



**Marion County
Board of County Commissioners**

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DISCOVER JAPANESE CULTURE NEXT MONTH AT YOUR PUBLIC LIBRARY

Immediate Release

MARION COUNTY, Fla. (July 1, 2011) – June may be over and so might most of your dreams of embarking on that summer vacation to a foreign place. But don't bid them "sayonara" just yet. The Marion County Public Library System invites you to join in for the next stop in its Summer Library Program journey across the world: Japan.

On July 9, feel the beat and experience the Tampa Taiko Japanese drumming ensemble as cast members perform contemporary drumming to ancient martial arts rhythms. Through this interactive program, children will get a chance to try their hand at playing the drums and even learn about the ancient Samurai flute, the "Shakuhachi." Performances will take place as follows:

- 10:30 a.m., Dunnellon Public Library (20352 Robinson Road, Dunnellon).
- 2 p.m., Headquarters-Ocala Public Library (2720 E. Silver Springs Blvd., Ocala).

Later this month, learn all about the art of Japanese mask puppets as the Bits n' Pieces Puppet World Playhouse performs its Magic Fish/Three Wishes show. See traditional Japanese mask puppets perform a popular fairy tale and learn why sometimes what we wish for is not what we need. Following the performance, children will create a Japanese fish toy to take home. Catch all the fun at one of these scheduled performances:

- July 20, 10:30 a.m. (Fort McCoy Public Library, 14660 NE Highway 315, Fort McCoy).
- July 23, 2 p.m. (Headquarters-Ocala, 2720 E. Silver Springs Blvd. Ocala).

The Marion County Public Library System hosts these events in partnership with the Friends of the Library as part of its "One World, Many Stories" Summer Library Program. For more information on these and other Summer Library Program events, visit <http://library.marioncountyfl.org> or call 352-671-8551.

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"Meeting Needs by Exceeding Expectations"