

Sealaska agency receives CEDC grant for art study

JUNEAU — Sealaska Heritage Foundation has received a \$14,770 grant from the Community Economic Development Corp.'s Bush Development Fund to perform a market study and a needs assessment for a proposed Southeast Alaska Native Arts Cooperative.

The foundation is interested in the cooperative as a means of fostering viable careers for Native artists in their own communities, according to foundation spokesmen. The goal of the cooperative would be to support Native artists, who because of the remote locations of their communities pay higher costs for materials and have difficulty marketing their work. It would also be to develop a network of artists who can assist and encourage young artists.

Named to the advisory committee are carver Mick Beasley of Hoonah, Haida weaver Delores Churchill of Ketchikan, carver Nathan Jackson of Saxman, carver Norman Jackson of Kake, weaver Vickie LeCornu of Hydaburg, carver and gallery owner Reggie Peterson of Sitka and gift shop owner and arts and crafts dealer Judy Winter of Metlakatla.

Those who want more information on the cooperative may contact Sealaska Heritage Foundation, 463-4844; or toll free, 800-478-1512.