



FRIENDS OF THE SHELDON JACKSON MUSEUM WINTER LECTURE SERIES

SITKA – The Friends of Sheldon Jackson Museum have announced their Winter Lecture Series schedule, featuring artists, authors, and researchers discussing topics related to the museum's Alaska Native ethnographic collection. All events in this series take place in the museum gallery and are free and open to the public.

The series will begin on Friday, November 2, from 12:00 – 1:00 p.m., with Peter Williams, a Sitka based Yup'ik artist. Peter is well known for creating beautiful, handcrafted sea otter garments under his label *Ata*, which in Yup'ik translates to "let me see". His presentation, "The Modern Alaska Native Sea Otter Fur Trade" will discuss what hunting and working with sea otters means to him, a review of sea otter population reports and harvest levels, and how the exemption for Alaska Natives under the Marine Mammal Protection Act impacts the sea otter fur industry.

In December, Nelson Kanuk, a Yup'ik student from Mount Edgecumbe High School will discuss "The Effect of Climate Change on the Alaskan Tundra." Born in Kipnuk, AK, Nelson has seen the dramatic impacts of climate change on his village. Kanuk, now 17, along with seven other youth plaintiffs, has asked the State of Alaska to provide immediate action to protect the atmosphere's health which in turn would protect their cultural traditions and subsistence lifestyle. Nelson is a member of Kids vs. Global Warming, the AK Law Enforcement Corps, and the Sitka Youth Leadership Committee. The date and time for this lecture is pending.

In January, Steve Henrikson, Curator of Collections for the Alaska State Museum in Juneau, will present "Alaskan Native Headgear." With a focus on art history, his lecture will cover the many types and styles of headgear worn by a variety of Alaska Native groups including the spectacular hats and headdresses worn by Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian clan leaders, warrior, and shamans. This lecture will follow the Friends of Sheldon Jackson Museum's brief annual meeting. The date and time will be announced later this fall.

Lecture appearances for February – April will be announced at a later date. For more information, contact Mary Boose, Business Manager for the Friends of Sheldon Jackson Museum at 747-6233 or friendsofsjm@gmail.com.



Photo provided by Peter Williams