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Ben Huff, *Mile 97*, 2011 Connie Boochever Fellow

## October 2011 ASCA Communique

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### A Note From Char

It's the season of recognition at the Alaska State Council on the Arts. A hectic, joyous time - when we have the opportunity to recognize individuals and organizations making a significant contribution to all of our lives through the Governor's Awards for the Arts. This year we also are recognizing individual artists through the Connie Boochever Fellowship awards. Therefore, we're madly arranging travel for the Governor's Awards recipients, dashing off press releases and posts to our website, writing the program for the event and getting those fellowship checks to the Connie Boochever artists, who deeply appreciate this award.

And, of course, this activity is in addition to our regular

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## Grant Deadlines

### November 1:

FY12 Artist in Schools Grants. Call ASCA staff before applying.

### Dec. 1 Grant Deadlines:

Career Opportunity, Workshop, Community Arts Development, Master Artist and Apprentice, Walker Arts Touring and Rasmuson Cultural Collaborations Grants. Call ASCA staff before applying.

To apply go to

<http://alaska.cgweb.org/>

## Calls for Art on CaFE

Now the online application site for all ASCA Calls for Art: [www.callforentry.org](http://www.callforentry.org) (CaFE) From our main page click on Artist Opportunities for more information.

## Looking for Work in the Arts?

Look no further - here is a great listing of available positions in all areas - museums, performing arts and galleries.

<http://www.workinthearts.net/>

## Opportunities for Arts Organizations and Artist Opportunities.

The National Endowment for the Arts has various deadlines for grants. Check the website out regularly!

<http://www.arts.gov/grants/>

## Quick Links

[ASCA Website](#)  
[CGO\(Culture Grants Online\)](#)

work, grants and services, presentations and classes. The Teaching Artist academy is currently happening in Anchorage, we've been convening Percent for Art committees here AND our new Arts Education Manager, Laura Forbes, just completed her first week in our newly funded position and her new job! We have included a brief profile of Laura in this Communique.

I can't forget that we're also planning for the 2012 Alaska Arts and Culture Conference, in Anchorage January 12-14. The theme is Creative Communities, and I hope you're planning on being here, as we will have something for everyone - from artists to educators to arts organization staff and volunteers. Registration information will be out in a couple of weeks, and we'll be in regular contact with you as workshop, speaker and special event details emerge. It's going to be great fun!

And while we're recognizing, I need to mention Alaska's local arts councils. Every time we have one of our teleconference meetings, as we did last week, I am blown away by the level of activity, dedication and community impact that each of our 17 local arts councils have around the state. From Seward to Dillingham, Fairbanks to Skagway, these large and very small, from staffed to all volunteer organizations, promote the arts and culture in a way that is unique and wonderful. I commend each one of them, because each leads by example. (Gee, maybe Anchorage will develop a real arts council one of these days - but that's another column).

If I don't see you at the Governor's Awards for the Arts, I definitely plan on seeing each of you at the Arts and Culture Conference in January. In keeping with our ethic of producing a high quality event at a low cost so that it is affordable to everyone (and thank you to the sponsors who help that happen), there aren't fancy banquets or goodie bags. But there are lots of interesting people, workshops, speakers and events. Don't miss it.

*Keep up your great work, Char*

**2011 Govenor's Awards for the Arts and Humanities Recipients Announced**

Ten outstanding citizens from around the state were recently selected by Governor Parnell as the 2011 recipients of the Governor's Awards for the Arts and Humanities. For the first time, a shared arts and humanities award will be presented to Anchorage School District Superintendent **Carol Comeau** in recognition of her support for the arts and humanities in the education of all students in Anchorage.

**2011 Recipients of the Governor's Awards for the Arts and Humanities are:**

Arts Awards:

Margaret Nick Cooke Award for Alaska Native Arts and Languages: Dr. Maryanne Allan (Fairbanks)

Individual Artist Award: Arthur William "Bill" Brody (Fairbanks)

Lifetime Achievement: Jeff Brown (Juneau)

Business Leadership: Mike Powers, Chief Executive Officer, *Fairbanks Memorial Hospital* (Fairbanks)

Arts Advocacy: Tom Heywood (Haines)

Business Leadership: Mike McCormick, Owner, *Whistling Swan Productions* (Eagle River)

Humanities Awards:

Jim Rearden, writer and historian, Homer

Dr. Ray Barnhardt, *UAF Center for Cross Cultural Studies* (Fairbanks)

Dr. Angayuqaq Oscar Kawagley (posthumous), *UAF Center for Cross Cultural Studies* (Fairbanks)

Shared Arts and Humanities Special Award: Carol Comeau, Superintendent, Anchorage School District (Anchorage)

Jeff Brown, Juneau - Lifetime Achievement Award. Jeff Brown is a humorist, musician, story teller, circus artist, radio host and community arts advocate who has tirelessly used his many talents for over 25 years to bring delight and laughter to hundreds of adults and young people in Juneau. Dubbed the "Minister of Merriment" by Governor Knowles, he has been an ambassador for the arts to many Governors, beginning with Governor Hickel.

Bill Brody, Fairbanks, Individual Artist Award, Professor Emeritus, University of Alaska Fairbanks. Bill Brody, in addition to his 44 year career as Art Professor, has been in numerous shows, galleries and exhibitions around Alaska and the U.S. He has also received numerous Percent for Art commissions and has served as a National Park Artist in Residence.

Dr. Maryanne Allan, Fairbanks, Margaret Nick Cooke Award for Native Arts and Languages. Dr. Allan is a retired elementary school educator in the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District. She founded the Athabascan Young Fiddlers Program 15 years ago, when she realized that native students were not represented in school district musical events. Since that time the program has flourished, and now has over

40 students, kindergarten through high school, in the program.

Mike McCormick, Anchorage, Business Leadership Award. Founder and owner of Whistling Swan Productions along with his wife Katy Spangler. He has brought over 300 artists to Alaska, working with communities outside of Anchorage to ensure that smaller audiences have the experience of well known musicians that they otherwise would not be able to see. Mike is also director of the UAA Concert Board, and in that position works with college students to develop concerts.

Mike Powers, Fairbanks, Business Leadership Award. As CEO of Fairbanks Memorial Hospital and the Denali Center, Mike Powers demonstrates how successful business leaders can exemplify support for arts and culture through his personal and professional support of nonprofit arts organizations in the Fairbanks area.

Tom Heywood, Haines, Arts Advocacy Award. Tom Heywood is the owner of the Babbling Book bookstore in Haines. For the last 16 years, as a volunteer leader of the Haines Arts Council, Tom has been key to bringing a variety of high quality performing arts and culture events to that remote community.

Carol Comeau, Governor's Award for the Arts and Humanities. As Superintendent of the Anchorage School District for 11 years, and a teacher or administrator in that district for over 35 years, Carol Comeau has steadfastly promoted the importance of the arts, history, and civic engagement as a critical component of student's every day lives. For this reason, the Alaska State Council on the Arts and the Alaska Humanities Forum have joined together to present to her the first Governor's Award for both the arts and the humanities.

For more information about the Governor's Awards for the Humanities, [www.akhf.org](http://www.akhf.org) The awards will be presented during a dinner event at the Hotel Captain Cook on Wednesday, Oct. 19. The awards are sponsored by the Alaska State Council on the Arts, the Alaska Humanities Forum and the Office of the Governor. To make reservation visit:

<http://events.SignUp4.com/GovsAwards11>

## 2011 Connie Boochever Fellowships Announced

The Alaska State Council on the Arts and the Alaska Arts and Culture Foundation recently chose four individuals to receive the 2011 Connie Boochever Fellowships in the visual arts. The \$2,500 fellowship is for emerging artists, and each year the disciplines alternate between performing, literary and visual arts.

The four recipients are:

- **James Adcox**, visual artist, Nome;
- **Michael Conti**, photography and video, Anchorage;
- **Ben Huff**, photography, Juneau;
- **Wendy Gingell**, ceramic artist, Anchorage

The Connie Boochever Fellowship was established in 2001 by her family after her death to honor and reflect the spirited passion of the arts Mrs. Boochever consistently demonstrated.

Connie Boochever was an avid performer, director, and producer of community theater and a lifelong patron and advocate of the arts. Her crusading efforts gave the arts a voice in Alaskan government and she played a key role in advocating for passage of legislation mandating Percent for Art in Public Places. Connie's legacy can be seen in art installed in public buildings around the state.

For more information about the 2011 Connie Boochever Fellows, contact the Alaska State Council on the Arts at 1.888.278.7424 or 907.269.6610 in Anchorage. The Fellowships are funded through the Connie Boochever Endowment and the Alaska Arts and Culture Foundation, and administered by the Alaska State Council on the Arts.

### Alaska Native Art That Moves You

This May, ASCA partnered with the Smithsonian Arctic Studies Center and the Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center to host an intensive traditional Northern Athabaskan snowshoe residency. The project was part of our growing Alaska's Living Cultural Treasures program. We had two goals. The first was to highlight the work and cultural expertise of snowshoe makers and culture bearers - two of whom we featured in our *Alaska's Living Cultural Treasures: A Gift for Our Next Generation* publication. The second was to cultivate long term working relationships between master snowshoe artists and apprentices to effectively transfer endangered traditional Koyukon snowshoe making skills to a new generation of dedicated apprentices.



Art is in everything we do... even if we don't think about it." ~Dixie Alexander

ASCA chose individuals from the same community to generate momentum for teams to continue their work at home. Apprentices were selected based on master artists' recommendations. Three teams worked together during the weeklong residency. George Albert trained William McCarty IV from Ruby and Daniel Tritt from Arctic Village, Butch Yaska and Al Yatlin were the Huslia team, and traditional storyteller Trimble Gilbert from Arctic Village told stories about the design, use, and cultural significance of snowshoes in his Gwich'in language.

George Albert and Butch Yaska, both Koyukon Athabascan, are two of very few remaining individuals still actively building traditional snowshoes. To both of them, snowshoes are a dynamic part of their lives. They are friends and accomplished athletes who relate to their snowshoes like runners do to their fine Nike sprint shoes. Nearly 130 Central Middle School students came to the museum to visit with the masters and apprentices during the snowshoe residency. We asked students if they played a sport and how fast they ran a mile. Eyebrows flew up, students' interest was piqued, and a rich conversation opened when they realized George Albert could outrun them on snowshoes.

Both George and Butch, who were raised in and continue to spend almost all of their time in the woods and on the waterways of the Koyukon people, have a love and understanding of birch trees that other fine artists have with their materials. They are so fluent in the qualities of birch it is as if they are describing the personality of a tree. Koyukon cultural intimacy with birch trees was apparent when Butch shared with Central Middle School students the old Koyukon story about how the tree people settled in different parts of the north.

Master artists agreed their time together helped them preserve and perpetuate endangered traditional snowshoe making skills, knowledge and artistry. George Albert "gifted"



"I learned Athabascans are cool!"

Daniel Tritt

with a pair of his snowshoes in recognition of Daniel's exceptional apprenticeship efforts. Butch Yaska donated his residency snowshoes to the museum education department. ASCA and the Anchorage Museum each commissioned George Albert to make full caribou babiche, moose rawhide footing and unvarnished birch snowshoes. The Council accessioned George's shoes into the Contemporary Art Bank this September.

ASCA, the Anchorage Museum, and the Smithsonian Arctic Studies Center will host a Living Cultural Treasures Sugpiaq and Unangan traditional bentwood hat making residency March 5 - 9, 2012 at the Smithsonian Arctic Studies Center. The Alaska's Living Cultural Treasures Residencies are funded by the National Endowment for the Arts Folk and Traditional Arts Infrastructure Grant.



"In his core he takes it seriously since snowshoes have saved him in the bush plenty of times" Eileen

## Grants to Alaska Artists, Schools and Arts Organizations

The Alaska State Council on the Arts awarded over \$60,000 in special project, career

opportunity and arts education grants Alaska artists and arts organizations at their recent quarterly meeting.

The Alaska State Council on the Arts is funded by the Alaska State Legislature and the National Endowment for the Arts, with support for arts education grants from the Rasmuson Foundation.

**ARTS IN EDUCATION NEW VISIONS GRANTS**

Bering Strait School District	Berring Strait	\$10,00
Copper River School District	Copper River	\$10,00
Kodiak Island Borough School District	Kodiak	\$10,00

**CAREER OPPORTUNITY GRANTS**

Donald Ricker	Anchorage	\$90
Gail Edgerly	Homer	\$47
Gretchen Sagan	Anchorage	\$90
John M Walsh	Anchorage	\$65
Kristin Link	Glennallen/McCarthy	\$50
Sandy Kay Fortier	Juneau	\$90
Shyanne Beatty	Anchorage	\$80

**COMMUNITY ARTS DEVELOPMENT GRANTS**

Anchorage International Film Festival	Anchorage	\$4,50
Cyrano's Theatre Company	Anchorage	\$4,50
Greater Sitka Arts Council	Sitka	\$3,00
Mat-Su Concert Band Inc.	Wasilla	\$1,00
Momentum Dance Collective	Anchorage	\$1,50
Opera Fairbanks	Fairbanks	\$3,50
Valdez Museum & Historical Archive	Valdez	\$3,00

**WALKER ARTS GRANTS**

Fairbanks Shakespeare Theater	Fairbanks	\$1,00
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**WORKSHOP GRANTS**

49 Writers Inc.	Anchorage	\$1,10
Alaska Arts and Culture Foundation	Anchorage	\$1,40
American Bald Eagle Foundation	Haines	\$50
Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival	Fairbanks	\$1,00

## ASCA Welcomes New Team Member



As an arts educator and artist, new Arts Education Program Director Laura Forbes identifies first as a theatre and dance artist, but is grateful to the visual artists and musicians, from whom she has learned about making art, as well. Laura was born and raised on the Central Kenai Peninsula and feels most at home on the Cook Inlet.

In 1996, Laura graduated from the University of Alaska, Anchorage with a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre. Currently, she

is working on an M.Ed. in Integrated Teaching through the Arts through Lesley University, Kenai Cohort. After graduating from UAA, she spent time in Anchorage, Homer and Chicago, Illinois working as a teaching artist, director, designer and stage manager for Pier One Theatre, Kenai Performers, UAA Dance Ensemble, Triumvirate Theatre, Chicago Shakespeare Theater, Adventure Stage Chicago, Steep Theatre Company, and Infamous Commonwealth Theatre. Most recently, Laura was the Director of Programs and Exhibits at the Kenai Visitors and Cultural Center.

Laura is grateful for the welcome she has received from the Alaska State Council on the Arts and is happy to be working with the organizational team to promote equitable, accessible, high quality arts education in Alaska. She looks forward to hearing from teaching artists, teachers, school administrators and citizens of Alaska about their experiences with arts in education in the 49th state. You can contact Laura at [Laura.forbes@alaska.gov](mailto:Laura.forbes@alaska.gov).

## The NEA has a new look!

The National Endowment for the Arts has changed its look! The new logo should be phased in for crediting all activities of your organization funded through the Alaska State Council on the Arts and /or the National Endowment for the Arts. For the logo and more information, go to: <http://www.nea.gov/mnageaward/logos/index.html>

## Opportunities for Artists and Arts Organizations

(1.) Embracing Our Differences invites art submissions for its 9th annual outdoor art exhibit celebrating diversity. National and international submissions are encouraged. 39 artists will be selected for the exhibit. The Exhibit will be displayed April and May

2012 at Island Park along Sarasota, Florida's beautiful bayfront. Since 2004, the exhibit has been viewed by more than 1,100,000 visitors. The exhibit will contain 39 billboard-sized (16 feet wide by 12 1/2 feet high) images of the selected artworks. Final selections will be chosen based on artistic excellence in reflection of the theme "embracing our differences". Submissions will also be evaluated on how effectively it will read outdoors when enlarged to billboard size. Final selections will be made by a 3-judge panel of professional artists, curators and art professionals. A total of \$3,000 in awards will be presented. Submissions must be postmarked no later than January 9, 2012. There is no submission fee nor limit on the number of entries. The mission of Embracing Our Differences is to use art as a catalyst for creating awareness and promoting the value of diversity, the benefits of inclusion and the significance of the active rejection of hatred and prejudice. Submission forms and more information concerning past winning entries are available at [www.EmbracingOurDifferences.org](http://www.EmbracingOurDifferences.org) or by emailing [Info@EmbracingOurDifferences.org](mailto:Info@EmbracingOurDifferences.org)

Deadline January 9, 2011

(2.) **Artists Alaska** website is a free list and link for Artists & Artisans - Their Specialties and where to see their work. [www.artistsalaska.com](http://www.artistsalaska.com).

(3.) City of Homer is requesting proposals to incorporate art into the newly renovated and expanded City Hall complex. [RFP](#)

Deadline: October 27, 2011

(4.) Jocelyn Young will be speaking at the Alaska Professional Communicators on the Anchorage Municipality's 1% for Art Program. The lunch will be October 6, 2011 from 11:30am- 1pm at Kinley's Restaurant, 3230 Seward Highway, Anchorage. Call 907-274-4723 or email [akpc@gci.net](mailto:akpc@gci.net) for more information. To make reservations online go to [www.akprocom.org/meeting.php](http://www.akprocom.org/meeting.php).

(5.) **ArtPlace** is a collaboration of top national foundations, the National Endowment for the Arts and various federal agencies to accelerate creative placemaking across the U.S. The group is providing major grants to organizations to encourage vibrancy and creativity in America's communities. For more information on this exciting new initiative, visit: <http://www.artplaceamerica.org/about/>

## ASCA's Important Dates

OCTOBER 6- Teaching Artist Academy - Anchorage

OCTOBER 19 - ASCA Face-to-Face Meeting, Anchorage

OCTOBER 19 - Governor's Awards for the Arts & Humanities, Hotel Captain Cook, Anchorage

NOVEMBER 1 - AIS Grant Deadline

NOVEMBER 1-DECEMBER 13 - Teaching Artist Academy - Juneau

DECEMBER 1 - ASCA Quarterly, Walker Arts and Rasmuson Cultural Collaborations Grants Deadline

DECEMBER 16 - ASCA Teleconference, noon-1:30

JANUARY 12-14, 2012 Arts and Culture Conference, Anchorage, AK

MARCH 1 - Annual and Quarterly, Walker Arts Grant Deadline

## Contact Us

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If you would like a printer friendly version of this newsletter, please go to our website

[www.eed.state.ak.us/aksca](http://www.eed.state.ak.us/aksca) to Publications under Of Interest titled October 2011.

For additional contact information, please visit our web site: [www.eed.state.ak.us/aksca](http://www.eed.state.ak.us/aksca)

*Duplicate Newsletter?*

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