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Belizean Student Takes Second Place in Regional FCCA Competition

Belize City, Belize - July 23, 2014 - The Belize Tourism Board (BTB) is pleased to announce that two Belizean students were awarded prizes in the Florida Caribbean Cruise Association (FCCA) Foundation Children's Environmental Poster Competition.

Belize's **Junior Division** representative, Amber McKoy of Grace Primary School, placed second at the regional level. For her entry, Amber was awarded \$1,500USD. As the second place school, Grace Primary also won \$1,500USD.

Belize's representative in the **Senior Division**, Dengry Hernandez of Ladyville Technical High School, didn't place but his quality submission was recognized with a consolation prize of \$200USD.

BTB's Director of Cruise & Regional Initiatives, Valdemar Andrade, says that if the quality of submissions is any indication, then Belize is in good hands, "We have been participating in this competition since 2012 and our students continue to do well at the regional level. What this highlights is that we have a generation of young people who know the importance of the health of the environment and its impact on the economic contribution of Cruise Tourism to Belize. I think, if anything, it's safe to say that the students today will make great custodians of Belize's natural resources."

Every year the FCCA invites students from the Caribbean and Latin America to participate in the annual FCCA Foundation Children's Environmental Poster Competition. This year, students were asked to depict at least three ways in which his/her destination can make a difference in preserving the environment. Thirteen destinations throughout the Caribbean and Latin American region participated.

For more information on the FCCA's Children's Environmental Poster Competition, please contact Mr. Clive Meyers at 227-2420.

About the Belize Tourism Board

The Belize Tourism Board (BTB) is a statutory body within the Belize Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Civil Aviation and it is governed by a Board of Directors appointed by the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Civil Aviation. The BTB works in conjunction with members of the private sector - including the Belize Hotel Association, Belize Tourism Industry Association and Belize National Tour Operators Association - and is dedicated to building tourism in the most economically and environmentally sustainable manner. As a part of its responsibilities, the BTB promotes Belize as a

premier tourism destination to both in-country and international consumers. Among its outreach to the international travel market, the BTB markets the country's unique attractions to travellers, members of the travel trade industry and media outlets in key markets. The BTB is also dedicated to developing and implementing tourism programs that will help strengthen and grow the Belizean tourism industry; promote good destination stewardship; and instil high quality standards for accommodations and travel experiences. For more information on the BTB and its services, visit www.travelbelize.org.

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