



# NEWS

## Past & Present

Collecting, Preserving and Interpreting Juneau-Douglas History and Culture

Volume 23, Issue 2 Fall-Winter 2019-2020

## Putting the Juneau-Douglas City Museum on the Map



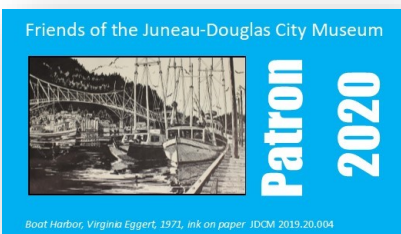
*“Volunteering with the Museum is a way to stay involved with Juneau history. This is my home, this is my town, and volunteering is a way to remain a working part of the community, plus it is a lot of fun!”*

~Marie Darlin

In the fall of 2018, our longtime Juneau-Douglas City Museum volunteer and Friends of the JDCM board member, Mike Blackwell, introduced the idea of sponsoring an annual \$5000 prize recognizing an outstanding work of art or literature. He wanted to name it the “Marie Darlin Prize” in honor of its namesake who was also a dedicated volunteer, Juneau historian, and community advocate until her death in June of 2018. Mike not only wanted to highlight the excellence of artistic and written work about this region, he wanted to “put the Juneau-Douglas City Museum on the map” as an institution that values artists and writers. And the prize will specifically honor those whose work, through a vision and shared sense of community, expresses a commitment to women’s rights, social history, and community advocacy.

Mike spearheaded the fundraising for this prize through the Juneau Community Foundation and together the City Museum, the Friends of the JDCM, and a host of donors have established an endowment at the Foundation that will yield an annual income to support his vision. When Mike unexpectedly died in January 2019, a committee was formed to finalize the parameters of the prize and put in place a process for submission and selection. Many thanks goes out to Amy Skilbred, Robin Walz, and Mary Lou Madden for their assistance with this undertaking.

In November, a little over one year after Mike first presented this idea, the City Museum is ready to open the Marie Darlin Prize to submissions. We hope you will join us this year at the Friends of the Juneau-Douglas City Museum’s annual meeting on Thursday, November 7<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm here at the City Museum as we launch this new collaborative endeavor. To learn more about the Marie Darlin Prize or to donate to the endowment, please visit our website. Thank you to all of the following donors for making this extraordinary opportunity possible:



- |                        |                         |   |                              |
|------------------------|-------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| Alan Akiyama           | Mary Elder              | Jack Kreinheder                               | Barbara Potter               |
| Malin Babcock          | Deb Etheridge           | Gladi Kulp                                    | John & Margaret Pugh         |
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| Sandra Delong          | Sarah Isto              | Mary Ann Parke                                | Jim & Cecelia Wilcox         |
| Laraine Derr           | Wayne & Rita Jensen     |   |                              |
| Paul & Sioux Douglas   | Paulette Johnson        | A bequest from the Marie Darlin Estate        |                              |
| Roger & Jean Eichman   | Sharon Kelly            | The Friends of the Juneau-Douglas City Museum |                              |

6 MEMBERSHIPS AVAILABLE  
Renew or Purchase Today  
[fojdcm.org/support/](http://fojdcm.org/support/)  
(907) 586-3572

# Director's Letter



Looking back over the 43 year historical evolution of the Juneau-Douglas City Museum, I am struck by just how plucky this institution has been since its founding by community initiative in 1976.

Before moving into our home at the Veteran's Memorial Building 30 years ago, the City Museum

relocated four times in the first 13 years, survived periods with no facility, and persevered despite various cuts to hours, staff, and funding over the years. At one point in the late 80's, the Assembly mandated a reduction to admission fees from \$1.50 to \$1.00 and then to "Donations Requested" and still the City Museum thrived with increased visitation and revenues during that same period. It's a true testament to the dedication of this community to want to preserve our cultural heritage and community memory.

This rise in visitation and revenue has continued as the number of tourists has increased. This May through September season at the museum has seen over 16,500 visitors, a 6% increase in visitation over last summer, and admission and merchandise revenue grew by 24% and 41% respectively over last summer. While this may not be too surprising given the upward trend of cruise ship visitors, it still speaks to the plucky nature of the museum, because none of this would be possible without the assistance of our 30 or so volunteers giving around 1400 hours of service this summer which is on average about 64 hours a week. Our volunteers greet visitors, collect admission fees, share knowledge and information about our community, and provide historical walking tours of downtown and the Capitol.

Some of these hard working volunteers have been with us for more than 20 years and sadly, two of our most dedicated and longest serving volunteers passed away of late but their legacy remains. Mike Blackwell and Marie Darlin continue to inspire us through their many contributions but their absence leaves a gap and I find myself asking who will emerge to fill that gap and in what way? And there is no guarantee that the City Museum won't face similar challenges to those of the past. But our mission reminds me daily that our plucky past gives us strength and perspective and drives our future purpose. I hope you'll take advantage of our sponsored free admission throughout winter to take in the new exhibits and learn something interesting during a program. And while you are here, I look forward to hearing what you most value about the City Museum.

## Juneau-Douglas City Museum Staff

### Museum Director

Beth Weigel  
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### Curator of Collections & Exhibits

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### Administrative Assistant

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## Mission and Vision

The Juneau-Douglas City Museum fosters among its diverse audiences an awareness of Juneau's cultural heritage, values and community memory so we may draw strength and perspective from the past, inspire learning, and find purpose for the future.

As a public trust, we collect, preserve, interpret, and exhibit those materials that document the cultures and history of the Juneau and Douglas area.



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**FAX:** 907-586-4512

### Email

museum.info@juneau.org

### Website

juneau.org/library/museum

### Facebook

facebook.com/  
JuneauDouglasCityMuseum/



# Fall-Winter Exhibits Spotlight

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*Herring Triptych*, by Rachael Juzeler

November 2019

## ***ReConstructed ReFuse V***, by Rachael Juzeler

This exhibit features a variety of recent work by Rachael Juzeler including found object mosaics, sculptural pieces, wall works, and a large-scale chandelier. *ReConstructed ReFuse V* showcases Rachael's ability to realize artistic potential in what normally would be considered waste. Broken window glass, rusted objects, abandoned shrimp pots, discarded construction materials, textiles, and beach detritus are all incorporated her pieces and Rachael highlights the beauty found in these items by reimagining their purpose, assembling them into visually stunning works of art.

**Opening Reception:** November 1st | 4:30 to 7:00pm



*Raven's Eclipse*, by Crystal Worl

December 2019

## ***One Raven: Painting One Story at a Time***, by Crystal Worl

December will showcase a collection of Crystal Worl's gouache paintings that incorporate Tlingit formline design, bright colors, watercolor textures, and paint splatters that "pop". The show will also include illustrations Crystal created for a children's book about Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian lullabies. There will be stories in the art about Raven's creations and Crystal's perspective of nature and indigenous culture in Alaska. Crystal Worl is Tlingit, Athabascan, and Yupik from Juneau.

**Opening Reception:** December 6th | 4:30 to 7:00pm



*French Promise*, by Inari Kylänen

January 2020

## **Inari Kylänen**

January welcomes Finish born artist Inari Kylänen who immigrated to Alaska in 2001. Her show will include paintings that explore displacement, roots, and familiarity as she examines her own immigration experience in relation to the current political landscape.

**Opening Reception:** January 3rd | 4:30 to 7:00pm



# Fall-Winter Exhibits Spotlight



February 2020

*Summers on Ice*, by Ben Huff



*Summers on Ice* (working title) is a collection of pictures from Ben's time spent on the Juneau icefield and surrounding glaciers, both on his own expeditions, and as a faculty member with the Juneau Icefield Research Program. This exhibit is a collection of large format black and white portraits, mixed with color aerial photographs of the ice field, camps used by JIRP, and images from the terminus of the Mendenhall and Herbert Glaciers.

**Opening Reception:** February 7th | 4:30 to 7:00pm

## 16th Annual 12X12 Community Art Exhibit



March 6th through April 18th, 2020

*Adventure*

Each year the City Museum hosts a unique community art exhibit in which artists of all ages are encouraged to create works within the parameters of a square or a cube, measuring 12" x 12" (by 12") including the framing. Each piece of art must be accompanied by a completed entry form and a \$12.12 submission fee. Our exhibit theme changes every year, and this year we encourage you to create on the theme, *Adventure*. Submission forms are due in February and may be downloaded from our website or picked up at the Museum

**Opening Reception:** March 6th | 4:30 to 7:00pm

# Collections

## A Message from the Curator

We are wrapping up another busy summer season here at the Juneau-Douglas City Museum. From a curatorial standpoint, that means a large amount of research requests, genealogy questions, and donations brought by visitors. I want to thank our hardworking volunteers who help answer as many questions as possible and help our visitors find all available resources. As we move into the winter season, I will be focusing on working with our solo artists as well as some ongoing collections projects. We have some exciting shows coming to the Murray Gallery and I will hopefully be offering some collections volunteer opportunities in the near future. I hope to see everyone at our winter First Fridays.



## Recent Acquisitions

### The Blackwell Legacy

Matthew and Andrew Blackwell have been kind enough to donate several paintings, a print by Jay Crondahl, and one print by Dale DeArmond in memory of their late father, Mike Blackwell. Mike was a dedicated supporter of the Juneau-Douglas City Museum and his loss has been keenly felt.



JDCM 2019.25.004

These pieces of art will ensure that Mike's legacy endures in our museum. The pieces themselves are great examples of work by Juneau artists and are invaluable additions to our collection. The artwork by both Crondahl and DeArmond depict unique Juneau scenes. We are grateful to have them in our collections.

### A Unique Keepsake

Winter & Pond are possibly the best known historical photographers in Juneau. In addition to photographing subjects all over Alaska, they ran a curios



JDCM 2019.15.001

shop and photography studio in downtown Juneau. One of the items they sold were photo albums of their original photos. This album from 1909 depicts notable buildings and cityscapes of the early 1900s and although I have seen a number of Winter & Pond photos, I have never seen an album like this.

Collected by a serviceman stationed in Juneau in the 1940s, it made its way to California where he eventually settled. His son, Martin Posner, found it among his effects after the passing of his father and Mr. Posner felt the album should return home to Juneau. I am happy to add it to our permanent collection.

# Spring-Summer Programs Highlight

## Walking Tours, Music and Play

This summer over 1,700 people attended a tour offered by the City Museum. Because of our outstanding cadre of volunteer tour guides, the Museum was able to offer daily tours of the Capitol, weekly tours of Historic Downtown Juneau, and several special walking tours including: *Treadwell Mine* led by Jim Geraghty, *True Crimes: Capital Killers* led by Betsy Longenbaugh and Ed Schoenfeld, and the *Downtown Geology* walk led by Cathy Connor and Richard Carstensen. In addition, the Museum hosted local musicians, monthly First Friday events, and provided a history touch table and “crankie” workshop for local families on Day of Play. A total of eleven volunteers joined us this season: five Capitol tour guides and six greeters at the front desk.



Day of Play



Downtown Geology Walking Tour



Treadwell Tour

# Fall-Winter Calendar of Events

<b>October 29</b>	<b>City Salon</b>   In the Heart of Our Sea: Whales in SE AK Past & Present   6:30pm (Valley Library)
<b>November</b>	<b>Writing Letters of Encouragement in Memory of Walter Soboleff</b>   All month
<b>November 1</b>	<b>First Friday</b>   ReConstructed ReFuse V, Opening Reception   4:30 -7pm
<b>November 23</b>	<b>Coffee &amp; Collections</b>   Artist Talk with Rachael Juzeler   10:30 - noon
<b>November TBD</b>	<b>Special Event</b>   Death by Chocolate, with Betsy Longenbaugh & Ed Schoenfeld
<b>December 6</b>	<b>First Friday</b>   One Raven: Painting One Story at a Time, Opening Reception   4:30 -7pm
<b>December 7</b>	<b>Coffee &amp; Collections</b>   Artist Talk with Crystal Worl   10:30 - noon
<b>January 3</b>	<b>First Friday</b>   Inari Talvikki Kylänen, Opening Reception   4:30 -7pm
<b>January TBD</b>	<b>Coffee &amp; Collections</b>   Artist Talk with Inari Talvikki Kylänen   10:30 - noon
<b>February 7</b>	<b>First Friday</b>   Summers on Ice, Opening Reception   4:30 -7pm
<b>February TBD</b>	<b>Coffee &amp; Collections</b>   Artist Talk with Ben Huff
<b>February TBD</b>	<b>City Salon</b>   Art and Climate Change Panel Discussion
<b>March 6</b>	<b>First Friday</b>   Adventure 16th Annual 12x12 Opening Reception   4:30 -7pm
<b>April 3</b>	<b>First Friday</b>   Stump the Historian: An Evening in Memory of Marie Darlin   4:30 -7 pm
<b>April TBD</b>	<b>Burn Thompson Poetry Reading</b>



# Museum Outreach

## Teaching Local History with Hands-On Education Kits

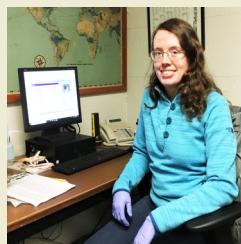
In 2018 the City Museum applied for and was awarded a grant through the Alaska State Museum's Grant-In-Aid to contract with local educators to create place-based and hands-on history kits as resources for K-12 educators. This resulted in the following six kits which will be available to check out through the public libraries this fall:

- Observing and Learning from Artifacts (Grades K-4)
- Totem Pole: Oral Narrative in Art Form (Grades 1-3)
- Discovering Treadwell (Grades 2-3)
- L'eiwú ka Héen: Wood & Waterways: A Look at Tlingit Canoes (Grades 3-5)
- Kaxdegoowu Héen Sháali: Montana Creek Fish Trap (Grades 3-5)
- Local Disasters (Grades 6-12)

In addition to kit development, this project included a three hour training for the contracted educators on how to effectively partnership with museums; a three hour workshop in which the kit designers presented their kits to the group and received feedback; and a presentation by City Museum staff and kit developers to Juneau teachers during a district-wide inservice in August.

After the August inservice, we received several calls from teachers eager to check out the kits. We are thrilled to provide quality resources for educators to support teaching and learning about the history of Juneau and Douglas.

## Holly Fisher, UAS College Intern



Holly Fisher fulfilled an internship at the Museum this spring as part of her Archives and Museums Methodology course at UAS. Working closely with Curator, Niko Sanguinetti, Holly received hands-

on experience in museum curation and collections care. Holly learned how to handle and catalogue artifacts and she helped install the summer exhibit. Holly graduated from UAS in June 2019 and stayed on at the City Museum as a temporary employee through September, 2019.

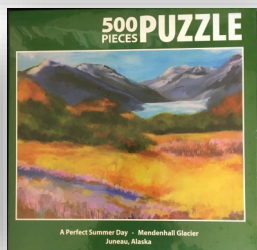
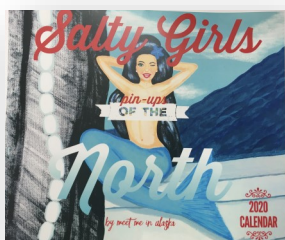
## Ajah Bishop, CHOICE High School Intern

This September we welcomed Ajah Bishop to the Museum. Ajah is a high school student in the CHOICE program and is fulfilling her junior year internship at the City Museum.



Ajah will divide her time equally between each staff member, learning what it takes to operate a small museum. So far, Ajah has worked with Mindy Meyers, learning how to track Museum Store inventory. This winter, Ajah will also learn about museum administration, programming and curation as she assists each staff member with museum work.

# Museum Store



## New Items in the Museum Store

In our continuing effort to support local artists and companies, the Museum Store is adding several items to our inventory. New items include a memory card game, jigsaw puzzles and jigsaw postcards by Juneau artist, M.K. MacNaughton; a 2020 Salty Girls wall calendar by Kelsey Kizer owner of Meet me in Alaska; and 4 different quilter's hand-painted panels by Fairweather Prints. In addition, we will soon be carrying items from Trickster, a local company owned by Juneau artists, Crystal Worl and Rico Worl. Trickster's merchandise is designed by both Crystal and Rico and most items are made in Alaska or the USA.

Juneau-Douglas City Museum  
155 South Seward St.  
Juneau, AK 99801



**Winter Admission** October-April  
FREE admission thanks to our sponsors:

Don and Alma Harris	October 2019
In Memory of Mike Blackwell	November 2019
Pioneer Igloo #6	December 2019
Michelle Storer	January 2020
Michelle Storer	February 2020
Michelle Storer	March 2020
In Memory of Marie Darlin	April 2020

**Winter Hours** October-April

**Gallery Hours**

Tuesday-Saturday 10:00am-4:00pm

**Office Hours**

Monday-Friday 9:00am-5:00pm

**Closed Sundays**

**F O J D C M**  
FRIENDS OF THE JUNEAU-DOUGLAS CITY MUSEUM

**2019 ANNUAL MEETING**

November 7th, 5:30 pm

at the Juneau-Douglas City Museum

