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Press Release

ALASKA STATE MUSEUM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Alaska State Museums to Participate in Blue Star Museums



Alaska State Museums are one of more than 600 museums to offer free admission to military personnel and their families this summer.

Today the Alaska State Museums announced the launch of Blue Star Museums – a partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, and museums across America to offer free admission to all active duty military personnel and their families from Memorial Day through Labor Day 2010.

The program applies to the Alaska State Museum, 395 Whittier St, Juneau, AK and the Sheldon Jackson Museum, 104 College, Sitka AK. The complete list of participating Blue Star Museums is available at www.arts.gov.

“America’s museums are proud to join the rest of the country in thanking our military personnel and their families for their service and sacrifice,” said National Endowment for the Arts Chairman Rocco Landesman. “I cannot imagine a better way to do that than welcoming them in to explore and enjoy the extraordinary cultural heritage our museums present. The works of art on view this summer will inspire and challenge viewers, and sometimes they will just be a great deal of fun.”

More than 600 museums in all 50 states and the District of Columbia are taking part in the initiative. The American Association of Museums, the Association of Art Museum Directors, and the Association of Children’s Museums each sent a letter from NEA Chairman Landesman inviting museums to participate in this program. In addition to thirty children’s museums across the country, participating museums represent a broad range of art, history, science, and cultural topics – from the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston, Texas, to the California Surf Museum in Oceanside, California, to the Mission San Luis, a living history site and historic landmark in Tallahassee, Florida, to the International Quilt Study Center & Museum at the University of Lincoln–Nebraska, the Art Institute of Chicago, Illinois, and the Seacoast Science Center in Rye, New Hampshire.

Summer hours at the Alaska State Museum in Juneau are 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. daily, with \$5 admission. Summer hours at the Sheldon Jackson Museum in Sitka are 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily, with \$4 admission.

Visitors 18 and under are admitted free of charge at either museum. An annual pass that allows unlimited visits to the Alaska State Museum and the Sheldon Jackson Museum in Sitka is available for \$15.

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