

Linda S. Thibodeau

Director

Division of Libraries, Archives,
& Museums

lam.alaska.gov

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
AND EARLY DEVELOPMENT

Robert C. Banghart

Deputy Director

395 Whittier St.
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1718
907.465.2901

Press Release

ALASKA STATE MUSEUM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Alaska State Museum Announces 2012 Native Artist Demonstrator Series
in Recognition of Native American Heritage Month**

JUNEAU – Thousands of beads, intricately placed according to ancient design. A block of wood, painstakingly chiseled to represent elements of nature. Alaskan cedar, steamed and bent to form a box. If you've ever seen Alaska Native art and found yourself wondering how the artists crafted such incredible pieces, now's your chance to get a firsthand look, as the Alaska State Museum presents its 2012 Saturday Native Artist Demonstrator Series.

In honor of Native American Heritage Awareness Month, the museum presents three separate demonstrations the final three Saturdays in November: by Tlingit master bead worker Beatrice Knudson, Tsimshian carver and metal smith Abel Ryan, and Tlingit carver and bentwood box maker John Hughes.

Series schedule:

- Nov. 10 – Beatrice Knudson, 1:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m.
- Nov. 17 – Abel Ryan, 10:30 a.m.-3:45 p.m. with a lunch break
- Nov. 24 – John Hughes, 10:30 am-3:45 p.m. with a lunch break

Admission is free for all three demonstrations.

Knudson, the first demonstrator in the series, will demonstrate beading based upon a technique taught to her by her grandmother, who also raised her. Ranging from traditional totemic designs to modern designs requested by special order, Beatrice Knudson's work can be found in galleries across Southeast Alaska. Originally from Hoonah and a graduate of Sheldon Jackson High School, Knudson is Raven moiety, Coho clan. She currently lives and works in Juneau.

Winter hours are 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. 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 by contacting Visitor Services at 465-2901 before the visit.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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

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