



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

MEDIA CONTACTS:

Jeanette Moores Anchorage Museum 907-929-9227 jmoores@anchoragemuseum.org Kelly Eningowuk Inuit Circumpolar Council Alaska 907-274-9058 kelly@iccalaska.org

Inuit culture, society captured in photographs and stories

"I Am Inuit" exhibition focuses on the human dimension of Alaska's Arctic; opens at the Anchorage Museum Feb. 24, with gallery talk from 7 to 8 p.m.

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA – Feb. 24, 2017 – For the people who reside there, Alaska's Arctic isn't a curiosity, a wasteland or an untouched wilderness — it is home. The human dimension of the Arctic is the focus of "I Am Inuit", a project launched in 2015 by the Inuit Circumpolar Council-Alaska that connects people with the Arctic through a shared humanity.

The "I Am Inuit" exhibition opens at the Anchorage Museum Friday, Feb. 24, 2017. It features the photographs of Anchorage-based Iñupiaq editorial and commercial photographer Brian Adams, who specializes in environmental portraiture and medium-format photography.

Adams traveled to Inuit communities throughout the Alaska Arctic to capture Inuit (Iñupiat, Yup'ik, Cup'ik and St. Lawrence Island Yupik) life, culture and society through photographs and short stories for I Am Inuit. More than 20 villages and larger communities are represented, including Quinhagak, Teller, Shungnak, Point Hope, Wainwright, Anaktuvuk Pass, Kaktovik, Kotzebue, Buckland, Noorvik, Noatak, Nome, Shishmaref, Shaktoolik, White Mountain, Bethel, Hooper Bay, Alakanuk, Tuluksak, Utqiaqvik and Anchorage.

"I Am Inuit" is on view through Sept. 17, 2017. Adams gives a gallery talk from 7 to 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 24, which is included with museum admission. A version of this exhibition will travel to Fairbanks in May as part of the Week of the Arctic 2017, an event celebrating the culmination of the U.S. chairmanship of the Arctic Council.

Adams' environmental photography has been showcased in galleries throughout the United States. His 2013 book, I Am Alaskan, is a mix of portraiture and fine art that depicts the diverse people of Alaska.

Follow @IAMINUIT on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Instagram</u> and <u>Tumblr</u> or go to <u>iaminuit.org</u> to see more photographs and stories from the "I Am Inuit" project.

ABOUT THE ANCHORAGE MUSEUM

The largest museum in Alaska, the Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center tells the true story of the North by connecting people, expanding perspectives and encouraging global dialogue about the North and its distinct environment. The museum debuts a new wing in September 2017 that includes 25,000 additional square feet for its collection of Northern art, new Discovery Center space, and informal gallery and event space. Learn more at anchoragemuseum.org.

ABOUT INUIT CIRCUMPOLAR COUNCIL-ALASKA

Inuit Circumpolar Council (ICC)-Alaska is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that works on behalf of the Inupiat of the North Slope, Northwest and Bering Sraits Regions; St. Lawrence Island Yupik; and the Central Yup'ik and Cup'ik of the Yukon-Kiskokwim Region in Southwest Alaska. ICC-Alaska is a national member of ICC International. For more information visit iccalaska.org.

#

High resolution images for media use in the Anchorage museum's online media room.