

Linda S. Thibodeau

Director

Division of Libraries, Archives,  
& Museums

lam.alaska.gov

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
AND EARLY DEVELOPMENT

Robert C. Banghart

Chief Curator

Alaska State Museums

395 Whittier St.

Juneau, Alaska 99801-1718

907.465.2901

## Press Release

SHELDON JACKSON MUSEUM

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**DATE: May 22, 2012**

### **Visiting artist resident and lecture scheduled: Othniel Art Oomittuk**

SITKA – The Sheldon Jackson Museum is pleased to host visiting artist resident Othniel “Art” Oomittuk from Point Hope, Alaska May 31-June 7. The Sheldon Jackson Museum contains a significant collection of artifacts from Point Hope including hunting tools, fishing gear, clothing, masks, and knives. While Oomittuk is in Sitka he plans to study the 129 masks from Point Hope that were collected between 1891 and 1893 by the Rev. Sheldon Jackson. A master mask carver himself, Oomittuk will lead a mask carving workshop for youth later this fall in Point Hope using information gathered from this artist residency.

Please visit the Sheldon Jackson Museum on Saturday June 2 at 1:30 to hear an artist lecture by Art Oomittuk in the museum gallery as he discusses his work and the importance of connecting with museum collections.

This residency is sponsored by the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian, Alaska Airlines and the Alaska Humanities Forum.

Summer hours at the Sheldon Jackson Museum are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Summer admission is \$5 with a \$1 discount for seniors. Visitors 18 and under are admitted free of charge. An annual pass that allows unlimited visits to the Sheldon Jackson Museum in Sitka and the Alaska State Museum in Juneau 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.state.ak.us](http://www.museums.state.ak.us)