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**With our spirit of hospitality,
we are preparing the way!**

Won't you come join us in a circle and have fun?!



□Shiraoi Folk Art Preservation Society Members



□Hyottoko Dance Shiraoi Group Members



□Hula & Tahitian Yajimafare Members



□Nishikawa Komagikukai Members



□Kojohama Echigo Dance Preservation Group Members



□Residents of Shiraoi Town

**Shiraoi is currently creating new programs and activities for
the realization of a multicultural symbiotic society.
If you or your group are interested please contact the
Shiraoi Tourism Association!**

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**Northern Japan's first national museum
will be born in Shiraoi town.**



**National Ainu Museum and Park
OPEN April 24, 2020**

Nickname: Upopoy (which means to sing all together)

What is the National Ainu Museum and Park?

Upopoy, the National Ainu Museum and Park, is a national facility to revive and promote Ainu culture. The museum will serve as base to preserve and further develop and promote our important asset, the Ainu culture, which is in danger of becoming obsolete. Furthermore, it also symbolizes an important national project, which aims to create a future for Japan that respects the dignity of indigenous people, building a society that is not racist, but that is richly diverse and energetic. Work is underway in the town of Shiraoi, Hokkaido, to prepare for the grand opening on April 24, 2020.

The "National Ainu Museum" is to be the first national museum in northern Japan, an important facility to revive and promote Ainu culture and history, which is to be introduced from various vantage points, and in a manner easy to understand. The "National Ainu Park," will serve a field museum, where visitors can experience Ainu culture through dialogue and interaction with the Ainu. The park will also house a "Memorial Facility," that aims to realize a dignified memorial service, performed by the Ainu. The entire park and facility expect to receive one million visitors each year.

Excerpts from the Foundation for Ainu Culture website.

Multicultural Symbiotic City, Shiraoi.

"The town of Shiraoi hopes to spark interest in as many people as possible, by transmitting the wonderful culture of Ainu to the world.

It sees this as an opportunity to deepen conversations and mutual understanding that goes beyond the simple concept of "coexistence" between people of all nationalities or tribes, but more "symbiosis" in lifestyle, industry and culture, for the sake of development in all things. For this reason, the town of Shiraoi is united, making preparations that equip the town with tools and a spirit of hospitality that will enable them to accommodate visitors of various nationalities or tribes, and be able to connect and build relationships with such visitors."



多文化共生のまち、しらおい
◇北海道 白老町◇

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SHIRAOI

HOKKAIDO

All courses by reservation only



**Residents unite to show their warm hospitality.
Unique programs offer an opportunity to
participate and learn about Shiraoi!**

**Experience Ainu culture, fun crafts made with shells and
preserved flowers made with flowers that grow in Shiraoi.**

**Why not sit in a relaxing café, and make a craft to remember your travels by?
Indulge in exquisite traditional Ainu cuisine, try on Ainu costumes and play traditional musical instruments.**

**Experience everything historical about Shiraoi!
Learn of the history that surrounds Shiraoi and Ainu in the Sendai Clan, Shiraoi Manor House Museum.**

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**Let's "Bon" dance with
Shiraoi residents!**

Wear different costumes and experience traditional dance!

Why not join the locals in a large circle and enjoy a pleasant evening of traditional Japanese dancing?! The residents of Shiraoi will gather together to welcome you!



**All we ask is that you come in your
own style, and have fun with us!**



You can put on a "hyottoko" mask and dance comically, or experience "Iyomante rimse," a traditional dance, wearing Ainu costumes. Visitors can also sit back and enjoy the mysterious sound and performance of a "mukkur" (Jew's harp) up close.



□Hyottoko Dance with a Hyottoko mask.



□Iyomante rimse is a signature dance.



□The performance of traditional Ainu musical instrument, the "mukkur," is an awesome experience.

The path to a multicultural symbiotic city

Various races; different people with different cultures and history, varying ways of life, and thinking. Shiraoi is on the move toward creating a society where diversity is encouraged, where people respect, accept, connect and support one another. As one way of expressing this concept, the town has undertaken two activities, one is creating an "Enormous Patchwork" and the other is "bon dancing," which allows people from all around the world to connect. We hope you will participate in this endeavor toward multicultural symbiosis. Even if you cannot understand the language of others, your hearts will connect through "bon dancing."