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Press Release

ALASKA STATE MUSEUM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: **January 27, 2014**

EARTH, FIRE AND FIBRE XXIX EXHIBIT TO OPEN AT ALASKA STATE MUSEUM

JUNEAU – The work of Alaska’s top craft artists will be on display at the Alaska State Museum beginning Friday, Feb. 7 with an opening reception sponsored by The Friends of the Alaska State Museum at 4:30 p.m.

Earth, Fire and Fibre, the biennial statewide craft exhibition, is one of the state’s longest running juried exhibitions. It showcases Alaska artists working with traditional craft materials such as fiber, clay and bone. Selected artworks are chosen for the artists’ superb skills and their forward-thinking concepts and methods.

This year’s entries included 360 works of art by 119 Alaska artists. For the exhibition, that pool was narrowed down to 41 works of art by 34 artists. This exhibition was juried by Andrew Glasgow of Asheville, N.C. Glasgow’s résumé includes the American Craft Council, Southern Highland Craft Guide and Birmingham (Ala.) Museum of Art.

Award-winning *Earth, Fire and Fibre XXIX* artists were:

- Juror’s Choice Award and \$1,500 went to Anchorage artist Amy Meissner for *Spontaneous Combustion* (wool, cotton, domestic linens, 2013)

\$500 awards went to:

- Lael Gordon of Seward for *Endgrain Parquet Cabinet* (Douglas fir, eastern maple, 2013)
- Sandra Mander of Auke Bay for *White Bird* (porcelain, 2013)
- Diane Melms of Anchorage for *Tangerine Sky* (fiber, 2013)
- Kathryn Rousso of Ketchikan for *All Worlds Intertwined* (red and yellow cedar bark, woven abaca, 2013)

Auke Bay artist Sandra Mander will be present at the opening reception, and there is a possibility that Anchorage artist Amy Meissner will also be in attendance.

Earth, Fire and Fibre XXIX is organized by the Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center. Support for this traveling exhibit has been made with the grants from the Alaska State Council on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency, and with support from the Municipality of Anchorage and the Anchorage Museum Association.

Earth, Fire and Fibre XXIX will be on display at the museum until February 28 when the show and the entire museum will close for the continued construction of the new facility. The museum will reopen in the new State Library, Archives, and Museum building at 395 Whittier Street in April, 2016. The new 118,000 square foot facility will feature museum galleries, a museum store, a café, a large 125-seat multi-purpose room, a classroom, a reading room, a research room, the state historical libraries, and state archives – all under one roof.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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