



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Education & Early Development

DIVISION OF LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES & MUSEUMS
Sheldon Jackson Museum

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Dear Fine Arts Instructors:

Welcome to this season's Sitka Fine Arts Camp from the Sheldon Jackson Museum. These next few weeks you and your students will be spending much of your time on the historic Sheldon Jackson College campus and we would like to make you aware of a unique and inspirational resource available to you and your students as part of their educational experience.

The Sheldon Jackson Museum, the oldest museum in Alaska, was Dr. Jackson's vision of bringing together one of the finest collections of Alaska Native art and artifacts in the world; a place for future generations to see and experience the diverse Native cultures and arts of Alaska. All Native Alaskan cultures are represented here; Tlingit, Haida, Tsimshian, Aleut/Alutiiq, Inupiaq/Yupik and Athabascan; from hunting and fishing implements to canoes, kayaks, traditional clothing, tools and jewelry, there are many fine examples from each culture.

Prior year's instructors from Textiles, Ceramics, Masks, Carving, and Jewelry Programs brought their classes to visit and spent time exploring the displays and seeking inspiration for their class projects. We even had students from the Mask Carving class come in to demonstrate their carving skills for visitors.

Our Hands-On Loan Program has over 500 artifacts that are available to educators in Alaska: Stone mauls, mukluks, blankets, bentwood boxes and much, MUCH more that students can see and touch for a real up-close experience. To view and borrow items, the website is:
<https://education.alaska.gov/apps/hands-on>

We also have a summer Artist in Residence program which brings Native artists from all over the State of Alaska to demonstrate their crafts for our visitors. Some of them also teach at the Fine Arts Camp.

We invite you to drop by the Sheldon Jackson Museum and see the resource you have at your disposal to broaden your student's educational experience. Admission is free to school/youth groups although we do request you call ahead to schedule a group visit, as summer can be a busy time at the museum.

We hope you will come visit us this summer!

Sincerely,

Museum Security and Visitor Services Staff