

Museum offers masks exhibit

Alaskameut '86, an exhibition of 40 contemporary masks by 15 Alaska Native artists, will be on display at the Anchorage Museum of History and Art through Nov. 2.

The exhibition, organized by the Institute of Alaska Native Arts Inc. in Fairbanks, was first seen in Fairbanks this summer and is being circulated around the state.

Artists represented in the exhibit include Lawrence Ullaaq Ahvakana, Sylvester Ayek, Harvey Pootoogooluk, Joseph Senungetuk and Richard Seeganna, Inupiaq; Fred Anderson, Aleut; Lawrence Beck, John Kailukiak and Charley Post, Yupik; Kathleen Carlo and James Grant, Athapaskan; Jack Hudson, Tsimshian; and Nathan Jackson, Edna Davis Jackson and Jim Schoppert, Tlingit.

The artists worked together in a week-long symposium for maskmakers last March at the University of Alaska-Fairbanks Native Art Center. Working with a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts Folk Arts, the artists began their masks, shared techniques and ideas and discussed mutual concerns. The exhibition is an outgrowth of this program.