

# Festival of Native Arts

By DEBBIE WARFIELD

The first annual Festival of Native Arts will be held at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks campus, April 3-7. Exhibitions of Native crafts and dancing from all over the state will be shown. The displays will be in Wood Center and the galleries in the Fine Arts Complex.

Each day will be devoted to displays and crafts from a different area of the state.

Wednesday, April 3, will center around Southwest Alaska and the Yupik-speaking Eskimo. Dancers from Pilot Station will perform.

Thursday, April 4, will find Aleut crafts and Russian Orthodox art on display. Displays will be from the Aleutians and Kodiak Island.

Featured Friday, April 5, will be the Inupiaq-speaking or Northern Eskimo culture representing the Unalakleet, Nome Kotzebue, and Barrow areas. Craft demonstrations will include ivory carvings by Charlie Iyapanna of Kotzebue. In addition, an invitation has been sent to the Wainwright Dancers.

The program of Saturday, April 6, will focus around the Tlingit, Haida, and Tshimpsonian cultures of Southeast Alaska. William Smith, a student at the university from Wrangell, will demonstrate wood carving and oil painting.

Smith built the model of the the Shakes House at the Alaska Centennial.

Another university student, Leo Marks of Juneau, will be demonstrating silversmithing.

The Marks' Trail Dancers, a group of five from Juneau, will perform. Sixteen year-old Rick Beasley, also of Juneau, will demonstrate his skills as a wood carver. There will also be spruce root basket weaving and bead work exhibitions by Annie Lawrence of Hoonah.

Sunday, April 7, will be devoted to the Interior and Athabascan culture.

Displays will be from the University of Alaska Museum at Fairbanks, and the Alaska State Museum at Juneau.

The purpose of the festival is to give the Native people of Alaska an opportunity to learn more about their crafts and cultures. Admission will be free and open to the public.

Contributions are needed to help bring Native artists to the campus. A total of \$4,800 had been raised as of March 12 from the Alaska Humanities Forum, the Alaska State Council on the Arts, the Usibelli Corp., the University of Alaska Special Events Committee, the Atlantic-Richfield Co., the Associated Students of the University of Alaska and the Alaska Association for the arts.

Contributions or information about artists or craftsmen can be sent to Student Orientation Services at the university.