



Chris Ailing photo courtesy Anchorage Museum of History and Art

Among groups who already have performed this summer are the King Island Inupiaq Singers and Dancers.

Native performers star at museum

The Anchorage Museum of History and Art is again presenting the Alaska Native Performance Series this summer.

Funded by the Alaska Legislature and Cook Inlet Region Inc. Foundation, the 13-week series is designed to acquaint museum visitors with Alaska Native musical traditions and give the visitor an op-

portunity to meet with some of Alaska's finest tradition bearers.

Performances are held seven days a week at 11 a.m., noon and 1 p.m. Admission to the performances is \$3 for all adult visitors.

Featured this week will be the Chevak Tanqik theater. The group includes high school students from the village of Chevak who perform

traditional dances with highly contemporary interpretation. The group performed in Brisbane, Australia, in 1988 on Alaska Day.

Earlier this summer, performers have included the King Island Inupiaq Eskimo Singers and Dancers, the Greatland Yup'ik Eskimo Singers and Dancers and the Tlingit

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• Performers

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Haida Singers and Dancers, led by Rosa Miller and Beatrice Halkett.

The scheduled for July is:

•July 2-8 — Minto Singers and Dancers. From the Interior village of Minto these performers are Lower Tanana Athapaskans. Singing and dancing are traditionally associated with ceremonial occasions, such as the potlatch, the only traditional public ceremonial occasion which has survived to modern times among Athapaskan people. The Minto Singers and Dancers have won many awards in the annual World Eskimo Indian Olympics.

•July 9-15 — TAHETA Point Hope Dancers. From Anchorage, this group is affiliated with TAHETA Native Arts Coop and is primarily a multi-generational family group led by Olivia "Ollie" St. Germain. These Inupiaq Eskimos perform traditional dances learned by St. Germaine as a child growing up in Point Hope.

•July 16-22 — King Island Singers and Dancers. Led by elder Paul Tiulana, formerly of King Island, the performers seek to retain some of their traditional cultural values through dancing and singing. The King Islanders performed in Washington, D.C., at the opening of the "Crossroads to the Continents" exhibition at the Smithsonian Institution.

July 23-29 — Nunamita Yup'ik Singers and Dancers. Led by Chuna MacIntyre, originally from the village of Eek, the group performs traditional Yup'ik Eskimo dances with the men kneeling and the women remaining stationary. They performed at the Ethnic Dance Festival at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., in 1987.



Chuna MacIntyre is the leader of Nunamita Yup'ik Singers and Dancers, who will be performing at the museum July 23-29.