Flagship of a Fleet: A Korea Gallery Guide is published by the Smithsonian’s Asian Cultural History Program. This full-color, illustrated book, co-authored by Paul Michael Taylor and Christopher Lotis, serves as a companion guide to the Korea Gallery, an on-going exhibition at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of Natural History. The Korea Gallery presents Korea’s millennia of history and its distinctive culture through ceramics, paintings, textiles, and sculptures, ranging from the 6th century B.C. to the 21st century.

Introducing Korea to a broad audience, the guidebook highlights and identifies the objects on exhibit, many of them previously unpublished. The book includes an introduction to the Smithsonian’s Asian Cultural History Program and its Korean Heritage Project, founded in 1985. It provides a historical context and background of how the Korea Gallery exhibition developed within an integrated curatorial program. The authors consider this exhibition the “flagship” of a fleet of related activities in the field of Korean heritage, including research, education, outreach, public programs and the development and improvement of museum collections.

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