

ithacajournal.com

Nearby summer activities

By Nancy Grossman · June 15, 2010, 12:00 am

Guests visiting this summer? Then you, too, can be a tourist in your own town with the Discovery Trail, featuring activities, events and exhibits for all ages.

The Discovery Trail consists of the Cayuga Nature Center, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Cornell Plantations, Herbert F. Johnson Museum of Art, The History Center in Tompkins County, Museum of the Earth at PRI, Sciencenter and Tompkins County Public Library. We celebrated 10 years of collaboration in 2009.

Discovery Trail sites show you the connections between art, history, literature, science and the natural world locally. Here is a sampling of offerings:

*Cayuga Nature Center's Friday night hikes, Saturday animal feedings and special classes like Beginner's Beekeeping, plus the six-story Treetops and Butterfly House.

* Cornell Plantations' Bird & Blossom walks in the Arboretum, evening wildflower walks, botanical garden drop-in tours and botanical illustration classes offer engaging nature experiences.

* Herbert F. Johnson Museum of Art, where current exhibits include Michael Ashkin's signature landscapes, through July 11.

* The History Center in Tompkins County offers tours of downtown Ithaca with tour guides straight out of the time periods you'll be walking through. The Dark Side of Ithaca tours tell tales of murder, haunting and some of the more unusual occurrences in local history.

* Museum of the Earth at PRI offers mineral and fossil identification days plus "One Fish, Two Fish, Old Fish, New Fish: Exploring the Evolution of Biodiversity" on display until Sept. 6.

Tompkins County Public Library is hosting an exhibit of the Discovery Trail as well as a schedule of weekly story times. Summer exhibits include Visual Culture features work by Ithaca High School students working in a wide variety of different media and MARK UP: Alums of NYFA's Professional

Development Program presents the work of about 20 artists working in different media plus Art Behind the Scientist with the Werner Sun exhibit.

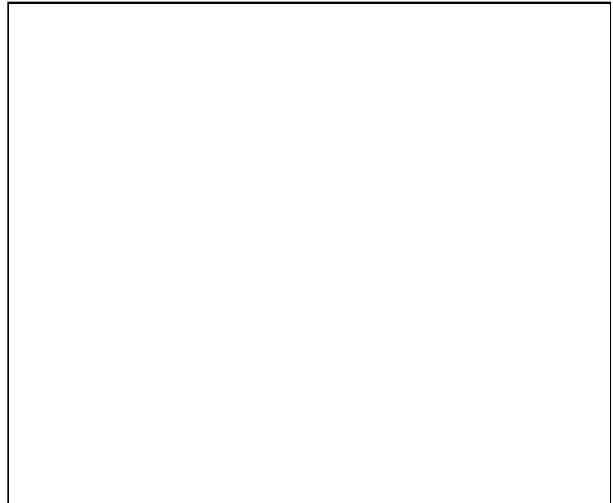
The Discovery Trail collaborates with the Ithaca City School District and Ithaca Public Education Initiative to bring ICSD students the highly successful "Kids Discover the Trail!" program. In 2010, the "KDT!" program model has been expanded to Trumansburg, where a collaboration of the Trumansburg Central School District and TCSD Foundation launched Trumansburg Kids Explore & Discover.

The curriculum-based field trips enhance in-school learning, provide equal access to Discovery Trail sites for all students, and expand awareness of the Discovery Trail.

Visit www.discoverytrail.com for up-to-date details on events and exhibits. With eight world-class institutions, you need not look farther than your own backyard for amazing opportunities this summer and all year long.

Nancy Grossman is coordinator of Discovery Trail.

Advertisement



Print Powered By  FormatDynamics™