

'Spirit in All Things' to open June 1-3

"The Spirit in All Things," a theater piece for musicians, dancers and storytellers, will be presented at the Anchorage Museum of History and Art from June 1 through June 5 by Spirit Theatre, a company based at the Kuskokwim Campus of the University of Alaska, Fairbanks. Performances will be held in the Museum Gallery at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. daily. Admission is \$5.

Kuskokwim college students under the direction of New York based Aleut actress Jane Lind began to collect stories from the Yup'ik elders from the Yukon Kuskokwim region. They asked Dave Hunsaker, an Alaskan playwright who also scripted "Yup'ik Antigone" and the Northwind," to teach a script writing class and to write a play based upon the collected stories.

The stories that comprise this theater piece are an anthology of an old and mostly oral literature. They reflect Inupiat and Yup'ik creation myths and stories of survival, struggle and rebirth.

The production represents a collaboration between performing and visual artists and is a modern interpretation of age old traditions. The masks and sets were designed by Joe Senungetuk and Jim Simard. The costumes were designed by Lorraine Alba and Bertha Underwood.

Funding to bring "The Spirit in All Things" to Anchorage comes from the Alaska State Legislature. Its production is a "thank you" to storytellers past and present for keeping the spirit alive.