

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## SHELDON JACKSON MUSEUM VISITING ARTIST PROGRAM 2014



SITKA – A popular feature of the Sheldon Jackson Museum is the visiting summer artist residency, the Native Artist Demonstrators Program. Artists from around the state fill residencies at the museum, during which time they study the collections and share their work with the public through artist lectures, hands-on workshops, and demonstrations. This summer the museum is hosting a series of eight artist residents. Participating artists include Yup'ik sea mammal and skin sewer Peter Williams from Sitka (May 7 and May 14-17) Tsimshian carver Mark Sixbey from Metlakatla (May 24-May 29), Athabascan fish skin sewer Audrey Armstrong from Anchorage (June 2-June 7), Tsimshian carver Abel Ryan from Ketchikan (June 18-June 24), Athabascan bead worker Sarah Williams (June 29-30), Tlingit beader Jennie Wheeler from Yaukutat (July 12-18), Tlingit silver engraver Samuel Sheakley from Juneau (July 19-26), and Haida carver Donny Varnell (August 20-27).

This year's residency program will include free lectures given by artists Peter Williams, Audrey Armstrong, Sarah Williams, Samuel Sheakley, and a special lecture entitled, "A Tlingit Family of Artists" to be given jointly by Tlingit artists Jennie Wheeler and her daughters, Tlingit artists Mary Wheeler-Goddard, and Jen Wheeler. A hands-on workshop on formline design basics will be given by Abel Ryan and a special week-long hands-on workshop on fish skin sewing will be given by Audrey Armstrong. For more information or to register for the workshops, contact the Sheldon Jackson Museum and visit ([insert link to calendar here](#)).

The Native Artist Demonstrators Program is made possible through the support of the National Endowment for the Arts, Sitka Fine Arts Camp, Alaska Airlines, the Friends of the Sheldon Jackson Museum, and private donations.

Summer hours at the Sheldon Jackson Museum are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. General admission is \$5 for adults, \$4 for seniors, and visitors 18 and younger, Friends of the Sheldon Jackson Museum, and those with passes are admitted free. The Sheldon Jackson Museum is located at 104 College Drive. Assistance is available for visitors with special needs. Please contact the museum for more information at 907.747.8981.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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[www.museums.alaska.gov](http://www.museums.alaska.gov)

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