

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Cutline:

*Photo 1: EPCOT's Maturiza Taiko Drummers perform at Bon Fest*

## **10<sup>th</sup> Annual Bon Fest to Celebrate Japanese Culture in Pensacola September 10**

*The free Japanese summer festival features EPCOT's Maturiza Taiko Drummers*

**PENSACOLA, Fla.** (August 25, 2016) – Offering a taste of summer fun from Old Japan, the 10th Annual Bon Fest returns to Pensacola September 10 from noon to 4 p.m. at Booker T. Washington High School, located at 6000 College Parkway. Admission is free and guests of all ages are welcome.

Based on the Obon festivals of Japan, Bon Fest celebrates family and folk traditions through song and dance. Guests will have the opportunity to participate in a Bon Odori dance competition and a silent auction. A variety of Japanese arts and crafts will be for sale including authentic origami creations and Japanese summer treats will also be on hand, allowing guests to browse and cool down as they enjoy the festivities.

Bon Fest offers fun for the whole family as EPCOT's Maturiza Taiko Drummers will give a performance that includes audience participation and allows guests to drum along with the Taiko Drummers. Children are welcome to join the "Kid's Mikoshi Parade" to experience the Japanese ritual of carrying a portable Shinto shrine.

The event is sponsored by the University of West Florida Japan House, the Hilton Garden Inn, the Consulate-General of Japan in Miami, Maturiza Taiko Drums, The Eye Trust, Florida Okinawa Kenjinkai and Play Pensacola Neighborhood Services.

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