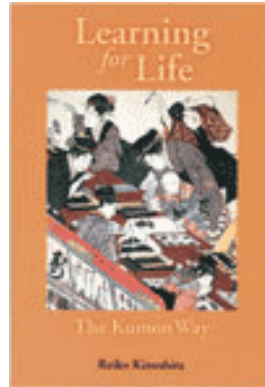


Learning for Life:

Education Based on Traditional Terakoya Schooling



A Lecture by Reiko Kinoshita

Wednesday, March 4th @ 4:00 pm

In a world where parents and educators are constantly searching for innovative approaches to education, methods based on the spirit of *terakoya*, emphasizing not only new skills but also self-confidence and autonomy, have proven both effective and popular across cultures. Originating during Edo Era Japan (1600-1868), *terakoya* temple schooling was aimed at teaching children of commoners basic reading, writing, and arithmetic. Now an integral part of Japanese society exemplified by the popular “Kumon” method, this home education style is in use by over four-million students in forty-five countries.

In this lecture, journalist Reiko Kinoshita discusses her new book, *Learning for Life*, examining the worldwide spread of this *terakoya* way of education and the universal appeal of its principles and practices. Kinoshita explores the many issues related to the method's success, including the role of for-profit companies in education reform and the role these Japanese ideas can play in helping to solve some of the issues in education facing America today.

One of Japan's leading female journalists, Kinoshita has been conducting research and reporting around the theme of “powers Japan lacks.” She is a Visiting Fellow of the Edwin O. Reischauer Center for East Asian Studies at the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), Johns Hopkins University. From 1995 to 2005, she played a unique role as the sole Board member representing the Asia/Pacific region for the International Women's Media Foundation (IWMF).

This event is free and open to the public. **Reservations are required.** RSVP to jiccrsvpwinter09@embjapan.org with your name, affiliation, and the number in your party or call 202.238.6949.