# **2018 ANNUAL REPORT**



PRATT m u s e u m

# The Pratt Museum continues to strengthen relationships between people and place through the preservation and exhibition of stories relevant to Kachemak Bay. All

stories, whether they describe the experiences of individuals, cultures, or ecosystems are relevant to understanding this interdependent community of people and place that we call home. Through its mission, the Pratt Museum hopes to sustain these unique relationships far into the future. 2018 marked a significant period of transition as the Museum celebrated 50 years of serving the community while simultaneously embarking on a renovation project that will improve accessibility and collections stewardship into a new era!

# **Key Accomplishments in 2018**



## **50 YEARS OF INSPIRATION**

On July 28, a *Ritzy Garden Gala* was held to celebrate the anniversary of the Museum first opening its doors to the public on June 1, 1968. The Homer Society of Natural History, Inc., which formed in 1955, worked with the City of Homer to create a museum where the community could learn about and become inspired by the natural wonders of Kachemak Bay. The Museum, named for Sam and Vega Pratt who donated the land on which the Museum sits, continues to preserve inspiring human and ecological stories.

#### PRATT MUSEUM LEADERSHIP

#### Core Staff 2018

Scott Bartlett, Exhibits Curator
Jennifer Bartolowits, Finance Manager
Kelly Behen, Visitor Services
Savanna Bradley, Collections Manager
Filomena Concia, Visitor Services
Yarrow Hinnant, Gardener
Art Koeninger, Facilities Manager
Chessie Sharp, Education Director
Laurie Stuart, Executive Director
Sevea Sueltenfuess, Admin Assistant

#### **Board of Directors 2018**

Monica Garcia-Itchoak Sara Jackinsky, Treasurer Ahnie Litecky, Secretary Jeff Meyers, Vice-President Adele Person Linda Rowell, President



### **OUTREACH IMPACT**



20,830 Visitors through Admissions & Tours 1,988 Students & Adults through Programs

### **2018 EXHIBITS SERIES**

To celebrate its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the Pratt Museum curated a special series of exhibits throughout the year. 2018 began with "Curator's Closet", a retrospective collaboration between current and prior curators. "Curator's Closet" highlighted staff favorites from the collection and included discussions about how artifacts come to be included in the permanent collection. We asked the community what tangible items in their homes were passed from generation to generation and what gave those items value over time.

April –June showcased "What Ties Us Together" by Shirlene Cline. Cline explored cultural themes that tie the Kachemak Bay community together. Also in these months, artwork from local students gave us hundreds of colorful ideas about what the Kachemak Bay communities might look like in the next 50 years. Student ideas ranged anywhere from dinosaurs to a Pratt Museum in space!

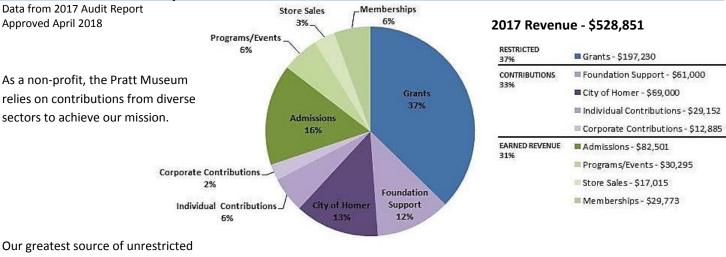
In July-September, Nathan Shafer's exhibit "Dirigibles of Denali" gave visitors a *paleofuture* experience as they experienced digital renditions of futuristic Alaskan communities that were originally designed in the 1960s. At the end of the summer, artist Katie Craney also showcased an exhibit inspired by her favorite Alaskan female writers.



### **RENOVATIONS BEGIN**

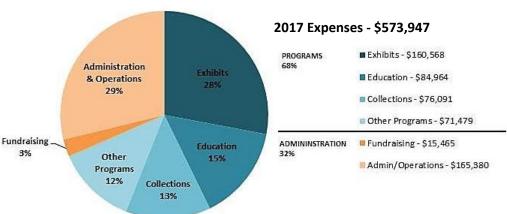
On September 5, the Museum closed its doors and began much-needed renovations to improve accessibility throughout the building, including an internal ramp and two hydraulic lifts. The downstairs is being redesigned into an expanded Collections stewardship area with a new library and dedicated education meeting space. Improvements are also being made on fire, security, and climate systems. These renovations have been funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the State of Alaska, Wynn Foundation, Patrons for the Pratt Society, and numerous local donors. Our doors will open again on May 4, 2019!

**Annual Financial Report** 



funds comes from the support of individual donors, members, and visitors.

On the expense side, over twothirds of our budget continues to be dedicated to the mission-based programs that serve our community.



# Donors, Sponsors, and Members!

THANK YOU to the individuals, local businesses, corporations, foundations, community organizations, and agencies that supported the Pratt Museum's mission through gifts, grants, memberships, sponsorships, and donations at the \$250+ level in 2017-2018.

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Alaska Training Room
Art Shop Gallery
Aurora Gems
Bay Excursions, LLC
Beachy Construction, Inc.
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Daniel's Guide Service
First National Bank Alaska
Grace Ridge Brewing
Haas & Spigelmyer, Inc.
Harbor 360 Hotel

Homer Inn & Sna

Homer Inn & Spa Homer Veterinary Clinic

Land's End

Peninsula Radiation Oncology Center

Petro 49, Inc. Ravn Alaska

Sea Lion Art & Lodging
Spenard Builders Supply
TOTE Maritime Alaska
True North Kayak Adventures
Ulmer's Drug & Hardware
Wild North Photography

#### **Foundations**

Carl E. Wynn Foundation Homer Foundation

# Government

Alaska State Council on the Arts Alaska State Museum City of Homer

Institute of Museum & Library Services National Endowment for the Arts National Endowment for the Humanities

## **Nonprofit Organizations**

Alaska SeaLife Center

Chugachmiut

Homer Kachemak Bay Rotary Club

Museums Alaska

Ninilchik Traditional Council

Patrons of the Pratt Society Seldovia Village Tribe

#### **Individual Donors**

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