



Centennial Celebration: June 16 - 19, 2010



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Celebration of Our Living Cultures

To mark the centennial, the park will host an inter-cultural celebration in which Tlingit clans of Southeast Alaska will host Alutiiq people of Kodiak Island. The two cultures were on opposite sides during the Battle of 1804 in Sitka, when Alutiiq in some cases were forced to serve the Russians as hunters and fighters. The Celebration of Our Living Cultures will provide an avenue for a local Tlingit clan to re-introduce a series of songs and dances to Alutiiq schoolchildren. Those songs and dances belong to the Alutiiq, but because of war and other strife, have long since disappeared from their culture.

Schedule, June 16 - 19, 2010

Wednesday, June 16

- Alutiiq school children arrivals
- Informal tours of Sitka

Thursday, June 17

- Interactive events with local youth and Tlingit groups
- Introduction of Alutiiq and Tlingit elders
- Tlingit song masters introduce the Alutiiq Series

Friday, June 18

- Practice session
- Tours of Sitka

Saturday, June 19

- Practice session
- Evening performance of Alutiiq songs and dances by Alutiiq and Tlingit school children

Tentative Activities

Other events may include memorial services with readings from Dauenhauer's book and moments of silence at Old Sitka and Poison Cove; and a boat trip on an Allen Marine boat with a drop-down bow.



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A Window into South Alaska Native Cultures

The park will coordinate a city-wide June display of Alutiiq art – at our visitor center, at local museums and art galleries, and through local artists of Alutiiq descent. Displays of masks, hats and baskets will provide comparisons and contrasts among the Alutiiq and the Tlingit.



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