



MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY
News Release

Tourism is Everybody's Business!

PERRY JOHN P. TENORIO
MVA MANAGING DIRECTOR

For Immediate Release-December 24, 2014

For further information, contact:
Perry John P. Tenorio, Managing Director
Marianas Visitors Authority
Telephone: (670) 664-3200/3201 Facsimile: (670) 664-3237
mva@mymarianas.com
www.mymarianas.com

MOCHITSUKI FESTIVAL AT PASEO DE MARIANAS ON DEC. 27

Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMI) – Organizers of the annual “Christmas in the Marianas” celebration and the Japan Society invite all revelers to join this Saturday’s (Dec. 27) Mochitsuki Festival at Paseo de Marianas. The festival marks the season preparation of *mochi* – a dough-like substance of glutinous rice – for the Japanese New Year.

Winners will also be announced for the Christmas Tree Decoration Contest, Christmas Caroling Contest, and Christmas Parade held earlier this month. Entertainment, games, and food sales will run from 5 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

“It’s been a very enthusiastic Christmas in the Marianas celebration all month at Paseo de Marianas, and we invite the community to come down and celebrate the Mochitsuki Festival on this final Saturday,” said Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) Community Projects Manager Martin Duenas.

This Saturday’s entertainment lineup includes: CNMI Awadori Dancers (5 p.m.), Ukulele Jammers (5:30 p.m.), Mochitsuki Festival (6 p.m.), Poksai Guma Chamorro (6:30 p.m.), Hopwood Jr. High (7 p.m.), awards presentation and Refaluwasch Warriors (7:30 p.m.), Uncle Bens Music and Dance (8 p.m.), and Out of the Ordinary band (8:30 p.m.), and Saipan Music

and Dance School (9 p.m.)

Christmas in the Marianas is organized by the MVA, Team PDI, and PDM Promoters. Additional sponsors and supporters include: T Galleria, Tan Siu Lin Foundation, DOCOMO Pacific, Kinpachi Restaurant, CNMI Public School System, Japan Saipan Travel Association, Country House Restaurant, RNV Construction, MISA Ent., Power 99, Moby Dick Restaurant, KKMP, Magic 100FM, KCNM, Teach PDI, Chamolinian Cultural Village, and Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture.



Santa Claus and the Dept. of Public Safety gave out candy at the Christmas in the Marianas Parade of Floats on Dec. 20, 2014, in Saipan.



Several schools participated in the Christmas in the Marianas Parade of Floats on Dec. 20, 2014, in Saipan.



San Antonio Elementary School participated in the Christmas in the Marianas Parade of Floats on Dec. 20, 2014, in Saipan.



Saipan Southern High School participated in the Christmas in the Marianas Parade of Floats on Dec. 20, 2014, in Saipan.

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.

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