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Press Release

ALASKA STATE MUSEUM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: **February 24, 2011**

MARCH FIRST FRIDAY TO FEATURE ALL ALASKA JURIED ART EXHIBITION

JUNEAU – The Alaska State Museum will be open with extended hours on March 4 during the First Friday gallery walk with free admission from 4:30-7 p.m. and a reception hosted by Friends of the Alaska State Museum. The 33rd All Alaska Juried Exhibition will be on display for the first time in Juneau, featuring 44 pieces by 28 artists from around the state.

The 44 works chosen were from a pool of 433 submissions, evaluated by juror Michael Darling, the Jon and Mary Shirley Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art at the Seattle Art Museum.

“I hope visitors to the exhibition will realize the unique and individual efforts that the selected artists are making within the world of contemporary art,” Darling wrote. “And I can only hope that my selection of them will in some small way be an encouragement to stay the course and keep challenging themselves and their peers.”

Darling granted the Juror’s Choice Award to Anchorage artist Maria Shell for her quilt, titled “Colors Unfurled (aka, If Betsy Ross Had My Stash).” Winners of \$500 awards included Maria Shell, Hal Gage and Bonnie Landis of Anchorage, Jessie Hedden, David Mollett and Rachel Mulvihill of Fairbanks, and Stron Softi of Ketchikan. Julie Decker of Anchorage received an honorable mention. Other artists included in the exhibition are Suzie Althens of Sutton; Fredrick Andersen of Naknek; Keith Appel, Grace Choi, Katherine Coons, Gina Holloman, Brenda Jaeger, Stephen Gray, Diane Melms, Don Decker, Indra D. Arriaga, Tracy Bader, and Sheary Suiter of Anchorage; Annette Bellamy of Halibut Cove; Ashley DuRoss of Petersburg; Terry Glendinning, and Adam Ottari-Schiesl of Fairbanks; Chris Jenness of Nikiski; Genevieve Klebba of Soldotna; and Jean Lester of Ester.

Media in the exhibition include textiles, paintings, photographs, ceramics, prints, video, encaustic and mixed media.

Continuing exhibits include Tim Remick's "AFTER" and the late Barry McWayne's "Sand and Snow," both of which feature photography. "AFTER" will be on display through March 12, while "Sand and Snow" will hang through March 26.

Winter hours at the museum are from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Discounted winter admission for museum visitation 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.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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www.museums.state.ak.us

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