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## Media Advisory

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## *Media Advisory*

- Event:** *The Eel*, the second in a series of four films from the Japan Foundation
- Date:** Feb. 8 (Sunday)
- Time:** 7 p.m.
- Location:** Beckman Auditorium  
The Ames Library, 1 Ames Plaza, Bloomington
- Admission:** Free, open to the public
- Background:** The Japanese drama *The Eel* (1998), directed by Shohei Imamura, is described as a “haunting film about an ex-con making his awkward way to redemption.” Eight years after slaying his wife and her lover, a man is released from prison and tries to start his life anew. He moves to a provincial village, opens a barbershop, spends time with his pet eel, and saves the life of a young woman who has attempted suicide.

This is the second in a series of four films loaned to Illinois Wesleyan University by the Japan Foundation, which seeks to provide those interested in Japan with the opportunity to learn about Japanese culture through its rich film history. All films feature English subtitles.

The series is sponsored by Illinois Wesleyan’s Asian Studies Student Programming Committee and Japanese Studies, Asian Studies and International Studies Programs, in cooperation with the International Film Series.

“One of the things we’d like to do (through this film series) is make a bridge between Illinois Wesleyan University and the people of this community,” said Hiroko Furo, assistant professor of Japanese studies.

**Contact:** For more information, contact Furo at hfuro@iwu.edu or (309) 556-3941.