



Håfa Adai Everyday



Guam Seawalker Tours takes Håfa Adai Pledge

(Wednesday, April 19, 2017) - The Guam Visitors Bureau held the first underwater Håfa Adai Pledge ceremony to welcome Guam Seawalker Tours to the Håfa Adai Pledge program on Tuesday, April 18. The tour company took the pledge in front of its mural in Piti and in the underwater ceremony at Fish Eye Marine Park. From left: **Pilar Laguana**, GVB director of global marketing; **Warren Pelletier**, Guam Seawalker Tours president; and **Darrell Romero**, Guam Seawalker Tours vice president.

Tourism works!



Tourism supports local food and beverage industry

A melting pot of cultures, Guam is a foodie's paradise. Local residents and visitors can find all kinds of cuisines, from Chamorro to Chinese, to satisfy their curiosity and taste buds.

Tourism dollars help Guam's food and beverage (F&B) industry thrive. Visitors dine not only at hotels but also at family restaurants, festivals, night markets and shopping centers.

The patronage of visitors, along with residents, supports jobs throughout the F&B industry. Bakers, baristas, bartenders, cashiers, caterers, chefs, cooks, dishwashers, farmers, hosts, stewards and waiters play a role in the dining experience.

The Guam Visitors Bureau (GVB) supports the F&B industry by promoting local restaurants. GVB lists restaurants at www.visitguam.com/things-to-do/restaurants.

To further promote the art of cooking on Guam, the Tourist Attraction Fund provides funding to the Micronesian Chefs Association. Founded in 1999, the group has brought a lot to the table as it helps develop the culinary expertise on the island.

GVB also supports events like the Agat Mango Festival where vendors sell their food products. The 11th annual event is set for May 26-28 in the Agat Sagan Bisita. There you can find jam, jelly and smoothies as well as pickled mango, a local favorite.

Whether you are at a festival or a fine dining establishment, you are likely to hear the Chamorro word for delicious - mångge'.



LIVING THE HÅFA ADAI PLEDGE

Gian Magana

One grocery store bagger who sings is striking the right chord with shoppers.

"My coworkers told me some of the Japanese tourists were looking for my Håfa Adai spirit," says Gian Magana, a bagger at the Pay-Less Supermarkets store in Oka, Tamuning.

Gian has sung the "Pen Pineapple Apple Pen," a popular song in Japan, to tourists. Japanese tourists love the song, he says. "Sometimes the tourists sing the lyrics with me."

Gian says he also loves to sing Pay-Less' reusable bag jingle. "Don't forget to bring your reusable shopping bag!"

"Singing while working makes me happy," Gian says. "I can get away from stress, aside from entertaining customers."

For the 21-year-old Dededo resident, singing is just one way to share the Håfa Adai spirit. Gian also greets customers with "Håfa Adai" and asks customers how they are doing and if they found everything they were looking for.

Gian says he shares the Håfa Adai spirit not only with customers but also with colleagues. "All you need is to have a warm heart and a great personality."

Gian knows how to be sincere in showing island hospitality. "I always want to be friendly and kind in public, but I have to remember that I cannot please everyone in the store," he says. "Trying to be perfect does not seem realistic to me."

Gian, a student at Guam Community College, says he may be a little socially different. "Autism does not define me. I define that challenge, as a person who is capable of handling retail work by myself and accepting who I am."

Whether Gian shares the Håfa Adai spirit by bagging groceries or entertaining customers, it's no wonder that shoppers sing his praises.



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Manana Si Yu'os

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