McCausland To Support Educational Projects

The Alutiiq Museum has promoted Lauren McCausland to the position of Project Specialist. McCausland moved to Kodiak with her husband two years ago and began working as a temporary assistant in the museum’s gallery. Now, she is pursuing a bachelor’s degree in elementary education at Kodiak College, and helping the museum to implement its educational programs. Her duties include managing the museum’s traveling educational boxes, assisting with the development of publications, and supporting Alutiiq language documentation projects.

“I have really enjoyed my time working in the museum store and am excited to have an opportunity to continue to learn about Alutiiq culture and heritage more in depth while helping with the museum’s projects,” said McCausland. “I hope to be able to take what I learn into my future classroom and to continue to collaborate and work with the museum once I have graduated.”

“It’s exciting to have a developing teacher on our staff,” said Alutiiq Museum Executive Director April Laktonen Counceller. “We hired Lauren to assist with the increasingly busy summer tourist season and she quickly became an indispensable member of our team. As a classroom teacher, she will be a great advocate for cultural arts education. She knows our resources and will be able to help us connect more deeply with Kodiak educators. She is also helping us to make our resources teacher friendly.”

Originally from Seattle, McCausland is finding Kodiak a good fit. “I was a little wary moving from a big city to such a small town, but I love it here! I am really grateful for the opportunities I have had since moving here such as working at the museum, getting to explore the outdoors, and joining our local roller derby team.”

The Alutiiq Museum is a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving and sharing the history and culture of the Alutiiq, an Alaska Native tribal people. Representatives of Kodiak Alutiiq organizations govern the museum with funding from charitable contributions, memberships, grants, contracts, and sales.

Photo: Lauren McCausland. Photograph courtesy the Alutiiq Museum.