

**NEWS RELEASE**

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**Contact:**

Regional Media Policy Division (02-2110-1450, 1451)

Media Diversity Policy Division (02-2110-1460, 1293)

**KCC HOLDS 2022 MEDIA FESTIVAL FOR THE DISABLED**

*Media and art come together for happiness without barriers in the return to normalcy*

The Korea Communications Commission (KCC, Chairman Han Sang-hyuk) and the Community Media Center (Chairman Cho Han-kyu) announced they would hold the ‘2022 Media Festival for the Disabled’ at the Busan Community Media Center on October 27 and 28.

Marking its 16th anniversary this year, the festival offers a variety of programs for both disabled and non-disabled people to enjoy without discrimination under the banner of “Fortunately, return to normal daily life, for happiness without barriers.”

The opening ceremony was held on the Thursday, October 27th at 3 pm at the Busan Community Media Center with KCC Chairman Han Sang-hyuk, Chairman Cho Chang-yong of the Busan Differently Abled Federation, and local broadcasting representative in attendance. There were also celebratory performances, such as concerts and comedy shows, for visually impaired and non-disabled people to enjoy.

In this two-day event, a variety of ‘barrier-free’ events such as film screenings, exhibitions, special lectures, and educational experiences will be held to remove barriers between disabled and non-disabled people.

At the Busan Community Media Center, participants can partake in experiences to relate to the reality of people with disabilities, as well as view and produce broadcasts for the disabled. At the Cinematheque in the Busan Cinema Center, people can experience 11 films, including *Decision to Leave* with assistive technology such as video description and captions.

Additionally, the festival will include special lectures by renowned speakers on communication and awareness of the visually and aurally impaired, and an event where a traveling media bus visits a school for special needs students who cannot easily visit the festival. Furthermore, the regional broadcaster will air a program focusing on the difficulties disabled viewers face.

In his opening address, Chairman Han Sang-hyuk commented, “This festival was prepared for disabled and non-disabled people to communicate cultural and artistic values through media ​​beyond the barrier of discrimination and alienation. We will continue our policy efforts, such as media education and support for the production of broadcasting content for the disabled, to break down the barrier of discrimination and bias which impedes the socially marginalized.”

On the following day, Chairman Han will tour the broadcasting site for the disabled at Busan KBS and listen to difficulties in the production and distribution process of broadcasting for the disabled by meeting with associations for the disabled, broadcasters, and production companies in Busan. He then will offer encouragement to small business owners who help the growth of small businesses and support the production and transmission of broadcast advertisements in order to promote regional broadcast advertisements.

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The Korea Communications Commission