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Press Release

ALASKA STATE MUSEUM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THE PHILLIPINES AND ALASKA: AN INTERRELATIONSHIP OF 225 YEARS
Alaska State Museum Celebrates Filipino-American History Month with Special
Exhibit, Reception on October First Friday

JUNEAU – According to Filipina-American author and former state legislator Themla Buchholdt, the first Filipino immigrant arrived in Alaska aboard a merchant ship in 1788. Today, some 18,000 Filipino-Americans live in Alaska.

In conjunction with National Filipino-American History Month, the Alaska State Museum celebrates the Filipino-American community's significant contributions and accomplishments with a special exhibit opening on First Friday, Oct. 5, 2012. A reception will be held from 4-7 pm, featuring refreshments and several Filipino dishes. Admission is free from 4:30 – 7 p.m. on First Fridays.

On display will be art and clothing from the Philippines, as well as two dance costumes, one used in Bagobo tribal dances on the island of Mindanao and the other from the Cordillera Mountain region of Luzon used in the Ragragsakan dance. The exhibit also includes historical photographs highlighting 225 years of cultural exchange between Filipinos and Alaskans, as well as Filipino contributions to the whaling, canning and mining industries.

Winter hours begin September 25 and are 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. 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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