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Grand Opening of Kinokuniya Brings Japanese Culture to Bryant Park with Month-Long Event Series in November

NEW YORK, NY October 31, 2007, -- Kinokuniya, Japan's premier bookstore, is celebrating the grand opening of its 24,000-square-foot new flagship U.S. store location on Sixth Avenue at the entrance to Bryant Park between 40th and 41st streets (address 1073 Avenues of the Americas). Kinokuniya's month-long grand opening celebration includes a special visit from **manga legend Inoue Takehiko** who will create a unique mural within the store, a **Manga Costume Day** which will allow Anime and manga fans to visit the store dressed as their favorite characters and mingle with well known artists, a cooking demonstration by cookbook author **Machiko Chiba** using her new microwave cooking tool, **Cook Zen**, and much more. The store also plans to host on-going photo and art exhibits such as the **Kanzaburo** photo display by **Michel Delsol**.

"We are very excited about the Kinokuniya grand opening," says John R. Fuller, Store Manager. "Kinokuniya is the foremost destination for Japanese books, with the widest selection in New York City including Japanese Arts, Cooking, Fashion and Anime. We are so much more than a bookstore; Kinokuniya is a community where New Yorkers can gather to relax, have a drink at the new Café Zaiya, and have the opportunity to meet internationally acclaimed writers and artists. We invite everyone to come and experience the new store and the many one-of-a-kind events that Kinokuniya has to offer."

Designed by the world renowned Kay Ngee Tan architectural firm, Kinokuniya will occupy three levels. The basement will include Japanese language books on arts and culture, and house a wide range children's books, paperbacks and stationery; the first floor will focus on Kinokuniya's core strengths: fashion and art coffee table books, cookbooks, and Japanese literature translated into English; while the third floor, home of Café Zaiya, will contain movies, architecture and design books, and New York's most extensive manga and Anime collection.

To celebrate the opening of the new flagship store, Kinokuniya will give away one round-trip air ticket to Japan courtesy of Japan Airlines. The winners will be announced in December.

Schedule of Events:

Date	Event	Person	Time
In English or in English & Japanese			
11/01/07	Prize Raffle / Drawing and other giveaways Begin		Thru 12/22
11/03/07	"Your Career In Manga"	Panel	2:00PM
11/03/07	Costume Day (Customers in costume receive discount on comics: VIZ gif)	Various	All Day
11/03/07	Lost Classics of Japanese Animation: The Anime You Haven't Seen - clips screening & discussion	Brian Camp	5:00PM
11/07/07	World of Japanese Baseball - Discussion and book signing	Marion Robertson	5:00PM
11/10/07	"Kissing Hand" Reading (for children) - In Japanese and English	Irisawa, Yori; Audrey Penn	3:00PM
11/11/07	Kyoto Goods Presents "How to Tie Furoshiki"	Kyou Fu	TBA
11/12/07	Democracy With A Gun - Discussion and book signing	Fumio Matsuo	5:30PM
11/15/07	Japan: Land of Rising Business Opportunities: What you need to know now!	Sue Shinoyama, Brian Szepekouski	5:30PM
11/18/07	"Kanzaburo" Backstage Kabuki Photo Display Event	Michel Delsol	Thru 12/1
11/20/07	Original 'Live' Mural Artwork by Inoue Takehiko	Inoue Takehiko	11/20
11/25/07	Cook Zen Demonstration	Machiko Chiba	3:00PM
11/30/07	Matsue Wagashi Demonstration - 3 day exhibition of the making of traditional Japanese Sweets	Matsue/Wagashi/Zaiya	All Day
In Japanese:			
11/05/07	Hiroshi Sugimoto with Yuriko Kuchiki	Hiroshi Sugimoto w/Yuriko	5:30PM
11/09/07	Ushio Shinohara: Artist with Yuriko Kuchiki	Ushio Shinohara	5:30PM
11/15/07	Sumi/Calligraphy Demonstration & Display	Hanako "Teishu" Ito	2:00PM
Drawing Prize:	Plane ticket to Japan courtesy of Japan Airlines Domestic air ticket courtesy of Kintetsu International Electronic Dictionary courtesy of Seiko Instruments Assorted Freebies courtesy of VIZ Media		

About Kinokuniya:

Kinokuniya Company, LTD is one of the world's leading Japanese bookstores and operates 84 stores internationally. Founded in 1927, Kinokuniya's first store was opened in the Shinjuku district of Tokyo, the largest metropolitan center in Japan. Today, Kinokuniya has developed into large-scale bookstores based on their corporate philosophy of providing customers with a wide variety of books and magazines.

General information on Kinokuniya Company, LTD can be obtained by visiting the company's corporate Web site: <http://www.kinokuniya.com>.

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