



MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY
News Release

Tourism is Everybody's Business!

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MTEC/MY WAVE TOURISM SUMMIT ON OCT. 27

Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMI) – In a continuation of their outreach efforts this year to students, the Marianas Tourism Education Council (MTEC), school MY WAVE clubs, and the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) will hold the MTEC/MY WAVE Tourism Summit on Oct. 27, 2011.

The summit will welcome an estimated 150 students of grade levels 3-12 for a full day of activities about tourism and its importance to the Northern Marianas community. Heidi Ballendorf, President of the Guam Tourism Education Council, will be the keynote speaker. MVA Chairperson Marian Aldan-Pierce will also address the students, and well as Dr. Fred Schumann and Hopwood Jr. High School MY WAVE club president Mikee Campo. Students will then have the opportunity to demonstrate their understanding of the industry through on-stage presentations.

“The first MY WAVE Tourism Summit in 2004 was a great success in getting children aware of and interested in tourism, and another summit is long overdue,” said MTEC Chairperson Vicky Benavente. “The children are the future of our industry, and we hope the

summit will spur the formation of more MY WAVE clubs where students can become actively involved in supporting and benefiting from the industry.”

MY WAVE stands for Marianas Youth Welcome All Visitors Enthusiastically. Interested schools may contact event chairman and Hopwood Jr. High Vice Principal Epiphanio Cabrera at epicabrera@gmail.com or 670.237.3456 or Martin Duenas at the Marianas Visitors Authority at mduenas@mymarianas.com to register students. The event will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Fiesta Resort & Spa Hibiscus Hall.

"The CNMI Public School System (PSS) is proud to be a member of MTEC over the years since its inception," said PSS Commissioner Rita Sablan. "This organization has made leaders of our students to promote and support the tourism industry here in the Commonwealth."

MTEC is a nonprofit organization promoting community awareness on the importance of the visitor industry in the Northern Marianas. Membership is open to all business, community groups, and private individuals.

The Northern Mariana Islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota are a chain of idyllic islands in the West Pacific, offering a friendly, fun and exciting vacation in paradise. They are an excellent destination for families, adventure and sports-minded travelers, as well as business people looking for a tropical haven. Adventurous travelers from Asia, Australia, Europe and elsewhere looking for new travel discoveries will find them in the Mariana Islands, just three hours travel from most cities in Japan, and four from Asia and Australia. The Northern Marianas are served from Tokyo, Nagoya, and Osaka in Japan by Delta and Asiana Airlines. From Korea, Asiana provides direct flights from Seoul and Busan. For more information visit www.mymarianas.com.

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