Network

S P R I N G  2 0 1 5

2015 Conference Keynote Speaker:

Lath Carlson

The Tech Museum of Innovation (San Jose, CA)

Museums Alaska is thrilled to announce that Lath Carlson from The Tech Museum of Innovation will be our keynote speaker in Cordova, helping us explore how collaboration bolsters advocacy efforts, informs exhibit development, and complements outreach activities.

2015 Conference Theme -- Joining Forces: museums, community and collaboration.

In order for museums to remain at the center of community life, we must foster dynamic interactions with individuals, public groups, and partner organizations to strengthen our civic role. As the dialogue progresses beyond the ideas of consultation and inclusion, museums are using exciting new methods to engage audiences and be a source of empowerment and change.

Since 1991, Carlson has worked with museums across the United States, creating exceptional exhibitions that serve millions of visitors. His work has appeared in galleries from the New York Hall of Science to the Denver Museum of Nature and Science. Carlson managed one of the nation’s leading exhibit fabrication firms and taught in the Museum Exhibition Planning and Design master’s program at Philadelphia’s University of the Arts. He has also been an exhibit designer and content developer at the Franklin Institute Science Museum, the Please Touch Museum, and the Maxwell Museum of Anthropology.

Carlson joined The Tech Museum of Innovation in 2012 as Vice President of Exhibit and Content Development. He is managing a total renovation of museum and is concurrently a Noyce Leadership Institute Fellow. Carlson is charged with creating experiences relevant to Silicon Valley, which invite museum guests to learn through making and play, and demonstrate how technology can improve lives, provoke thought and inspire action. The Tech was just awarded a National Medal for Museum and Library Service, the highest honor an American museum can achieve.

“My passion lies in the intersection of science, technology, and society” Carlson said. “Museums have an obligation to serve their communities and society as a whole. As safe, social, and non-commercial places, we have the ability to provide for the real needs of our constituents, and become truly USEFUL to their lives.”

He earned his BA in Anthropology at the University of New Mexico.

Lath Carlson, The Tech Museum
Vice President of Exhibits
Director’s Note

For my first Director’s Note, I wanted to offer an introduction for those of you whom I haven’t yet met. I’m a Juneauite, born and raised. I went Outside for undergraduate (BA, Stanford University) and graduate work (MPhil, Cambridge University). My academic background is in archaeology, with an emphasis on cultural heritage and museums. After finishing school, I returned home to Juneau to help on the new State Libraries, Archives, and Museum (SLAM) project. Working on this project reaffirmed my commitment to Alaska and the field of cultural heritage, particular in the area of administration and advocacy.

In addition to archaeological fieldwork and museum work, I have experience in messaging, fundraising, event planning, volunteer recruitment and training, and editing and producing content for publication. Finally, I have recently begun a position as a legislative aide which will grow my familiarity with government, agencies, and elected officials. I am eager to apply my academic and professional skillset to an organization that promotes museums and culture in Alaska, a cause to which I am deeply committed.

I look forward to meeting you and working with you on professional development, funding, and advocacy for our statewide museums and cultural centers.

Progress Report
This session, the Advocacy committee has been working on HB 52 and SB 61, companion bills which establish a museum construction grant program that will assist our many aging facilities with renovation and reconstruction needs. The Advocacy committee worked hard to recruit and prepare strong supporting testimony, and the feedback on their efforts was positive. There’s still work to do, but we’re in a good position for next session. During the interim, there will be continued work on this project, which I’ll address in the “What’s Next” section, below.

Museums Alaska’s advocacy work this session also included the second annual Culture Humanities Arts Museum Partners (CHAMP) Legislative Fly-in. In addition to the positive visibility within the halls of the Capitol, the Fly-in continues Museums Alaska’s partnership with other statewide groups that share a vision of arts, history, and culture in Alaska. For more details, see Jane and Patty’s update (pages 10-11).

The spring cycle for the grants is winding down as awards go out this month. See pages 4-5 for the listing of Arts Acquisition Fund and Collections Management Fund awards. Thank you for your applications.

The Program committee has been hard at work, and planning for the conference is well under way. See the front page announcement of this year’s keynote speaker. The next edition of Network and the Museums Alaska website will have more information on the conference as it is available.

What’s Next
The legislature may not be in session, but there will be work during the interim on the HB 52 and SB 61. Specifically, the Advocacy committee will be developing the system and standards for ranking applications for legislative funding. This system will allow our professional community to prioritize funding for projects that are “shovel ready.” Developing this system in the interim is an important step that will demonstrate our commitment to making this legislation a success.

Administratively, we’ll be transitioning the Arts Acquisition Fund to an online application system (similar to CMF) so look for that with the autumn application cycle. We’ll also be implementing a review panel for the AAF program, similar to CMF.

These first couple months I have been on a continuous learning curve. This involved absorbing a lot of new material, prioritizing tasks, and delivering under time constraints. I offer a special thank you to Heather Beggs and Mike Hawfield for your mentorship during the transition. Also, I’m deeply grateful to the Board of Directors, the Grants, Program, and Advocacy committees, and all the members and institutions that have helped me as I learn the ropes. Your communication, commitment, cooperation, and professionalism – with a dose of grace and patience for good measure – have made this a rewarding experience from day one. Thanks for the warm and gracious welcome as I get my sea legs.

Please be in touch.

Bianca Carpeneti, Museums Alaska Executive Director
President’s Message

Happy spring everyone!

We made it through another winter, as weird as this one was, and hopefully this issue of Network finds you with your hands freshly in the dirt, your bike out on the trails, or your feet enjoying snow-free trails in your community. For others, it might find you trying to get through the first big wave of pollen coating your surroundings. Once you emerge from your springtime rituals, we hope you have time to read this first issue of Network produced by our new Executive Director, Bianca Carpeneti! Many of you have had a chance to welcome her to our organization, and to introduce yourself, and now perhaps consider how you could participate in Museums Alaska. We rely on volunteers like you, to have big ideas and to help us serve our members.

Another May has rolled around and museums the world over are preparing for International Museum Day. This year’s theme (to be celebrated on or around May 18) is “Museums for a sustainable society.” Museums Alaska urges you to consider how you might incorporate this theme into your own local activities.

This January, Museums Alaska collaborated with the CHAMP team again for our second annual Juneau Fly-In. Our Advocacy Committee did an amazing job connecting with Legislators to promote the Museum Construction Grant Program – take a look at Jane Lindsey’s article about that on pages 10-11.

It’s never too late to renew your membership, and as you’ll see on page 15, you’ll want to take advantage of our member registration rates for the annual meeting in Cordova this fall! You will also be eligible to apply for a scholarship for the conference. #AHSMA2015 is sure to generate lots of discussion and ideas to take home to your institution and community that you won’t want to miss – be sure to Tweet or post photos and comments on Facebook or Instagram to share that excitement.

Our great relationship with Rasmuson Foundation continues to be a source of collections and project growth as we completed the first round of 2015 grants in the Collections Management Fund and the Art Acquisition Fund (AAF). Be sure to mark your calendars for the second round of deadlines in the fall. And keep your eyes open for the new exhibition featuring works from ten years of the AAF program acquisitions.

Have a great summer and see you in Cordova!

Angela Linn, Museums Alaska President

Cordova hosts 2015 conference!

SAVE THE DATE!

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

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

**NEXT DEADLINES:**
- Collections Management Fund—**September 30, 2015**
- Art Acquisition Fund—**October 15, 2015**

**2015 ART ACQUISITION SPRING AWARDS:**
- AK Museum of Science & Nature $18,500
- Alaska State Museum $2,400
- Alaska Veterans Museum $7,000
- Alutiiq Mus. & Arch’l Repository $12,750
- Anchorage Museum $650
- Baranov Museum $8,800
- Cordova Historical Museum $4,500
- Dorothy Page Museum $6,000
- Ilanka Cultural Center $4,795
- Juneau Douglas City Museum $7,850
- Pratt Museum $5,800
- Sheldon Museum & Cultural Ctr $5,900
- Sheldon Jackson Museum $14,300
- Sitka Historical Society Museum $2,400

**Join with the National Endowment for the Arts and Blue Star Families to become a Blue Star 2015 Museum by providing free admission to active duty military personnel and their families between Memorial Day and Labor Day.**
Thank you to all the applicants for their submissions. The Grants Committee was pleased to see the range and scope of the projects in the Spring round of applicants, and it looks forward to the Fall round (due September 30, 2015). In total, $100,000 will be awarded to Alaska museums and cultural centers.

**Alaska State Museum** $4,000 for Davis dogsled painting conservation and outreach

**Alutiiq Museum & Archaeological Repository** $782 for Squirrel skin parka repair project

**American Bald Eagle Foundation** $3,263 for Museum display cases

**Cordova Historical Museum** $3,475 for Small museum strategy for BIG museum care: Bear Gut Parka Collaboration (Angel Project)

**Sheldon Jackson Museum** $8,642 for Mount Making Boot Camp II — Power Tool Training (collaboration)

**Hammer Museum** $2,297 for Environmental improvements for archives, collection processing, & new office space

**Juneau Douglas City Museum** $2,740 for Totem pole and canoe assessment

**Baranov Museum** $2,781 for Securing the collections

**Sealaska Heritage Institute** $3,121 for Establishing an integrated pest management (IMP) program

**Sheldon Museum and Cultural Center** $7,723 for Map flattening, cataloguing, & rehousing project (collaboration)

**Sitka Historical Society** $8,805 for Collections move and preservation (collaboration)

**University of Alaska Museum of the North** $4,567 for Preparation of museum collection satellite facility
The Alaska museum community celebrates International Museum Day again this year with a collaborative project showing the diversity of our institutions across the state. Museums submitted photos taken on “Museum Snap-shot Day,” April 20th, and Museums Alaska compiled them all into an online album linked through Museums Alaska’s web-site: www.museumsalaska.org

This is the fourth annual Museum Snapshot Day project, a partnership between the Alaska State Museum and Museums Alaska. Along with the online album, five museum photos are highlighted on the home page of Museums Alaska.

In 2014, we highlighted the Beringia Center of Culture and Science, the Maxine and Jesse Whitney Museum, the Alutiiq Museum, the Carrie McLain Museum and the Sheldon Museum and Cultural Center.

In 2015, we are highlighting the Ketchikan Museums, the Alutiiq Museum, the Kodiak Historical Society & Baranov Museum, the Juneau-Douglas City Museum, and the Sitka National Historical Park.

Enjoy your tour through the photos! All the previous albums are on our Flickr site, accessible straight through our home page. Happy International Museum Day!

Click here for a direct link to the 2015 Museum Snapshot Day gallery on Flickr.
Reed hired as Director of Hammer Museum

Ashleigh Reed will now be leading the Hammer Museum as the first Executive Director. She is a five year resident of Haines and has worked on the Alaska Marine Highway for several years. Reed holds a degree in therapeutic recreation from the University of Southern Mississippi. She is new to the world of museum work, but is very excited at the opportunity to be a part of the Hammer Museum. Reed is anticipating a busy summer season. In May she will be attending AASLH’s Collections Management and Practices Workshop. Also, two interns will be arriving to work at the museum for the summer. She is particularly looking forward to making a strong community connection. She is ready to lead fundraisers and plan events the Hammer Museum participates in, such as July 4th festivities and the Southeast Alaska State Fair.

The Hammer Museum is located in Southeast in the small town of Haines. The quirky Museum has been growing in popularity and its collection since 2002.

Dave Pahl, the founder of the Museum has acted as volunteer director for the past 13 years. During the Board’s strategic planning session in 2014, hiring a paid director and finding a new building made its way to the top of the list.

Councceller to replace Drabek at Alutiiq Museum

The Alutiiq Heritage Foundation announces that Dr. Alisha Drabek will resign from her position as the Executive Director of the Alutiiq Museum on May 15th. Drabek is leaving the organization to pursue new professional opportunities. Hired in 2013, Drabek led the museum in a major planning effort and reorganized its staff to better serve the museum’s award-winning heritage programs.

Drabek worked for the museum through its twentieth anniversary celebration (May 13th), before assuming a leadership role as the Senior Vice President of Community and Government Affairs for Afognak Native Corporation. “I have greatly enjoyed working with the Alutiiq Museum’s talented staff and board,” Drabek says. “The museum is an amazing organization and I will continue to stay closely connected to its work and mission. I look forward to supporting the new Executive Director as a partner in my new role within the Alutiiq community.”

The Alutiiq Heritage Foundation Board has selected Dr. April Laktonen Councceller to serve as the next Executive Director for the Alutiiq Museum. Councceller holds a PhD from the University of Alaska Fairbanks and has over a decade of experience working at the Alutiiq Museum. On May 13th, community members helped celebrate the museum’s twentieth anniversary, where they wished Drabek well in her next position, and welcomed Councceller to her new role.
Craig Public Library awarded National Medal

The Institute of Museum and Library Services announced the ten recipients of the 2015 National Medal for Museum and Library Service, including the Craig Public Library in Craig, Alaska. This award is the nation’s highest honor given to museums and libraries for service to the community. For 21 years, the award has celebrated institutions that present extraordinary and innovative approaches to public service to make a difference for individuals, families and communities.

This award recognizes the Craig Public Library among the nation’s great libraries and museums, noting its outstanding impact and quality of programs, services, and partnerships, exceeding the expected levels of community outreach. They were selected from thirty finalists that were among institutions from across the country that were nominated for the honor.

“These National Medal recipients have demonstrated a genuine understanding of their communities and are committed to addressing community needs,” said Maura Marx, acting director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services. “IMLS believes museums and libraries are vital community anchors that enhance civic engagement, cultural and educational opportunities, and economic vitality. The remarkable community contributions these institutions have made are proof positive of this.”

The next deadline for nominating a museum or library is October 1, 2015. Learn more about the National Medal at [www.imls.gov/medals](http://www.imls.gov/medals).

New State Libraries, Archives and Museum named in honor of Kashevaroff, Foster

On May 5, 2015 Governor Bill Walker signed SB 63 into law. The bill names the new State Libraries, Archives, and Museum facility in honor of Father Andrew P. Kashevaroff and names its reading room in honor of Representative Richard Foster. Father Kashevaroff was of Russian and Native heritage, and he was the first librarian and curator of the Alaska Historical Museum and Library. Rep. Foster was an avid historian and, when not on the House Floor, could often be found in the archives, reading about Alaskan history.

The new facility is scheduled to open in May 2016.
Grant Opportunities

For your reference, here are some grant opportunities and their deadlines. Please see the website listed for full information and guidelines on applying.

Alaska Community Foundation ([www.alaskacf.org](http://www.alaskacf.org))
- **Strengthening Organizations** – June 1, Sept. 1, Dec. 1 (up to $10,000)
  Supports projects that will help Alaska nonprofits better meet their missions. This program seeks applications for projects that will directly enhance the work of the applicant organization, making it stronger with well-organized systems in place and skilled employees who have the training and resources to successfully provide services.

Alaska State Council on the Arts ([www.education.alaska.gov/aksca](http://www.education.alaska.gov/aksca))
- **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 (approx. $1,000)
- **Career Opportunity** – June 1, Sept. 1, Dec. 1, Mar. 1 (up 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

- **Mini-grants (rolling deadline)** up to $2000 (1:1 match). Tell stories about the human experience in Alaska Capacity, Diversity, Impact, Legacy, Access, Mission driven and data informed

- **Grant-in-Aid** – online applications - due June 2, 2015
  - Regular Grant (up to $10,000); Mini-Grant (up to $2,000)
  - Internship Grant – 8 weeks, amount determined by committee, may include housing supplement

The CIRI (Cook Inlet Region, Inc.) Foundation ([www.thecirifoundation.org](http://www.thecirifoundation.org))
- **A Journey to What Matters: Increased Alaska Native Art and Culture Grant** – due June 1, Sept. 1, Nov. 1
- **Education Project Grants** – due June 1, Sept. 1, Nov. 1
- **Heritage Project Grants** – due June 1, Sept. 1, Nov. 1

Foraker Group
- **Pre-Development** - ([http://www.forakergroup.org/index.cfm/Shared-Services/Pre-Development](http://http://www.forakergroup.org/index.cfm/Shared-Services/Pre-Development))
  - Help prepare for capital projects
  - Teaches adaptive response to complex challenges

Rasmuson Foundation ([www.rasmuson.org](http://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
- **Sabbatical Program** – up to $40,000
  - Given to organizations to cover salary and expenses during a leadership sabbatical
Advocacy Update

Finding our Voice: Speaking up for the Field, Statewide and Nationally

Jane Lindsey & Patricia Relay
Museums Alaska Advocacy Committee

January 28-30, Museums Alaska joined CHAMP (Culture Humanities Arts Museums Partners) alongside the Alaska State Council of the Arts, the Alaska Humanities Forum, and the Alaska Historical Society for the second year to promote our field to the Alaska State Legislature. Eleven Museums Alaska and five Alaska Historical Society members braved January winter weather traveling to Juneau from Bethel, Fairbanks, Kodiak, Wasilla, Homer, Valdez, Ketchikan, and Sitka to make 36 visits to the Capitol. Our visits discussed the work we do in our respective communities and our statewide need as we provided information and asked for support of HB52 sponsored by Representative Bob Herron of Bethel. HB52 promotes a museum construction and major grant program that mirrors successful library construction grant legislation by providing communities with the matching financial assistance to help construct, expand, and ensure preservation best practices for our Alaskan collections held in public trust. As a culmination to Fly-In activities, the Alaska State Council on the Arts hosted the Governors Arts Awards.

Karen A. Witter, contracted by Museums Alaska
(continued on next page)
to provide CHAMP advocacy training, titled her presentation, “Advocacy - a best practice for museums.” By virtue of the work we do, we advocate for our museums every day, through our collections, exhibits, special and education programs, research opportunities and ongoing donor cultivation. In return, we invite our communities to benefit from our cultural legacy provided by our public trust collections. Advocacy for the museum field, according to Witter, “is similar to donor cultivation, and similar to disaster planning!” Witter, a former policy advisor for the Governor of Illinois who has worked extensively with the Illinois state legislature shared that during her time in elected government few museums made appointments to talk about their economic, educational, and cultural impacts and their needs. The time we spend with legislators is an ongoing process of education on the public value of our field so that we are a part of the process of decision making in matters that affect us. Witter recommends advocacy be done in small amounts on an ongoing basis so that it becomes a regular part of how we work with and operate our institutions, an important message for our current statewide economic climate. This year’s Fly-In yielded support from Senator Stevens of Kodiak who is sponsoring SB61, companion legislation to HB52.

Coordinated by the American Alliance for Museums, Patricia Relay, Executive Director of the Valdez Museum, Michelle Cullen, Valdez Museum’s Board President, and Jane Lindsey, Museums Alaska Board Member and Director of the Juneau-Douglas City Museum traveled to Washington, D.C., February 23-24, to make a case for museums on Capitol Hill. We were the three Alaskans who joined 250 museum professionals and supporters from across the country and visited our Alaskan delegation and their staff to make a personal appeal for federal support of America’s museums through federal grant programs such as the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Endowment for the Arts, the State Historic Preservation Office, and other important programs that help our institutions do the work we do. The Alaska group rose to the occasion to educate elected officials and inspire support for museums, at a critical time - just as the new congress begins its work. Relay states, “today, legislators have a lot of issues on their plates, and we can’t expect them to fully appreciate our field unless we bring the message to their doorstep. We are intent on making sure Congress knows about the vital work museums do, and their role as educational and economic assets.”

We welcome all museums, cultural centers and their supporters to learn more about how to effectively educate on behalf of their institutions and the field, and invite everyone to join the Advocacy Committee at a breakfast roundtable in Cordova. For more information on Museums Alaska advocacy activities visit our advocacy page at [http://museumsalaska.org/advocacy-materials/](http://museumsalaska.org/advocacy-materials/).
Living Alaska: Traveling Exhibition to Celebrate Rasmuson Foundation Art Acquisition Fund

Amy Steffian
Alutiiq Museum & Archaeological Repository
Kodiak

For more than a decade, the Rasmuson Foundation has been giving annual grants to Alaska’s museums to acquire contemporary art. This unique program has allowed museums throughout the state, to purposefully build their collections. In its first ten years, the Rasmuson Art Acquisition Fund distributed 173 grants to 33 museums to purchase works by 436 artists.

The far-reaching impacts of the fund, and a sample of the artwork it has preserved for the public, will be shared in a traveling exhibit titled Living Alaska. Scheduled for debut in November of 2015, the show is being curated by Alaskan anthropologist Sven Haakanson, Jr. and designed by the Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center. It will open at the Anchorage Museum with twenty-five pieces loaned from twelve different museums.

“It was a challenge to select just a small number of pieces from the amazing assortment of artwork collected,” said Haakanson. “There were over a thousand pieces to consider. I started on the Foundation’s online gallery (www.rasmuson.org/ArtOnDisplay), looking for themes in the work. Because this is a statewide program, and a broad celebration of the arts in Alaska, I wanted to represent as many museums and artists as possible. I also wanted to tell the story of life in Alaska today. The Foundation’s mission is to promote a better life for Alaskans. This art work illustrates what it’s like to be an Alaskan in the twenty-first century.”

The show is built around three themes–artwork inspired by Alaskan environments, Native traditions, and contemporary issues.

(Continued on next page)
At present, six Alaskan communities are scheduled as hosts: Anchorage, Fairbanks, Homer, Juneau, Kodiak, and Unalaska. However, exhibit organizers are considering the possibility of extending the show to accommodate additional venues.

Haakanson said, “I’d like to have the exhibit reach as many Alaskans as possible. It is an opportunity to experience contemporary Alaskan art—both the pieces in the show and others purchased through the fund. We are asking the exhibit’s hosts to display additional works from their collection when Living Alaska is on site.”

As part of the exhibit, Haakanson and colleague Amy Steffian, of the Alutiiq Museum, are working on a small exhibition catalogue. This publication will feature pictures of the exhibited artwork as well as essays exploring the history and impacts of the fund. Funding for the exhibit, its guide, travel, and marketing, are all being provided by the Rasmuson Foundation, as a way to share and celebrate the arts.

According to Foundation representative Jayson Smart, “We are thrilled to see the success of the Art Acquisition Fund, that was formed to accomplish three objectives: 1) support Alaska artists through purchases; 2) provide museums with funds and technical support to grow acquisitions; and 3) provide a revolving collection of art to display at the foundation offices. We are honored to have Dr. Haakanson involved as curator of the touring exhibition. We are also appreciative of Amy Steffian’s contribution, and the support of the Anchorage Museum, Alutiiq Museum, and Museums Alaska.”
Earlier this spring, Museums Alaska bid farewell to two of its leaders: Heather Beggs and Mike Hawfield. The Board of Directors would like to take this opportunity to offer their heartfelt thanks to Heather and Mike for their service to Museums Alaska and for their love of museums.

Heather Beggs served as Executive Director from 2012 to 2015. During these three years, she helped Museums Alaska become more effective by collaborating in the development of new programs, while strengthening partnerships. Of particular significance were the partnership with the Alaska State Council on the Arts and Alaska Humanities Forum for the CHAMP (Culture Humanities Arts Museums Partners) Legislative Fly-in and the Rasmuson Foundation for the Collections Management Fund.

Heather worked to modernize the administrative side of the operations, and her efforts have made Museums Alaska a more efficient and transparent association. Her energy and expertise were incredible assets to MA, and she leaves a stronger, more vibrant association for our members and the state. We wish her the best of luck on her new work as a Foreign Services Diplomat with the US Department of State. We will all be visiting her in Italy!

Mike Hawfield served as administrator for the Art Acquisition Fund from 2003 to 2014. During that time, he worked with most of Alaska’s museums and organizations to administer the funding to help them grow their Alaska contemporary art collections. Mike’s efforts, through this administration of the AAF, directly supported Alaskan artists and helped cultivate creative talent across the state. His experience, knowledge, and work ethic strengthened Museums Alaska. Mike will continue his work as an associate professor of history and political science at Kenai Peninsula College, on the Board of Directors for the Alaska Historical Society, and as a member of the Alaska Historical Commission. We wish him the best, and we hope to continue to see him at Museums Alaska conferences.

Both Mike and Heather worked tirelessly to further the mission of Museums Alaska and we are grateful to them for their dedication.

Best wishes,

Board of Directors
Museums Alaska
If you haven’t already...

Renew your Museums Alaska membership

With increased membership benefits and services over the last several years, Museums Alaska has moderately raised its membership fees for the first time in decades, effective January 1, 2015.

Renew Online
WWW.MUSEUMSALASKA.ORG/MEMBERSHIP

Summary of 2015 membership rates:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Individual</th>
<th>Organization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$20 Student</td>
<td>$40 Budgets under $50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$40 Individual</td>
<td>$60 Budgets under $100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$60 Professional</td>
<td>$120 Budgets under $250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$100 Patron</td>
<td>$180 Budgets over $250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$500 MUSE</td>
<td>$300 Corporate Sponsor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.
Please note our change of address:
PO Box 20153
Juneau, AK 99802
907.306.3409
director@museumsalaska.org

Renew your membership today at museumsalaska.org/membership

We couldn’t do it without you!

**You can help Museums Alaska earn donations by shopping with your Fred Meyer rewards card**

Sign up for the Community Rewards program by linking your Fred Meyer Rewards Card to Museums Alaska at www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards.

You can search for us by our name or by our non-profit number 93662

We are also registered on Amazon Smile. Click the box below to start shopping.