



February 2, 2016 3:30 P.M.

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## SSHS students present FestPac project

Students in the GCC Tourism Academy at Simon Sanchez High School will celebrate the 12<sup>th</sup> Festival of Pacific Island Arts, known as “FestPac,” early as part of Career & Technical Education (CTE) month. Guam is hosting this year’s FestPac May 22 – June 4. The festival takes place every four years, bringing together artists and cultural practitioners from around the Pacific region for two weeks of cultural celebration.

Students in the GCC Lodging Management Program at SSHS will “adopt” a Pacific island nation; research its history, language, culture, tradition, food, and the indigenous people; SSHS ProStart students will, in collaboration with their LMP counterparts, research cuisines of their respective adopted Pacific island nation. On Wednesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 11:30 AM, the LMP students will give poster board presentations of their respective countries, and the ProStart students will prepare a meal highlighting the cuisine of that particular country.

“This FestPac unit represents project-based learning that aligns CTE and academic learning with a significant community event – in this case FestPac - to make learning engaging and relevant to the lives of our students,” according to Eric Chong, SSHS LMP instructor.

“The project aims to orient students on the significance and purpose of FestPac and have them reflect how one can preserve and perpetuate Guam’s cultural identity,” added Vicky Schrage, SSHS ProStart instructor.

Schrage and Chong have invited Carlos Laguana, FestPac committee chair on culinary, to speak to the students to discuss the history and purpose of FestPac, and to brief them about the participating island countries and territories. The students’ audience on Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup>, the culminating day of the project, will include Jon Fernandez, GDOE superintendent, Principal Carla Masnayan and other SSHS administrators, GVB officials, and First Lady Christine Calvo.

The Tourism Academy concept was initiated by GCC CTE instructors in the various public high schools and integrates curriculum with CTE programs (e.g. using math equations to figure out multiplying a four-serving recipe for a banquet reception for students in the ProStart program).

*Media coverage note: To cover this event, please check in at the SSHS main office, where you will be escorted to the presentation room.*

Individuals requiring special accommodations, auxiliary aids, or services please contact 735-5597  
For more information, contact Jayne Flores, GCC Asst. Director of Communications & Promotions, at 735-5638 (office), 483-6409 (cell), or via email at [jayne.flores@guamcc.edu](mailto:jayne.flores@guamcc.edu).