Happy Holidays from the Ted Stevens Foundation!

We are grateful to our friends, community, partners, and donors as 2021 comes to a close.

(Above) Stevens Family 1983 Christmas Card Calendar (Stevens Foundation photo).

Donate Today!

ANCSA@50

December 18, 2021 marked the 50th anniversary of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) and the Ted Stevens Foundation has been actively working for over a year to help recognize and celebrate this milestone event!

We’ve provided numerous photographs and background materials to organizations across the state, including publications (Anchorage Daily News, Alaska Business Magazine, and Alaska Native Quarterly - Anchorage Press); Native Corporations including Bering Straits, Calista, Chugach, and Koniag; and organizations such as the Southcentral Foundation and the ANCSA Regional Association.

We also hosted a panel in partnership with University of Alaska Anchorage on December 16 featuring Willie Hensley, Guy Martin, and Bobbie Kilberg to discuss the history of ANCSA from the federal perspective.
As a result of the passage of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, monetary awards were made to Native regional corporations created by the Act on July 1, 1972 at the Anchorage Westward Hotel. Pictured L-R: Alaska Lt. Gov. Red Boucher, Mike Swetzof (Aleut League), Jack Wick (Koniag, Kodiak), Martin Olson (Bering Straits), George Miller (Cook Inlet Region), Joe Upickson (Arctic Slope), John Sackett (Doyon, Tanana Chiefs), Robert Marshall (Ahtna), Cecil Barnes (Chugach), Robert Newlin (NANA), Bob Willard (Sealaska), Morris Thompson (BIA area director), Sen. Stevens and Don Wright (AFN president). (Dept. of Interior/Stevens Foundation photo)

The panel coincided with the announcement of the donation of the ANCSA sub-collection of Senator Ted Stevens Papers to the UAA/APU Consortium Library’s Archives and Special Collections. Beginning early 2022, the public will be able to access Senator Stevens’ papers relating to the original passage of ANCSA on-site in Anchorage. Please see the UAA/APU Archives’ website for more info and for appointment scheduling.

And last, but not least, we are proud to present a documentary created by Cale Green at Sockeye Red Services with a grant from the Atwood Foundation, 50 Years of Promise: the Beginning of ANCSA. The documentary will be available for viewing on our YouTube page. More information about this project can be found at our website.

Awards

Congratulations to the following honorees:

Howard Rock & Ted Stevens Smokehouse Gala - November 20, 2021
- Yeidiklasókw, Kaaháni Rosita Worl, Ph.D. - Howard Rock Alaska Native Leader Award
- Nicole Borromeo - First Alaskans Institute Young Native Leader Award (and former Appropriations Committee staffer with Senator Stevens)
- Dr. Herb Illisaurri Schroeder - Friends of First Alaskans Ted Stevens Award

TAPS Honor Guard Gala - November 16, 2021
- Captain Nathaniel Lee, USSF - TAPS Senator Ted Stevens Leadership Award
- Master Sergeant Melissa Simpson, USAF (ret.) - TAPS Military Mentor of the Year

Cable Hall of Fame - November 15, 2021
- Bridget Baker (former Sen. Stevens’ staffer and current TSF board member)

(Below) 2021 Howard Rock & Ted Stevens Smokehouse Gala Awardees. Photo from First Alaskans Institute.
In keeping with the spirit of friendship and collaboration exhibited by Senator Dan Inouye and Senator Ted Stevens, the Ted Stevens Foundation was invited to partner with the Daniel K. Inouye Institute and Alaska’s Perseverance Theatre for the Hawai’i International Film Festival’s (HIFF) Future Filmmaker Showcase.

The Future Filmmaker Showcase is an annual event in Hawai’i created to encourage and highlight student filmmakers from 6th to 12th grade. Each year, student filmmakers are invited to submit a 1-5 minute film related to a chosen theme, which for 2021 was “The Greatest Generation & the COVID Generation: Hope & Resiliency in Unprecedented Times.”

This year, HIFF included a “Spotlight on Alaska” featuring a film, HERO’S CLIMB, by Alaskan student filmmaker Elizabeth Hope. Congratulations to Elizabeth, all of the student finalists and winners from this year’s showcase!

A special thank you to the team at HIFF, the Inouye Institute, and to Youth Ambassador Destin Daniel Cretton, director of Marvel Studio’s newest film Shang Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings, for inspiring the next generation!

To learn more about this program, please visit: https://hiff.org/home/dkiiopencall/
The Foundation said goodbye to two fantastic employees this year: photo curator Fran Durner, and archivist Elsie Eckman.

Both have retired and are enjoying their time outside of the historic papers and photographs stored at the Ted Stevens Foundation.

We are also looking to hire a new part-time processing archivist! If you know anyone interested in Alaska history, political studies, archives, or historic photographs - please let them know! No experience in archives is needed - on the job training will be offered.

If you'd like more information, please see our website at: https://tedstevensfoundation.org/employment/

From the Desk of the Archivists:

Senator Ted Stevens was involved in aviation for decades. He was inducted into the Alaska Aviation Museum’s Hall of Fame in 2020 and while researching his aviation history - the Ted Stevens Foundation archivists found a number of documents and photographs detailing his aviation achievements.

From being a pilot in the US Army Air Force during World War II, to supporting Alaska aviation safety, and becoming a certified float plane pilot - Sen. Stevens spent hours in the sky and countless hours helping to pass legislation related to aviation.

(Below) Speech from Alaska Aviation Field Hearing in Anchorage, AK on July 5, 2005.
GOOD MORNING, I WANT TO THANK EVERYONE FOR BEING HERE.

SECRETARY MINETA AND ADMINISTRATOR BLAKEY, THANK YOU FOR MAKING THE TRIP. IT IS AN HONOR TO HAVE BOTH OF YOU TESTIFYING TODAY.

ALASKA DEPENDS ON AVIATION MORE THAN ANY OTHER STATE. MORE THAN 70% OF OUR CITIES, TOWNS, AND VILLAGES CAN BE REACHED ONLY BY AIR.

INSTEAD OF CARS AND BUSES, WE HAVE AIRCRAFTS. ALASKA HAS SEVEN TIMES MORE LICENSED PILOTS THAN THE NATIONAL AVERAGE, ABOUT 21,000 ACTIVE PILOTS AND NEARLY 10,000 REGISTERED AIRCRAFT.

ALASKA ALONE REPRESENTS 20% OF OUR NATIONAL AIRSPACE.

AS OUR SKIES BECOME MORE AND MORE CONGESTED IT IS IMPORTANT WE UTILIZE OUR AIRSPACE EFFECTIVELY AND EFFICIENTLY.

I AM PROUD TO SAY ALASKA HAS BECOME A TEST SITE FOR TECHNOLOGIES AND SAFETY PROGRAMS THAT WILL BE THE FOUNDATION FOR THE NEW GENERATION OF SAFETY AND AIR TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT TECHNOLOGY.

WORKING CLOSELY WITH FAA, ALASKANS ARE TESTING THE CAPSTONE PROGRAM IN ALL INDUSTRY SECTORS AND FLYING CONDITIONS. OUR INDUSTRY CREATED THE FIVE STAR MEDALLION PROGRAM WHEN “ONE SIZE FITS ALL” FEDERAL MANDATES DID NOT WORK IN ALASKA.

Some of Senator Stevens aviation legislative accomplishments are:
- Essential Air Service Program
- Medallion Five Star Shield Program & Medallion Flyers Program
- Alaska Capstone Program
Rural Alaska Airport Lighting Program
FAA Airport Improvement Program
Bypass Mail Program
Airport Infrastructure
National Guard Air Rescue Squadron Funding


Stevens Foundation photos.

Thank you to all of our 2021 sponsors and supporters of the Ted Stevens Foundation.

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Mark Whatley

Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

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