



**ANCHORAGE**  
MUSEUM

TODAY



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or at the museum shop

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### ANCHORAGE MUSEUM

#### AT RASMUSON CENTER

625 C Street  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501  
(907) 929-9200 tel  
(907) 929-9290 fax  
[www.anchagemuseum.org](http://www.anchagemuseum.org)

### ANCHORAGE MUSEUM TODAY

March/April ©2012  
Anchorage Museum Association  
Editor: Sarah Henning

*The Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center is owned by the Municipality of Anchorage and operated under contract by the Anchorage Museum Association, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization.*

*The museum is accredited by the American Association of Museums and is supported in part by annual contributions from the Anchorage Museum Association, the Anchorage Museum Foundation, the Municipality of Anchorage and private, corporate and foundation funds.*

### IMAGE CREDITS

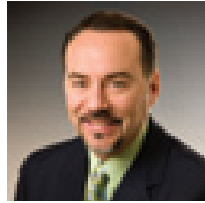
Cover  
Field trip, Chris Arend

p.3 (clockwise)

Snow Day, Chris Arend; Giau Nguyen, *Inside Me*, watercolor, mixed media, 2011; gala and camper, Chris Arend; Daphne Brown, Gillian Brown; iStockphoto.com; climber, Brian Okonek

Back page  
Gala and family, Chris Arend; climber, Scott Darsney

## letter from the director



**THE ANCHORAGE MUSEUM** was the recipient of two very generous planned gifts last year. Gifts such as these have significant meaning

because they represent a person's life work; pay reverence to a life lived; and recognize that the museum has had a powerful, positive impact on someone. It is an honor for the museum to receive such gifts.

Last year Alfred Hanisch — a World War II veteran, Alaska pioneer and longtime Chevron employee — bequeathed a generous portion of his estate to the museum. We hope to celebrate his legacy through the refurbishment of our Alaska History Gallery, the planning for which is beginning in earnest. We also said goodbye to Joan McKinnon, a longtime member who made the museum a beneficiary of her retirement plan.

We are humbled by these gifts and pledge to responsibly invest the proceeds to further the museum's mission showcasing the best of what Alaska has to offer in art, history, culture and science.

The museum also has a permanent endowment, overseen and managed by the Anchorage Museum Foundation. Gifts and bequests to the permanent endowment are forever gifts because the fund continues to grow: Only the earnings on the endowed funds are used to support museum activities each year.

By making a planned gift to the Anchorage Museum or Anchorage Museum Foundation you are recognizing the extraordinary value of art, history, culture and science in your life and the lives of future generations. Gifts, both large and small, enable the museum to support operating expenses, purchases for the museum's collection, exciting exhibitions and educational programs that reach out to the community we serve.

For more information on how you can make a planned gift, visit [anchagemuseum.org](http://anchagemuseum.org) or call our Advancement Department at (907) 929-9225.

**James Pepper Henry** DIRECTOR AND CEO

## NEWS AND NOTES

### MASTER UNANGAX ARTISTS BEGIN RESIDENCY

**FOR A WEEK IN MARCH**, Unangaŋ (Aleut) master artists Patricia Lekanoff-Gregory and Michael Livingston will demonstrate the endangered art of bentwood hat making and share their knowledge with apprentices from their home communities.

Museum visitors are invited to observe March 6-9 as the artists carve, bend and decorate bentwood hats in the Smithsonian Arctic Studies Center.

Traditionally, bentwood hats were practical headgear for Aleutian Islands hunters as they traveled in kayaks. At the same time, the hats were ceremonial works of art that vividly expressed the spiritual connection between people and sea creatures.

During their residency the master artists will discuss the art form in their Native language on film, documenting

the rich vocabulary and traditional knowledge that surround this focal item of Unangaŋ culture.

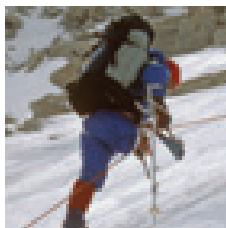
This is the second Alaska's Living Cultural Treasures artist residency at the museum. This program is sponsored by the Alaska State Council on the Arts, Smithsonian Institution and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.



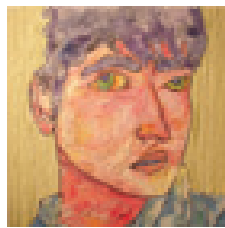
Patricia Lekanoff-Gregory



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# THE HIGH ONE: REACHING THE TOP

On view April 6 through Oct. 21

**FOR ADVENTUROUS SOULS**, the tallest peak in North America is an invitation, a challenge pitting man against mountain. Although Mount McKinley has claimed the lives of 114 people, each spring more than a thousand climbers attempt to summit the 20,320-foot mountain.

*The High One: Reaching the Top* explores what drives people to climb McKinley and what it takes to conquer North America's tallest peak. Through historical and contemporary climbing gear, videos, firsthand narratives and photographs, this exhibition tells the history of McKinley mountaineering from the first recorded attempt in 1903 to today.

With 50-below temperatures, high winds and raging storms, McKinley is considered one of the most hostile environments on Earth. Yet according to National Park Service statistics, 37,306 climbers attempted to summit McKinley during the past 108 years, with an overall 52 percent success rate.

This exhibition begins with McKinley lore including its geologic origins and legends it has inspired. Displays outline the many "firsts" of the mountain, and introduce the people who answered its call including legendary explorers Bellmore Browne, Hudson Stuck, Bradford Washburn and Naomi Uemura.

Visitors can follow day-by-day accounts of three historic climbs, and see the step-by-step process of planning and executing an expedition. They'll also learn about the effects of altitude on the body and the challenges of keeping the mountain pristine.

Rare objects on display include a map from 1839, the first to use the mountain's indigenous name. Visitors can share their opinions about whether the mountain should be called Denali (meaning "the high one" in Athabascan) or McKinley (after former president William McKinley), the official name of record with the United States Board on Geographic Names.

Hands-on activities include packing for the mountain, tying ropes and other practical climbing activities that become feats under the mountain's extreme conditions.

Through this exhibition, visitors will better understand the risks and rewards of climbing Mount McKinley, the mountain that dominates Alaska's landscape and our imaginations.

**IMAGE CREDITS:** (clockwise) Kowalik McKinley expedition, 1955, DENA 17-23, Denali National Park and Preserve Museum Collection; Alaska Mountaineering and Hiking goggles, Marc Lester; Mount McKinley, Brian Okonek



## ASCENT 20,320: SCIENCE ON THE SLOPES OF MCKINLEY ON VIEW APRIL 6 THROUGH SEPT. 30

Adventurers have been attempting to climb North America's highest peak with varying success for more than a century.

Each spring Mount McKinley's slopes see more than 1,000 climbers embarking on a valiant attempt to summit. However, until the mid-20th century, climbing McKinley was a rare feat undertaken in the name of science.

*Ascent 20,320: Science on the Slopes of Mount McKinley*, on view April 6 through Sept. 30, looks at the mountain through the lens of scientific expeditions, from the first successful summit in 1913 to the present. The exhibition features historical images from the National Park Service and park service historian Frank Norris.

As late as May 1960, the National Park Service protected Mount McKinley from the perceived threat of the airplane by requiring that expeditions have scientific permits issued by park authorities.

During the time the policy was in place, science paired with adventure to make the mountain an extreme discovery laboratory. Research topics ranged widely and included studies about geology, cosmic rays and high-altitude medical conditions.

Photographs in this exhibition document the first successful summit in 1913, attempts to establish a high-altitude scientific camp at 18,180 feet, National Geographic Magazine expeditions and more.

## RELATED EVENTS

### OPENING RECEPTION

6 p.m. Friday, April 6 Free  
Mountaineer/singer-songwriter Marty Raney performs at this opening reception for *The High One*.

### THE CONQUEST OF MCKINLEY

7 p.m. Thursday, April 12 Free  
Belmore Browne and Hershhal Parker tried to be the first to summit Mount McKinley more than 100 years ago. Join guide Brian Okonek for this epic story of camaraderie and perseverance.

### SUMMER CAMPS

June 4 through July 27 Prices vary  
New children's summer camps about mountaineering feature Alaska Rock Gym field trips, landscape painting, knot tying and avalanche science. Learn more and register at [anchoragemuseum.org/camps](http://anchoragemuseum.org/camps).



# MARCH/APRIL 201



COURTESY OF THE AUTHOR

Joan Kane



ALASKA DANCE THEATRE

## SMITHSONIAN SPOTLIGHT

### JOAN KANE

7 p.m. Thursday, April 5  
Included with admission

Iñupiaq writer Joan Kane reads from *The Cormorant Hunter's Wife*, a poetry collection about adaptation and resilience inspired by her Alaska Native heritage and the arctic landscape. Kane's work references the Iñupiaq oral tradition; however, she moves beyond narrative retelling, honoring the Iñupiaq legacy of imagination. A book signing follows.


## EVENTS

### SMITHSONIAN SPOTLIGHT


#### TLINGIT COLONIAL HISTORY

 **7 p.m. Thursday, March 1**  
Included with admission  
Tlingit graduate student Kyle Wark talks about alcohol importation and use during the Russian and early American periods. A Q&A follows.

#### FIRST FRIDAY


 **6 to 9 p.m. March 2**  
Free  
Enjoy an artist talk, guided star show, live folk music by Melissa Mitchell and more.

#### ARTIST TALK


**ERIN OSINKOSKY**  
 **7 p.m. Friday, March 2**  
Free  
Anchorage artist Erin Osinkosky works in a variety of media, but is best known for her distinctive series of puppets.

### OPENING RECEPTION

#### STUDENT EXHIBIT

 **6 to 8 p.m.**  
**Friday, March 2** Free  
An opening reception for the 40th Annual Anchorage School District Art Exhibition. Read more on page 8.


#### MASTER ARTISTS AT WORK

 **10 a.m. to 5 p.m.**  
**Tuesday, March 6**  
through **Friday, March 9**  
Included with admission  
Visit with Unangaġ (Aleut) master artists as they make bentwood hats. Read more on page 2.


#### BOOK SIGNING

**ANDREW GRONHOLDT BIOGRAPHY**  
 **1 to 3 p.m.**  
**Saturday, March 10**  
Included with admission  
Michael Livingston and Sharon Dye sign their new book about Aleutian carver Andrew Gronholdt.


#### SUNDAY FUN DAY: MACHINES

 **2 to 4 p.m.**  
**Sunday, March 11**  
Included with admission  
Take children on a walk down memory lane. Activities compare historical machines with their modern equivalents, and experiment with simple and complex machines.


#### BOOK SIGNING

**G.C. WALDREP**  
 **7 to 8:30 p.m.**  
**Tuesday, March 27** Free  
Join Pennsylvania poet G.C. Waldrep (*Archicembalo*) as he reads from his new collection. Presented with 49 Writers.

#### CAMP REGISTRATION

 **Starts 9 a.m.**  
**Monday, April 2**  
Prices vary  
Kids can paint a masterpiece, build a robot and more at the museum's summer camps. Read more on page 8.


#### FIRST FRIDAY

 **6 to 9 p.m. April 6** Free  
Enjoy the opening of two exhibits, an artist talk, guided star show and live jazz by Melissa Bledsoe Fischer in Muse.

#### ARTIST TALK

**RACHEL MULVIHILL**  
 **7 p.m. Friday, April 6** Free  
Through painting intimate interiors and roadside vistas, Fairbanks artist Rachel Mulvihill explores Alaska as both home and frontier.

#### OPENING RECEPTION

**THE HIGH ONE**  
 **6 p.m. Friday, April 6** Free  
Mountaineer/singer-songwriter Marty Raney performs at this reception for *The High One* exhibit. Read more on page 4.

Events are subject to change. During free events, fees still apply for planetarium shows.



ISTOCKPHOTO.COM

Bradford Washburn, *Mudrow Glacier and Mt. McKinley*, 1938

## FAMILY EVENT

### TALES FOR TOTS

10:30 to 11 a.m. Thursdays, April 5-26  
Included with admission

At this new event for budding bookworms, energetic museum volunteers read children's stories aloud. This weekly program will excite and engage children ages 3 to 5, boosting their language development. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

## LECTURE

### THE CONQUEST OF MCKINLEY

7 p.m. Thursday, April 12 Free

One hundred years ago a group of adventurers including Belmore Browne and Hershall Parker tried to become the first to summit Mount McKinley. They got heartbreakingly close: Just 300 feet from the summit, they were thwarted by a violent storm. Join Denali guide Brian Okonek as he tells this epic story of camaraderie, sportsmanship and perseverance.

#### ELEVATOR MUSIC

##### FIREWEED FLUTES



6 to 9 p.m.  
Friday, April 6 Free

Board the museum's oversize elevator and hear The Fireweed Flutes quartet.

##### LITERATURE IN AN AGE OF MORAL DEPRAVITY



7 to 8:30 p.m.  
Saturday, April 7 Free

How should writers engage in the moral struggles of the moment? Featuring Massachusetts author Steve Almond (*Candyfreak*). Presented with 49 Writers.

##### SUNDAY FUN DAY: WORDPLAY



2 to 4 p.m.  
Sunday, April 8  
Included with admission

Your family will have F-U-N on this day devoted to wordplay. Explore the museum with a word search, do make-and-take projects and leave an inspirational message.

##### EASTER BRUNCH



10 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Sunday, April 8  
Menu pricing

Call 929-9210 for reservations.

##### 2012 TRUE NORTH GALA



5:30 to 11:30 p.m.  
Saturday, April 14 \$150

The museum's annual fundraiser features dinner, dancing and an art auction. Read more on page 9.

##### KIDS DAY



10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Saturday, April 21

Free museum general admission for children ages 12 and younger.

## EXHIBITS

### ROMANTIC NORTH

April 6 through April 30, 2013

Reflect on the power of nature in Alaska, and mankind's place within it, through paintings and photographs from the museum's collection.

## PLANETARIUM CLASSES

Schedule valid through April 30. Prices vary from \$4 to \$10 (\$2 member discount). Buy tickets at [anchorage-museum.org](http://anchorage-museum.org).

### LED ZEPPELIN COSMIC LIGHT SHOW

8 p.m. First Fridays  
4 p.m. Saturdays

### GUIDED STAR SHOW

6:10 p.m. First Fridays  
3 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays

### DARK SIDE OF THE MOON

7 p.m. First Fridays

### EARTH, MOON AND SUN

12:30 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays

### NEW HORIZONS

1:15 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays

### WONDERS OF THE UNIVERSE

2 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays

Find more information on these and other programs at [anchorage-museum.org](http://anchorage-museum.org).

Register at [anchorage-museum.org](http://anchorage-museum.org) or (907) 929-9280. Prices vary.

### CHILD TWIRLING TODDLERS

10:30 to 11 a.m. Tuesdays, April 3-24

### ADULT INTRODUCTION TO PAINTING MATERIALS

1 to 4 p.m. Saturdays, March 10-31

### BEGINNING FIGURE DRAWING

6:30 to 8:30 p.m.  
Thursdays, March 8-April 12

### FIBER ART

6:30 to 8:30 p.m.  
Wednesdays, April 25-May 30

## PARTNER PROGRAMS

COOK INLET HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
WPA and World War Art in Alaska  
7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 15 Free

Russian Art Collaborations in Kodiak  
7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 19 Free



CHRIS AREND

# SUMMER CAMPS **FILL FAST**

**KEEP YOUR KIDS ENGAGED** and active this summer at the museum's award-winning summer camps. Robotics. Mountaineering. Sculpture. Whatever your child's latest interest, there's a museum camp to match.

The museum's weeklong, full-day camps are accredited by the American Camp Association. Camps are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, June 4 through July 27. Camps are for ages 6 to 13.

Returning favorites include Robot Quest and Art Smarts. New camps include Fantastic Forts and Whales,

Walrus and Water. New camps designed around the museum's upcoming mountaineering exhibitions feature Alaska Rock Gym field trips, landscape painting, knot tying and avalanche science.

Registration starts April 2. Find a complete schedule and register online at [anchorage-museum.org/camps](http://anchorage-museum.org/camps).

Register early! The museum's popular summer camps fill up fast.

Sponsored by BP.

40TH ANNUAL

## ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT ART EXHIBITION

ON VIEW MARCH 2 THROUGH APRIL 1



May Vang, *Yellow Hibiscus*, tempura, 2011

The 40th annual Anchorage School District exhibition showcases artwork from some of the district's most creative student artists. This year's theme, *Art Makes Anchorage*, emphasizes art's role in the community. This exhibition gives local K-12 students the rare opportunity to display their art in a museum.

Works are chosen by ASD teachers and include drawings, paintings, metalwork, ceramics, sculpture and multimedia. For students, showing artwork in the museum is an honor that encourages them to pursue their artistic talent.

This exhibition opens with a free reception 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, March 2.

# TRUE NORTH GALA 2012

**ENJOY AN ALASKA CHIC** evening at the museum's annual gala from 5:30 to 11:30 p.m. Saturday, April 14 at the Dena'ina Civic and Convention Center. The fundraiser includes an elegant dinner, dancing to a DJ, and live and silent art auctions.

More than 80 Alaska artists are creating new work specifically for the museum gala auctions. Featured artists include Sonya Kelliher-Combs and Kesler Woodward. Other auction items include trips, hotel stays and gift certificates.

The evening's theme is *True North*, in honor of the museum's summer exhibition of the same name. Dress is black tie with an Alaska twist: It's the perfect excuse to leave the high heels in the closet and wear bunny boots with your evening gown.

The annual gala is the museum's largest fundraising event. It helps support education, science programs, exhibitions and more. Tickets are \$150 and available at (907) 929-9226 and anchoragemuseum.org.

## GALA SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Patron tickets are \$500 per couple and include preferred seating and special recognition in the program and at the event. Table sponsorships start at \$2,000 for 10 seats. Call (907) 929-9226 for more information.



CHRIS AREND

## WHAT'S HOT IN THE SHOP

For a limited time during the Preston Singletary solo exhibition, the Anchorage Museum shop offers the Raven and the Box of Knowledge blanket, designed by Singletary and created by Pendleton Woolen Mills.

Singletary based this intriguing blanket design on the Tlingit story of Raven giving the sun to the world. In this story, an old chief kept his precious treasures — the sun, moon and stars — in beautifully carved boxes. Raven tricks the old man into opening the boxes and steals the light, escaping with the sun in his mouth.

The blanket's ombre background shades meet in the center in vibrant colors of sun and light. The felt-bound blanket is 82 percent virgin wool and 18 percent cotton. It's 64 x 80 inches and available to members for \$290.

Pendleton donates a portion of the proceeds from this blanket to the American Indian College Fund. Purchases made at the Anchorage Museum's nonprofit shop support the museum's exhibitions and programs.



PENDLETON WOOLEN MILLS

# ANNUAL FUND

**THE ANCHORAGE MUSEUM** is extremely grateful to donors who supported exhibitions and educational programs in 2011. To add your support for 2012, please contact Annual Giving Manager Arby Williams at (907) 929-9226.

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# IN MEMORIAM: DAPHNE BROWN

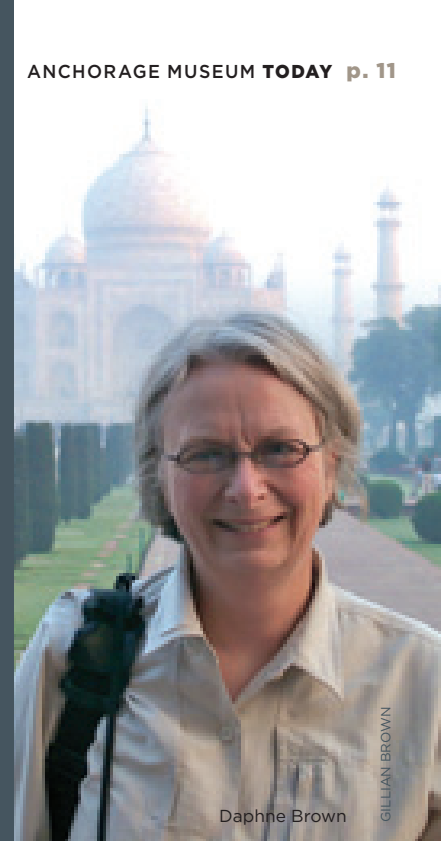
The Anchorage Museum is sad to acknowledge the passing of Daphne Brown, a longtime museum member, donor and friend, who died Dec 10, 2011.

Daphne was a principal architect with Kumin Associates, Inc., the architect of record for the museum's recent expansion. According to Daphne, the museum expansion was her dream project, and she devoted seven years to making that dream come to fruition.

Daphne was a pivotal force, a champion at achieving the delicate balance between fulfilling the design aesthetic of a world-

renowned architect and bowing to the demands of building in an unforgiving arctic environment. She was gusty, persistent and tireless in dealing with a host of personalities and rigorous financial and time constraints. She handled it all with grace and warmth coupled with a steely determination to hold the project together and get everyone to deliver.

She put her heart and soul into the expansion and inspired others to do so, as well. She may be gone from us, but we feel her elegant presence in every square foot of our new building.



Daphne Brown

GILLIAN BROWN

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# HOURS

## MUSEUM

### Winter

10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Tuesday through Saturday  
Noon to 6 p.m. Sunday  
Closed Monday

## SHOP

Open during museum hours

## MUSE

11 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Tuesday through Saturday  
4 p.m. to 9 p.m.  
Thursday through Saturday  
Noon to 4 p.m. Sunday  
Closed Monday

## ATRIUM SNACK BAR

9 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Tuesday through Friday  
10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday  
Noon to 5 p.m. Sunday  
Closed Monday

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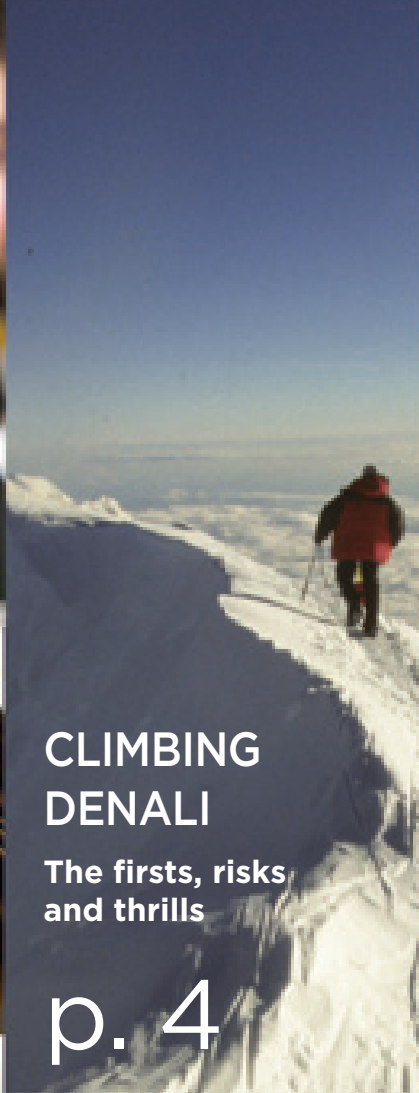
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## TRUE NORTH MUSEUM GALA

The epitome of  
Alaska chic

p. 9



## CLIMBING DENALI

The firsts, risks  
and thrills

p. 4



## SUNDAY FUN DAYS

Fun for the  
whole family

p. 6

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