

Linda S. Thibodeau

Director

Division of Libraries, Archives,
& Museums

lam.alaska.gov

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
AND EARLY DEVELOPMENT

Robert C. Banghart

Deputy Director

395 Whittier St.
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1718
907.465.2901

Press Release

ALASKA STATE MUSEUM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: July 23, 2013

August First Friday: Museum Curator to Present on Northwest Coast Native Armor and Early Ceremonial Robes

JUNEAU – In conjunction with two solo artist exhibits currently on view at the Alaska State Museum, Curator of Collections Steve Henrikson will present a talk on the history of Northwest Coast Native armor and early ceremonial robes at 6 p.m. on First Friday, August 2nd. Both exhibits feature forms of Native art that were dormant for over a century, and revived in recent years. The lecture will be illustrated with images of robes and armor located in museum collections around the world. Henrikson has been studying robes and armor for over 20 years.

The Native people of southeast Alaska are the creators of complex and beautiful traditional art that is both functional and full of historical meaning and spiritual power. Armor and Ravenstail weaving are examples of fantastic art forms and utilitarian objects that long ago ceased to be created, but that have enjoyed a revival in recent times. Henrikson's presentation will explore the variety and function of these forms, both historically and today, and some of the challenges involved in bringing them back into use in the present day.

The two exhibits, by weaver Kay Parker and carver Tommy Joseph, feature fine contemporary examples of the types of objects covered by the presentation. Visitors may wish to view the exhibits prior to the presentation. The lecture starts at 6:00 and is part of the First Friday celebration of arts and culture. Museum admission is free on First Fridays from 4:30 – 7:00 p.m.

Another solo exhibition showing at the museum is Sitka artist Nicholas Galanin's "The State of Being, Displaced." Galanin's exhibit consists of prints, monotypes, photographs and video. Also on display is "Bird in the Tree, Fish in the Water, Vase by the Wall" – a temporary exhibit of works by artists from The Canvas at R.E.A.C.H. All four of these temporary exhibits will be up through the summer and will run through Oct. 12, 2013.

Summer hours at the museum are 8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. daily. Summer admission is \$7, with a \$1 discount for age 65 and older. 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:

395 Whittier, Juneau, AK

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

www.museums.alaska.gov

[return to top](#)

[press releases](#) | [Alaska State Museums](#)