**Press Release**                                   SHELDON JACKSON MUSEUM

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**
**DATE: May 21, 2011**

## MAY EVENTS AT THE SHELDON JACKSON MUSEUM

The Sheldon Jackson Museum is celebrating the annual rite of spring with the opening reception for the Native Studies exhibition of artwork by fourth grade students on Tuesday, May 17. Each year, fourth-grade students from Keet Gooshi Heen Elementary School study Alaska Native cultures. The students make their own art reproductions ranging from Aleut hunting visors to Eskimo masks and octopus bags to toys and sleds. One class will be showing drawings inspired by their visit to study the artwork of Robert Mayokok. The exhibition will be on display Sunday, May 15 through Saturday, May 21. Teachers whose students will be participating in this year's exhibition are Chris Bryner, Mindy Jacoby, Carolyn Mork, and Jeremy Peterson.

Another equally important event at this time of year is the observation of Sheldon Jackson's Birthday and International Museum Day on Wednesday May 18. This year will be the 177th birthday of Sheldon Jackson, who founded the museum in 1888 and who was passionately interested in collecting and preserving the material culture of Alaska Native for future generations. The museum that bears his name now houses more than 6,000 artifacts including pieces from all of Alaska's Native groups. Admission will be free all day May 18th in his honor.

Summer hours begin May 15 and are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. General admission is $4, with students 18 and under free. The Sheldon Jackson Museum is located at 104 College Drive.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**
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