



For immediate release: Sheldon Jackson Museum Seeking Alaska Native Artist Applicants for Artist Residency Program

The Friends of Sheldon Jackson Museum are looking for Alaska Native artists to apply to the Native Artist Residency program. This summer's schedule starts in mid-June and ends in September. Applications are due January 2nd, 2017 and are available at www.friendsofsjm.com. Prospective applicants may also request an application be emailed to them or mailed by calling (907) 747-8981.

Multiple residency positions are available. Three residencies are 21 Day residencies and take place June 11th-July 1st, July 1st-July 21st, and July 25-August 14th. The residency June 11-July 1st is in collaboration with Sitka Fine Arts Camp and involves teaching middle school students and working at the museum. The residency July 1-July 21st is in collaboration with Sitka Fine Arts Camp and involves teaching high school students and working at the museum. There are additionally Mini-Residencies which take place within a 10-day period. The Mini Residency options are August 19th-28th or September 2nd–Sept. 11th.

In 2017, artists in the 21-day residencies will be awarded \$2,000, travel to and from Sitka, lodging, and food. Artists in the 10-day residencies will be awarded \$1,000 but will need to provide for their own travel to and from Sitka, food, and lodging. As in previous years, artists are also given a Welcome Dinner with our local Welcome Committee and enjoy paid, scheduled time accessing and studying the museum's exceptional Alaska Native ethnographic and art collection.

Artists-in-residence may focus on traditional or contemporary Native art forms including but not limited to wood carving, ivory carving, silver engraving, beading, skin, gut and fish skin sewing, drum making, and basket or textile weaving, drumming, and dancing. Outstanding beginners as well as experienced artists are welcome. Artists benefit from utilizing the museum's collections for research and meeting visitors from around Alaska and the world and local Sitka community members while working in the museum gallery.

If you have questions about the program or application, please email: Jacqueline.Fernandez@alaska.gov or call (907) 747-8904. Applications are due **January 2, 2017**.

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