

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Percussion Marketing Council announces
Spring Workshops for Teachers-Trainers and NEW IRAQ Curriculum**

Upon the installation of Dr. Craig Woodson as Director of the Roots of Rhythm Program, the PMC announced the dates and locations for three Roots of Rhythm sponsored Trainer and Teacher Workshops.

May 1-3, 2009 Cleveland, Ohio, Cuyahoga Community College
May 29-31, 2009 Reston, Virginia, MENC National Center for Music Education
June 5-7, 2009 Hollywood, California, Remo Recreational Music Center

These workshops are provided free of charge by the Percussion Marketing Council to qualified participants, by enrolling through the Roots of Rhythm (ROR) website, www.rootsofrhythm.net/upcomingworkshops.html. These sessions are open to all interested in becoming trainers (Friday & Saturday workshops) as well as those teachers interested in learning and teaching the curriculum to classroom students K-12 (Sunday workshops). These sessions will include the newest ROR chapter, Special Edition, The Daf in Iraq. Teachers are provided FREE ROR materials at each event.

The Special Edition Chapter 16 is now available as a FREE download from the PMC Roots of Rhythm website www.rootsofrhythm.net. This is an extension chapter illustrating how the Daf drum has evolved over thousands of years to become a vital instrument of the Kurds and many other populations in the Middle East, including people in Iran, Turkey, and Azerbaijan. Musical examples include tracks from the Smithsonian Folkways collection and special recordings of Daf master Houman Pourmehdi. The complete chapter is available on the Roots of Rhythm website where teachers are encouraged to explore how the drum is now used for bringing peace to that troubled area of Iraq.

The new supplements are currently available as free downloads from the homepage of the Roots of Rhythm website (www.rootsofrhythm.net). Additionally, the Roots of Rhythm website offers: Curriculum PDF documents; Audio Content (MP3s) for each lesson; Sample Syllabi; Fun Sheets student activity pages; and Content Standards showing how Roots of Rhythm can be used to teach key ideas for core subjects.



**Photo caption: Dr. Craig Woodson
demonstrating the Roots of Rhythm Adufe in
Darbandi-Khan, Iraq.**

*Hi-res photo available at:
<http://www.rootsofrhythm.net/pressreleases.html>*

Roots of Rhythm was developed by the Percussion Marketing Council (PMC) with support from NAMM, the International Music Products Association. The curriculum consists of 16 lessons, each of which introduces a world percussion instrument and explains its historical, cultural, and aesthetic context. The interactive, multicultural approach of Roots of Rhythm makes it an ideal way to teach and encourages teamwork, cultural understanding, problem solving, self-expression, and an appreciation for the arts.

About the PMC

Formed in 1995, the Percussion Marketing Council is the percussion industry's trade organization. The PMC is a non-profit with a mission to actively promote the many benefits of drumming to the general public. The organization's mission is to provide professional marketing and advertising campaigns, programs and activities that bring increased public awareness to drumming, thus increasing the number of people playing all types of drums. For more information, visit PMC's website at www.playdrums.com.

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