



**MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY
News Release**

Tourism is Everybody's Business!

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MTEC ANNOUNCES TOURISM ESSAY CONTEST

Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMI) – The Marianas Tourism Education Council (MTEC) has announced an essay contest for all public and private school students on the theme “Tourism is Everybody’s Business 24/7 in the 670.”

The contest is open to grades K-12. All entries must be typed and received by 5 p.m., Oct. 15, 2013, at the Marianas Visitors Authority office in Saipan, Tinian, or Rota. Entries must include the student’s name, school, and grade level.

“Thanks to the generous support of our donors, we are pleased to have an essay contest this year to further engage the younger generation in thinking about our tourism economy,” said MTEC Chair Vicky Benavente. “As MTEC prepares to start another round of educational presentations at the schools about the visitor industry, this essay contest will give students an opportunity to give feedback on what they know.”

The contest has three categories. Grade K-6 may submit essays of up to 300 words. Grades 7-8 may submit essays of up to 500 words. Grades 9-12 may submit essays of up to 600

words.

Three winners will be selected from each category. Prizes for grades K-8 are \$50 (1st place), \$30 (2nd place), and \$20 (3rd place). Prizes from grades 9-12 are \$75 and 1 roundtrip ticket to 2013 MY WAVE Tourism Summit in Guam (non-transferable 1st place), \$60 (2nd place), \$50 (3rd place).

Winners will be announced at the 2013 MTEC/MY WAVE Tourism Summit on Oct. 30, 2013. For more information, contact MVA Community Projects Manager Martin Duenas at mduenas@mymarianas.com or 670.664.3210.

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 and Asiana Airlines. From Korea, Asiana provides direct flights from Seoul and Busan. China is served from Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou. Russia is served via Vladivostok and Khabarovsk. United Airlines has daily flight connections from nine cities in Japan to Saipan via Guam. United States mainland connections can be made by United Airlines to Saipan via Guam, and Delta Airlines from the west coast to Saipan via Narita. For more information visit www.mymarianas.com.

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