

Native storytellers featured in special issue of *Alaska Quarterly Review*

"Alaska Native Writers, Storytellers, and Orators," a special issue of the "Alaska Quarterly Review," will be published May 15, 1986. This issue celebrates the rich and varied cultural heritage of the Alaska Native peoples and showcases a wealth of contemporary literary talent. Both the spoken and written traditions are featured, and ten of the 20 Native Alaskan languages are represented.

Most of the work in the section of oral literature has been done by a new generation of Native writers that has emerged since the 1970s. These writers, of varying ages and ethnicity, are all involved in designing writing systems for their languages, and have worked with collection, transcription, and translation of oral literature composed by their elders. With only a few exceptions, all the transcriptions and translations in this section have been done by Native writers who are researchers of their own oral traditions. In all, the

208-page volume contains 54 selections of storytelling, oral history, oratory, poetry, short stories, and non-fiction.

The issue was guest edited by Nora and Richard Dauenhauer of the Sealaska Heritage Foundation and Gary Holthaus of the Alaska Humanities Forum, with an introduction by Rayna Green of the Smithsonian Institution. Executive editors for the issue were Ronald Spatz and James Jacob Liszka of the University of Alaska, Anchorage.

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"Alaska Quarterly Review," published by the College of Arts and Sciences, University of Alaska, Anchorage, is considered one of the top markets for serious fiction in the United States.