



Provided

Yamatai, the Cornell University taiko drum team, during an Asia Night performance this year. The taiko drum group will perform at 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 29, at the Sciencenter as part of the exhibition opening of "Japan and Nature: Spirits of the Seasons." Yamatai was founded by a Cornell undergraduate, Haruki Yukawa, in September 2006 and is celebrating their first anniversary this month

Sciencenter plans open house for new 'Japan and Nature' exhibit

From Journal Staff Reports

ITHACA — Area residents can discover Japan with a new exhibit at the Sciencenter.

"Japan and Nature: Spirits of the Seasons" is a new exhibition that introduces visitors to how nature is celebrated in Japan through hands-on activities, dramatic play and multimedia experiences.

"For the Sciencenter, a museum known for its interactive exhibits, this exhibition takes interactivity to a whole new level," said Lara Kimber, acting executive director, in a news release. "With authentic Japanese artifacts, art supplies, costumes and other interactive materials, this exhibition invites families to explore Japan's geography and to discover how people's lives are shaped by where they live."

The Sciencenter, 601 First St., plans an opening celebration of "Japan and Nature" on Saturday,

FIND OUT MORE

► For information or to plan a visit:

www.sciencenter.org

► The Sciencenter is a member of Ithaca's Discovery Trail:

www.DiscoveryTrail.com

Sept. 29.

Landscape architect Marc Keane will make a presentation at 11 a.m. entitled "Shiki: The Art of Nature in Japan," which illustrates how nature influences Japanese art and culture. At 2 p.m., the Sciencenter will present "Yamatai," the Cornell University Taiko drum team for a musical performance. Sciencenter volunteers from Japan will be on hand to guide Sciencenter visitors through origami activities from noon to 4 p.m.

"Japan and Nature's" day-long opening celebration is sponsored by Tompkins Trust

Company. Special programs and activities for the exhibition are being coordinated in partnership with the Einaudi Center for International Studies and the East Asia Program of Cornell University. All opening day programs and events are included with Sciencenter admission.

"Japan and Nature" features four main interactive areas, each representing a different season and regional setting in Japan. Fall in the mountainside city of Kyoto means a visit to one of Japan's most celebrated shrines. With autumn around the corner here in Ithaca, visitors are invited to discover how children of Japan learn to respect nature; create a fall collage of leaves and nuts; dance and drum in the annual rice harvest festival and scan the horizon for the special Harvest Moon.

The exhibit will be on display through the end of 2007.