



MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY
News Release

Tourism is Everybody's Business!

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MTEC BEGINS ANNUAL SCHOOL OUTREACH

T Galleria Donates \$3,000+

Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMI) – The MTEC (Marianas Tourism Education Council) has begun its annual fall outreach to elementary school students with visits to Garapan Elementary and Kagman Elementary, as T Galleria makes a monetary donation to the cause.

MTEC is taking its message of the importance of tourism to hundreds of students at public elementary schools, with plans to continue outreach to junior and senior high schools in the spring. MTEC's efforts were bolstered by a \$3042.50 donation from T Galleria this week.

“T Galleria is proud to be a part of the only student organization in the CNMI whose main mission is to educate our youth on the importance of extending the Hafa Adai Spirit to our visitors,” said T Galleria President Marian Aldan-Pierce. “A wave, a simple smile goes a long way to making those who visit our islands feel welcome into our home – to do what comes naturally to us islanders. The MTEC officers and teacher volunteers at the schools with MY WAVE clubs must be recognized and commended for a job well done all these years.”

Last year MTEC visited **eleven** schools, including on Tinian and Rota.

“Garapan Elementary and Kagman Elementary have kicked off our MTEC presentations by graciously opening their doors to us again this year, and we look forward to visiting the rest of the schools over the next few months,” said MTEC Chairwoman Vicky Benavente. “Our message is still ‘Tourism is Everybody’s Business,’ and we are encouraging younger students to join the effort by helping to keep the islands clean, being friendly to visitors, and joining their school MY WAVE Club for more activities.”

The MTEC presentation covers visitor profiles, how tourism helps the Northern Marianas, jobs in tourism, and how students can help support the industry.



Students at Kagman Elementary listen to the presentation “Tourism is Everybody’s Business” by Marianas Tourism Education Council on Oct. 30, 2014. MTEC is a non-profit organization supported by donations and funding from the Marianas Visitors Authority.



Students at Garapan Elementary raise their hands to answer questions about tourism following the presentation "Tourism is Everybody's Business" by Marianas Tourism Education Council on Oct. 29, 2014. MTEC is a non-profit organization supported by donations and funding from the Marianas Visitors Authority. .



Marianas Tourism Education Council Member Catherine Perry quizzes students at Garapan Elementary following the presentation “Tourism is Everybody’s Business” on Oct. 29, 2014. For naming the Hell of the Marianas and XTERRA (Saipan Championship) as two annual signature events of the Marianas Visitors Authority, this student won a Saipan-da backpack.

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. From China, direct flight service from Shanghai, Beijing, Guangzhou, Tianjin, Hangzhou and Wuhan to Saipan is available. United Airlines has daily flight connections from nine cities in Japan to Saipan with one stop. United States mainland connections can be made by Delta Air Lines to Saipan via Tokyo Narita, and United Airlines via Guam. For more information, visit www.mymarianas.com.
