9-25-2008

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Master drummer and dancer from Ghana will visit

Summary: The University of Minnesota, Morris Dance Program, Humanities Division and Dance Ensemble announce the upcoming visit to Morris of Fatawu Sayibu, master drummer and dancer from Northern Ghana.

(September 25, 2008) - The University of Minnesota, Morris Dance Program, Humanities Division and Dance Ensemble announce the upcoming visit to Morris of Fatawu Sayibu, master drummer and dancer from Northern Ghana. Fatawu will teach a drumming class at 10 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 11, and at 11 a.m. he will teach a dance class in Humanities Fine Arts room 125 on the Morris campus. These workshops are offered to the public at no cost and all ages are welcome to participate. Participants are invited to bring their own hand drum or other percussion instrument.

For more information about the workshops, contact the Dance Program at UMM, 589-7002.

Fatawu Sayibu has been dancing and drumming since he was five years old. He has performed and taught as a representative of African culture at schools, universities, community centers and museums in Africa and now in Midwestern USA. He is from the Northern Region of Ghana and comes from a drumming family his traditional dances and use of the talking drum tell the stories of his culture, country and people.

Fatawu is a performer, a teacher, a choreographer and a mentor to the children in his community, as well as his students here in the U.S. Every month he sends a large majority of his earnings back to his dance school in Ghana, providing costumes and instruments, while keeping the children who dance off the streets and connected to their traditional culture and heritage.

A free will donation may be given that will be donated to his dance school in Ghana to help support the students, their costumes and instruments. Visit Fatawu for more information.

Through personal and academic discovery, the University of Minnesota, Morris provides opportunities for students to grow intellectually, engage in community, experience environmental stewardship and celebrate diversity. A renewable and sustainable educational experience, Morris prepares graduates for careers, for advanced degrees, for lifelong learning, for work world flexibility in the future, and for global citizenship. Learn more about Morris at morris.umn.edu or call 888-866-3382.