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Press Release

ALASKA STATE MUSEUM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: February 29, 2012

**Noon Lecture at the Alaska State Museum: Quliaqtuaqtuqpuk Tuugaaqmi
(Our Stories in Ivory): Reconnecting Arctic Narratives with Engraved Drill Bows**

On Tuesday, March 13, from noon to to 1 p.m., Amy Chan, Smithsonian Pre-Doctoral Fellow, National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian, and a PhD Candidate History and Theory of Art, Arizona State University, will present “Quliaqtuaqtuqpuk Tuugaaqmi (Our Stories in Ivory): Reconnecting Arctic Narratives with Engraved Drill Bows” at the Alaska State Museum. Guests are invited to bring a lunch to the lecture.

This presentation will focus on a very unique form of artistic expression found in the engravings on the ivory bows used by Alaska Natives in the arctic to power their drills. Through her study of the imagery of village life and hunting scenes engraved on the bows, Amy Chan will explore the connections between the images and oral narratives of hunting and whaling exploits, daily village life and myth-time stories. As a collaborative project, knowledge shared by community members is integrated with collections based research and will be included in a future publication and online exhibit featuring ivory drill bows.

Ivory from the Alaska State Museum’s collection will be placed on special exhibit before/after the presentation.

Winter hours at the museum are 10 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday. Admission to the lecture is free. Discounted winter admission is \$3; however, through April 21 and in conjunction with the “Out of the Rain exhibition, free admission is available to those who bring a donation of canned food for the Southeast Alaska Food Bank. 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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www.museums.state.ak.us

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