



## For Immediate Release

Alutiiq Museum & Archaeological Repository  
215 Mission Road, Suite 101, Kodiak, AK 99615  
Phone (844) 425-8844  
Home page: <http://www.alutiiqmuseum.org>

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CONTACT: Amanda Lancaster,  
[amanda@alutiiqmuseum.org](mailto:amanda@alutiiqmuseum.org)

### **Brent Watkins Named Volunteer of the Year**

In honor of Valentine's Day, the Alutiiq Museum likes to show a little love for its volunteers. We are fortunate to have many people who contribute their time and talents to our work. In 2019, 42 people gave over a hundred hours of support. We thank them all. To highlight the importance of our volunteers, we honor one outstanding contribution each year with our Volunteer of the Year award. For 2019, we picked Brent Watkins.

Watkins lives just up the street from the Alutiiq Museum, in our neighborhood. Watkins has been a very thoughtful neighbor donating his time to care for both the museum and the Alutiiq Ancestors' Memorial. He often took care of a need before we noticed it.

In June, he spent two, wet, days digging holes and mixing concrete to install the archway at the Alutiiq Ancestors' Memorial. Then, he helped to fasten 1243 salmon cutouts to the archway and voluntarily watered the park's greenery during last summer's unprecedented heat. We saw him on multiple occasions, hose in hand, caring for the landscaping. Sometimes he would water a barrel in the back of his van. Other days he would drag a hose from his house to the park. And after a recent heavy snow fall, he saw a large pile of snow blocking the intake to our HVAC system and moved it.

Why is he so willing to give his time? Brent said, "It is important to show how valuable the museum is for the community and how it elevates the community by giving people an opportunity to be involved." *Quyanaasinaq* Brent—we thank you most sincerely for your support.

Alutiiq Museum volunteers help set up for events, greet visitors, identify historic photographs, organize collections, work with archaeologists, review publications, assist with planning, serve on our advisory committees, and much more. To learn more about volunteering at the museum, please contact Djuna Davidson (844-425-8844, x20, [djuna@alutiiqmuseum.org](mailto:djuna@alutiiqmuseum.org)). We welcome all volunteers. No prior experience is necessary, and we will find an opportunity to fit your interests and schedule.

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.