The EWC Arts Program and UHM Department of Theatre and Dance invite you to a symposium on
Minangkabau Culture: Islamic Influence and Matrilineal Traditions

Friday, Jan. 27, 2012

East-West Center Gallery
John A. Burns Hall
1601 East-West Rd.
Honolulu

2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Free Admission
Limited seating

Paid parking is available on U.H. Manoa Campus.

The Minangkabau ethnic group is indigenous to the highlands of West Sumatra in Indonesia. This community is traditionally matrilineal and yet holds strong Islamic religious beliefs. In this symposium, four Southeast Asia scholars will address different aspects of this unique culture.

“Randai and its Adaptation at UHM: Insights from the Rehearsal and Production Process”
Kirstin Pauka, director of UHM graduate studies in theatre, teaches Southeast Asian theatre history, field research methods, directing, Asian acting styles, and Randai.

“Matriarchy, Islam, Modernity and the Dynamics of Minangkabau History”
Jeffrey Hadler, associate professor of Southeast Asian Studies at U.C. Berkeley, first lived with a Minangkabau family as a high school exchange student. He studied Southeast Asian History at Cornell and taught at the State Islamic University in Jakarta. He authored the book “Muslims and Matriarchs: Cultural Resilience in Minangkabau through Jihad and Colonialism.”

“Institutionalizing the Arts: The Politics of Preservation in West Sumatra”
Jennifer Fraser is an assistant professor of ethnomusicology and anthropology at Oberlin College. She recently published the article “Pop Song as Custom: Weddings, Ethnicity, and Entrepreneurs in West Sumatra” in Ethnomusicology journal. Her research focuses on the institutionalization of music and issues of ethnicity, gender, media, and Islam among the Minangkabau in West Sumatra and Jakarta.

“Contemporary Minangkabau”
Edy Utama, noted author of several books on Minangkabau life and customs, is a photographer, cultural activist, and writer based in West Sumatra. He serves as the coordinator for Community Care Network of West Sumatran Traditions and the head music teacher of Contemporary Music of Talago Muni Minangkabau.