

Quotes included on LOWA Podcast Episode

Kil Chae Jeong from GolTong Chicken

"My life story is well known on the internet, so many people come from around the world to visit. I've lived a tumultuous life, so I really want to share this with young people. Life only comes around once, and it's far too short. That's why I hope they don't get too caught up in money or success and instead live a joyful life. I always tell my customers, even foreign visitors, the same thing: Enjoy life and don't be afraid."

Jung Jae Seung from Happy Book Store

"When I started Happy Bookstore about 20 years ago, a customer suggested the need for a second-hand bookstore because books in the U.S. were too expensive. That's why I created this store — to provide an affordable way to share and purchase books. Even now, we aim to offer new books and rare and out-of-print books that are hard to find. We continue to strive to provide tailored services to our customers."

Kevin Kwak from Kwak's Antique furniture

"I see this place as a small museum on Western Avenue. People come from other states to visit this old area. If the street becomes more active, I'd like to keep my work going. Even if it's not me, I hope others can maintain it and keep things going. If Western Avenue can be known as the place where Mr. Kwak's small Korean-owned museum exists, I would be at peace."

John Seo from New World Camping

"First of all, for adults, it usually comes down to two hobbies: golf or fishing. The thing about golf is that you have a drink and go home after. But after fishing, you've got the fish. You can bring it home and make sashimi, which is great. There are many other things. People with respiratory problems often feel much better at the beach because the air is fresh. Walking around is good for your health and diet too. We don't have to buy any seafood because we can eat the fish. So there are many good things about fishing in that sense."

Esther Jin from Opera Music Academy

"I'm here with the responsibility of this opera so whether it's 10 or 20 years I've committed myself to work hard. Koreans will continue to move into Koreatown and there will always be Korean elders. There are so many diverse songs - folk, country, pop, rock, and the one that can calm our minds and wash away our worries is classical music. It holds beautiful lyrics that warms the heart."

Seo Seong Nak from Harbin Deer Antlers Trading Company

"The outlook is very bright if young people start taking an interest in traditional herbal medicine. Since herbal medicine is a natural product that is not harmful to the body and has excellent efficacy, it will hold an important place in American society in the future. I hope more people, including non-Koreans, become interested in traditional Eastern medicine and understand its benefits."