

Linda S. Thibodeau

Director

Division of Libraries, Archives,
& Museums

www.eed.state.ak.us

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
AND EARLY DEVELOPMENT

Glenn Cook

Acting Chief Curator
Alaska State Museums

395 Whittier St.
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1718
907.465.2901

Press Release

ALASKA STATE MUSEUM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SUMMER EXHIBITS IN FINAL WEEK

Two special exhibitions which have been on display at the Alaska State Museum this past summer will be closing this month.

“Yuungnaqpiallerput (The Way We Genuinely Live): Masterworks of Yup’ik Science and Survival,” which looks at the technology and scientific principles underlying Yup’ik Eskimo culture in Alaska, will have its last day on October 17. The exhibit uses remarkable 19th and early 20th century tools, containers, weapons, watercraft and clothing to illustrate the scientific principles and processes that have allowed the Yup’ik people to adapt to living in the sub-arctic tundra of the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta and the Bering Sea coast.

The second exhibit, a solo show by Fairbanks artist Da-ka-ween Mehner, closes October 24. Mehner’s exhibit explores what it means to him, as well as to others, to be Alaska Native. Mehner represents a new generation of Alaska Native artists who see themselves as both representatives of their traditional cultures and as members of the global art community. Often they push the boundaries of traditional forms or utilize non-traditional technologies such as photography or video. Mehner won the top award at the 2006 “Alaska Positive” photo exhibition organized by the Alaska State Museum.

Hours at the museum are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Admission is \$3. Visitors 18 and under are admitted free of charge. An annual pass that allows unlimited visits to the Alaska State Museum and the Sheldon Jackson Museum in Sitka is available for \$15. Assistance is available for visitors with special needs; please contact Visitor Services at 465-2901 before the visit.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Phone (907) 465-2901 Fax (907) 465-2976

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