



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Alaska State Council on the Arts 907.269.6610

Charlotte Fox, Executive Director of the Alaska State Council on the Arts (ASCA), recently announced her retirement at the Council's annual meeting in Juneau. She will leave the agency in January, 2012.

Fox joined the Council in 2001 as Executive Director, and during the last 10 years has led the agency through an exciting period of growth and development. Among Fox's many accomplishments are the following:

- Providing leadership to transition the Council from a grantmaking body to considering statewide arts & culture policy issues;
- Developing ASCA's partnership with the Rasmuson Foundation which now provides major funding for ASCA's arts-in-education programs;
- Collaborating with other State agencies to strengthen the percent-for-art and other public art programs, which increases work opportunities for Alaskan artists;
- Co-founding the Alaska Arts Education Consortium, which now provides integrated arts education training for classroom teachers across Alaska;
- Working with the State of Alaska and Alaska Community Land Trust to relocate the Council's offices to Mountain View;
- Establishing a regular statewide arts and culture conference every three years and other regular convenings of specific sectors of the arts & culture community;
- Securing increased state funds to support artists and arts education.

“While we are all deeply saddened by Charlotte's decision to move on, we are extremely grateful for her truly outstanding contributions to the richness and vitality of artistic and cultural life in the Great Land,” remarked Ben Brown,

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Chairman of the Council. Brown further stated that, “while no one can replace her, we are committed to recruiting for and hiring the very best qualified person to serve as ASCA’s Executive Director, because we must continue to build on the solid foundation established by Charlotte and continue to create artistic opportunities for future generations of Alaskans.”

The Council has formed a search committee to be chaired by Council-member Nancy Harbour. ASCA will be launching a nationwide search in July. For more information about the retirement of Charlotte Fox, please contact the Council’s offices at 907 269-6610. For more information regarding the Executive Director search, contact Nancy Harbour at 907 263-2913.

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The mission of the Alaska State Council on the Arts (ASCA) is to foster the development of the arts for all Alaskans through education, partnership, grants and services. ASCA is a division of the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development, and is governed by eleven council members appointed by the Governor. It is supported with general funds appropriated by the Alaska State Legislature and the National Endowment for the Arts, with additional support for arts education programs from the Rasmuson Foundation.