

# 2016 NEWSLETTER

Hammer Museum Annual Newsletter

2016

## The Store gets a New Home

In order to better serve the needs of both the museum and our visitors, museum director, Ashleigh Reed, made the momentous decision to move the museum's store to the front of the building. This was no small task to undertake, but the finished product was well worth the work.

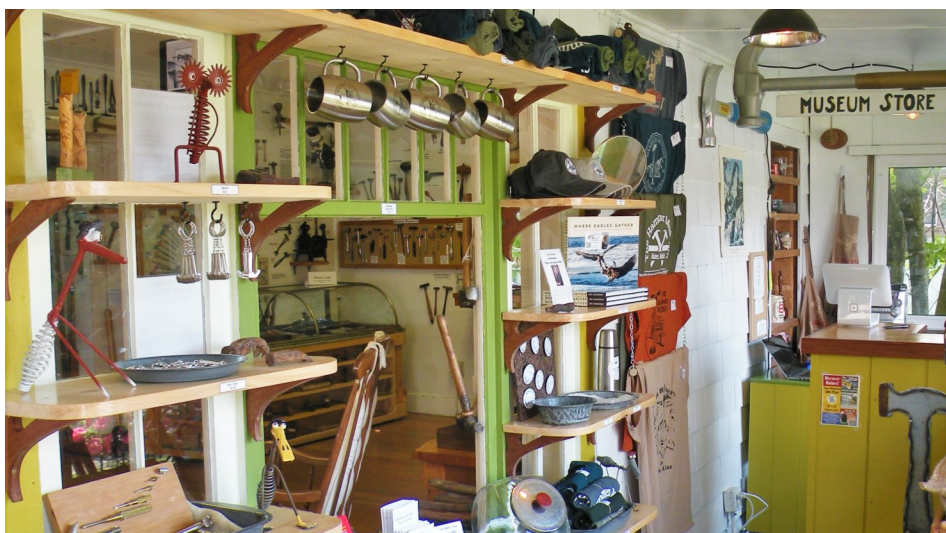
The store and cash register used to reside in the back of the building, requiring visitors to walk through the entire museum before paying their admission fee or purchasing some hammer souvenirs.

The new store greets visitors right as they enter the building, making life easier for both museum employees and visitors. The new space also allowed the director, Ashleigh, to expand the amount and variety of merchandise sold. This season the museum sold everything from hammer keychains and mugs to t-shirts and aprons.

## More Changes to Come

Founder, Dave Pahl, hopes to reconstruct the front portion of the museum over the 2016 - 2017 winter. The front porch is the current location of the new store. Pahl made the decision early this summer to rebuild the front of the building, adding better insulation, introduce timber framing, and making it better suited for the needs of the museum. The store will be replaced after the construction is finished in the spring.

*"From the land of the pharaohs to the land down under, ancient to modern, two inches to twenty feet, the Hammer Museum has something for everyone and is an experience that cannot be missed"*



The new Hammer Museum store including merchandise

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Art & Hammer instructor, Kelleen Adams, working with fundraiser participants

## Summer Events

### Art & Hammer Fundraiser

The summer interns were tasked with developing and implementing a fundraiser for the museum. With the guidance of board member, Michael Marks, they came up with the event, Art & Hammer. The event invited people to come to the museum for an evening of fun, food and art. Participants received a hammer and art supplies, along with instruction from art teacher, Kelleen Adams.

The fundraising team was overwhelmed with the success of the event and the generosity of both board members and local businesses. In the end Art & Hammer raised close to \$500 for the museum. Everyone involved thoroughly enjoyed the experience and many participants left their hammers for the museum to display in a temporary exhibit up for the remainder of the season.

### Blacksmithing Workshop

For the third year, the Hammer Museum sponsored a Blacksmithing Workshop with the help of experienced blacksmith, Jedediah Blum-Evitts. Participants received a lesson on proper technique and terminology, afterwards they tried their hand at shaping nails with their new found skills.



Blacksmith, Jedediah Blum-Evitts demonstrates proper technique

### First Friday Events

This summer the Hammer Museum hosted four First Friday events for the community. The events were all free and offered food and drink to visitors. Each event had a different focus from the new art acquisitions to a clue quest and bingo. As the summer progressed and word spread, more and more visitors attended our First Friday events.

## Meet the Interns

This season the museum welcomed two interns, Katelyn Dickerson and Jason Leuthold. This was the first season that both interns were able to stay the entirety of the summer, providing the museum a full staff up until the last cruise ship in September. Both interns have a passion for history and experience working in museums.

Katelyn, a graduate student at Eastern Illinois University, worked to redesign the museum's website as well as new rack cards, and an educational program. Jason, a recent graduate of Luther College, continued a cataloguing project started by the director this past winter. He photographed and inputted a large part of the museum's collection over the summer. Together the interns developed a fundraising event called Art & Hammer.

Both interns loved the town of Haines. Jason liked the hiking and scenery of the town. Katelyn enjoyed how friendly everyone was in town and the quirkiness of the community. Both of the interns were particularly smitten with the large number of dogs in town.



2016 interns, Katelyn and Jason

## 2016 Grants

This year the Hammer Museum earned several grants to continue operations and make improvements to the museum.

- Collections Management Grant from Museums Alaska (Round 1) - used to bring Dave Harvey to the museum

- Donna Matthews Professional Development Grant - used to bring director, Ashleigh, to the Museums Alaska Conference

- Grants-in-Aid from Alaska State Museums- used to purchase new window treatment to better protect the collections from UV light

- Collections Management Grant from Museums Alaska (Round 2, 15/16) - used to fund director Ashleigh's work over the winter to clean up the museum's collection catalog

- Art Acquisition - used to purchase Juneau artist, Rachael Juzeler's hammer artwork

### Upcoming Grants:

- Collections Management Grant from Museums Alaska (Round 2, 16/17) - will be used to continue Ashleigh's collection clean up project



Claw hammer display in the Materials Room

## Museum Conservator Comes to the Hammer Museum

In July the museum had the opportunity to invite conservator, Dave Harvey, to Haines along with three other Alaskan institutions. Harvey's visit stemmed from a collaborative grant-writing effort for the Museums Alaska collections management grant.

### The Visit

Harvey spent the first day in Haines out at Mosquito Lake assessing the collections storage situation. He stressed the conservation needs of the larger pieces, particularly from the Keathley family collection. While out the highway, Harvey also visited the Mosquito Lake School to view possible storage options. He highly suggested moving the collection to the school which would provide a dry, heated storage location for these important pieces.

On the second day, Harvey spent his time at the museum. He methodically went through the exhibits, critiquing all aspects of the collections' care and management. The two main suggestions he gave to the museum were: first, to give the current director more hours in order to complete major fundraising and outreach projects, secondly, he stressed the importance of collecting information on the provenances of the collection including stories from the founder.

# A Special Thanks

Many people have helped to make this 2016 season a success. We want to start by thanking our board, who as a whole, donated time, money, and supplies to the museum throughout the season. Board members also made the museum a priority by regularly attending First Friday events and checking in at the museum. Special thanks goes to Kelleen Adams for helping us make the Art & Hammer event so special by donating her supplies and experience. The Pahl family generously donated several items to the museum throughout the summer, including over thirty hammers for painting at Art and Hammer.

The museum would also like to thank the Marks Family Foundation for its continued support of the internship program. Museum organizations such as Museums Alaska and Alaska State Museums have likewise been invaluable to the progress the Hammer Museum has made in the past year to grow as an organization and continue to uphold relevant museum standards.

Finally the museum wants to thank local business for being so generous throughout the summer including: Olerud's Market, Haines Home True Value, Fogcutter, Pioneer Bar, Harbor Bar, Miles Furniture, Lutak Lumber, Alaska Sports Shop, and Fort Seward Lodge. We are also grateful that the Sheldon Museum and American Bald Eagle Foundation continue to support our organization.

## Changes to the Board

We are sad to announce that two long-time board members Joe Ordonez and Tom Spencer have decided to step down from their board positions at the end of the term this year. Despite enjoying their time working with other board members and staff, they have both acknowledge that it is time for a change. With years of collective board member experience, these board members' wisdom and perpetual support will be missed. We are excited to see what they do next!



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## New Acquisitions

The Hammer Museum received several donations over the course of the 2016 season. We want to give a special thanks to individuals that have generously donated artifacts related to our mission and which strengthen our collection.

- Rachael Juzeler's hammer art pieces, funded by the Rasmussen Foundation
- Art Shoes, donated by Michael Marks
- Candy hammers and a small broad axe, donated by Gene Kennedy
- Apple churner, donated by Michael Marks
- Metal work tinner's hammer, donated by Dave Vogel
- Poi pounder and poi board, loaned by Kalani Kanahele

## Contact Us

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