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STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
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Robert C. Banghart

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Press Release

ALASKA STATE MUSEUM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: **February 12, 2010**

Lunch-time Lecture Features Tlingit Art

Tlingit carver Archie Cavanaugh Jr. will discuss the development of his art and comment on selected Northwest Coast Native objects from the collection of the Alaska State Museum during a free brown-bag lecture at noon on Wednesday, February 24, at the museum.

Cavanaugh, a Chilkat from the Frog House in Klukwan, apprenticed with Mick and Rick Beasley, took classes with Steve Brown, Jim Heaton, Loren White, and Duane Bosch at the University of Alaska, and has worked on projects with local carvers and with Wayne Price of Haines. As a child, Mr. Cavanaugh spent many hours visiting the old territorial museum when it was located in the Capitol Building. His experiences with the art on display became a source of inspiration later in his life. The museum remains an important resource as he undertakes some of his most complicated projects, including hats, rattles and masks.

The lecture series will take place every Wednesday from noon to 1 p.m., through March 31. It is sponsored by the Alaska State Division of Libraries, Archives, and Museums. The series will feature recent research on the museum and library collections by staff and visiting scholars. In operation for over a century, the division houses a world-class collection of materials that is central to the study of Alaska history, Native cultures, and art. Admission to the lectures is free.

“An exciting attribute of the series will be the mini-exhibits accompanying each presentation,” explained Steve Henrikson, Curator of Collections at the museum. “We’ll bring out an exhibit case or two of artifacts, historical documents, or photographs to help illustrate the subject.”

Future brown bag lecture topics scheduled are:

- March 3 Bob Banghart, Chief Curator, Alaska State Museums, on “Sustainable Shelter: Modern use of traditional architectural concepts in sustainable housing design”
- March 10 Daniel Cornwall, Information Services, Alaska State Library, “Exploring Alaska Statehood History”
- March 17 Mary Ellen Frank, doll artist, on Alaskan Art Dolls
- March 24 Anastasia Tarmann, Alaska State Library Historical Collections, discusses “The Men Behind the Masks: Letters of Alaska Native Mask Carvers from the Donald Burrus Collection”
- March 31 Ellen Carrlee, Conservator, Alaska State Museums, on “Fur, Fuzz, and Fibers: Materials ID at the Museum”

Hours at the museum are 10 a.m. to 4 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:

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

www.museums.state.ak.us



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