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Press Release

SHELDON JACKSON MUSEUM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 1, 2012

Sheldon Jackson Museum Visiting Artist Program 2012

SITKA – A popular feature of the Sheldon Jackson Museum is the visiting summer artist 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 and demonstrations. This summer the museum is hosting a series of nine artist residencies. Participating artists include Alutiiq weaver, textile artist and carver Coral Chernoff from Kodiak (May 8-10), Yup'ik fish skin artist Marlene Nielsen from Kokhanok (May 22-24), Inupiat carver Othniel "Art" Oomittuk from Point Hope (May 31-June 8), Tlingit spruce root weaver Jennie Wheeler from Yakutat (May 30-June 6), Inupiat-Athabascan artist Sonya Kelliher-Combs from Anchorage (June 4-7), Aleut bentwood hat carver Patty Lekanoff-Gregory from Unalaska (June 11-14), Tlingit carver Tommy Joseph from Sitka (June 12-20), Athabascan textile artist Selina Alexander from Fairbanks (June 18-28), and Athabascan fish skin basket artist Audrey Armstrong from Anchorage.

Additionally local Sitka artists Peter Paul Williams (Yup'ik), Sarah Williams (Athabascan) and Cass Pook (Tlingit) will be demonstrating in the gallery on select days during the summer. Please see the Sheldon Jackson Museum calendar of events for more information http://www.friendsofsjm.com/Schedule__Calendar_.html.

The visiting artist program is made possible through the support of the Alaska Humanities Forum, the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian, Sitka Fine Arts Camp, Alaska Airlines, the Friends of the Sheldon Jackson Museum, Sitka Sound Seafoods, Sitka Sound Science Center, the Alaska State Council on the Arts, and private donations.

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 the museum for more information at 907.747.8981.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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www.museums.state.ak.us

[return to top](#)

[press releases](#) | [SJ home](#) | [Alaska State Museums](#)