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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GCC Global Cardboard Challenge today, tomorrow

Two year old Raikoa Charfauros went “fishing” at the GCC Multipurpose Auditorium today, catching colorful fish “words” to rhyme with words on the backdrop of a fishing pond created entirely out of cardboard.

“This type of activity is important because it expands their vocabulary, teaches them how to rhyme and recognize different sounds, and it teaches fine motor skills,” said Josie Cabrera, a GCC Early Childhood Education student and one of the creators of the rhyming fish pond.

The fishing pond, a treasure hunt through a castle, a child-sized town, Santa Teresita Church, and a medical center are just a few of the cardboard creations on display at the Guam Community College’s first-ever Global Cardboard Challenge. The GCC Education Department brought this awesome creative exercise for children to Guam after Melissa Palomo, the GCC Career & Technical Education Early Childhood Ed instructor at George Washington High School, saw an internet video about an elementary school student in Los Angeles who created a huge arcade made entirely of cardboard boxes from his father’s auto parts store.

“Everything was inspired by ‘Caine’s Arcade,’ the 2002 video we found on the Internet,” said Palomo. “The creations displayed by our postsecondary and secondary students all promote imaginative learning,” she said.

Today, Early Childhood Ed postsecondary students and CTE Early Childhood Ed secondary students from GWHS set up and displayed the cardboard projects they created for the Global Cardboard Challenge.

“These projects centered around themes such as literacy games, puppetry, dramatic play – games that promote learning and creativity,” explained Palomo.

GCC also partnered with San Vicente Catholic School on this initial project (as some GCC ECE graduates are now employed there as teachers). Over the past several weeks, San Vicente students were encouraged to create cardboard projects either as a class, or at home with their families. Tomorrow between 9-11 AM, the San Vicente students will bring their projects to the GCC MPA and tour all of the cardboard creations on display, said Palomo.

“Next year, we hope to host a giant Guam Global Cardboard Challenge here at GCC where students bring their projects and set them up for everyone to see,” she added.

A video of the arcade that inspired the Global Cardboard Challenge is available at:

<http://cardboardchallenge.com/>

For information on the Global Cardboard Challenge, go to:

<http://imagination.is/our-projects/cardboard-challenge/>

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