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Press Release

ALASKA STATE MUSEUM

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**DATE: November 9, 2012**

**READY, WILLING AND ABEL  
Tsimshian Carver and Metalsmith Abel Ryan Demonstrates Techniques  
at the Alaska State Museum**

JUNEAU – In the last 16 years, Abel Ryan has crafted more masks, bowls, spoons, pipes, ladles, plaques, combs and other handmade form-line art than anyone can count. Now he brings his mastery to the Alaska State Museum for the second installment of the museum's 2012 Saturday Native Artist Demonstrator Series, on Saturday, November 17, from 10:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. (with a lunch break).

A member of the Wolf Clan, Ryan was born in Ketchikan and belongs to the Metlakatla Indian Community. He received a BA from Sheldon Jackson College in 2006, as well as an additional degree in 2009 in Native Arts Studio and Printmaking from the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Apprenticed under master carver Jack Hudson of Metlakatla, Ryan particularly excels at Northwest Coast, specifically Tsimshian-style, wood carving.

In honor of Native American Heritage Month, the Alaska State Museum's Saturday Native Artist Demonstrator Series presents three separate demonstrations on the last three Saturdays in November. The final demonstration takes place November 24 and features Tlingit carver and bentwood box maker John Hughes.

Admission is free for all Saturday Native Artist Demonstration Series events.

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

[www.museums.state.ak.us](http://www.museums.state.ak.us)

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