist and Confucian heritages. In the metaverse, you can visit the Seowon, the UNESCO Heritage Site, to learn about the teachings of Lee Hwang and enjoy the Andong Mask Festival, the traditional performing arts. Although you cannot eat the specialties, you can see Andong's mackerel and steamed chicken in the metaverse.

◆ KIM Gyu-yeon, Poongsan High School

In the pandemic, people have expanded the window of interaction called SNS, and the word "Best we pivot" has been even coined in a culture. With the stream of times, we have to pivot history. To succeed in pivoting, history must create a new trend. Trendy and fresh trends will be the key to creating a sustainable historical city. For example, Byeongsan Seowon Confucian Academy has various views depending on the angle of taking pictures. I thought of "Byungsan Seowon SNS Photo Exhibition," with which people will contact more cultural heritage photos, feel satisfied with the new scenery, and enjoy the hands-on campaign to visit the place in person. In addition, SNS and historical heritage such as flash mobs in Hahoe Village, history dance challenge, metaverse history hall realization, and VR experience will be shared as an experience. Creating links between history, SNS, algorithms, various materials and cultures will be the first start of our historic city's new leap forward.

◆ Lee Eun Min, Andong Girls' High School

I believe that we can understand different cultures through education and promote cultural exchanges. Each religion has characteristics. To break down the barriers between religions in Andong, for example, it is necessary to increase the citizens' interests in Islam and actively embrace its culture. To learn about Islam, visiting the place is a way but there are many other ways to learn about it online. We can also use the online platform to disseminate our culture. In addition, I think we can create new cultural contents and products by combining Andong culture such as Seowon with Islamic culture. I believe this can be one of the driving forces for understanding each other's culture and stimulating interactions.

Youth Forum

*Theme:
"Historical City of the Future"*



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Having went through the pandemic, promoting digitalization in historical cities is more valued than ever. Here are some examples of cooperation among national governments, municipalities and specialized agencies utilizing digital tools for cultural heritage.

Go Beyond Digital Archive to the World of Web3.0

NTT DATA's digital archive business, AMLAD®, has provided customers around the world with a system for archiving, searching, and publishing their precious cultural heritage as digital data for many years. Starting with the provision of services to the National Diet Library in Japan, we are expanding services to cultural institutions, educational institutions, and private companies throughout Japan. In addition, in the world, we provide digital archives for the Vatican Library, Spanish royal family asset management organizations, and integrated digital archives for national museums and museums in ASEAN countries.

In providing digital archives, it is important to digitize details of objects with the highest possible resolution in order to ensure that information on valuable cultural heritage remains for future generations. In each of the projects that NTT DATA has undertaken so far, we have chosen the most suitable method for digitizing and preserving the contents according to the needs of each institution and the requirements of the content stored there. Also, it is important for digital archives not only to store such digital data but also to provide a mechanism that allows viewers to efficiently find the necessary information on the content they need.

In the AMLAD projects, we provided functionality for searching archived content on maps and chronological tables, analyzing contents using AI and use it for searching. In addition, we have provided functionalities for curating the content that each institution publishes as a digital archive and disseminating it to the outside in a more attractive manner. The AMLAD projects has developed with an emphasis on "passing down data to future generations" and "providing data and making it easy to find."

These days, NTT DATA believes that it is important to thoroughly investigate "how to utilize" digital data archived in this way, and we are conducting new initiatives.

For example, in 2021, as an initiative to create a new viewing experience of digital data, we digitized the historic building "Gregorian Tower" in Vatican City and held a virtual exhibition at the World Expo held in Dubai. The 3D data created here is being used in various ways, such as giving presentations from virtual space at NTT DATA's online events. NTT DATA is also considering new businesses that incorporate blockchain and NFT technologies in order to create a system for distributing and utilizing such digital data. Details of this [initiative](#) are expected to be announced around the spring of 2023. ([Released](#) at the end of March 2023.)

<https://www.nttdata.com/jp/ja/data-insight/2023/0405/>

Including these new challenges, NTT DATA will continue to promote initiatives to create, preserve, and utilize data of valuable cultural heritage and historical cities around the world. I would appreciate it if you could promote these efforts together with us.

Digital Tools for Building Knowledge of Ballarat’s People, Culture, and Place

I will introduce UNESCO’s Historic Urban Landscape approach (or HUL) and then showcase some of the digital HUL tools we’ve developed to engage local people and tell our city’s story.

The City of Ballarat is a regional city located in the west of the State of Victoria in Australia. It has a population of over one hundred and nine thousand people and services a region of over four hundred thousand people. Ballarat is situated on ancient country. The Traditional Owners of Country are part of the oldest living civilization on Earth. Ballarat’s urban heritage, however, was established much more recently, during the mid-nineteenth century global goldrushes. The city is renowned for its intact and authentic goldrush heritage, which forms part of a World Heritage bid for Australia’s Central Victorian Goldfields.

Since 2013, Ballarat’s city government has been a world leader in operationalizing UNESCO’s Historic Urban Landscape approach (or HUL approach) as part of a global pilot program. The success of the HUL approach depends upon aligning social and economic development goals with the goals of conservation and leveraging heritage to help diversify and strengthen local economies. Using this model, social and economic development departs from and reinforces the city’s distinctive identity and its heritage rather than being separate or in conflict.

The HUL approach requires us to recognize that places are dynamic and not static and the elements that make heritage vulnerable are complex. To address this, we need to understand the city’s diverse values, both including and beyond its heritage values, and manage change both in and beyond designated heritage area boundaries. The HUL approach provides six critical steps as a guide for its application and requires the development of new community engagement, planning and knowledge, regulatory and financial tools.

Early in the application of the HUL approach in Ballarat it was identified that the development of digital tools would be critical. There were many reasons for this. Digital tools had the capacity to help address many of the practical challenges we had identified. For example:

- they could be used to bring together dispersed information about the city
- they could help ensure local community values, stories and conservation principles were captured, shared and built into practical decision-making tools; and,
- they could ensure data captured was available and considered beyond individual projects and despite political and staffing changes.

However, at the time, back in 2013, we also identified that useful digital tools like 3D mapping and GIS, for example, had limitations, particularly when it came to demonstrating the dynamic nature of the city and its intangible elements and values. So, we established research partnerships with Federation University Australia, Curtin University and the UN Global Compact Cities Program to help develop and test tools overtime and focused our early efforts on exploring various digital tools; capturing and sharing open data; and engaging with local citizens. We began by developing two key platforms in conjunction with CERDI at Federation University Australia:

1. HUL Ballarat – an online public collaborative engagement platform.
2. Visualizing Ballarat – a public GIS tool to capture and share the DNA of the city.



SUZAN FAYAD

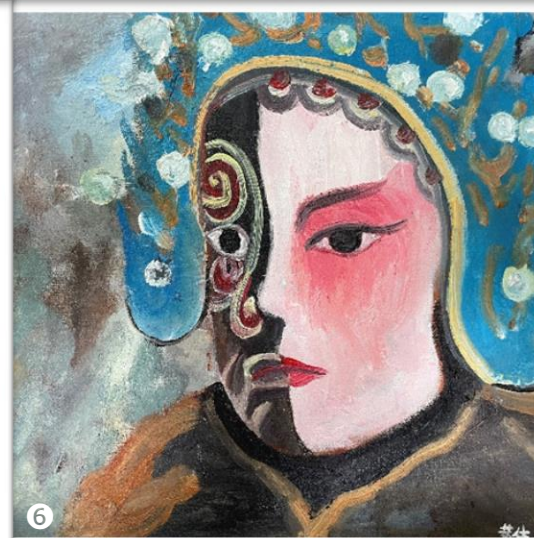
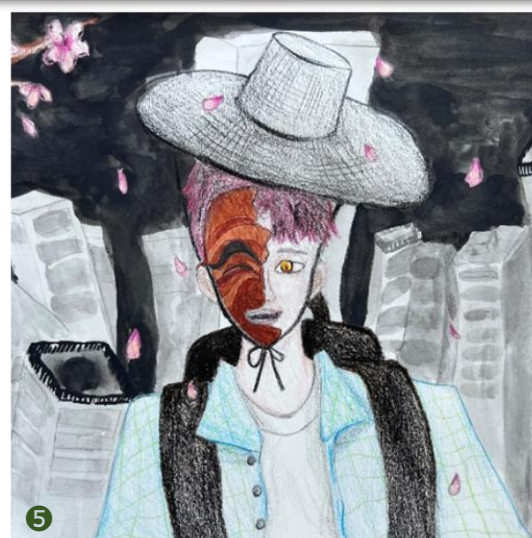
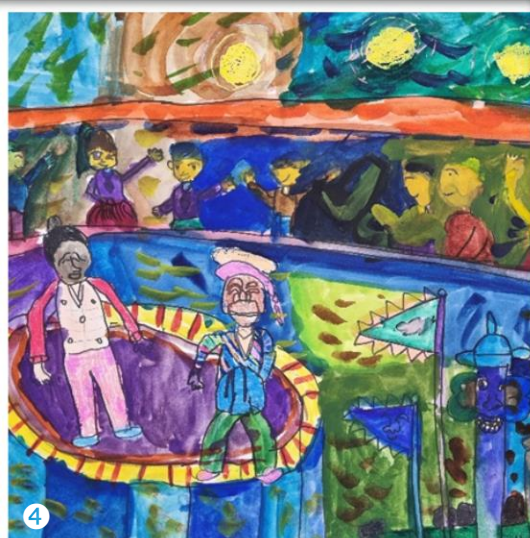
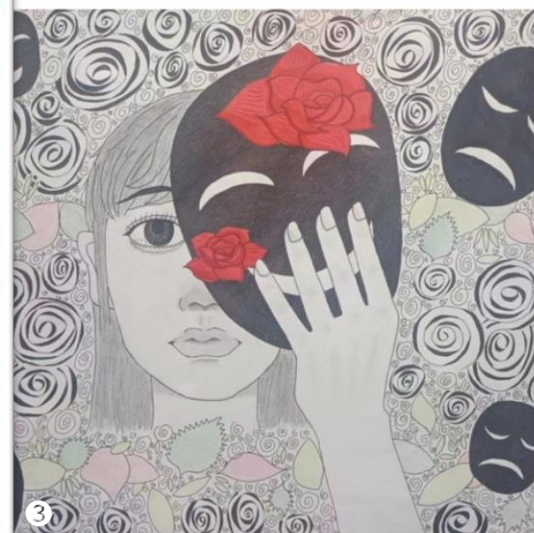
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Youth Contest

- ◆ Drawing & Painting Contest *"Uniqueness and Creativeness of the Mask Art"*
- ◆ UCC Video Contest *"Full of Charms of My Town, My City"*



★Drawing & Painting Contest Winning Works★

Cover Photos: Mask Show (GaoYucheng, Xi'an)
Discover the beauty of Bajia Jiang (Guo Cai-ti, Tainan)

- ① Reconstruction (Wang Yi-rui, Dujiangyan)
- ② 'Nuo' Mask (Yin Enyi, Xi'an)
- ③ The Troubles during growing process (Ruijie Du, Chongzhou)
- ④ Dancing Night (Kwon Minjong, Andong)
- ⑤ Fashionable Man Wearing *Hahoe* Mask (Lee Juan, Suwon)
- ⑥ Suddenly turn hostile (Huang Weixuan, Dujiangyan)
- ⑦ Traditional Mask (Ze Hua-zhun, Dujiangyan)
- ⑧ Twelve *Pochie* folk art performance (Chou Hsuan-min, Tainan)

★Digest of the Video Contest Winning Works★

South Bridge (Gao Ximeng, Dujiangyan)
Dujiangyan (Yuan Leilei, Dujiangyan)
Gol Ghaltan (Sogand Rezaei Panah, Kashan)
Tabatabaei Historical House (Vahid Hashemi Mesgar, Kashan)
Mt. Qingcheng (Liu Qiming, Dujiangyan)
Kuramayama-Mrysteious Kyoto (Ayano Tani, Kyoto)
The Night of Kashan (Sarina Naghdi, Kashan)
Arashiyama Monkey Park (Ryosuke Masui, Kyoto)
My Beautiful Town, Van (Negar Taghizadeh, Kashan)
Mausoleum of Imamzadeh (Mohammad Amin Elahi, Kashan)

