

# KODIAK HISTORY MUSEUM



## ANNUAL MEETING

Wednesday, October 22, 2025  
5:30 PM - 7:30 PM  
at the Kodiak History Museum.

- Annual Report from the Executive Director
- Vote for KHS Board Members
- Enjoy Food & Refreshments

## RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY

Membership comes with a variety of benefits including free admission to the Kodiak History Museum. You are able to sign-up or renew both in-person and online.



# KODIAK HISTORY MUSEUM

2025 Annual Report



# LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



KRISTIN O'LEAR,  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Friends,

It is remarkable how quickly time passes. I have already celebrated my first year with the Kodiak History Museum. This past year brought many changes and challenges that rippled throughout the nonprofit world, underscoring how vital community support is to ensuring organizations like KHM can continue preserving and sharing our history. We are so grateful to be part of such a supportive community here in Kodiak. In FY25, we saw firsthand the impact of that support.

We welcomed nearly 5,000 visitors, hosted 254 students on school field trips, and saw over 450 attendees at our First Friday Art Walks—a significant increase from the previous year. We also expanded program offerings, including hands-on workshops, and presented four temporary exhibits through the generosity of grants and community partnerships.

Through grant funding, we’ve also been able to expand accessibility to our collections. With support from the Alaska State Museum’s Grant-in-Aid, we made more than 1,030 photograph collection descriptions searchable online for the first time. Many of these descriptions were lovingly compiled by former staff member Alice Ryser, and it has been deeply rewarding to build on her work and share it with a broader audience.

In addition, funding from the Museums Alaska Collections Management Fund allowed us to establish an off-site oversized collections storage unit, creating much-needed space for research and collections care in our main facility. While this has been a significant step forward, it is only a partial solution—our space challenges remain, and the need for additional storage and work areas continues to grow.

New partnerships have also helped us grow. Most recently, our work with the Kodiak Area Native Association and utilizing their space in the Marketplace has allowed us to diversify our exhibit offerings and increase our visibility within the Kodiak community.

On behalf of myself, Staff, and Board I want to extend our heartfelt thanks to our members, supporters, and friends who make this work possible. We remain dedicated and steadfast in our mission, and we are honored to preserve Kodiak’s rich history for generations to come. We look forward to the many exciting projects and opportunities that await us in FY26!

With gratitude,  
Kristin O’Lear  
Executive Director

## THANK YOU BOARD AND STAFF

- |                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Michael Bach, Board President      | Lena Amason, Museum Assistant             |
| Mary Tougas, Board Vice President  | Ivy Blain, Operations Manager (2025)      |
| Candace Branson, Board Secretary   | Margaret Greutert, Chief Curator          |
| Teri Mahle, Board Treasurer        | Jennifer Hansen, Museum Assistant         |
| Roberta Austring, Board Treasurer  | Kristin O’Lear, Executive Director        |
| Amanda Lancaster, Board Member     | Lynn Walker, Curator                      |
| Sarah Simeonoff, Board Member      | Hannah Wolfe-MacPike, Collections Manager |
| Toby Sullivan, Board Member (2025) |   |

- ### VOLUNTEERS
- Ginny Austerman
  - Amelia Boger
  - Deborah Carver
  - Dehrich Chya
  - Elizabeth Parnell
  - Shelly Egle
  - Kathleen Carlsen
  - Ani Thomas
  - Dusty Linberg
  - Jim Dillard
  - Tiffany Suydam
  - Luis Landeros
  - Libby Eufemio
  - Patricia Jacobson
  - Nathan Raible-Clark
  - Susan Malutin

- ### GRANTORS
- Alaska Community Foundation Social Justice Fund
  - Alaska State Museum Grant-in-Aid
  - AASLH History Leadership Institute Scholarship
  - City of Kodiak
  - The CIRI Foundation
  - Digital Preservation Outreach & Education Network
  - Kodiak Community Foundation
  - Kodiak Island Borough
  - Museums Alaska Collections Management Fund
  - Museums Alaska Conference Scholarship
  - National Preservation Institute Workshop Scholarship
  - Spark Good Grant from Kodiak's Local Walmart
  - Spouses Association of Kodiak

### MEMBERSHIP

This past year KHM introduced new membership tiers designed to better serve our community! Now you can choose the option that best fits your needs, with Individual, Family, Lifetime, and Senior memberships available. Each tier offers unique benefits while supporting our mission to preserve and share Kodiak’s history.

<div>\$20.00</div> <div>Individual Membership</div> <div>\$15.00 for Seniors 65+</div>	<div>\$50.00</div> <div>Family Membership</div> <div>\$30.00 for Seniors 65+</div>	<div>\$1,500.00</div> <div>Lifetime Membership</div>
<div>Yearly Payment</div> <div>Free Admission for One Adult / Visit</div> <div>Free Admission for One Guest / Visit</div> <div>Five Free Hours of Research</div> <div>VIP / Early Access to Special Events</div> <div>10% Off Store Items</div> <div>KHM Logo Gift*</div>	<div>Yearly Payment</div> <div>Free Admission for Two Adults &amp; Four 13+ Children / Visit</div> <div>Free Admission for One Guest / Visit</div> <div>Ten Free Hours of Research</div> <div>VIP / Early Access to Special Events</div> <div>10% Off Store Items</div> <div>KHM Logo Gift*</div>	<div>One Time Payment</div> <div>Free Admission for One Adult / Visit</div> <div>Free Admission for Two Guests / Visit</div> <div>Fifteen Free Hours of Research / Year</div> <div>VIP / Early Access to Special Events</div> <div>20% Off Store Items</div> <div>KHM Logo Gift*</div>

- ### TOP DONORS
- Pat Branson
  - Deborah Carver
  - Paul Erskine
  - Meghan Kelly
  - James R. Arneson
  - Betsey A Myrick
  - Nancy Kemp
  - Teresa L. Schneider
  - Carol L. Juergens & Mark Withrow
  - David E. Heuman
  - Benevity Causes
  - Futura Fisheries Inc.



## EXHIBITS & PROGRAMMING

### **A SENSE OF PLACE** November 2024 - December 2024

Kodiak artist, Bonnie Dillard, displayed a collection of unique artwork in an exhibit, *A Sense of Place*, at the Kodiak History Museum this November and December. This collection of drawings were inspired by her friend, Eva Holm, and her set net site in Uganik.



BONNIE DILLARD AND EVA HOLM  
IN A SENSE OF PLACE



50 YEARS OF LIMITED ENTRY  
EXHIBIT OPENING

### **50 YEARS OF LIMITED ENTRY**

January 2025 - April 2025

*50 Years of Limited Entry: The Closing of Alaska's Salmon Commons* created by the Kodiak Maritime Museum examined the conditions that spurred creation of the Limited Entry Program, the effects it had on Alaska's fishermen and fishing communities over the past half century, and recent proposals to address unintended consequences of the program.



### **KODIAK HIGH SCHOOL ADVANCED ART CLASS** May 2025

A returning partnership between Kodiak High School's Advanced Art Class and KHM displayed works created by Kodiak's up and coming artists.



KODIAK HIGH SCHOOL  
ADVANCED ART CLASS

### **MABUHAY SA ALASKA** June 2025-July 2025

Kodiak artist, Brian Venua displayed a collection of photographs chronicling the process that teachers from the Philippines undergo when coming to Kodiak to live and work.



BRIAN VENUA IN MABUHAY SA  
ALASKA

## KODIAK HISTORY MUSEUM TURNED 70!

In September 2024, the Kodiak Historical Society proudly celebrated its 70th anniversary! To mark this milestone, community members, experts, and knowledge holders gathered to honor Kodiak's rich history. To cap off the celebration, staff sealed a community time capsule, preserving memories and stories to be opened 30 years from now.



### IN 2025, KHM HAD

**\$66,309.84** TOTAL SALES

**\$46,855.19** GRANT FUNDS

**4,775** VISITORS

**548** PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

**266** SCHOOL VISITORS

**11** FIELD TRIPS

**92.75** VOLUNTEER HOURS

**100** MEMBERS

**61** ALASKAN VENDORS IN OUR GIFTSHOP

**27** CRUISE SHIPS

**6** TEMPORARY EXHIBITS



# COLLECTION HIGHLIGHTS

## NEW ACQUISITIONS

In FY25 KHM acquired 93 objects and archival materials. These objects and donors include:

2025-5-A293 – Print, Photographic by Pamela Raschke

2025-6-1 – Gameboard (Sungka), 2024-6-2 through 2024-6-7 Print, by Michaela Alonzo

2024-7 - A collection of objects owned and used by Major Arthur C. Kornahrens during his service in Kodiak During WWII. Objects include uniform objects, archives, and other memorabilia.

2025-1-A298 – Tsunami Impact Report by Tam Agnosti-Gisler

2025-2-A299 – Photograph Album, by Lena Amason

2025-3-1 – Tustumena Award, by Pat Branson

2025-4-A300 – Bentwood Visor Pattern, by Jim Dillard

2025-5-A301 – Inauguration Invitation, by Kristy High

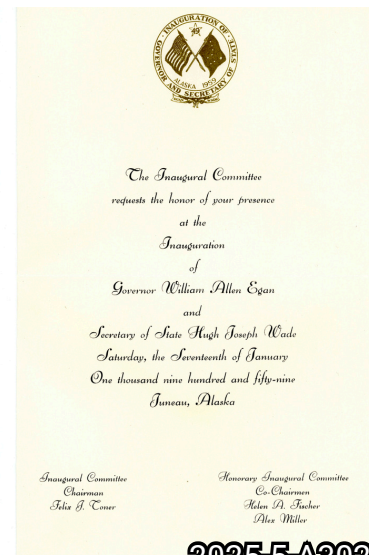
2025-6-A302 – Theater Program, by Robert Wagner

2025-7-A303 – Cry of the Wild Ram Script, by Stephen Bodnar

2025-8-A304 – Newspaper Supplement, 2025-9-A305 – Theater Program (collection initiated with assistance from Adriana Hanko), by Adriana Hanko

2025-11-A306 – Griffin Memorial Hospital Blueprint, by Wayne Jensen

2025-12-1 – Sweater, 2025-12-A308 – Fonds, 2025-12-A309 – Photographic Print, 2025-13-A307 – Islander Yearbook (collection initiated with assistance from Susan Suhr), by Susan Suhr



2025-5-A302

2024-7-1



2025-3-1



# EXHIBITS & PROGRAMMING

## BERING SEA STORMS: PAST TO PRESENT

June 2025-September 2025

*Bering Sea Storms: Past to Present* created by the University of Alaska Fairbanks and the Museum of the Aleutians, highlighted collaborative research between scientists, youth, elders, and community stakeholders on storminess in the Aleutian Islands. The project combined scientific data and Indigenous knowledge to better understand historic extreme weather and help communities prepare for future climate change. KHM coordinated bringing the exhibit to Kodiak this year for display at the KANA Marketplace.



## EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING

This year, we focused on serving our Kodiak community through increased, cost-free programming and educational outreach. Major programs for FY25 included:

- An artist workshop, funded by The CIRI Foundation, featuring Susan Malutin
- Artist workshops funded by the Kodiak Community Foundation, featuring Bonnie Dillard and Qangyuk (Natalia) Schneider
- A community lecture series in partnership with the Alutiiq Museum
- Special First Friday Art Walk Events
- Photo Identification Events
- Booths at Community Events and Programs!

