

Global Indigenous Forum

Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs



Global Indigenous Forum Colloquia

Meet the Ainu: Indigenous People of Japan Presentation led by Masako Kubota, MA

Thursday, January 28, 2016 | 9 AM - 10:30 AM | FIU Modesto A. Maidique Campus | GC 150

Ainu means “people” or “humans” in their language and refers to the indigenous people of northern Japan. Similar to Indigenous peoples around the world, in spite of assimilation policies and persistent discrimination, Ainu continue their culture and distinct identity with a flourishing of the arts, music and dance. Their continuous efforts finally achieved official recognition by the Japanese government in 2008. For this live Skype presentation members of the Akan Kotan village will gather at their traditional tea house called “PORONO.” These classical Ainu dancers sing traditional songs, play instruments such as “TONKORI” and “KOUKIN” at the theater called “CHISE.” They gather for us after their performance at the theater to demonstrate how to play their instruments, and share their traditional culture and lifestyle with us.

Masako Kubota, MA. in Asian Studies is an adjunct instructor, FIU Asian Studies Program and the Department of Modern Languages. She specializes in the Ainu, and teaches courses in East Asia and Japanese language, culture and literature.

This event is free and open to the public. Sponsored by the **Global Indigenous Group**, and the **FIU Global Indigenous Forum**. Co-sponsored by the **Campus Student Organizations (CSO)**, **Japan Club**, **Department of Global and Sociocultural Studies**, and **Asian Studies Program**.

The mission of the FIU Global Indigenous Forum is to bring global Indigenous issues, voices and awareness to the FIU campus and world community through activities and academic programs.

For more information, call 305-348-2247 or visit: <http://indigenous.fiu.edu/>