

August 6-11, 2023



EVENT PROGRAM & SCHEDULE



*Sharing & Learning
for Future Generations*

Canóvanas, PR



MABRÍKA

WELCOME

On behalf of the Event Committee, we are thrilled to welcome you to **Reencuentro Taíno Conference** a historic event, focusing on the evolution of the Taíno language and culture.

Over the next three days, we'll explore the **history** of our Taíno Indigenous people, the natural evolution of our society that led us to **the present day**, and reimagine the **future** of our Taíno community and all that we can accomplish together.

We'll listen to renowned archeologists, anthropologists, and other academic researchers share their knowledge. We'll partake in conversations with linguists who are working to revitalize the Taíno Indigenous language through various means. And we'll participate in workshops by experts from the tech and film industries, who are working to ensure that our language and culture continue to thrive.

Thank you for allowing us to create a space of sharing and learning for future Taíno generations. *Bo-matúm!*



OUR SPONSORS

We are grateful to our generous sponsors for helping us bring this historic event to the Taíno community. Bo-matúm!





MEET THE TEAM



Event Committee

Priscilla Colón
Co-director

Carlos Colón Padilla
Co-director

Carmen Serrano Luna
Graphic Designer &
Logo Creator

Zayda Rivera
Production Manager

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Portela**
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diseñadora gráfica

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Language, Inc.

Vivienne Grace Keli
Author, Speaker,
and Chaplain

Stephanie Witkowski
Executive Director
7000 Languages

August 6-11, 2023



DAILY PROGRAM



@tainoconference





SUN

AUGUST 6, 2023



3 PM

RIBBON CUTTING AND LAUNCH OF SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS

*HON. LORNN A J. SOTO VILLANUEVA,
EVENT DIRECTORS, AND SPECIAL GUESTS*

4-6 PM

WELCOME COCKTAIL

**MUSICAL PERFORMANCE: TROUBADOUR
MUSIC**

IRVIN SANTIAGO





SUN

AUGUST 6, 2023

3 PM - 5 PM

MON-FRI

AUGUST 7-11, 2023

9 AM - 5 PM

SPECIAL EXHIBITION



LUIS ALCALÁ DEL OLMO

*AWARD-WINNING PHOTOJOURNALIST
AND PROFESSOR OF PHOTOJOURNALISM*

Throughout his 20 years as a photojournalist, Luis Alcalá del Olmo has documented numerous political and cultural events as a correspondent for various agencies, newspapers, and magazines. His images have been published in The New York Times, El Mundo, El País, O Globo, the Washington Post, Boston Globe, India Times, and New York Post. For more than 15 years, he has been a photojournalist for GFR Media in San Juan, Puerto Rico, being a special envoy in the Caribbean basin and Latin America. He has received numerous awards for his human interest and visual anthropology work from National Geographic, UNICEF, Overseas Press Club, and the Association of Photojournalists of Puerto Rico. He has exhibited his work in various museums and venues around the world. Currently, he also works as a professor of Photojournalism at the Universidad del Sagrado Corazón in Santurce, Puerto Rico.





SUN

AUGUST 6, 2023

3 PM - 5 PM

MON-FRI

AUGUST 7-11, 2023

9 AM - 5 PM

SPECIAL EXHIBITION



EL COLECTIVO "MÁSCARAS DE PUERTO RICO"

ARTISTS' COLLECTIVE

El Colectivo "Máscaras de Puerto Rico" (The Collective of Puerto Rican Masks) is a project whose mission is to educate the public, via workshops, panel discussions, and exhibits, about traditional mask-making in Puerto Rican culture. Its goal is to ensure that the cultural legacy of this tradition continues for generations to come. More than 50 mask artisans and folklorists have participated in the exhibitions and panel discussions that the collective has organized since 2019.



3ER PISO
3RD FLOOR

GUAÍZA EXHIBITION

We are grateful to the following artisans for their participation in the "guaíza" (traditional Taíno mask) exhibition.

ALEX HERNÁNDEZ
ALLISON AROCHO
CARELY PIZARRO
CELESTINA ROBLES
CINDY RAMÍREZ
ENA CAPÓ
GABRIEL LÓPEZ
GRISELL AROCHO
HAROLD MALDONADO
JOSÉ LUIS RODRÍGUEZ
JUAN GUSTAVO GONZÁLEZ
LOUIS MEDINA
LOURDES Y. CRESPO

LUIGI CARRASQUILLO
MARYAN Y. LÓPEZ VELÁZQUEZ
MINERVA HERNÁNDEZ
NITZA AQUINO
NOEL TORRES QUIRÓS
NORMA CARRIÓN
NORMA GÓMEZ
OLGA COSTA
TAIRYS LÓPEZ
TEDDY VÁZQUEZ
WILDA CRUZ
WILFREDO VIGO





SUN

AUGUST 6, 2023

3 PM - 5 PM

MON-FRI

AUGUST 7-11, 2023

9 AM - 5 PM

SPECIAL EXHIBITION



TALLER TAÍNO

TAKING THE MUSEUM TO THE COMMUNITY

Founded more than 30 years ago by the artisan-sculptor Héctor De León Vélez, Taller Taíno and its project "Taking the Museum to the Community" offers the public the opportunity to learn more about our Taíno roots. Certified by the Instituto de Cultura, Fomento y Turismo, Héctor is an artisan who creates almost exact replicas of Taíno artifacts, using the natural materials that our Taíno ancestors used. Some of these are stone, wood, bone, and seashell. His pieces have been evaluated by true connoisseurs of Taíno art, such as archeologists Ricardo Alegría and Miguel Rodríguez, as well as Mr. Molina from the Carnegie Library, among others.



3ER PISO
3RD FLOOR

PARTICIPATING ARTISANS

*We welcome the following artisans
to Reencuentro Taíno Conference...*

CACIQUE ANTONIO CASTRO

BRENDA ÁLVAREZ

EDITH FELICIANO

EVA PÉREZ

JOSÉ SUÁREZ

LAURA RUÍZ

LICMARIE HERNÁNDEZ

LOURDES CRESPO

MARÍA PÉREZ

MARIBEL RIVERA

MARITZA RÍOS

MINERVA HERNÁNDEZ

NATASHA ADORNO

OMAYRA ROSARIO

RAMÓN DÍAZ

RAMONITA FIGUEROA

SHEILA BALLESTÉ

VÍCTOR TORRES

YAÍTZA SANTOS

YAMILCA GARCÍA

YELICA RIVERA

AND MEMBERS OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
ARTISANAL PROGRAM





WED

AUGUST 9, 2023

KEYNOTE PRESENTATION



MIGUEL RODRÍGUEZ LÓPEZ

*DISTINGUISHED ARCHEOLOGIST &
PROFESSOR*

Miguel Rodríguez López is a distinguished Puerto Rican archeologist, educator, and cultural ambassador with broad academic and professional recognition in the Caribbean region. Until 2019, he served as rector of the Center for Advanced Studies of Puerto Rico and the Caribbean (CEAPRC), a position he occupied for 15 years, after the retirement of its founder Dr. Ricardo E. Alegria. As a rector, he achieved the creation of the first graduate program specializing in Archeology that exists in Puerto Rico and the Caribbean region. In past years, Rodríguez López returned to his former role as Chair of History and Humanities at Ana G. Méndez University (UAGM), Gurabo campus. During his extensive professional career, he has received the Institute of Puerto Rican Culture's 50 Years Medal (2006), the Ricardo Alegria Foundation Medal for exceptional merits in the field of archeology and culture (2011), the Quijote Award from the Hispanic Society of New York (2012), and most recently, the dedication of the Fiesta de la Puertorriqueñidad from the Department of Education of Puerto Rico (2022), among many other recognitions.





KEYNOTE PRESENTATION



DR. RENIEL RODRÍGUEZ RAMOS

*AUTHOR, ARCHEOLOGIST &
PROFESSOR*

WED

AUGUST 9, 2023

Renowned Caribbean archeologist Dr. Reniel Rodríguez Ramos will kick off our conference with a highly anticipated presentation on Padre Nazario's Stones, thought to be an ancient Taíno writing system. Dr. Rodríguez Ramos serves as Professor at the University of Puerto Rico, Utuado Campus. He is the author of *Rethinking Puerto Rican Precolonial History* and co-editor of the *Oxford Handbook of Caribbean Archeology*. His works have appeared in professional journals and in several edited volumes on the archeology of Puerto Rico and the Caribbean.





3ER PISO
3RD FLOOR

WED

AUGUST 9, 2023

SALÓN NITAÍNO

My Family Room

9-10 AM

OPENING CEREMONIES

WELCOME

Carlos Colón Padilla (Director, Office of Culture and Tourism, Canóvanas); Priscilla Colón & Eliezer Colón (Founders, Casa Areyto)

PRAYERS

Irka Mateo (Healer, Sacred Taíno Healing); Miguel Sagué (Bejíke, Canéy Spiritual Circle); Uahtibili Báez Santiago (Bohitihu, CanXibalo Boríkua); Lilian Rodríguez (Director, Office for Community and Faith-Based Initiatives)

SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM OUR HOST

Hon. Lornna J. Soto Villanueva (Mayor, Canóvanas)

DEDICATION:

CACICQUE MARTÍN VEGUILLA & DR. CARLALYNNE MELÉNDEZ

Miguel Rodríguez López (Prof. Ana G. Méndez University)

SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF TEACHERS

Evelyn DeJesús (Executive Vice President, AFT)





3ER PISO
3RD FLOOR

WED

AUGUST 9, 2023

SALÓN NITAÍNO

My Family Room

10AM-12PM

**KEYNOTE PRESENTATION: THE ARCHEOLOGY
OF THE 21ST CENTURY**

MIGUEL RODRÍGUEZ LÓPEZ

12-1PM

LUNCH HOUR

1-3PM

**KEYNOTE PRESENTATION: RECENT EVIDENCE
RELATED TO FATHER NAZARIO'S STONES**

DR. RENIEL RODRÍGUEZ RAMOS

3-5PM

**ANATOMY SYMBOLISM IN INDO-ANTILLEAN
ICONOGRAPHY**

ROBERTO PÉREZ REYES

5:15-5:45PM

MUSICAL PERFORMANCE: BOMBA MUSIC

BOMBA DE AQUÍ





6TO PISO
6TH FLOOR

WED

AUGUST 9, 2023

SALÓN KÉ

Earth Room

10AM-12PM **THE BIRTH OF MODERN TAÍNO**

JAVIER A. HERNÁNDEZ

12-1PM **LUNCH HOUR**

1-3PM **TAÍNO LANGUAGE EXPLORATION: CREATING A
NEW TAINAN LANGUAGE**

KASÍKE JORGE BARACUTAY ESTÉVEZ

3-5PM **SPEAKING "LECHI DI POTI"**

UAHTIBILI BÁEZ SANTIAGO





6TO PISO
6TH FLOOR

WED

AUGUST 9, 2023

SALÓN SEMÍ

Ancestral Room

10AM-12PM **THE SHAMAN AND THE CHIEF**
MIGUEL SAGUÉ, JR.

12-1PM **LUNCH HOUR**

1-5PM **SHORT FILM FESTIVAL: TAÍNO SPIRITUAL
LEGACY IN KISKEYA**
IRKA MATEO





6TO PISO
6TH FLOOR

WED

AUGUST 9, 2023

SALÓN GUALÍ

Kid's Room

11AM-12PM

**UNDERSTANDING THE IMPORTANCE OF
LANGUAGE AND CULTURE IN EDUCATION**

*AMERICAN FEDERATION OF TEACHERS' TEAM:
EVELYN DEJESÚS, VICTOR BONILLA, AND
GUEST TEACHER*

12-1PM

LUNCH HOUR





3ER PISO
3RD FLOOR

THUR

AUGUST 10, 2023

SALÓN NITAÍNO

My Family Room

9-11 AM

**LIFE, DEATH, AND REMEMBRANCE AT THE
TIBES CEREMONIAL CENTER**

DR. L. ANTONIO CURET

11AM-12PM

**THE INSTITUTE OF PUERTO RICAN CULTURE'S
CATALOG OF ARCHEOLOGY**

DR. CARLOS A. PÉREZ MERCED

12-1PM

LUNCH HOUR

1-3PM

**THE VALLEY OF TURABO: AN APPROACH TO
ITS PREHISTORY**

DR. CARLOS A. PÉREZ MERCED

3-4:30PM

THE BIRTH OF MODERN TAÍNO

JAVIER A. HERNÁNDEZ





6TO PISO
6TH FLOOR

THUR

AUGUST 10, 2023

SALÓN KÉ

Earth Room

9-11 AM

**JUAN BOBO VERSUS THE SERPENT: A JÍBARO
ORAL STORY ABOUT A PROTOTYPICAL
MILLENNIAL HERO**

ROBERTO PÉREZ REYES

12-1PM

LUNCH HOUR

1-4PM

**THE BEST LOST SECRET: THE SCIENCES
HIDDEN IN TAINO ART**

*ROBERTO PÉREZ REYES Y RAMÓN
GONZÁLEZ-ARANGO LÓPEZ*





6TO PISO
6TH FLOOR

THUR

AUGUST 10, 2023

SALÓN SEMÍ

Ancestral Room

9-11 AM

AUTHENTICATION OF A STUDY OF THE INDO-ANTILLEAN LANGUAGE IN BORIKÉN

HUANA NABOLI MARTÍNEZ PRIETO

12-1PM

LUNCH HOUR

1-5PM

JOURNEY TO CARE FOR THE ANCESTORS

IRKA MATEO





FRI

AUGUST 11, 2023

KEYNOTE PRESENTATION



ALBA E. GARCÍA RIVAS

*AWARD-WINNING DIRECTOR &
FOUNDER OF FANTASIATION STUDIO*

Alba E. García Rivas is a Puerto Rican director, animator, and writer of Taíno descent. Her 2018 film *Dak'Toká Taíno* (I am Taíno) tells the story of Abuela Yaya, who uses Taíno history and culture to help her granddaughter Marabelí cope in the aftermath of Hurricane María. In addition to qualifying for the 2019 Oscars, this film has been screened at the Smithsonian Museum, The Museum of Moving Image, and The Newark Museum, among others.



3ER PISO
3RD FLOOR

FRI

AUGUST 11, 2023

SALÓN NITAÍNO

My Family Room

9-11 AM

TECHNOLOGY FOR TAÍNO

PRISCILLA COLÓN

11AM-12PM

**SILENCE NO MORE: EXPLORING TRUE
REPRESENTATION OF PUERTO RICANS THROUGH
CINEMA**

VIVIONNE GRACE KELI

12-1PM

LUNCH HOUR

12:30-12:40PM

MUSICAL PERFORMANCE: TAÍNO RAP

RA RUIZ LEÓN





3ER PISO
3RD FLOOR

FRI

AUGUST 11, 2023

SALÓN NITAÍNO

My Family Room

1-2:30PM

MOVIE: DAK'TOKÁ TAÍNO (I AM TAÍNO)

ALBA GARCÍA RIVAS

2:30-4PM

MOVIE: GOLDEN FLOWER

ISADORA ORTEGA, DAVID MASSEY, XAVIER SANTIAGO, AND SPECIAL GUESTS

4-5PM

TEACHERS' ROUNDTABLE: THE FUTURE OF TAÍNO

PRISCILLA COLÓN, RA RUIZ LEÓN, GLADYS YACELY APONTE





6TO PISO
6TH FLOOR

FRI

AUGUST 11, 2023

SALÓN KÉ

Earth Room

**11AM-12PM LANGUAGE LEARNING TECHNOLOGY TOOLS
AND RESOURCES FOR ALL**
STEPHANIE WITKOWSKI

12-1PM LUNCH HOUR

**1-3PM KIWARI TAÍNO AHUIKI'NO (QUEER TAÍNO
VOICES / VOCES TAÍNES LGBT2S): A
DISCUSSION PANEL**
*RA RUIZ LEÓN, GLADYS YACELY APONTE E
INVITADO/A/ES*



August 6-11, 2023



CONFERENCES

@tainoconference





WED

AUGUST 9, 2023

SALÓN NITAÍNO

My Family Room

2do piso /2nd floor

Time: 10am-12pm

Language: Spanish

Title: Archeology of the 21st Century: An Effective Tool for the Study and Affirmation of our Puerto Rican Indigenous Heritage and Identity

Presenter: Miguel Rodríguez López (Ana G. Méndez University)

Description: The current presentation analyzes the main archeological studies carried out in Puerto Rico and the way in which their results enrich and complement rescuing the ancient traditions and ancestral ways of life that are practiced and promoted by various Indigenous community organizations both on the island and in the diaspora.

Time: 1pm-3pm

Language: Spanish

Title: Recent Evidence Related to Father Nazario's Stones

Presenter: Reniel Rodríguez Ramos (University of Puerto Rico, Utuado)

Description: On the basis of a systematic study and the documentary evidence available, this conference will be presenting the information that has been collected so far on Father Nazario's stones' potential authenticity and their archeological and historical implications.

Time: 3pm-5pm

Language: Spanish

Title: Anatomy Symbolism in Indo-Antillean Iconography

Presenter: Roberto Pérez Reyes (Canbal Unlimited)

Description: An exhaustive reflection of pre-Columbian Antillean iconography will allow us to recognize the mastery that the Indo-Antilleans had of advanced biological concepts. Furthermore, we will expose how these anatomical representations are the signs of a complex astro-calendrical language.

Time: 5:15pm-5:45pm

Musical Performance: Bomba

Presenters: Bomba de Aquí

Description: Bomba de Aquí is a dance and music company that performs and teaches Afro-Puerto Rican traditions led by Brendaliz Cepeda, the granddaughter of the great bomba performer of Borikén, Rafael Cepeda. Join us for an amazing performance, exalting the Afro-Indigenous tradition of our people.





WED

AUGUST 9, 2023

SALÓN KÉ

Earth Room

6to piso / 6th floor

Time: 10am-12pm

Language: Spanish

Title: The Birth of Modern Taíno: Accepting the Challenges and Opportunities of the Reconstruction Indigenous Languages

Presenter: Javier A. Hernández

Description: During this interview, Javier Hernández explains the process he used to construct the Tainonaiki variant over 9 years. We will learn a bit about the simplified grammatical structure and the loanwords that were incorporated from sister languages. Javier also gives us a sneak peek at the amazing projects he's developing for Tainonaiki students.

Time: 1pm-3pm

Language: English

Title: Taíno Language Exploration: Creating a New Tainan Language

Presenter: Kasike Jorge Baracutay Estévez (Higuayagua Taíno of the Caribbean)

Description: During this presentation, you'll learn about the process for creating the Hiwatahia Taino language by gathering remaining Taino words and searching for the closest cognates within other Ta-Maipurean Arawak languages.

Time: 3pm-5pm

Language: Spanish

Title: Speaking in "Lechi di poti"

Presenter: Uahtibili Báez Santiago

Description: Based on the etymological dictionary of jíbaro voices by Mr. Oscar "Oki" Lamourt Valentín (researcher, anthropologist, and linguist) as well as his own studies of Yucatec Maya, Mr. Uahtibili Báez Santiago presents us with evidence of the Mayan origin of the Indigenous words that have survived on our island.





WED

AUGUST 9, 2023

6to piso / 6th floor

SALÓN SEMÍ

Ancestral Room



Time: 10am-12pm

Language: Spanish

Title: The Shaman and the Chief

Presenter: Miguel Sagué, Jr. (Caney Indigenous Spiritual Circle)

Description: In the tradition of our Taino ancestors, there were two positions of authority and leadership: the political guide and the person who had knowledge of spiritual traditions. This will be an exposition of those who held these two positions during historical times and also in contemporary Taino communities and groups.

Time: 1pm-5pm

Language: Spanish

Title: Short Film Festival: The Taino Spiritual Legacy in Kiskeya

Presenter: Irka Mateo (Sacred Taino Healing)

Description: In 1984, Irka Mateo undertook a journey through the Dominican countryside in search of traces of her Taino ancestors. This short film festival shows us the continuity of Taino spirituality preserved in the rural areas of the island of Kiskeya/Ayiti.

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WED

AUGUST 9, 2023

SALÓN GUALÍ

Kid's Room

6to piso / 6th floor

Time: 11am-12pm

Language: English & Spanish

Title: Understanding the Importance of Language and Culture in Education

Presenters: Evelyn DeJesús (AFT), Victor Bonilla (AFT & AMPR), and Guest Teacher

Description: Culturally responsive pedagogy (CRP) must go beyond celebrating cultural holidays, arts, heroes and food; it must create awareness around different cultures, language, power relationships, and address discrimination, misconceptions and racism. Developing content, applying restorative circles, using scaffolding and instruction that embrace students' cultures and experiences takes time. This is one of the best strategies to help Children preserve their identity. Schools can serve as centers to rediscover our identities, proud descendants of the historic indigenous peoples of the Caribbean, Tainos.

@tainoconference





THUR

AUGUST 10, 2023

SALÓN NITAÍNO

My Family Room

2do piso /2nd floor

Time: 9am-11am

Language: Spanish

Title: Life, Death, and Remembrance at the Tibes Ceremonial Center

Presenter: Dr. L. Antonio Curet
(Smithsonian Institution)

Description: Research at the Tibes Ceremonial Center has shown that its history and cultural and social processes were more complex than previously thought. This conference presents several of the recent study results and some interpretations based on recent discoveries at the site.

Time: 11am-12pm

Language: Spanish

Title: Catalogue of Archeology

Presenter: Institute of Puerto Rican Culture

Description: The Catalog of Archeology is a sample of the Indigenous legacy of Puerto Rico, illustrating its history through objects and artifacts, which give way to the pre-Columbian archeological universe. In the 396-page color book, 121 Indigenous pieces are presented out of over 20,000 held by the ICP.

Time: 1pm-3pm

Language: Spanish

Title: The Valley of Turabo: An Approach to Its Prehistory

Presenter: Dr. Carlos A. Pérez Merced

Description: Archeologist for the Institute of Puerto Rican Culture, Dr. Carlos A. Pérez Merced will present the research he is doing for his doctoral thesis on the Turabo valley.

Time: 3-4:30pm

Language: Spanish (with English subtitles)

Title: The Birth of Modern Taíno: Accepting the Challenges and Opportunities of the Reconstruction Indigenous Languages

Presenter: Javier A. Hernández

Description: During this interview, Javier Hernández explains the process he used to construct the Tainonaíki variant over 9 years. We will learn a bit about the simplified grammatical structure and the loanwords that were incorporated from sister languages. Javier also gives us a sneak peek at the amazing projects he's developing for Tainonaíki students.





THUR

AUGUST 10, 2023

SALÓN KÉ

Earth Room

6to piso / 6th floor

Time: 9am-11am

Language: Spanish

Title: Juan Bobo versus the Serpent: A Jíbaro Oral Story About a Millenary Hero

Presenter: Roberto Pérez Reyes (Canbal Unlimited)

Description: Juan Bobo is a hero whose kidnapping by the West to ridicule the Puerto Rican peasantry in the island's industrialization project had the side effect of almost eradicating one of the most interesting displays of the high intellectual sophistication of ancient Caribbean people. During this presentation we will cryptomorphologically deconstruct one of the most beloved satirical characters from Puerto Rico of yesteryear.

Time: 1pm-4pm

Language: Spanish

Title: The Best Lost Secret: The Sciences Hidden in Taíno Art

Presenters: Roberto Pérez Reyes (Canbal Unlimited) & Ramón González-Arango López (Archipiélago Histórico)

Description: "The Best Lost Secret" explores a new vision of the history, mythology, and art of the Indigenous peoples of Puerto Rico and the Caribbean. During this interview with researcher Roberto Pérez Reyes, public historian Ramón González-Arango López helps us discover the languages that reveal how scientifically advanced the pre-Columbian Indo-Antillean peoples were.

@tainoconference





THUR

AUGUST 10, 2023

SALÓN SEMÍ

Ancestral Room

6to piso / 6th floor

Time: 9am-11am

Language: Spanish

Title: Authentication of a Study of the Indo-Antillean language in Borikén

Presenter: Huana Naboli Martínez Prieto

Description: This presentation provides etymological evidence that authenticates the linguistic study initiated in the 20th century by the linguist and anthropologist Oscar "Oki" Lamourt Valentín. The sources encompass spoken language in casual conversations or interviews, written material, and digitized sources.

Time: 1pm-5pm

Language: Spanish

Title: Journey to Care for the Ancestors

Presenter: Irka Mateo (Sacred Taino Healing)

Description: The journey to care for the ancestors is a shamanic practice that offers the opportunity to delve into the Taíno ancestral spirituality. Induced by chanting and the playing of the mayowakán, participants will embark on this experience to receive guidance from their ancestors on a particular topic.

@tainoconference





FRI

AUGUST 11, 2023

SALÓN NITAÍNO

My Family Room

2do piso /2nd floor

Time: 9am-11am

Language: Spanish

Title: Technology for Taíno: From Artificial Intelligence to a Digital Curriculum

Presenter: Priscilla Colón (Casa Areyto)

Description: From the virtual classroom to artificial intelligence, tech is part of our daily lives. So why not use it to revitalize the Taíno language and culture? During this presentation, we will explore the tech that is being used to reimagine and honor our ancestors, to teach kids Taíno while learning manual skills, and to create the first digital curriculum, available on any device, from anywhere around the world... completely free!

Time: 11am-12pm

Language: English

Title: Silence No More: Exploring True Representation of Puerto Ricans Through Cinema

Presenter: Vivionne Grace Keli

Description: Often, the Puerto Rican culture representation on different platforms lack appropriate social norms, social behaviors, beliefs, and capabilities. Is it time to make a change? Join Vivionne Keli as we explore the future of Puerto Rican representation in cinema. Our silence is killing our ancestral identity, but we are silent no more.

Time: 12:45pm-12:55pm

Musical Performance: Taíno Rap

Presenter: Ra Ruiz León

Description: Ra Jikotea Niaku'no (Ra Ruiz León) is a vegan Taíno-Borikua artist and cultural practitioner, committed to the celebration of Indigenous Caribbean identity. Join us for a wonderful performance of her latest rap songs, written in the Hiwatahia Taíno variant.





FRI

AUGUST 11, 2023

SALÓN NITAÍNO

My Family Room

2do piso /2nd floor

Time: 1pm-2:30pm

Language: Spanish

Title: Movie: Dak'Toká Taíno (I Am Taíno)

Presenter: Alba García Rivas (Fantasiation Studio)

Description: Director Alba García Rivas and producer Heather Henson present Dak'Toká Taíno (I am Taíno). A young Taíno girl, Marabelí, visits her grandmother, Abuela Yaya, after Hurricane Maria. Marabelí expresses her fears while Abuela Yaya comforts her and reminds her of her Taíno ancestors and their defiant history of resistance. Join us for this film that warmly reflects the future of Puerto Ricans as an Indigenous society. The film will be followed by a question and answer session with director Alba García Rivas, fan photos, and poster signings.

Time: 2:30-4pm

Language: English, Spanish, Taíno

Title: Movie: Golden Flower

Presenter: Isadora Ortega, David Massey, Xavier Santiago, and special guests

Description: What if you got the chance to take revenge on the person who killed your people? Based on the graphic novel by Isadora Ortega, "Golden Flower" is a short film directed by Academy Award nominee, director David M. Massey and starring Isadora Ortega as Anacaona, renowned Taíno chief. Join us for this historic film, the first to have complete dialog in a modern Taíno variant. The film will be followed by a question and answer session with the director, producers, and the star of the film, as well as fan photos.

Time: 4pm-5pm

Language: Spanish, English, Taíno

Title: Teachers' Roundtable: The Future of Taíno

Presenters: Priscilla Colón, Ra Ruiz León & Gladys Yacely Aponte

Description: What are some of the challenges we face as we revitalize our Indigenous language? What are some of the rewards? Joining us at this roundtable discussion will be teachers of different Taíno variants, all with the same goal. They will explain their views on the various language revitalization efforts taking place on the island and in the diaspora, translanguaging as a tool to decolonize our modes of communication, as well as their hopes for the future of our language and community.





FRI

AUGUST 11, 2023

SALÓN KÉ

Earth Room

6to piso / 6th floor

Time: 11am-12pm

Language: English

Title: Language Learning Technology Tools and Resources for All

Presenter: Stephanie Witkowski

Description: During this session, Executive Director of 7000 Languages, Stephanie Witkowski will provide tips for Indigenous communities looking to revitalize their languages, discuss options available for creating online learning materials for endangered languages, and demonstrate how to use state-of-the-art technology to revitalize the Taíno language.

Time: 1pm-3pm

Language: English, Spanish

Title: Kiwari Taino Ahuiki'no (Queer Taino Voices / Voces Taínes LGBT2s)

Presenter: Ra Ruiz León, Gladys Yacely Aponte, and guests

Description: In this panel discussion, we will be in conversation with several LGBT2s members of our community who will share their stories. We will also discuss the significance of past Kiwari Taino Ahuiki'no events. The panelists and host will take questions from the audience at the end.

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