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Flagstaff Chamber, educators tout success of inaugural 'Teacher Appreciation Reception'

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More than 100 educators and community supporters attended the "Teacher Appreciation Reception" presented Friday, May 1 by the Greater Flagstaff Chamber of Commerce. The event was held in conjunction with the Flagstaff First Friday Art Walk.

Teachers and educators from preschool through college were invited to attend the reception as a kick off to National Teacher Appreciation Week (May 4-8) and National Teacher's Day (May 5).

The educators in turn expressed their appreciation for the chamber's effort.

"I just wanted to give you and the rest of the gang a personal THANKS for putting on such a wonderful tribute to teachers during the Open House at the GFCC," said Julie Elliott, a physical education teacher at DeMiguel School. "I heard many appreciative comments from teachers that evening, as well as by text afterward. Once again, thank you!"

The reception was a new undertaking by the chamber's Education and Workforce Development Division and its initiative Flagstaff Values Teachers in collaboration with Flagstaff Arts Council that organizes First Friday ArtWalk.

The May 1 First Friday ArtWalk also featured participating businesses and galleries offering a special perk or discount to teachers.



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Karin Eberhard, left, Flagstaff Unified School District relations coordinator, enjoys the inaugural celebration with Regina Salas, executive assistant to the president and CEO of the Greater Flagstaff Chamber of Commerce. ©2015



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Steven Flanagan, Sam's Club membership coordinator, left; Cynthia Pardo, Parent Awareness and Community Outreach coordinator with First Things First Coconino Regional Partnership Council; center, and Kimberlie Bayer with the chamber's Education & Workforce Development Division, share some information at the reception. ©2015