



**2019**

**A YEAR IN REVIEW  
AND A LOOK AHEAD TO 2020**

**FRIENDS *of the* ALASKA  
STATE LIBRARY,  
ARCHIVES & MUSEUM**

# FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

It has been my pleasure to serve as president of the Friends this past year. As you know, our board is comprised of a small team of dedicated, intelligent, and creative community members. We work hard in service of our mission, and the State Library Archives and Museum, but above all we value the responsibility of being good stewards of your membership and donations.



*Ben Huff, FoSLAM president*

This year we took a step toward being a more efficient team. Working with Timi Tullis and the Foraker Group we adopted a committee format, which enabled us to take on more specific actions, focus our efforts, and contribute to projects and programs which suit our strengths. The committee structure has allowed us to start an endowment, which we've talked about doing for several years, to better protect our future. We're working toward more programs for Juneau's students to make the APK an important part of their lives. We also recognized that we needed to embrace a more sophisticated member management system, which we will roll out early next year. The future looks bright for the Friends and the State Library, Archives and Museum.

The thing that brings me the most pride is our support of artists and writers in Alaska. We have experienced dispiriting times in our state government over the last two years. It's an unfortunate truth that when budget cuts come down, it's often the arts that is deemed unnecessary. Our fight to protect our state's art, history, and culture, is a fight we've waged many times. It is during these times, however, where I'm even more encouraged by the artists working in Alaska to tell the story of this place.

The legendary American photographer, Robert Adams, once said, and I paraphrase here, "Art, at its best, has the ability to tell us who we were, who we are, and who we might hope to become." I think about his words often. Our support of artists is crucial. The art of today, is the history of tomorrow. Through the support of our artists, writers, and the institutions that support them, our children, and our children's children, may have an understanding of who we were.

Thank you for your valued support.  
Ben

## FROM THE COVER

ASM is producing a traveling exhibit that coincides with the 2020 centennial of the passage of the 19th Amendment. Alaska's Suffrage Star examines the history of women's suffrage in Alaska. In 1913, the first bill ever passed by Alaska's Territorial Legislature extended the vote to women citizens. The exhibit features women voting rights activists in early Territorial Alaska and shows how both national and local activism resulted in the 1913 Alaska suffrage bill. The exhibit examines limitations to suffrage, such as the fact that the bill largely enfranchised non-Native women, since few Alaska Native women were citizens until 1924. The exhibit is sponsored by FoSLAM and the League of Women Voters and will commence travel in the spring.

## FOSLAM HOPS WITH ACTIVITIES

Art and photography popped at the APK with Solo Artists, Alaska Positive, and All-Alaska Biennial exhibits. Lectures taught about fossils, salmon canneries (*Tin Can Country*), carving for teens, weaving, and whaling. FoSLAM hosted a literary festival, organ concert, Con Brio, Indigenous Peoples' Day, Juneau's Big Read, volunteer projects, and hired a summer intern. Part of FoSLAM's Women in the Arts film series, Haida Elder Delores Churchill wove diverse people together through basket making. Masks, wigs, and face-paintings added revelry to Mask-erade dance music as Senator Jesse Kiehl auctioned artist-designed/donated masks in a "truly fun, classy, and festive event." APK Marketplace, a sales venue for artists and authors, doubled Christmas shopping options. FoSLAM collaborated with KTOO for a Planned Giving Seminar and created a legacy fund for the future at the Juneau Community Foundation.



## CRUISIN' THE FOSSIL COASTLINE

Ketchikan artist Ray Troll and Smithsonian Museum paleontologist Dr. Kirk Johnson made fossils fun with a dinosaur smashing through a museum wall and Desmos, an extinct hippo-like, flipper-footed critter that ate by vacuuming its food. Dr. Johnson packed the APK for a fossil "cruisin'" lecture. FoSLAM guests sipped wine and created vibrant art during An Evening with Ray Troll and learned, in a behind-the-scenes tour, that Troll hid cheeseburgers in several exhibit drawings. Science, art, culture, history, literature, music, movies—we do it all, we have fun, and we want you to join us as a member at [foslam.org](http://foslam.org).

## OLIVIA THE OCTOPUS

Sheltered from the future's uncertain seas, Olivia the giant Pacific Octopus squiggled into the children's Discovery Room this spring. An amalgam of one-time-use plastics, children's seascapes, and repurposed stitched cloth "skin," Olivia was a labor of love for builder Aaron Elmore, local artists, and families.



## YOUTH ACTIVITY WORKSHOPS

In 2019, children 6-18 drew dinosaurs, painted seascapes, created glass art pendants, studied fossils, engraved aluminum cuffs, devised salmon-inspired formline designs, constructed masks, and learned about science, octopuses, the moon, and Apollo II.



## INDIGENOUS COLLECTIONS MANAGEMENT INTERNSHIP

Thanks to the Friends of the Alaska State Library, Archives, and Museum, the State Museum was able offer a new and significant opportunity through the use of the Ethel Montgomery Scholarship fund. Our first Intern in the new program was Andrea Cook.

In addition to learning basic job skills and the fundamentals of museum work, she also designed and completed a project to enhance ASM's collections records for a subset of objects. Cook choose 11 items with connections to Hydaburg, her hometown. Unbeknownst to her at the outset, her Great Great Grandfather, John Wallace, made three of these items. Over the course of Cook's summer internship, she dug deep within files and in the library stacks, as well as reached out to her family in Hydaburg to learn more about John Wallace. Ultimately, Cook saw profound parallels between his life and her own journey. Her experience culminated with a presentation at UAS's Power Privilege Symposium in November 2019. Video of Cook's riveting presentation, "Toward Indigenous Collections Management at the Alaska State Museum" and community comments and questions is available on the UAS YouTube station.



Programs like the Indigenous Collections Management Internship are vital in making ASM an equitable gathering place, and ensuring that indigenous people are leaders and decision makers in Alaska's museums.

## FOREVER FRIENDS ENDOWMENT FUND

In 2019, the Forever Friends of the Alaska State Library, Archives and Museum Endowment Fund was established to provide a long-term funding source for special events, guest speakers and artists, and purchase of statewide historical objects and fine art work that are beyond what the annual State of Alaska budget can provide.

The Friends of the Alaska State Library, Archives and Museum made an initial \$40,000 investment to the endowment fund which is managed by the Juneau Community Foundation. With additional donations the goal is to grow the endowment fund to \$1 million that would generate an annual revenue return of \$50,000 in perpetuity.

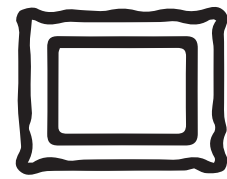
To donate online go to our secure donation site at [foslam.org](http://foslam.org) or the Juneau Community Foundation site at [juneaucf.org](http://juneaucf.org).

# Have you renewed your membership for 2020?

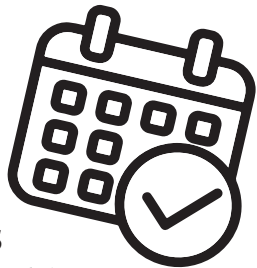
Register online at  
[foslam.org/membership](http://foslam.org/membership)

## **Thank you for your support!**

# In 2019, FoSLAM...



HOSTED  
**10**  
FIRST FRIDAYS



with free admission and snacks!



**\$30000**  
FOR COLLECTION PURCHASES

SUPPORTED

**688**

KIDS DOING ART  
with Youth Activity Grants



SUPPORTED

**5**

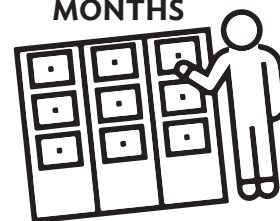
AUTHORS

at the Alaska Literary Festival

SUPPORTED AN  
INTERN FOR

**4**

MONTHS



HOSTED

**15**

ARTISTS AND WRITERS  
at the APK Marketplace

SAVED  
**\$40,000**

TOWARD OUR FUTURE  
with a new endowment fund



MANAGED

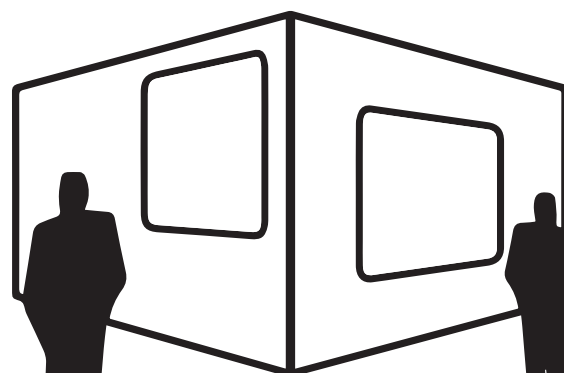
**4 + 7 =**

GRANTS

FUNDS

**\$75,000**

FOR LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES AND MUSEUM



DONATED

**\$15,000**

FOR EXHIBITIONS

ASSISTED IN PROVIDING LAM WITH OVER

**\$100,000**

IN SUPPORT





One of the few original “Ravens Tail” robes in existence. Courtesy of the British Museum

## MAJOR EXHIBIT ON THE HISTORY OF NORTHERN NORTHWEST COAST WEAVING IN PREPARATION

*By Steve Henrikson*

An exhibit thirty years in the making will open at the Alaska State Museum this May. It includes both ancient and modern ceremonial robes made by Alaska Natives and First Nations, and traces the development of this art known today around the world as Ravens Tail and Chilkat weaving.

Loan negotiations are underway with the British Museum for one of the few original Ravens Tail robes in existence, and with the Peabody-Essex Museum in Salem, Massachusetts for the earliest dated Chilkat robe. These early pieces date to the late 1700s, and have not visited their home territory for nearly two centuries. Few of today’s Ravens Tail weavers have ever had the chance to see any of the few remaining original robes.

In the early 1990s, the museum helped revitalize Ravenstail weaving—the bold, eye-dazzling geometric robes that predate the better-known tradition of Chilkat Weaving.

Fundraising to cover the costs for mounting the exhibit is underway. Substantial gifts have already been received from both institutions (Ravenstail Weavers Guild, CIRI Foundation, Sealaska Heritage Institute, and the King Family Trust), and individuals (Kay Parker, Marcia Stier, Janet Hall Schempf). Friends of the Alaska State Library, Archives and Museum is also assisting, and soliciting additional funding to help cover the cost of the loans. The CIRI Foundation provided generous funding to ensure the participation of Native artists in the planning process.

Financial support is still needed from Friends who want to support this worthy effort.

The exhibit will be on display at the Alaska State Museum next summer, with an opening symposium, and weaving demonstrations and other activities to be held throughout the summer.



*The earliest dated Chilkat Robe, collected before 1833, is one of the finest known. Courtesy of the Peabody-Essex Museum*

# 2020 CALENDAR

## JANUARY

FRIDAY  
**3**  
1-4

### **Chill with the Family Fair:**

Travel around Alaska with the Library, Archives, and Museum!

4:30-7

### **First Friday at the APK**

## FEBRUARY

FRIDAY  
**7**  
4:30-7

### **First Friday at the APK Lowlands**

Sara Tabbert  
On exhibit through April 6. Lecture with Sara begins at 7.

SAT  
**8**  
4:30-7

### **Youth Activity**

with Sara Tabbert

DATE  
TBD

### **Alaska's Suffrage Star**

ASM's traveling exhibit will be exhibited on the mezzanine.

DATE  
TBD

### **Women of Vision; Honoring the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, 1920-2020**

In recognition of the 100-year anniversary of women's suffrage in the United States, the Alaska State Museum is displaying highlights from the collection by women artists. These works span over a century and include recent acquisitions made possible by the Rasmuson Foundation.

## MARCH

FRIDAY  
**6**  
4:30-7

### **First Friday at the APK Rarefied Light**

Organized by the Alaska Photographic Center

## APRIL

FRIDAY  
**3**  
4:30-7

### **First Friday at the APK**

## MAY

FRIDAY  
**1**  
4:30-7

### **First Friday at the APK Summer Show**

Major Exhibit on the History of northern Northwest Coast Weaving (see article at left)

## JUNE

FRIDAY  
**5**  
4:30-7

### **First Friday at the APK**

## JULY

FRIDAY  
**3**  
4:30-7

### **First Friday at the APK**

## AUGUST

FRIDAY  
**7**  
4:30-7

### **First Friday at the APK**

**4-7**

### **Annual Conference**

The Alaska Library Association and the Pacific Northwest Library Association are holding a joint conference

## SEPTEMBER

FRIDAY  
**4**  
4:30-7

### **First Friday at the APK**

## OCTOBER

### **Archives Month**

Check out the blog for Alaska history updates: [akstatearchives.wordpress.com](http://akstatearchives.wordpress.com)

## NOVEMBER

FRIDAY  
**6**  
4:30-7

### **First Friday at the APK Solo Artist: Ben Huff**

FRI-SAT  
**27-28**

### **APK Marketplace**

Alaskan artists and authors sell their work during Public Market

## DECEMBER

FRIDAY  
**6**  
4:30-7

### **First Friday at the APK Solo Artist: Mitch Watley**

### **2020 Youth Activities, dates TBD**

The youth activity program provides young people with opportunities to work with professional artists to learn artistic techniques and engage with art, history, and collections.

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P.O. Box 22421 | Juneau, AK 99802 | [www.foslam.org](http://www.foslam.org)

***Thank you for  
being a Friend.***

