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## Press Release

ALASKA STATE MUSEUM

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**DATE: October 26, 2011**

### **FIRST FRIDAY, FOUR NEW SHOWS** **Alaska State Museum Kicks Off Fall Season** **with Multi-Exhibit Opening**

JUNEAU – Celebrate the opening of not one, but four new exhibits at the Alaska State Museum with a reception and informal artist meet and greet, sponsored by Friends of the Alaska State Museum, First Friday, Nov. 4 from 4:30 pm to 7:00 pm.

Four brand new shows opening that day: a solo exhibition by graphic artist Averyl Veliz entitled “A Klondike Tale,” a solo exhibition by landscape painter Constance Baltuck; “Versatile Birch: Objects from the ASM Collection,” featuring baskets, dolls, canoe models, and other traditional artifacts from the Museum’s collection; “Boreal Birch: Art and Science in the Northern Forest,” featuring birch-based work by noted Alaskan artists Margo Klass, Kesler Woodward, and the late Barry McWayne, in conjunction with UAF scientist Kimberly Maher. All shows run through January 14, 2012, except “Versatile Birch,” which runs through February 18, 2012.

The solo art shows—both part of Alaska State Museum’s 2011 Solo Artist Series—portray two very different representations of the Last Frontier. “A Klondike Tale” marks Averyl Veliz’ first major show while the birch exhibits juxtapose historical artifacts against contemporary pieces—all made from the bark, wood, and roots of Alaskan birch trees. Veliz, Baltuck, Kesler Woodward and Barry McWayne’s wife Dorli will be in attendance at the event.

Baltuck and Veliz will also lead workshops as part of the youth activity series “Exploring Arts and Culture at the Alaska State Museum,” sponsored by the Friends of the Alaska State Museum and funded in part by the citizens of the City and Borough of Juneau through sales tax revenue. Baltuck, “Power Steering the Color Wheel,” on November 12; Veliz, “Designing Heroes and Villains!” on December 3. Call 465-2901 to pre-register or for more information.

Hours at the museum are 10 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday. Discounted winter admission 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:**  
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