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Press Release

ALASKA STATE MUSEUM

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**DATE: March 5, 2012**

## **Last Opportunity to view Historic Photographs and Solo Artist Painting Exhibits**

JUNEAU – Friday, March 9, will be the last opportunity to view two exhibits on display at the Alaska State Museum: “Sailing for Salmon: The Early Years of Commercial Fishing in Alaska’s Bristol Bay, 1884-1951,” curated by historian and conservationist Tim Troll; and “Open Book,” a collection of paintings, mixed media, handmade journals, and found art by Ester artist Sandy Gillespie.

“Sailing for Salmon: The Early Years of Commercial Fishing in Alaska’s Bristol Bay, 1884-1951” presents photographs and artifacts documenting 125 years of commercial fishing the world’s largest sockeye salmon run before the introduction of motorized boats.

In “Open Book,” visual artist Sandy Gillespie blends abstract oils, mixed media, encaustic—or “hot wax”—painting, and bookmaking to explore the relationship between communication and art. A bookmaker and writer in addition to her work as a painter, Gillespie complements the large paintings with much smaller handmade journals and found art.

Winter 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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[www.museums.state.ak.us](http://www.museums.state.ak.us)

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