

Linda S. Thibodeau

Director

Division of Libraries, Archives,
& Museums

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STATE OF ALASKA

**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
AND EARLY DEVELOPMENT**

Robert C. Banghart

Chief Curator

Alaska State Museums

395 Whittier St.
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1718
907.465.2901

Press Release

ALASKA STATE MUSEUM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 10, 2011

Tsimshian Artist to Demonstrate Northwest Coast Carving at the Alaska State Museum

The Alaska State Museum will host artist demonstrator Abel Ryan all day on Saturday, June 18 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Mr. Ryan will demonstrate Tsimshian style carving. Abel Ryan is a member of the Wolf Clan; he was born in Ketchikan and is a member of the Metlakatla Indian Community. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Sheldon Jackson College in 2006, and in 2009, received a degree in Native Arts Studio and Printmaking from the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

Ryan has practiced traditional Tsimshian art for more than 16 years and has also studied under master carver Jack Hudson of Metlakatla. Concentrating primarily in the medium of wood, Ryan has produced masks, bowls, spoons, pipes, ladles, plaques, combs and other hand-carved Northwest Coast formline art. He has taught at Sheldon Jackson College, the University of Alaska Southeast and the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Many of Ryan's pieces have been purchased for inclusion in private collections. His work is available for purchase at the Store at the Alaska State Museum, and is sold in galleries around the state.

Summer hours at the museum are 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. daily. Summer admission is \$5. 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:

395 Whittier, Juneau, AK

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

www.museums.state.ak.us

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