

Visual Arts Center to open

Six months ago, the Visual Arts Center of Alaska leased the former Wolf's Building at Sixth and G downtown.

HARCO Alaska Construction came up with the low bid on doing the renovation of the building and has completed some 80 percent of the job.

Half of the 35,000 square feet inside the building has been renovated and leased to a new science discovery center, The Imaginarium, which will open Sept. 10.

The other half of the space is being converted to studio, gallery, office and educational space. When complete, the New Visual Arts Center will have space for up to 40 artists in printmaking, mixed media, photography, painting and sculpture. An enlarged gallery with 25-foot ceilings will be ready to display contemporary art from Alaska and the rest of the world.

The project is expected to cost a total of \$500,000, and the Visual Arts Center has raised \$420,000 so far to that end. Funds have come from state, federal and private sources as follows: \$120,000, State of Alaska; \$37,500,

National Endowment for the Arts; \$112,500 in gifts and grants from private sources; and \$150,000 in loans secured by private supporters.

Artists associated with the Center include: Kieth Appel, Susie Bevins, Matthew Sugarman, Pat Austin, Joan Kimura, Carol Bryner, Sylvester Ayek, Jim Bachman, Ted Gardeline, Sheila Wyne, Leon Anderson, Joe Senungetuk, Kathy Gilmore, Jimmie Froehlich, Lee Clapsadle, Jo and Ron Dagon, Aiko Baden, Julie Baugnet, Luda Borysenko, Dee Boyles, Susan Bremner, Jerry McCarty, Evans Downer, Dan Miller, Laura Myntti, Jeff Patrick, Karen Lee Mohr, Susan Berry, Paula Dickey, David Edlefsen, David Felker, Steve Gordon, Mariano Gonzales, Ken Gray, Denis Keogy, Spence Guerin, Jane Gray, Denise Lassaw, Kay Marshall, Barry McWayne, Nancy McCleery, Jane Meyer, Gail Niebrugge, Molly Willson-Perry, Robert Pfitzenmeier, Marianne Wieland, Shelley Schneider, Tim Ryan, Tony Rubey, John Ploof and many more over the last decade and a half.