



## MEMORANDUM

**To:** State Board of Education & Early Development

**Date:** September 6, 2024

**Thru:** Deena M. Bishop, Ed. D., Commissioner

**Telephone:** (907) 465-8718

**From:** Amy Phillips-Chan, Ph.D., Director  
Division of Libraries, Archives & Museums

**Subject:** Agenda 19B Division of  
Libraries, Archives & Museums  
Standing Report

ALASKA STATE  
LIBRARIES  
ARCHIVES  
& MUSEUMS

## DIVISION OF LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES & MUSEUMS

The Division of Libraries, Archives & Museums (LAM) serves to promote and coordinate library services in Alaska, preserves government records, and collects, cares for, and exhibits the diverse cultural and natural heritage of our state. The Division has five main budget components: Library Operations, Archives, Museum Operations, Online with Libraries, and Andrew P. Kashevaroff Facilities Maintenance. The Division supports approximately 50 full-time team members who work at the Andrew P. Kashevaroff Building in Juneau and the Sheldon Jackson Museum in Sitka.

## TEAM TRANSITIONS

**Sara Lee Chubb** retired on June 28 from the position of Administrative Assistant 2 after 17 years with LAM.

**Christina Judson** joined the LAM team as an Administrative Assistant 2 on July 22.

**Kimberly Naylor** transitioned within LAM from the position of Administrative Assistant 1 to the Project Assistant with the new Children's Exploration Center on July 29.

**Kaye Roldan** joined the LAM team on August 12 as the Program Coordinator for the new Children's Exploration Center.

**Gina Morris** joined the LAM team on August 19 as a Project Assistant for the National Digital Newspaper Program supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

## SPECIAL EXHIBITS



***Remembering the 1964 Great Alaskan Earthquake*** opened at the Andrew P. Kashevaroff Building on July 3. Team members from the Alaska State Archives curated the exhibit, which features photographs, maps, charts, and educational information on natural disasters. Also presented is the rescanned historical film *...Though the Earth be Moved*. The exhibit honors the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this seminal event in Alaska history.



***Alaska Maps:*** The Alaska State Library draws on its extensive collection of maps for a changing display that offers summer visitors a virtual journey across the state. Shown here is Continuing Resources Librarian Daniel Cornwall with a map of the Tongass National Forest.

## EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND OUTREACH



**May 5:** Yup'ik artist Amber Webb led a Fish Skin Medicine Pouch Workshop at the Alaska State Museum. The workshop was held in conjunction with the National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons and for the community affected by this crisis.



**May 18:** The Alaska State Library hosted a public presentation by artist Ray Troll titled “My Fish Filled Life and How I Became an Accidental Science Communicator” at the Andrew P. Kashevaroff Building. The large audience filed out into the atrium after the presentation to meet the author and have copies of the artist’s newest publication signed.



**June 6:** Alaska State Museum Conservator Ellen Carrlee presented research results on historic and modern dye techniques from the Chilkat Dye Working Group, a collaboration between museum staff in Washington, Oregon and Juneau, chemists from Portland State University, and Alaska Native weavers, to a packed audience during the week of Celebration.



**June 7:** Alaska Maritime Heritage grant recipient Stormy Hamar and others with the Haida Canoe Revitalization Group gave a presentation on their project documenting an ancient canoe on Prince of Wales Island in the APK Lecture Hall.



**June 11-July 2:** Sheldon Jackson Museum artist-in-residence Lisa Kamahamak Lynch (Iñupiaq) offered two beading classes and three public artist talks during her time in Sitka. In addition to beading and painting and chatting with many museum guests, Lisa visited with residents of the Sitka Pioneer Home, and filmed some beading tutorials.



**June 21:** LAM held its 2024 Family Fun Fair inside the Andrew P. Kashevaroff Building with a great turnout of 107 youth and 51 adults. Team members from across LAM offered hands-on activities, from pipe cleaner people, button making, and mini books to jewelry with porcupine quills and wrapped rock sculptures. Special appreciation to team members from the Commissioner’s office and ACPE for assisting with the Family Fun Fair!



**July 23-August 9:** Sheldon Jackson Museum welcomed grass basket and dance fan weaver and doll maker Neva Mathias (Cup’ik) as the second artist-in-residence of 2024. While in residence, Neva offered a six-session grass dance fan making class and a special traditional Cup’ik dance performance with her daughter and granddaughter.



**August 1-3:** Eleven team members from the Alaska State Library facilitated conversations, assisted with tech, and gave presentations during the 2024 AkLA + PNLA Conference: *Stronger Together* held in Juneau.



**August 20-September 6:** As an artist-in-residence at the Sheldon Jackson Museum, James Gooch Éesh Hart (Lingit) from Haines has been studying bentwood box and feast dishes in the collection, teaching a formline drawing class, working with 4-H students, and will offer two public artist talks.

| SEARCH   | ADVANCED SEARCH | BROWSE COLLECTIONS | BROWSE DEPARTMENTS | CONTACT | GENERAL LIBRARY |
|--|-----------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------|-----------------|
| <p>SEARCH RESULTS</p> <p>1 - 10 of 10 items</p> <p>1. <b>Alaska Native Artists-in-Residence Program</b> (1970-1975)</p> <p>2. <b>Alaska Native Artists-in-Residence Program</b> (1970-1975)</p> <p>3. <b>Alaska Native Artists-in-Residence Program</b> (1970-1975)</p> <p>4. <b>Alaska Native Artists-in-Residence Program</b> (1970-1975)</p> <p>5. <b>Alaska Native Artists-in-Residence Program</b> (1970-1975)</p> <p>6. <b>Alaska Native Artists-in-Residence Program</b> (1970-1975)</p> <p>7. <b>Alaska Native Artists-in-Residence Program</b> (1970-1975)</p> <p>8. <b>Alaska Native Artists-in-Residence Program</b> (1970-1975)</p> <p>9. <b>Alaska Native Artists-in-Residence Program</b> (1970-1975)</p> <p>10. <b>Alaska Native Artists-in-Residence Program</b> (1970-1975)</p> |                 |                    |                    |         |                 |

**September:** The Alaska State Archives launched their new online catalogue system called ArchivEra. The catalog system offers the public access to in-depth documentation about the archives collections as well as finding aids and carts that allow users to request records for in-person research visits.

## COLLABORATIONS AND GRANTS



**Celebration 2024:** LAM welcomed three dance groups to the APK for use of space to practice during Celebration in Juneau from June 5-8. Shown here is the Sheet'ka Kwaan Dancers.



**Superintendent Fly-In:** LAM was pleased to help host the annual DEED Day for the 2024 Superintendent Fly-In on July 29. In addition to presentations, the day featured a special performance by the Yées K̄u.oo Dancers, tour of museum collections, and a great cake with reading performance results shown here.



**2024 AkLA + PNLA Conference:** LAM hosted the opening reception of the 2024 Alaska Library Association (AkLA) and Pacific Northwest Library Association (PNLA) Conference on August 1, which featured a welcome, refreshments, book signing with artist and illustrator Michaela Goade, and a performance by the Wooch.Een Dancers.



**National Endowment for the Arts:** Chair of the NEA, Dr. Maria Rosario Jackson, and her team visited the Andrew P. Kashevaroff Building on August 23. Artists Lily Hope and Lou Logan joined us to discuss their work in the museum galleries. The NEA is a long-time grant supporter of the Alaska Native Artist-in-Residence program at the Sheldon Jackson Museum in Sitka.

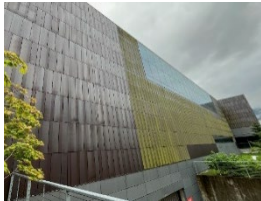
## FACILITY DEVELOPMENT



**Parking Lot:** The Sheldon Jackson Museum received a parking lot refresh with new paint. **Steps Repair:** Use of salt to remove ice has degraded the concrete of the steps in the plaza of the APK Building. Degraded sections were patched with new concrete and longer bolts were used on the metal trim.



**Box Truck:** LAM drew on vehicle credits with DOT and acquired a used 2016 Isuzu NPR box truck with lift gate for use at the Andrew P. Kashevaroff Building in Juneau. Arrival of the box truck frees up the existing pickup truck to be shipped to Sitka where it can be used by Sheldon Jackson Museum team members to access offsite storage and LAM folks when on work travel. A vehicle in Sitka will save the division significant funding as it reduces the need for rental vehicles.



**Moss Removal:** Removal of moss and algae from the north and east walls of the Andrew P. Kashevaroff Building began in August.

## DIVISION TEAM BUILDING



**May:** Head of Library Development Valarie Kingsland and Grants and Continuing Education Librarian Kate Enge offered a presentation about annual grant programs offered by the Alaska State Library for the May 2024 LAM All-Staff Meeting.



**May:** Team members from the Alaska State Museum and Sheldon Jackson Museum participated in strategic planning sessions as part of a ten-year museum reaccreditation process with the American Alliance of Museums.



**May 21:** Team members from the Alaska State Archives and Alaska State Library participated in a training on VILDA, an online database of historical photographs, albums, oral histories, moving images, maps, documents, physical objects, and other materials from archives, museums and libraries throughout our state.



**June:** Operations Manager Clint Farr gave a presentation about advertising strategies and event rental processes at the Andrew P. Kashevaroff Building for the June 2024 LAM All-Staff Meeting.



**June 28:** The LAM team gathered in the classroom for a retirement party for Sara Lee Chubb after 17 years of service with the division.



**July:** Special Collections Librarian Jon Erik Henley offered insight into the scope and organization of Alaska State Library Historical Collections stored in the second-floor vault for the July 2024 LAM All-Staff Meeting.



**August:** Curator of Statewide Services Mary Irvine offered a historical and current overview of the Museum Grant-in-Aid Program with examples of funded projects for the August 2024 LAM All-Staff Meeting.

## CHILDREN'S EXPLORATION CENTER



**Space Preparation:** Preparation of the space for the Children's Exploration Center began in May with removal of old gift store furnishings.



**Team Arrival:** The new team for the Children's Exploration Center (Kaye Roldan and Kimberly Naylor) started in July-August and are busy planning educational programs and activities to coincide with launch of the center later this fall.