

2nd Annual Juneau Fly-In & CHAMP!

Join us January 28-30, 2015



AAM Star Advocate **Karen Witter** will be our guest trainer and advocacy guru.



AAM CEO Ford Bell presents Star Advocate Award to Karen Witter

community, helping museums become more effective at advocacy. Karen has visited Alaska before, conducting a museum assessment and on personal travel. We welcome her to Juneau!

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Director Farewell	2
President's Message	3
Grant Awards	4-5
Statewide News and Conference reports	6-13
ED position announcement	14
New membership rates	15
Contact	16

Museums Alaska is pleased to announce that we are bringing Karen Witter to Juneau to provide top-notch advocacy training for all participants in the Juneau Fly-In. We hope you'll join us for a fun few days of advocating for museums and cultural centers across the state alongside your colleagues.

We are again partnering with the Alaska State Council on the Arts, the Alaska Humanities Forum and the Alaska Historical Society to have a major impact on our Juneau decision-makers, sharing the value of our sector and our collective and individual organization needs. The CHAMP presence shows great solidarity in the arts and culture sector and we look forward to increasing awareness and educating legislators about our important work.

Museums Alaska is also working on a new iteration of our bill to create a Major Matching

Grant for Museum Construction and Renovation, similar to the Library grant program. Rep. Bob Herron is sponsoring the bill, with our charge led by his constituent and Museums Alaska Vice President, Eva Malvich.

Museums Alaska's grassroots advocacy efforts and partnerships are an amazing tool to help your museum or cultural center gain the support it needs. Please join us in Juneau, participate in our surveys, and spread the word at home through contact with your elected officials. Check out the Advocacy button on our website for the latest information and tools you can use. We are stronger working together.

Our guest trainer, Karen Witter, has a thirty-five year career with executive level experience in Illinois state government, museums, and non-profit organizations. AAM's national Advocacy Day organizer recommended Karen to us due to her extensive leadership roles in the museum

DRAFT SCHEDULE

Wednesday January 28

Morning training
Lunch n' Learn at Capitol
Afternoon Legislative visits
Evening reception at Juneau-Douglas City Museum

Thursday January 29

Legislative visits
Evening: Governor's Awards in the Arts & Humanities

Director's Note



**Museums Alaska
Executive Director,
Heather Beggs**

*“The museum
sector is the best
place to work in
Alaska.”*

Serving Museums Alaska for the past three years has been an incredible honor, especially watching the organization grow into a strong and stable source for professional development, funding, and advocacy for our statewide museums and cultural centers. In January I will be returning to international work, beginning training as a Foreign Service Officer with the Department of State. I will continue to lead Museums Alaska through February and assist with the transition to a new director in March.

During the last three years we have done a lot together. Thanks to your participation in surveys and discussions, and collaboration with ASM, we were able to create a new funding program for museums with support from Rasmuson Foundation. The Collections Management Fund has now dispersed \$200,000 of grants in its first two years and has secured funding for the next two years.

Committees, such as the new Grants Committee and the revived Advocacy Committee, are made up of passionate and hard-working members who volunteer their time for the betterment of our sector. I am proud of our Board, who have helped develop immense opportunity for the membership to be involved in these critical (and FUN) roles, which allow us to deliver the many services to our members.

Our renewed focus on advocacy over the past three years has led to a strong partnership within the arts and culture sector (CHAMP, see page 1) and serious work on legislation that will assist our many aging facilities with renovation and reconstruction needs. The tradition of a Juneau Fly-In that maximizes the direct connection of our members to elected officials is proving very effective and keeps us close to the issues we must constantly advance, without just depending on a lobbyist to do this for us. I'm so proud of those who joined us for the fly-in last year, many who had never visited the Capitol, nor made formal advocacy efforts. With good training and teamwork we have shown that we are all great at advocacy! I hope you'll come to Juneau this year.

Museums Alaska is strong and healthy financially and I have worked to add efficiency tools that will serve the organization into the future. In the last three years we installed our first membership database, our first financial software, our first museumsalaska.org email addresses and groups, our first online grant applications, redesigned and now self-manage our website, and use electronic newsletter software. We've reduced administrative costs by adding more efficient communication tools and embracing technology. The annual conference planning committees have also passed along

tools that are making each conference more and more effective, with quality and targeted sessions and workshops, efficient registration, and successful bottom lines.

It's been a pleasure to work with you all to realize these many advancements of our organization—it takes a team and we have a strong one! As Museums Alaska works through the goals in our 2014-2020 Strategic Plan there will be even more opportunity for you to participate in the future of the organization. If you have the desire to apply for the Executive Director position you can find the announcement on page 14.

I will embark on my new career as diplomat in mid-January, with training in Washington, D.C, before assignment of my first international post this spring. I will keep my house in Homer and intend to visit when possible. I hope you'll keep in touch with me through facebook, blog or personal [email](#).

I still believe that the museum sector is the best place to work in Alaska. If not for my international itches I would stay with you forever!

With deep respect,

Heather

President's Message

Thank you to the Museums Alaska members for re-electing me to my second three-year-term on the Board of Directors. I look forward to continuing to work on behalf of the museums and cultural centers of Alaska. I also thank the Board for entrusting me with the position of President for my third, and final term. We have an incredibly strong group of people working together to offer more to our membership than ever before!

On behalf of the Board, I want to officially thank our Seward Host Committee for the amazing Joint Annual Meeting with the Alaska Historical Society. The venues were excellent, the program committees developed an amazing slate of sessions (many of which you'll read about later in the newsletter), our keynote speakers were inspiring, and the community of Seward made us all feel welcome. Well done! Cordova, we look forward to seeing you next year!

Once again, the Advocacy Committee has been hard at work planning the second annual January Legislative Fly-In with various state partners. CHAMP 2015 brings together supporters of culture, humanities, arts, and museums in partnership to talk with state legislators about the value of our organizations to the health and well-being of our communities, as well as the economic impact for tourism and the educational outreach for visitors of all ages. If you're interested in joining our organizations in Juneau at the end of January, contact [Jane Lindsey](#), the chair of the advocacy committee, or talk to any member of the board. Let's show our elected officials that museums and cultural

centers are vital parts of our communities!

As you're checking off your final items from your holiday list, be sure to renew your annual membership to Museums Alaska, as well as any regional or national organizations. Think of this as a gift to yourself, for the support you get from colleagues to help you get through the challenges of each year.

This brings me to my last point: as you'll read in the newsletter, our time with our amazing Executive Director Heather Beggs is drawing to a close. Heather has been a key element in bringing our organization to a place where we are financially stable and efficiently operating, which allows us to concentrate on the programs we can offer to our members. Please join me in thanking Heather for her years of excellent work and wish her luck in her new and exciting position in the Foreign Service. We know you will be a success in all you attempt! And so... if you or anyone you know is interested in applying to be our next Executive Director, please see the add in the newsletter and submit your application in January.

I wish you the very best over the holiday season and into 2015. I hope it is the best year yet for you and yours.

Angela Linn, Museums Alaska President

"Let's show our elected officials that museums and cultural centers are vital parts of our communities!"

Cordova hosts 2015 conference!

SAVE THE DATE!

The annual MA/AHS joint conference will be in Cordova
September 30 - October 3, 2015.



Museums Alaska Grants in 2014

Museums Alaska is pleased to administer two funds for the Rasmuson Foundation: the Art Acquisition Fund and the Collections Management Fund. Each have two grant cycles during the year. Apply for the next cycle [online](#) starting in February.

Art Acquisition Fund will be administered by Museums Alaska Executive Director in 2015 following Mike Hawfield's retirement.

NEXT DEADLINES:

Collections Management Fund—

March 31, 2015

Art Acquisition Fund—**April 15, 2015**

2014 ART ACQUISITION AWARDS:



partnership



AK Museum of Science & Nature	\$8,500
Alaska State Museum	\$29,400
Alaska Veterans Museum	\$10,500
Alutiiq Museum	\$23,065
American Bald Eagle Foundation	\$11,000
Anchorage Museum	\$22,050
Baranov Museum	\$5,300
Beringia Ctr of Culture & Science	\$3,775
Cordova Museum	\$6,750
Hammer Museum	\$4,600
Ilanka Cultural Center	\$ 795
Juneau-Douglas City Museum	\$6,495
Palmer Museum	\$ 895
Pratt Museum	\$20,955
Sealaska Heritage Institute	\$34,050
Sheldon Museum	\$35,,000
Sheldon Jackson Museum (ASM)	\$2,850
UA Museum of the North	\$25,950
Valdez Museum	\$13,200

NOTICE

Museums Alaska's membership rates will increase in 2015.

RENEW BEFORE December 31, 2014 and get 2014 rates for your 2015 membership! (see page 15)

Join online at <http://museumsalaska.org/membership/>

Museums Alaska and Rasmuson Foundation Support Collections Care and Preservation

COLLECTIONS MANAGEMENT FUND GRANTS 2014

\$100,000 in awards to Alaska Museums and Cultural Centers

Alaska Aviation Museum \$4,680 for Digitization of aviation film and tape materials

Alaska Jewish Museum \$2,560 for Digitization of paper and photographic collection

Alaska State Museum \$3,750 for Taxidermy Conservator Project (collaboration)

Alaska Museum of Science and Nature \$2,700 for Taxidermy Conservator Project (collaboration)

Alutiiq Museum \$4,848 for Digital Storage Survey and Workshop

American Bald Eagle Foundation \$1,670 for Nilfisk Vacuum Cleaner

Bristol Bay Historical Society \$9,860 for museum collection display cases

Baranov Museum \$2,819 for Expanding art storage and \$4,777 for Conserving Early American period objects

Beringia Center of Culture and Science \$8,555 for Collections preservation and Emergency Response Kits

Cordova Museum \$2,700 for Taxidermy Conservator Project (collaboration) and \$2,480 for Cape St. Elias Lighthouse Lens Assessment

Friends of the Tanana Valley Railroad \$2,781 for Cataloguing and re-housing collections

McCarthy-Kennicott Historical Museum \$6,000 for Collection documentation

Palmer Museum \$6,776 for Collections cataloguing equipment

Pioneer Air Museum \$7,680 for Cataloguing collections

Sheldon Jackson Museum \$2,614 for Preventive deterioration project: mount-making

Sheldon Museum and Cultural Center \$7,940 for Collections Accessibility Project

Talkeetna Historical Society \$5,947 for Preserving collections

Valdez Museum \$8,960 for Collection Movement Plan

Wrangell Museum \$1,390 for Collection, Inventory and Preservation Project

Gallery Exhibits for Community Spaces



Leslie Fried, Curator
Alaska Jewish Museum, Anchorage

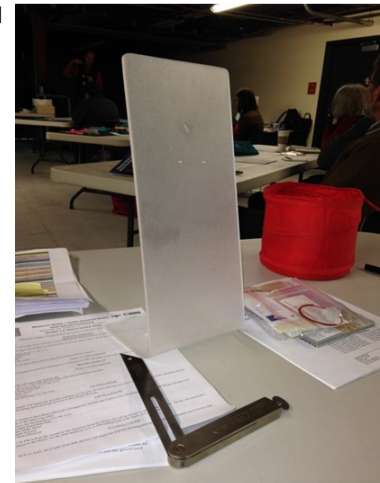
Designing and executing exhibits can be a complex endeavor from developing the original idea and content to writing narratives and labels; or from imagining the 3-dimensional space layout to putting together the actual physical components. **Gallery Exhibits for Community Spaces: Parts I and II** addressed a variety of issues in the exhibit process: material, archival practices, hanging mechanisms, and fabricating display components.

Presenters Jeanne Brako (Curator of the Center of Southwest Studies) and Jack Townes (Exhibition Designer at Skycraft Designs) provided a wealth of information in a relatively short amount of time. Although I was most interested in hearing about mounting and hanging alternatives, there were some spatial design recommendations I found intriguing, especially the idea of having a “picture-worthy” area for visitors, i.e. a place where folks can relate well to the scale and content of images. An example mentioned was using life-sized cutouts. Another suggestion was to have a hands-on space for children to interact with objects or by creating art based upon the exhibit content. Here at the Alaska Jewish Museum, we are also considering creating a “scavenger hunt” for children. In this way they can have fun finding exhibit items and at the same time have a deeper experience of the overall story being told.

For exhibit hanging options, using clips to hang lightweight mounted images was mentioned, as well as Xibitmount document mounting tabs and 18-20lb fluorocarbon fishing twine. Another interesting option was to sew rare earth magnets into stockinette and use this to hang objects to a sheet metal background.

Regarding mounts, many creative ideas were put forward; one of the most visually appealing was a plexi mount sanded to prevent light bounce-back. The plexi can be bent by heating up a metal bar that is then laid across the bend line. A sliding T bevel will ensure getting the angle right. Other mount-making materials suggested were coroplast (twin-wall polypropylene sheeting that is waterproof, colorfast, corrosion preventive and commonly used in sign-making), architect multi-use board (the paper version of coroplast), Tyvek (used in shipping and packing), and homasote (a cellulose-based fiber wallboard). Homasote is ph neutral and items can be easily pinned to it.

(continued on next page)



Sanded plexi mount



Cotton and poly walt: the cotton walt is covered with stockinette.

Thanks for attending AHS/MA 2014!

A round of applause for MA's Program Committee and the Seward Host Committee!

Gallery Exhibits for Community Spaces

(continued)

Attendees were cautioned to avoid using non-archival polystyrene. On the other hand, velvet on a slant board would require less attaching for a displayed textile; to prevent slippage, you could use Velcro, one part of which would be screwed to the wall and the other attached to cloth that would be sewn to the back of the displayed fabric. Flexible velvet "arms" from Walter Martin can be added to a costume mount.

For making mount stands, sonotubes with cement blocks inside to prevent tipping were discussed: easy to paint and/or cover and relatively inexpensive. Metal Edge carries the more expensive archival variety. MDF and MDO were recommended as building materials if they are the formaldehyde-free varieties. Wood can be made to be more archival if covered in melamine or sealed with epoxy or acrylic.

Many materials were suggested for covering mounts: for example, quilted material easily found at Jo-Ann's (cotton on one side and poly on the other), polar fleece and tubular cotton knit. The latter can act as a barrier over a mannequin, as can stockinette that comes in cotton or polyester. A ring of cotton or polyester welt covered with stockinette and fleece makes a soft mount for basketry. Materials suggested for storage or packing were cotton or cotton-poly sheets, poly fleece, acid-free tissue (that comes in a roll), body pillows, and cotton tights which are a good barrier.

For printing, archival printers were highly recommended for their fade-resistant archival inks. It is often possible to use university science department printers inexpensively for large-sized archival images. Other especially interesting products that came up during the sessions were a white goods light meter app that can be calibrated to your own light meter, and Duralco double-stick tape of which one side is permanent and the other removable.

A helpful link suggested by Jeanne and Jack is to the Canadian Conservation Institute at: <http://www.cci-icc.gc.ca/publications/notes/index-eng.aspx>.

Program Committee

CO-CHAIRS

Amy Russell-Jamgochian

Andrew Goldstein

MEMBERS

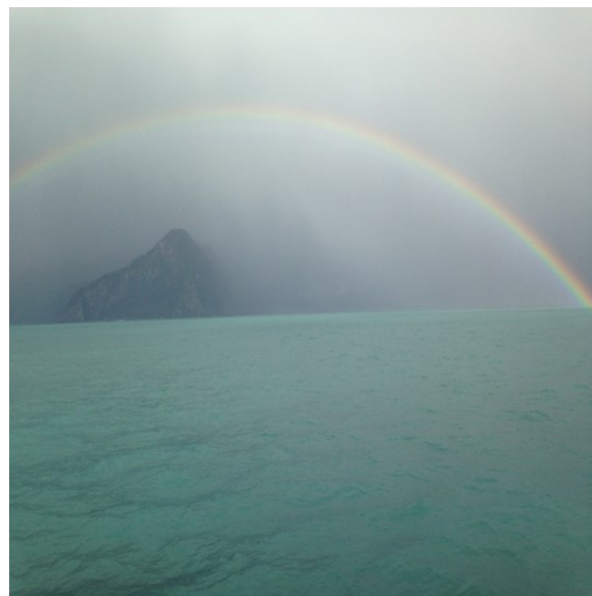
Sarah Asper-Smith Hayley Chambers

Molly Conley Jacqueline Fernandez

Della Hall CJ Jones

Eva Malvich Amy Steffian

Heather Beggs



Rainbow over Resurrection Bay—Thank you, Seward!
Photo by Leslie Fried

Alutiiq Museum Begins Dance History

Amy Steffian
Alutiiq Museum & Archaeological Repository

Around Kodiak Island, it is not unusual to see young people in snow-falling parka's moving to the beat of a skin-covered drum and singing in Alutiiq. Today, Alutiiq dance is practiced widely, but it has not always been this way. Dance performances were rare in the 20th century. The art form, once a foundation of Alutiiq celebrations and a central form of artistic and spiritual expression, fell victim to the cultural misunderstandings of Russian and American colonization. Thirty years ago, efforts to reverse this loss began.

In 1984, Kodiak Alutiiq leaders formed the first island-wide Alutiiq dance group, *Cuumillat'stun* — *Like Our Ancestors*. With elder memories, ethnographic research, and support from Yup'ik dancer Chuna McIntyre, they began to revitalize Alutiiq dance. The team included respected Elders Virginia Abston, Irene Coyle, Mary Haakanson, Larry Matfay, Nina Olsen, Mary Peterson, and Margaret Roberts, among others. Today, nearly every village on Kodiak Island has an Alutiiq dance group. And songs

are sung in schools, homes, and at gatherings thanks to the group's inspiration and hard work.

To preserve dance history, the Alutiiq Museum is developing an archive of photos, documents, and videotaped interviews recording the activities of the *Cuumillat'stun* Alutiiq dance group. A \$7,572.77 grant from the Alaska State Museum will help staff gather and organize these materials, and produce a short educational film on the group. The project will be completed by May 2015 with help from Kodiak scholar Tonya Heitman and videographer Alf Pryor.

"The materials that record the revival of our dance traditions are spread around the Kodiak community, with people and organizations," said Alutiiq Museum Executive Director Dr. Alisha Drabek. "This project will gather them into one place and document the important work of a team of our culture bearers."

"With elder memories, ethnographic research, and support from Yup'ik dancer Chuna McIntyre, they began to revitalize Alutiiq dance."



Kodiak Alutiiq dancers practice at a dance workshop, July 2011. Photo courtesy the Alutiiq Museum.

FREE Mount-making Workshop in Homer!

April 22-23, 2015 at the Pratt Museum

The Seldovia Museum and the Pratt Museum in Homer are offering a free workshop for Alaska museum staff wishing to learn hands-on skills in mount-making and exhibit design. The two-day workshop will be held **April 22-23, 2015**, at the Pratt Museum. Norm Lagasse of Northern Technical Applications, former executive director of the Alaska Aviation Museum, and Art Koeninger, Building Manager and mount-maker for the Pratt Museum, will be the instructors.



Art Koeninger



Norm Lagasse

Participants will leave with a new toolkit, both literal and figurative, to help in designing and constructing their own museum exhibits and artifact mounts. There is no charge for the workshop, which is funded by a Museum Services grant from the Institute for Museum and Library Services. Participants will be responsible for their own transportation, lodging and meals. Priority registration will be given to staff of small museums.

Registration deadline is **February 27th, 2015**. Accepted applicants will be notified by March 18th. To register, or for more information, contact Jan Yaeger, Curator, Seldovia Museum at (907) 435-3245 or jyaeger@svt.org



Sheldon Museum and Cultural Center, Haines

Sheldon Museum is All Dolled Up

After a busy summer, the Sheldon Museum and Cultural Center is preparing for winter programming. October 25 we opened *Inside Out: Dollhouses and Historic Interiors* as part of our 37th annual Doll Fair. Our doll fairs are popular with the community's children. We serve tea and doll sized treats, have a doll parade, and have doll activities. This year we will be making cardboard doll houses and clothes peg dolls along with other crafts. As the holidays near, the exhibit will be a good launching point for gingerbread houses and holiday decorating of the dollhouses as well as the museum.

Our holiday open house is another popular event. We fill the museum with trees and trains. In January we hope to share an exhibit on Snowflakes with other Alaska museums. It features Benson and Libbrecht magnified photographs of individual snowflakes. In our children's area, we will take down the "Preparing for Winter" activities and install a Tlingit Clan House in November for children to play in, learning how to weave and sew and do other indoor activities. This is the third children's interactive exhibit that we have installed in the museum this year, helping us appeal to our youngest visitors.

37mm Japanese Anti-Tank Gun UPDATE

Suellyn Wright Novak
Alaska Veterans Museum, Anchorage

We **hope** to have this gun, on indefinite loan from the US Fish and Wildlife Service, on display by the end of March, 2014. Volunteer of the Year John Peck is building a base and is working with Brian from Capitol Glass to design a glass case to keep visitors from coming into contact with the rusty, bent metal. Capitol Glass has graciously agreed to give us vastly reduced rates to bring this gun to the public

The Alaska Gun Collectors Association awarded us \$1,000 to-ward the materials. God bless both of these organizations for seeing the value added to have this gun from Attu on display and for interpretation to the public. A plaque on the base will reward these generous donors, as well as mention in our newsletters and on the annual meeting Thank You sign! Well done and thank you very much!! This gun will become our front window showpiece, re-placing the current Military Dog Mushing exhibit.



The 37mm gun on the ground on Attu.

(USAF Photograph provided courtesy of John Cloe)

CAN YOU SPELL...

Sesquicentennial? It's coming right up in 2017! Watch for updates on how your museum can participate in this anniversary and commemoration of Alaska's purchase from Russia.

Small Space, Big History: A Recap

**Sonya Clemenson, Docent
Museum of Transportation and Industry, Palmer**

In Alaska, the land of low temperatures and high heating bills, the square footage of our museums never seem adequate for the herculean scale of Alaskan history. Which is why it is so important to make every inch pack the biggest punch possible.

Tiffany Brunson, Executive Director of the Kodiak Historical Society, Anjuli Grantham, Curator of Collections and Exhibits also with the Kodiak Historical Society, and Jill Lipka, visual artist and museum exhibition designer, all collaborated to provide some serious coaching in “Big History, Small Space”.

First and foremost a museum must cater to its community. Even with a stellar collections a museum can lose its visitors’ interest if the exhibits are jumbled and difficult to understand, or a significant piece of history is over emphasized, or worse, omitted entirely. Disinterested visitors may not just cut their time in the museum short, they can also create a negative buzz. The best way to prevent disappointing them is to find out what exactly it is that they want. This can be accomplished through a variety of methods, ranging from short and sweet visitor surveys or more concentrated community meetings.

Once the museum’s top priorities have been outlined it is just a question of how to compress years of history and art across the entire state into an experience that can be measured in feet and hours, but still carry a substantial impact.

How?

Start where you are, use what you have, and change what you can.

A museum’s collections are not two dimensional entries in a history book, they are tangible pieces of history and a dynamic arrangement accentuates that. Even something as simple as rearranging the display cases and exhibits can draw attention to pieces that were previously skipped over. Temporary exhibits can also breathe new life into an institution by giving rarely seen objects some “floor time” as well as highlighting subjects not normally covered in permanent exhibits.



Sonya Clemenson

Why stop with rearranging the furniture? Rearranging the objects in the display cases can make an exhibit intriguing to people who have already seen it. A “traditional” arrangement in a display case only uses the back and bottom of the case; leaving the case like a bag of chips, containing mostly air. Creating miniature “stair steps” for display surfaces within the case not only uses more of the space, but it makes the display itself more attention-grabbing.

Don’t be afraid to think outside of the display case either; use the walls to infuse the space with color, incorporate new textures, patterns, and graphics into the exhibits and define them with their own logo. Use the very font in both labels and logos to help drive a point home. For example, a sans serif font is good for a headline because its starkness; the font itself can subtly convey an ambiance to the text. This text doesn’t feel the same as this text, simply because of the font used. Pop up banners literally take the text off of the exhibit and make it more interactive. They also lend themselves exceptionally well to travelling if your exhibit needs to be portable. Pictures don’t need to be contained by frames, they can be blown up and used to fill almost any space, either as a mural, a background for a timeline, or as a main focal point for an exhibit containing mostly small artifacts.

There are hundreds of ways that exhibits and displays can be altered and updated, ranging from the drastic to the demure. Don’t be afraid to be different, dramatic, or fascinating.

Recap: Grants Workshop in Seward

Helen Alten, Director
Sheldon Museum and Cultural Center

Museums Alaska assembled representatives from ten different state funding opportunities into one large room on the ground floor of the new Seward Library Museum for the first day of the Museums Alaska conference. The funders included the Alaska Community Foundation and one of its regional affiliates, the Seward Community Foundation; the Alaska State Council on the Arts; the Alaska Humanities Forum; the Alaska State Museum; the CIRI Foundation; Foraker Group; Museums Alaska Art Acquisition Fund and Collections Management Fund; and the Rasmuson Foundation. During the morning, participants could move from one funder to the next, asking individual questions of them. Chairs were arranged in circles, with each funder overseeing one circle. In the afternoon, the funders gave short presentations about their grant options that might be useful for Alaska museums. They emphasized working with program officers and that most of them are willing to review draft grants if given enough time. There was strong agreement that grants should be well-written and align with the institutional mission.

Here is a summation of the grants discussed:

Alaska Community Foundation (www.alaskacf.org)

Capacity Building: up to \$10,000
– call before applying, matching funds critical
Strategic planning, business planning, professional development (support to attend Museums Alaska), policy creation, planning organizational mergers, evaluating program effectiveness, development planning, communications planning.

Will not fund if in Tier 1 with Rasmuson Foundation

Teen Suicide Prevention: up to \$5,000
– programs that help teens

Alaska State Council on the Arts (www.education.alaska.gov/aksca)

Operating Support – March 1 – speak to program officer before applying for the first time

Rasmuson Foundation Cultural Collaborations Project Grants – June 1 & Dec. 1 – up to \$6,000

Community Arts Development – June 1, Sept. 1, Dec. 1, Mar. 1 – up to \$5,000

Workshop – June 1, Sept. 1, Dec. 1, Mar. 1 – up to \$1,000

Career Opportunity – June 1, Sept. 1, Dec. 1, Mar. 1 – \$100 to \$1,000

Master Artist and Apprentice Grants in Traditional Native Arts – June 1, Sept. 1, Dec. 1, Mar. 1 – up to \$2,000

Rasmuson Foundation Harper Arts Touring Fund – rolling deadline – \$3,500 to \$10,500 – freight and travel costs for exhibits

Rasmuson Foundation Excursion Grants – rolling deadline - \$600 to \$1000 – bringing kids to arts

Alaska Humanities Forum (<https://akhf.cgweb.org>)

General Humanities Grant – Dec. 1, 2014 - up to \$10,000 - 1:1 match - 3 year long program

Tell stories about the human experience in Alaska Capacity, Diversity, Impact, Legacy, Access, Mission driven and data informed AKHF also has **rolling mini-grants** up to \$2000. All the same requirements (incl. 1:1 match)

Alaska State Museum (<http://museums.alaska.gov/grants.html>)

Grant-in-Aid – online applications

Regular Grant – up to \$10,000

Mini-Grant – up to \$2,000

Internship Grant – 8 weeks, amount determined by committee, may include housing supplement

“They emphasized working with program officers... most of them are willing to review draft grants if given enough time”

(continued) Grant Opportunities!

The CIRI (Cook Inlet Region, Inc.) Foundation (www.thecirifoundation.org)

A Journey to What Matters: Increased Alaska Native Art and Culture Grant – to support projects that affect and/or involve Alaska Native communities – Mar. 1, June 1, Sept. 1, Nov. 1 Potential applicants should contact The CIRI Foundation in advance with a proposed budget.

Non-profit and tribal organizations are eligible to apply.

increase intergenerational transference of knowledge of Alaska Native artistic and cultural practices

increase access to and awareness of Alaska Native art through training, education and access and capacity building strategies for organizations and individuals

support Alaska Native artists

Example: Fish Skin Workshop

Foraker Group

Pre-Development - Free (<http://www.forakergroup.org/index.cfm/Shared-Services/Pre-Development>)

Help prepare for capital projects

Must be recommended by a funder (Rasmuson Foundation for museums)

New Pathways Alaska – Free (<http://www.forakergroup.org/index.cfm/Shared-Services/New-Pathways>)

Teaches adaptive response to complex challenges

Current museum participants: The Alutiiq Museum (Kodiak); The Sheldon Museum and Cultural Center (Haines)

Museums Alaska (<http://museumsalaska.org>)

Art Acquisition Fund – April 15, Oct. 15, 2015- up to \$35,000 per institution per year

(<http://museumsalaska.org/art-acquisition-fund/>)

Collections Management Fund – March 31 and Sept 30 – up to \$10,000 (<http://museumsalaska.org/collections-management-fund/>)

Rasmuson Foundation (www.rasmuson.org) – always follow the advice of the program officer

Tier 1 – no deadlines, ongoing applications – under \$25,000

Exhibits and cultural projects, creative works, program expansion

Support of board and community, track record of success

Tier 2 – no deadlines, ongoing applications – over \$25,000 – up to 9 months to hear about funding

Projects of strategic importance or innovative nature, capital needs

Contact program officer before submitting a letter of intent

ArtPlace America – Nov. 3, 2014 for Letter of Inquiry

Creative Placemaking (10 Alaska programs currently funded)

Spur economic development

Sabbatical Program – up to \$40,000

Given to organizations to cover salary and expenses during a leadership sabbatical

Open to all non-profit CEOs

Individual Artist Award – Jan. 1 to Mar. 1

To support artistic growth and exploration

Artist Residency Program

8 artists per year

Partnership between Alaska and Lower 48 Arts organizations

Pre-Development (see Foraker Group)

New Pathways Alaska (see Foraker Group)

Harper Arts Touring Fund (see Alaska State Council for the Arts)

Job Opportunity: Executive Director

Museums Alaska seeks an independent contractor to perform the following services:

- 1) Provide a central office for Museums Alaska, Inc.;
- 2) Produce newsletter communications and publications of Museums Alaska;
- 3) Prepare grants and manage fundraising efforts, complying with all grant terms and conditions of grants received;
- 4) Maintain membership lists and develop membership;
- 5) Maintain financial transactions and coordinate with Treasurer on budgets and financial records;
- 6) Assist with the coordination of the annual conference with the local host committee and the Alaska Historical Society;
- 7) File all state and federal reports;
- 8) Collaborate and provide leadership with other private, non-profit, and public state, regional, national organizations for the benefit of its members and museums in Alaska; and
- 9) Administer the Collections Management Fund and Art Acquisition Fund grant programs.

The work and services must be completed by January 31, 2016.

Ideal start date: March 1, 2015

Compensation: Contractor shall provide monthly invoices of **\$3,200**.

Because this business relationship is that of independent contractor, there is no entitlement to benefits such as health insurance, life insurance, retirement, or unemployment insurance.

Skills/Experience:

Required: excellent communication skills (written and verbal); familiarity with Alaska's museums and cultural centers; nonprofit administration (at least 3 years experience); financial management

Preferred: grant writing and administration; facility with Quickbooks, donor software, Adobe forms, Google apps (drive, groups, forms, business email accounts), MailChimp, Wordpress website management; conference planning; museum background; arts background; familiarity with government and private organizations and agencies and elected officials; availability, flexibility, and the ability to delegate.

Travel on behalf of the organization will be expected.

To apply, send resume, cover letter, and the contact information of three references to HR@museumsalaska.org by January 15, 2015.

Holiday Special on Membership!

Renew your membership by December 31st and get 2014 rates for 2015 membership!

With increased membership benefits and services over the last several years, Museums Alaska will be moderately raising its membership fees for the first time in decades, effective January 1, 2015. You can renew your membership for 2015 at the 2014 rates until December 31, 2014.



Here's a summary of changes in membership rates:

2015 RATES

Individual

- \$20 Student
- \$40 Individual
- \$60 Professional
- \$100 Patron
- \$500 MUSE

Organization

- \$40 Budgets under \$50,000
- \$60 Budgets under \$100,000
- \$120 Budgets under \$250,000
- \$180 Budgets over \$250,000
- \$300 Corporate Sponsor

2014 RATES

Individual

- \$15 Student
- \$30 Individual
- \$50 Professional
- \$100 Patron
- \$500 MUSE

Organization

- \$30 Budgets under \$50,000
- \$50 Budgets under \$100,000
- \$100 Budgets under \$250,000
- \$150 Budgets over \$250,000
- \$250 Corporate Sponsor

Benefits and services you don't want to miss!

FREE admission to Alaska museums and cultural centers, Network newsletter, discounted conference fees, eligibility for scholarships, advocacy for your organization and the sector at the state and national levels, development of new grants for the museum sector.



The Statewide Museum Association

PO Box 3004
Homer, AK 99603
907.306.3409

director@museumsalaska.org

**Renew your membership today at
museumsalaska.org/membership**

We couldn't do it without you!

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