



Native Oratory Contest Marks Decade

Kolene James, Coordinator, Native and Rural Student Center

UAS and local high school students competed in Native Language, Storytelling, Dramatic Declamation and Oratory categories.

Several Alaska Native students participated in the 10th Annual Oratory Contest held Saturday, March 3 at the Juneau campus hosted by the Woch.een club. UAS and local high school students competed in Native Language, Storytelling, Dramatic Declamation and Oratory categories. Top prizes won tuition credits.

It is my honor to recognize and thank all of you for your continued support, participation, and team spirit in making the University's 10th year of competition, such a wonderful success! An event such as this would not have been possible without every individual that participated in the preparation, performing, judging, time keeping, tallying, and guiding.

A special thank you to the following: Our most Cherished guest speakers Elder Cyril George, and Della Cheney for your words of encouragement to all of the Oratory participants. Chancellor John Pugh, Provost Rick Caulfield for your continued support and acknowledgement of the student participants. Assistant Professor of Alaska Native Languages Lance Twitchell for your traditional story and relating to all of our student participants as active participants in keeping our culture alive! Dean of Students Jessie Grant, and Dean of Enrollment Management Joe Nelson, PITAAS Director RONALDA CADIENTE-BROWN, Student Services Administrative Manager ROXY FELKL, Administrative Specialist SHAUNA BAIL, and Director of the Learning Center HILDEGARD SELLNER for sponsoring and encouraging our students to continue hosting this wonderful annual event.

So what's next? UAS is considering hosting the Statewide Event at our Juneau campus, Woch.een will collaborate with a committee of faculty, staff, and community members to figure out next steps. Please stay tuned! On to the results!!!

Results:

Native Language: Anastasia Brink, 1st place UAS Student, Stephanie Tripp, 2nd place UAS PITAAS Student, Richard Tagaban, 3rd place UAS PITAAS Student

Storytelling: Konrad Frank, 1st place UAS Student, Lorene Hanlon, 2nd place UAS Student, Naahaan, 3rd place UAS Student

Dramatic Declamation: Nae Tumulak, 1st place UAS Student, Stephanie Tripp, 2nd place UAS PITAAS Student, Konrad Frank, 3rd place UAS Student

Oratory: Lorene Hanlon, 1st place UAS Student, Nae Tumulak, 2nd place UAS Student, Naahaan, 3rd place UAS Student

Congratulations MBA Alumni Karl Heinz and MPA Alumni Rob Steedle

Heinz was recently named one of the Top Forty Under 40 by the Alaska Journal of Commerce. Heinz serves as vice president and Haines branch manager of First National Bank Alaska. Steedle was recently appointed to the position of Deputy City Manager for the City and Borough of Juneau after previous position holder Kim Keifer was hired as City Manager.

Student Wins JAHC Writing Scholarship

English student Meghan Stangeland is the recipient of the Mac Behrend's Creative Writing Scholarship from the Juneau Arts & Humanities Council. Meghan was chosen by the Tidal Echoes board on the strength of her writing.

UAS Mine Simulator Unveiled to the Public

Grand unveiling on Friday, February 24 at the UAS Technical Education Center



Legislators, mining industry representatives, UAS officials and public school students showed up to try out the only educational underground mine training simulator in the country at a grand unveiling on Friday, Feb. 24 at the Technical Education Center downtown.



Elementary school students look on as Rep. Peggy Wilson (R-Wrangell) "drives" a simulated underground mining vehicle hosted by UAS Career Education

An extensive article by the Juneau Empire is at this link: <http://juneauempire.com/local/2012-02-26/uas-unveils-800k-mine-trainer>

Three Chancellor's Show United Front

Chancellor John Pugh was joined by his counterparts from the University of Alaska Anchorage and Fairbanks in the capital city on Tuesday, February 28.

Chancellors Tom Case, Brian Rogers and Pugh addressed the Downtown Rotary Club and the University of Alaska Legislative Boosters Caucus on collaboration between the three main UAS MAU's. "We are three universities and one system," said Rogers. The trio emphasized alignment and cooperation in programs such as engineering, health care, fisheries, marine transportation and e-learning. When asked about the need for more classrooms when more than one-third of classes are delivered through e-learning, Case said classrooms are vital to the collegiate experience. "By working together, we can do health care programs that just could not be done in other parts of the country," said Pugh. "We'll save the competition for sports," said Rogers.



Above L-R: UAA Chancellor Tom Case, UAF Chancellor Brian Rogers, UAS Chancellor John Pugh, Juneau Rotary Club President Clark Gruening. Left: Chancellor Pugh with Sen. Dennis Egan (D-Juneau)

Straley Receives Alaska Ocean Leadership Award

Jan Straley received an Alaska Ocean Leadership Award from the Alaska Sealife Center at a ceremony February 18 at the Den'aina Center in Anchorage.

Straley was awarded the Marine Research Award, sponsored by Dr. Clarence Pautzke and his wife Dr. Maureen McCrae. "The Alaska Ocean Leadership Awards provide an opportunity to recognize outstanding contributions to the sustainability of Alaska's greatest resource—her oceans," said Tara Riemer Jones, ASLC President and CEO. Jan has studied the behavior and population dynamics of large whales in the North Pacific for more than thirty years. Her early research on humpbacks provided insight why some whales linger in the colder waters of the North Pacific during the fall and winter, when most whales migrate to the warmer climates of Mexico and Hawaii. Her research today involves interactions among large whales and human activities, primarily with fisheries. She is currently an Associate Professor of Marine Biology at the UAS Sitka

Campus and an affiliate faculty of the UAF School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences. The Alaska SeaLife Center is a private non-profit research institution and visitor attraction which generates and shares scientific knowledge to promote understanding and stewardship of Alaska's marine ecosystems.

UAS Carpenter Takes Top Honor at Wearable Art Extravaganza

The wood veneer craftsmanship of UAS carpenter David Walker once again earned first place in the 2012 Wearable Arts Extravaganza held February 11-12.



Attendees at the Juneau Arts and Humanities Council's biggest fundraiser had no problem voting Walker's Beauty in the Beast number one for the People's Choice Award. The piece is inspired by victims of breast cancer. UAS student Anna Gonwa Ramonda was the model for the piece. Walker is no stranger to top honors in Wearable Arts. Walker has placed in three of the four international World of Wearable Arts shows he has entered in New Zealand. Walker brought home the "supreme winner" award in 2009 for "Lady of the Wood," a Marie-Antoinette style ball gown. In Juneau his wood gowns have earned him a prize in every show he's entered. Read more here: <http://juneauempire.com/art/2012-02-16/wearable-arts-walker-explores-personal-themes-latest-piece>

University of Alaska Southeast Leads Icefield Study

Glacial fossil fuel remnants and the food chain.

North America's fifth largest icefield is the laboratory for a study revealing that the remnants of fossil fuels in glaciers may be changing the source of food for marine life. University of Alaska Southeast Associate Professor of Environmental Science Eran Hood is the second author of the study, to be published in the international journal *Nature Geoscience* in March 2012. The article is currently online.

Hood led the fieldwork on the Mendenhall and Herbert Glaciers, where visiting scholar-scientists from throughout the Lower 48 sampled snow, ice melt, and glacier runoff. The organic carbon from these water and snow samples was isolated and carbon dated. "We analyzed its molecular chemical structure," said Hood. "The carbon fingerprint we found indicated aerosols derived from the combustion of fossil fuels are an important source of organic matter on glacier surfaces and also in glacier outflow streams."

The scientists said glaciers offer ideal evidence of soot from carbon emissions. This "black carbon," darkens glacier surfaces and increases their absorption of light and heat. The carbon can also be exported to ecosystems downstream from glaciers where it can be metabolized and become part of the food web.