

ABOUT AUTHOR HOOJUNG JONES



HooJung Jones graduated from McMaster University with Hon. Commerce degree in 1999. She became a member of the Golden Key National honor society for her academic merit while receiving a scholarship. She was a president of the McMaster Korean Student Association and a co-founder of McMaster University United Way. Past ten years, Ms. Jones was a President and the Executive Director of Hamilton Folk Arts Heritage Council, which organizes the biggest Canada Day festival in Canada called "It's Your Festival". She is also a Project Coordinator of the Korea Veterans Association of Canada Unit 26, and she manages the National Korea Veterans Association of Canada's website as well.

Ms. Jones is a co-author of ***Canadians Our Heroes 1950-1953 Korean War***, 175 Pages of a military history book which was forwarded by former Prime Minister Jean Chrétien. It took nearly three years to research and write the book as well as to raise forty thousand dollars to publish the book themselves. Two hundred hard cover books have been distributed to the veterans and their widows and eight hundred soft cover books have been distributed to schools, libraries and military museums in Hamilton and across Canada, free of charge. Their book was the first book ever written about Canada's contribution in the Korean War in both languages. As a board of directors of the Friends of HMCS Haida, she conducted school seminars and moving educational exhibitions to educate students and the general public.

She is also the author of ***O! Canada***, which is based on ***It's Your Festival*** in Hamilton, distributed to children free of charge. As a past president and the Executive Director of the Hamilton Folk Arts Heritage Council, she organized "It's Your Festival" one of the biggest Canada Day festivals (Top 50 Festivals in Ontario) attracting over 250,000 spectators each year showcasing diverse arts, top Canadian headliners and cultural heritages. At the festival, she hosted numerous special Canadian citizenship ceremonies with the Ontario Citizenship Judge Robert Morrow.

Ms. Jones has received many Awards such as the "Hamilton Heritage Award", the "2005 Women of Distinction Award Certificate", the "Hamilton V.I.P. Award", the "Ontario Volunteer Award", and the "Special Commemoration Award Certificate" from Donald Rumsfeld, the Secretary of National Defense for the United States of America and congratulatory letters from Prime Minister Paul Martin and the Premier Dalton McGuinty in 2005. She was also a nominee of Arts Hamilton Literary Awards and City of Hamilton Arts Awards in 2006, 2007 and 2008. Recently, Ms. Jones received the prestigious International award called ***Legion of Honor*** from the Chapel of Four Chaplains. Only ten Canadians have received the prestigious award during 60 years and the previous recipients include President Truman, Dwight Eisenhower, Jimmy Carter and Ronald Reagan.