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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
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Press Release

ALASKA STATE MUSEUM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ONE BIG NIGHT

Alaska State Museum Unveils Three New Exhibits for November First Friday

JUNEAU – Be on hand to help open three new exhibits – a solo artist exhibit by Alaska science illustrator Kristin Link entitled *Notes from Nature: A naturalist-artist in Alaska's Wilderness*, *Coastal Impressions: A Photographic Journey along Alaska's Gulf Coast* created by Cook Inlet [Regional Citizens Advisory Council](#) (RCAC) in partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and *Alaska Positive 2012* juried photography exhibit with works selected by Portland photographer Holly Andres – as the museum hosts November First Friday, November 2, from 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

“If I’m not drawing, then I’m probably outside exploring and observing,” says Link of her work as a science illustrator. Her new solo artist exhibit at the museum reflects her ambition to make art that excites as well as explains. Funded by a Rasmuson Individual Artist Project Award, Link presents a body of work inspired by field sketches from Wrangell-St. Elias National Park, using her training as a naturalist to create accurate representations, illicit emotional responses and share a passion for natural Alaska.

Selected from tens of thousands of digital photographs obtained during aerial surveys in the Gulf of Alaska, “Coastal Impressions: A Photographic Journey along Alaska’s Gulf Coast” presents the diverse natural history and spectacular scenery of a remote area inaccessible to most people. This exhibit is sponsored by the Cook Inlet RCAC and developed in partnership with NOAA Fisheries, AFSC Auke Bay Laboratories and the Alaska ShoreZone program, which, through its work imaging the Gulf Coast, has developed an incredible archive of high resolution photos. NOAA scientist and author Mandy Lindeberg will be signing copies of her book, *Field Guide to Seaweeds of Alaska*, at the opening reception.

Now in its 40th year, Alaska Positive is the Alaska State Museum’s biennial photography competition open to entrants from across the state. In addition to the \$300 Juror’s Choice Award and two \$150 Awards of Recognition, both sponsored by the Friends of the Alaska Museum, juror Holly Andres has selected a number of photographs for Honorable Mention.

Following a showing at the State Museum, Alaska Positive 2012 will tour the state. Andres is an accomplished photographer whose work has appeared in Elle, Oprah and the Los Angeles Times among others.

All exhibits close Jan. 12, 2013. Admission for First Friday is free. Both Kristin Link's and the Alaska Positive opening reception are sponsored by the Friends of the Alaska State Museum.

Winter hours are 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Discounted winter 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:

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