

# 2017 Yakutat Tern Festival Seminars and Special Events

June 1-4

## Wednesday:

Wednesday 630PM: The film Moana will be shown in the high school auditorium (ALL AGES WELCOME)

## Thursday

Thursday 6PM: Opening Reception

Join festival committee members and presenters to kick off the festival with a barbecue and softball games (ages 13 and up). Festival organizers will be on hand to answer questions about the festival and early registration will be available. THIS EVENT IS FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

## Friday

Friday 8-11AM: Mist Netting and Bird Banding Demonstration

Licensed bird bander Denise Turley will demonstrate the use of mist nets to capture, band, and safely release songbirds. Feel free to stop in any time between 8 and 11AM.

Friday 11-2: Lunch

Navajo Tacos by LaDonna James.

Friday 12-1: Harvest and Use of Wild Resources in Yakutat during 2015.

In January 2016, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game surveyed 100 Yakutat households about their subsistence activities during 2015. The purpose of the project is to document the harvest and use of wild resources by residents of Yakutat over time and to examine how patterns have changed in response to social and environmental change. This presentation will provide an overview of the survey results and seek input about them from community members.

Friday 6PM: Opening Remarks and Fundraiser Dinner

Opening remarks and fundraiser dinner with proceeds going to the JOM Mt. St. Elias Dancers. Funds raised through the dinner and performance will go towards travel to Celebration 2018 in Juneau or other future dance gatherings.

Friday 7PM: Terns: Birds that Connect People the World Over

There are many species of terns across the world, including the Aleutian and Arctic terns that nest every year in the Yakutat area. These birds are highly mobile and their migrations connect Alaska with many other parts of the world, including North and South America, Asia, and even Antarctica! Guest speaker Don Lyons will discuss the amazing movements of terns and some important things we can do to protect them. Warning: this talk may also include several very corny puns!

#### Friday 8PM: Mt. St. Elias Dance Performance

Following Don Lyons' presentation, don't miss a glimpse into Yakutat's strong cultural heritage with the Mt. St. Elias Dancers performance.

## Saturday

**Note:** Bag lunches will be available for pick up Saturday morning through lunch time. Must order in advance; please see registration table for more information and to place orders.

#### Saturday 8-11AM: Mist Netting and Bird Banding Demonstration

Licensed bird bander Denise Turley will demonstrate the use of mist nets to capture, band, and safely release songbirds. Feel free to stop in any time between 8 and 11AM.

#### Saturday 2PM: Subsistence Harvest of Birds and Eggs in Alaska

For thousands of years, birds have been important food and cultural resources for Alaska's indigenous peoples. Lili will talk about this relationship between people and birds including harvest numbers across Alaska, especially for seabirds and their eggs.

#### Saturday 3PM: Ecological Connections in Southeast Alaska's Rainforest

What do willows have to do with bears? Or glaciers with salmon or bears? Or fungi with trees and ferns? An intricate network of interactions connects familiar and unfamiliar parts of the rainforest ecosystem, sometimes in surprising ways. Join ecologist Mary F. Willson to explore these fascinating ecological connections.

#### Saturday 4PM: *Strings & Stories* with Linda Rosenthal and Bill Blush

*Strings & Stories* is a two-person show that combines music and theater in a delightful kaleidoscope of favorite children's stories, classical music, whimsical mime, and improvisation. It is fast-paced, interactive, educational and fun for audiences of every age.

#### Saturday 6PM: Fundraiser dinner

Fundraiser dinner benefitting the Yakutat area Alaska Native Brotherhood/Sisterhood.

#### Saturday 7PM: Kayla Drumm: Partnerships in restoring Yakutat's Beaches

Recent Yakutat high school graduate Kayla Drumm will discuss an ongoing and collaborative program initiated by the Yakutat City and Borough in 2007 to monitor and remove marine debris from Yakutat area beaches.

#### Saturday 715PM: Keynote Speaker Julia Parrish: Seabirds, Citizen Science, and a Warming World

In 2013, the "Blob" (a lens of unusually warm water the size of Canada!) invaded the surface of the North Pacific, provoking ecosystem responses from harmful algal blooms to elevated mortality of marine mammals. Within the seabird community, the response included five mass mortality events between 2014 and 2017, collectively accounting for millions of birds. This is the largest avian response to ocean warming ever documented, and orders of magnitude above baseline rates. And we know this because thousands of coastal residents from California to Alaska have diligently collected data on beachcast marine birds on a monthly basis. Citizen science is a growing phenomena allowing the non-science public access to data collection, monitoring, and research projects across the spectrum of science. The Coastal Observation and Seabird Survey Team (COASST) is a 17 year old citizen science program with ~800 active participants. At ~75,000 birds of ~175 species found, COASSTers discover the patterns that define "normal" annual signals. And with this almanac, COASST data have been used to assess the impacts of a changing climate and empower thousands of coastal residents to participate in science and conservation.

## Sunday

**Note:** Bag lunches will be available for pick up Sunday morning through lunch time. Must order in advance; please see registration table for more information and to place orders.

#### Sunday 8AM: Registration for Wild Man Running/Fat Tire Bike Race

Please register at least 30 minutes before your planned event. Children under 10 must be accompanied by an adult or guardian. \$25 entry fee. Running and biking courses can be entered as a 2-person relay team. See flyer for more details.

#### Sunday 9AM: Wildman Runners Start (\$25 entry fee)

The course begins and ends at Cannon Beach Pavilion. Total running distance is 7 miles.

#### Sunday 930AM: Wildman Bike Race Start (\$25 entry fee)

The course begins and ends at Cannon Beach Pavilion. Total distance is 8 miles.

#### Sunday 1130AM-1PM: Fundraiser Lunch

Fundraiser lunch at the end of the race route at Cannon Beach, with proceeds benefitting the Mt. St. Elias Dancers.

#### Sunday 2PM: Bird Treatment and Learning Center (TLC) Live Bird Presentation

Volunteer handlers from the Alaska Bird Treatment and Learning Center (TLC) will present a live bird program, featuring Ghost, a snowy owl, and Flame, the short eared owl. Learn more about these species' ecology, conservation, and the role of the Anchorage based Bird TLC.

Sunday 3PM: Award ceremony

Winners of the silent auction, Alaska Airlines raffle, youth photo contest, and various youth awards will be announced.