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**MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY**  
**News Release**

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*Tourism is Everybody's Business!*

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MVA MANAGING DIRECTOR

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## **MTEC BEGINS ANNUAL SCHOOL OUTREACH**

**Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMI)** – The Marianas Tourism Education Council (MTEC) and the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) launched their annual outreach to public and private schools with visits to Chacha Oceanview Junior High and Saipan Southern High last week.

MTEC is a non-profit organization aimed at educating the public on the importance of the tourism industry. The council engages students with discussion on the benefits of tourism, the profile of visitors who come to the Northern Marianas, and what students can do to support the visitor industry.

“MTEC is thankful that Saipan Southern High’s MY WAVE Club is helping to spread the message that ‘Tourism Is Everybody’s Business,’” said MTEC Chairperson Vicky Benavente. “This club, with a membership of 40 students, has produced a DVD called ‘I Love Saipan.’ These are high schools students who understand the importance of our islands’ tourism industry. Amazing kids!”

Saipan Southern High MY WAVE Club President Bertran Palacios assisted with the MTEC presentation and said he is looking forward to a very successful year.

“Right now, by looking at the numbers of the students who are interested in the club, I could assume that great things will happen,” said Palacios. “I have a really committed and determined group of leaders who will run the club with me, which is a great thing. The ideas we have for now are beach and road side cleanups; just the basics, and there will be more in the duration of the school year.”

Palacios noted his fellow MY WAVE Club officers are Vice President Guadalupe Camacho, Secretary Danah Apelo, Treasurer Isaac Tenorio, and Co-Secretary/Treasurer Fidel Palacios.

"Our club continues to grow, as more students become aware of and interested in the visitor industry," said Saipan Southern High MY WAVE Club Advisor Arisa Sakai.

Interested organizations and individuals may contact MVA Community Projects Manager Martin Duenas at [mduenas@mymarianas.com](mailto:mduenas@mymarianas.com) or 1.670.664.3210 for more information.



Marcelyn Castro of Chacha Oceanview Jr. High won a Saipan-da bag during the educational presentation of the Marianas Tourism Education Council (MTEC). MTEC launched its annual round of school presentations on Oct. 4, 2012. Also pictured is MTEC Chairwoman Vicky Benavente.



Marla Salik of Chacha Oceanview Jr. High won a gift bag for correctly answering a tourism-related question during the educational presentation of the Marianas Tourism Education Council (MTEC) on Oct. 4, 2012, at the school. Also pictured is MTEC Chairwoman Vicky Benavente.



Elden Dela Cruz of Saipan Southern High won a Saipan-da backpack for correctly answering a tourism-related question during the educational presentation of the Marianas Tourism Education Council (MTEC) on Oct. 5, 2012, at the school.



Rayven Ferrer of Saipan Southern High won a waterpark pass for two during the Marianas Tourism Education Council (MTEC) presentation on Oct. 5, 2012, at the school. Ferrer correctly identified the two primary and two secondary visitor markets of the Northern Mariana Islands and the approximate number of visitors the NMI receives each year.

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 and Osaka in Japan by Delta Air Lines and Asiana Airlines. From Korea, Asiana provides direct flights from Seoul and Busan. China is served from Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou. For more information visit [www.mymarianas.com](http://www.mymarianas.com).

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