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## Press Release

ALASKA STATE MUSEUM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: **March 8, 2013**

### ALL ALASKA JURIED ART EXHIBITION XXXIV TO OPEN AT THE ALASKA STATE MUSEUM

JUNEAU – The 34<sup>th</sup> *All Alaska Juried Exhibition* opens Friday, March 22, at the Alaska State Museum with a reception hosted by the Friends of the Alaska State Museum beginning at 4:30 p.m. Anchorage artist James Behlke, whose three large charcoal pieces were selected for the \$1,000 Juror’s Choice Award, will present a free lecture at 6:30 p.m.

Juneau artist Dan Fruits’ oil painting, “Chilkat Study,” is also among the works selected for this prestigious juried art exhibition. Fruits was the only Juneau artist selected, and will be present for the opening of the exhibition.

This year’s juror, Susan Cross, selected 40 pieces for the biennial exhibition from 479 submissions by 140 Alaska artists. In addition to the \$1,000 Juror’s Choice Award awarded to Behlke, Cross awarded the \$500 recognition award to Klara Maisch of Fairbanks, and the \$250 award to Asia Freeman of Homer.

Cross is a curator at the Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art in North Adams. She also has curated for the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York City, and served as a juror for the Guggenheim’s prestigious Hugo Boss Prize. “Alaska boasts a distinguished landscape tradition, both past and present,” Cross said. “Many of the artists selected seem to be responding to this history. The result is an exciting and fertile dialogue about the Alaska wilderness and how it is represented.”

Discounted winter admission for museum visitation 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.

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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

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