



Raison d'être

"Education is not only about knowledge. It is about inspiration. It is about passion. It is about the belief that what we do in life matters. It is about moral choice. It is about taking nothing for granted. It is about challenging assumptions and suppositions. It is about truth and justice. It is about learning how to think. It is about the ability to drive to the heart of the matter and expose the question the answer hides. Above all, education is about making the world a more humane dwelling place for all life."

Personal philosophy

EXPLORE • EDUCATE • EMPOWER

Personal objectives

- To explore the scientific, moral and social dimensions of our relationship with nature, and promote environmental and ecological literacy.
- To advocate conscientious and sustainable stewardship of the world we share, supporting the fundamental edict that humans are not *distinct* from nature but are an integral part of it.
- To facilitate investigation of global challenges as issues of individual, national, international and generational ethical responsibility.

Subject Matter Expert in the following fields of study and disciplines

- Educational Outreach and Environmental and Ecological Ethics
- Impacts of climate and societal change on the indigenous peoples of the Circumpolar North
- Arctic Indigenous Visual Folk Arts and their basis in regional mythologies and traditional knowledge
- Calligraphy, Graphic Design, Pen and Ink Illustration and Architecture

Biographical brief

A visionary multidisciplinary educator, editor, writer and environmental advocate, Moki Kokoris is the founder of "**90-NORTH**" – a program series that introduces students to topics relating to the Arctic and sub-Arctic regions, covering all disciplines from Anthropology to Zoology. Also director of the Wilderness Research Foundation, Visiting Speaker for the Arctic Research Consortium of the US, and member of the Explore Foundation's World Explorers Bureau, she is the first woman of Ukrainian descent to reach the Geographic North Pole.

Ms. Kokoris holds the position of United Nations representative for the World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations NGO in consultative status with the Department of Public Information. In that capacity, she attends and assists in organizing sessions on women's issues, human trafficking, child exploitation, sustainable development, and participates in the International Conference on Health and Environment and the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

Moki has served on the Planning and Declaration Committees of the United Nations DPI/NGO Conference on Climate Change, and was senior editor and also coordinator of the indigenous and education chapters of the *UN Climate Caucus Framework for Action Report* prepared for UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, Achim Steiner – Head of UNEP, and Dr. Pachauri – Chair of the IPCC.

She is a Member National of the Explorers Club, where she has been Chair of the Club's UN Committee, Chair of the Rolex Artist-in-Exploration Grant Committee, and Polar Editor for the *Explorers Journal*.

In addition to being Arctic Editor and writer for *The Polar Times* – journal of the American Polar Society, she is contributing author to *Indigenous Policy* – journal of the Indigenous Studies Network, and to *World Ecology Report – Promoting Health and Environmental Literacy*. Her expanded career expertise includes architecture, graphic design, wildlife rehabilitation, and teaching of polar studies, calligraphy and piano.

Curriculum Vitae

- First woman of Ukrainian descent (14-th woman overall) to reach the Geographic North Pole - April, 2003
 - Founder of **90-NORTH** – multidisciplinary environmental outreach education program with Arctic focus
 - Director at Wilderness Research Foundation
 - United Nations – WFOU Representative in consultative status with the Department of Public Information
 - Senior Editor of the *UN Climate Change Framework for Action* report prepared for the Secretary General, the IPCC and UNEP – 2008 / Coordinator of Indigenous Issues and of Climate Change Education chapters
 - Invited participant to annual UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues conferences
 - Chair of “Viktor-y for Kids” benefit event for the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund
 - Independent SME Consultant to URS-Polar on Outreach Education and Arctic Indigenous Issues
 - Contributor and UN liaison - The Arctic Institute | Center for Circumpolar Security Studies
 - Visiting Speaker for ARCUS (Arctic Research Consortium of the United States)
 - Arctic Editor / Contributing Author for *The Polar Times* – American Polar Society journal, 2007 – 2014
 - Contributing Author to *Indigenous Policy Journal* for the Indigenous Studies Network
 - Contributor to “Polar Bears: Wanderers on Thin Ice” by Mechtild and Wolfgang Opel
 - Member National of The Explorers Club
 - Founder of the annual 'Polar Film Festival'
 - Contributor to the Polar Bears International Scientists and Explorers Blog
 - Presenter at the Will Steger International Institute of Climate Change Education
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Professional degrees, appointments and achievements

- Graduate of the Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art – Bachelor of Architecture 1979 – full academic scholarship
 - Graduate of the Ukrainian Music Institute (piano) – diploma 1974
 - Production Manager at APAD, architectural design firm in New York City – 1982-84
 - Freelance graphic artist, illustrator and calligrapher – 1974-present
 - Instructor at Connecticut Arts Council – student and teacher workshops
 - Director of the Rolex / Explorers Club Artist-in-Exploration Grant Program 2012, 2013
 - Invited member of Nominating Committee for the Rolex Awards for Enterprise – 2015
 - Member of the Ukrainian Scouts Organization – counselor and commander at summer camps; Chairperson of the Arts Judging Committee at annual international tournament – 1982-present
 - Licensed Wildlife Rehabilitator for the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, with NYSDEC supplement from the Department of the Interior's Fish and Wildlife Service Bureau – 1992-2005
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Partial list of projects (graphic design, illustration or calligraphy)

- Commissioned calligrapher for Prince Albert II of Monaco, the Prince of Bhutan, the UN Ambassador to Israel, and The Explorers Club
 - Participant (by invitation from Ukraine's Federal Bank and President Krawchuk) and finalist in the numismatic competition for the design of paper money for Ukraine – 1992
 - Participant (by invitation and approval from the IOC) and semifinalist in the logo competition for the 2004 Summer Olympic Games in Athens, Greece
 - Architectural and technical illustration in “*House Design: Art and Practice*” Author: Alfredo DeVido, Publisher: John Wiley & Sons, 1996
 - Private calligrapher for the Kennedy/Lawford family
 - Commemorative logo design for the Metropolitan of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church of US
 - Graphic designer for benefit event material for Ukrainian Catholic University
 - Assorted calligraphy for book covers, certificates and press releases for Harper Collins Publishers
 - Calligraphy, signage, large format posters and flyers for Carnegie Hall in New York City
 - Design of bicentennial commemorative logo and plate for the town of North Salem, NY – 1988
 - Design of presidential seal for President Krawchuk of Ukraine – 1991
 - Calligraphy for the award plaque presented to Alice Walker (author of “*The Color Purple*”), commissioned by Simon & Schuster Publishers
 - Calligraphy and illumination of the Sir Edmund Hillary Humanitarian Award certificate
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Affiliations, Partnerships and Memberships

- North American Association of Environmental Education (NAAEE)
 - Security and Sustainability Forum: Convening Global Experts to Guide Decision-Making
 - United Nations Conference on Climate Change and ClimateCaucus.net Initiative
 - United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
 - Certified by New York State BOCES [Boards of Cooperative Education Services]
 - Will Steger International Institute for Climate Change Education
 - International Polar Year - Education & Outreach:
member of Team IPY – Integrated Communication, Education & Evaluation (ICEE)
 - American Polar Society
 - The Antarctic Society
 - The Explorers Club
 - World Explorers Bureau of the Explore Foundation
 - Byrd Polar Research Center / United States Polar Rock Repository
 - Arctic Research Consortium of the US (ARCUS)
 - Wilderness Research Foundation
 - Polar Bears International
 - Charter member of the National September 11 Memorial & Museum at the WTC
 - Jane Goodall Institute – Roots & Shoots Program
 - Rolex Enterprise Awards; Rolex and The Explorers Club Artist-in-Exploration Prize Committee
 - American Himalayan Foundation
 - Plast Ukrainian Scouting Foundation
 - World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations
 - International Association of Master Penmen, Engrossers and Teachers of Handwriting [IAMPETH]
 - Society of Scribes
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Sampling of articles and publications

- Article: "Ensuring Equity for the Indigenous Within Their Nation-States for the Benefit of All" published by The Arctic Institute | Center for Circumpolar Security Studies
 - Article: "Water Wrestling – the Implications of Russia's Claims to the Continental Shelf at the North Pole" published in *The Polar Times*, 1/ 2008, and in *Nonviolent Change* journal, Fall 2008
 - Polar Bears International blog entry: "Polar Bear Hunting Viewed Through Indigenous Crosshairs," 5/2013
 - Article: "The Evenki and The Critical Role of Their Shamans" published in *The Polar Times*, 7/2011
 - Article: "Indigenous Resilience, Mentors and Champions of Hope for Contemporary Times" published by The Arctic Institute | Center for Circumpolar Security Studies
 - Article: "Duck Down and Thermostats in an Interconnected World" published in *Indigenous Policy Journal*
 - Article: "Myths and Science Behind the Aurora" published in *The Polar Times*, 7/2008
 - Article: "Celebrating Women of Discovery" published in *The Polar Times*, 7/2011
 - Article: "Sharing Arctic Tidbits with Kids" in Polar Bears International newsletter
 - Article: "Finding One's True North" in the *Ukrainian Woman in the World Journal* – 2007
 - Script for the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund documentary aired on The Learning Network
 - Senior Editor of the *UN Climate Caucus Network – Framework for Action Report*, 2008
 - Calligraphy featured in book: *100 New York Calligraphers*, 2015
 - Calligraphy featured in book: *Tiles* by Olivia Bell Buehl, 1996
 - Architectural illustration in book: *House Design and Practice* by Alfredo DeVido, 1996
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