

## The Summer 2024 Peace Cup West Coast Festival In Los Angeles, California

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June 30, 2024



The Summer 2024 Peace Cup West Coast was held from June 28-30 in Los Angeles. Once again, Director Joshua Holmes, Co-Pastor of the Los Angeles Family Church, worked in collaboration with LA Galaxy, the professional soccer team in LA, for this event.



Focus was placed on striving to reach a new level with Peace Cup through key VIPs and a wider reach of people while still maintaining the depth of spirit and culture of Peace Cup. Joshua's prep team held daily evening vigils in their community at their Cheonshim Won and handed out flyers in the surrounding cities in Los Angeles around the LA Galaxy Park.

In the end, over 1,000 people attended over the course of 3 days: 40% young 1st-, 2nd-, and 3rd-generation, 30% elder 1st-generation, and 30% guests and brand new contacts. The goal of Peace Cup USA is to continue to build momentum towards hosting an international Peace Cup in North Korea. Focus on North-South Korea Unification is actually creating excitement and stimulating young people's hearts and sense of attendance to True Parents.



On day one, 100+ participants and spectators attended the E-sports gaming tournament.

On day two, 400 participants plus livestream viewers attended the opening ceremony at the LA Galaxy Park. Bishop Noel Jones, Pastor of the City of Refuge Church in LA, addressed the crowd about the difficulties surrounding North and South Korea's reunification. Tyler Champion, LA Galaxy Park manager, also supported and spoke at the event. The futsal tournament then began between 12 teams, many of which had non-Unificationist team members and international players. People also competed in a long-distance run.

On day three, 400+ people attended the volleyball tournament at the Kinecta Soccer Center, under LA Galaxy. Players came from Los Angeles, Korea, the East Coast, Oregon, Colorado, Minnesota, Las Vegas, San Francisco, and Sacramento. The Basketball tournament was held at the California State University Dominguez Hills Torodome gym, with players from Los Angeles, Arizona, Colorado, Las Vegas, Bay Area, Sacramento, and teams from local Christian churches.

Through every sport and the cheers from the community, there was a rhythm of spirit and truth where everyone was giving their all for the sake of a greater purpose. Hope was felt that through culture, centered on our True Parents, the world could change. Most of all, everyone felt closer to True Parents' goal of uniting North and South Korea.