

See Stories

Building inclusive communities with film and story.

SEE STORIES FURTHER EXPANDS PROGRAMMING IN SOUTHEAST ALASKA

See Stories has recently expanded our programs in Southeast Alaska, with our Education Programs Manager, Seth Bader, leading the charge.



HIGHLIGHTING SEE STORIES' GROWING LONG-TERM WORK

From our growing intern program to Teacher Professional Development to Curriculum Design, See Stories work continues to expand our mission throughout Alaska.

INCLUSION SUMMIT BRINGS SEE STORIES COMMUNITY TOGETHER

This May, See Stories hosted a one-day Inclusion Summit with a theme of "How to Live Our Mission," inviting See Stories supporters to envision and help plan our future.



SEE STORIES SPRING WORKSHOPS



- Zines & Dreams at McLaughlin Youth Center
- Shakespeare & Hip Hop at McLaughlin Youth Center
- Cultures, Careers, and Communities Podcasting Workshop at Bettye Davis East Anchorage High School & West Anchorage High School

- Anchored Histories Digital Storytelling
- Podcasting & Digital Storytelling as Culturally Responsive Teaching Tools

- Exploring Identity & Culture through Media Arts at Yakoosgé Alternative High School in Juneau
- Exploring Community & Place Film Workshop at Montessori Borealis Public School in Juneau
- Angoon Alumni Project
- Stories of the Land: Wrangell Youth Media Arts

Expanding programming in Southeast Alaska

See Stories has recently expanded our programs in Southeast Alaska, with our Story Educator, Seth Bader, leading the charge. We were able to partner with schools in Juneau and Wrangell to lead filmmaking workshops, as well as returning to Angoon to further support students with filmmaking projects.



Students interview Tsimshian elder and artist Abel Ryan.

Earlier this Spring, Seth facilitated "Exploring Culture & Identity through Media Arts" at Yakoosgé Daakahidi High School to produce short documentary films inspired by the general theme of "Change-makers in Juneau," focusing on organizations, community members, values important to Juneau, and those who have made an impact in the greater Juneau community. 13 students worked on this project as part of their "Spring Workshop" series, an annual event at YDHS. Watch their films here.

*This project was funded by a DEED
after-school programs grant*

YAKOOSGÉ DAAKAHIDI SPRING '23 FILMS

Exploring Community and Place

This spring we also partnered with Montessori Borealis Public School in Juneau where 30 students worked on this project daily as the main hands-on project of their humanities class for the spring quarter. This program was unique in that our Story Educator worked with Montessori Borealis during a two-week intensive, but the students continued to work on their films for the remainder of the quarter. The students worked together to create some quality films that they debuted at the end of their quarter at the Alaska State Museum. We are grateful to the amazing staff at Alaska State Museum and the staff and students at Montessori Borealis for collaborating with us. You can view their films below.



Montessori students were deeply invested in every aspect of film making from investigating their film topics to interviewing community members to experimenting with all the equipment!

MONTESSORI BOREALIS SPRING '23 FILMS

This project was funded by Alaska DEED with the Afterschool Programs Grant.

Wrangell: Stories of the Land

See Stories worked with Stikine Middle school teacher, Laura Davies and 18 Stikine 7th-8th students. Students worked cooperatively to document and tell stories reflecting the long and varied relationships people have had with the land and water around Wrangell. For this project, intergenerational exchange was prioritized between students in Wrangell and elders in the community. This led to some powerful exchanges between



Wrangell students interview tribal members and elders at Chief Shakes House, a replica of the traditional Tlingit clan house of the Naanyaa.aayi Clan. (Photo Seth Bader)

students and their families members on a topic that is important to the culture of their family, like fishing, hunting, or crabbing.

You can view their films below and also read a feature of See Stories in Wrangell Sentinel- local newspaper in Wrangell.



WRANGELL: STORIES ON THE LAND FILMS

SEE STORIES WRANGELL SENTINEL FEATURE

This project was funded by Crossett Foundation and Youth Cultural Heritage Grant through Alaska State Council on the Arts through KTOO, contracting See Stories for youth education services.

Angoon Alumni Project



See Stories' Long Term Work

Through generous funding from the Angoon School, the Alaska State Council on the Arts Youth Cultural Heritage Alumni Grant, and the RURALCap Youth Development & Culture Grant, we were able to continue working with youth in Angoon to support their filmmaking efforts. Luke created a documentary about Angoon's water supply, interviewing his Grandpa who works at the water plan. This summer Luke and his classmate Tatum will serve as paid interns, using their digital storytelling skills to create short films about place-based topics they are passionate about. A special thanks to Kootznoowoo, Inc. for funding the summer internships!

See Stories Intern Program

This past spring, See Stories implemented an intern program with our Podcasting workshops at Bettye Davis East Anchorage High School and West High School. These intern students worked hard, grew, and were able to build more skills in podcasting, mentoring, and storytelling. Read about their experiences on our website or view our [instagram](#) to see their Takeover posts.



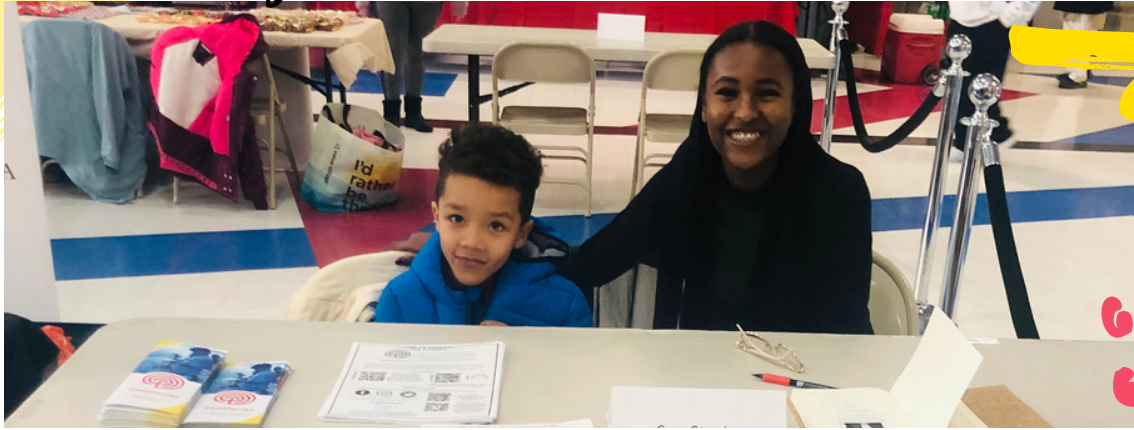
EAST: MAXIMUS



EAST: LILY

WEST: DAFINA

Alaska's Untaught Histories



Iqlas pictured with Marie's son, Will, during a nonprofit fair last fall.



Iqlas Dubed is a See Stories alum who has been a part of our filmmaking and podcasting workshops in Anchorage. Now a college student, Iqlas has been partnering with See Stories to develop ground breaking content.

I firmly believe that in order for individuals to be truly educated on social issues in Alaska, we must incorporate them into our mainstream education system...

Read the rest of Iqlas' advocacy for Alaska History Studies Reform below

Guest Feature: Iqlas Dubed

My name is Iqlas Dubed, and I'm currently a student at the University of Alaska Anchorage. I'm pursuing a major in Political Science. Having been born in Ethiopia and raised here in Anchorage, I embrace my Somali and Ethiopian identity while also considering Alaska my home.

Equality and inclusion is something I hold dearly to my heart, particularly for underserved communities in Alaska. Advocating for their rights and ensuring their voices are heard is a cause I'm passionate about.

While taking the Alaska Studies course myself, I noticed a concerning pattern. Alaska Studies was treated merely as an insignificant subject, lacking the recognition it deserves. The course's teaching approach and design undermine Alaska's profound historical background, resulting in a lack of understanding and appreciation for indigenous communities.

Collaborator Highlight



PRESS RELEASE: ADVOCACY FOR ALASKA HISTORY REFORM

LISTEN TO IQLAS' PODCAST EPISODE: ALASKA'S UNTAUGHT HISTORIES

The Alaska Myth



a podcast by Rosebay Audio, hosted and executive produced by Kaitlin Armstrong



"The Alaska Myth," a new podcast by Rosebay Audio hosted by Kaitlin Armstrong and produced in partnership with See Stories, explores how settler myths shape ideas about Alaska's history and identity, and the consequences of those myths. The trailer

drops soon! To make sure you're one of the first to hear it, and get new content from the podcast, subscribe to "The Alaska Myth" newsletter at thealaskamyth.com or follow [@thealaskamyth](https://twitter.com/thealaskamyth).

Teacher Professional Development

aurora

a natural electrical phenomenon characterized by the appearance of streamers of reddish or greenish light in the sky



Stills from RJ Sedor's film "Aurora Stories" created during this course



New Media and Oral Traditions

Guest Feature: Roben Itchoak,

Roben is an Inupiaq educator from Northwest

Alaska and serves on the steering committee that led the teacher professional development workshop, New Media and Oral Traditions. She previously took this class from See Stories and wrote the following about the magic she felt through taking & then leading this course.

Just as magnificent places stir feelings of awe and wonder, so do the stories teachers have to tell about their experiences of their work of shaping the lives of youth. When I reflect on the Spring 2023 New Media and Oral Tradition teacher training, I am reminded of how it is one experience to walk with someone along the shore in silence as observers, and an entirely different experience walking along the same shore listening and talking about the ever-changing wonders of nature. It seems no matter how often one walks along a familiar shore the

more that walk is walked with others, infinite surprises are revealed in previously unseen or unheard nooks and crannies that are constantly being changed by time and tides.

Witnessing the development of storytelling is very similar. It is one experience to teach others how to research, write, and utilize technology to produce audio and visual stories for assessment and evaluation, and quite another experience to do the same except the stories are created to express very specific and meaningful moments of a human's experience for uniquely specific purposes of educating others in how to observe, interpret, and shape their world. Being part of an activity that purposefully and intentionally documents life as it is is shaping me into a happy social studies teacher who listens for stories.

Inclusion Summit Brings See Stories Community Together



Guest Feature:
Aud Pleas,
Board Chair

I don't think I can capture the dopeness of the See Stories Summit unless you were there. From the musical stylings of Tayy Tarantino to the scores of youth who showed up to viewing samples of their work to Kevin McGill's off the cuff freestyle, it was an experience I am still reminiscing about.



On May 4th we took over BP Energy Center for a few hours to celebrate our students, community members and partners who've assisted in the evolution of our organization. This was also a time we invited our stakeholders to help us craft a vision of our future and focus our goals over the next five years.

To witness our Board of Directors and students engage with the attendees and facilitate authentic interactions of discovery was beyond cool. We were able to revisit the pillars of success that helped raise this organization and explore elements that would allow us to continue the work we do throughout Alaska. On behalf of the Board, I want to express my gratitude and appreciation for everyone able to attend in person in addition to those who contributed to the success of the event who were unable to make it.



When we thrive together, we fly together.

Thank you to all those who contributed to the See Stories Summit!



Thank you to the 123 Dollar Store on Debarr for the best catering! & thank you to everyone who donated to our silent auction!

Welcome to our new board members!



Marilyn Sigman,
Treasurer



Michaela Stith



Roger Reisman



**Andrés Javier
Camacho**



Emily Anna Lucy

Thank you to our Anchorage collaborators!

We also greatly appreciated our collaborators and local Anchorage teachers that led our programs in Anchorage! If you missed any updates on our Anchorage workshops or any of our workshops, head on over to our [Instagram](#) or [Facebook](#) pages and give us a like and follow. We will continue to roll out student-produced films and podcasts on our vimeo and podbean.



**Simonetta Mignano & Guest
Teacher, Susan Joy Share of
Zines & Dreams**



**Keith McGill & Tayy
Tarantino of
Shakespeare & Hip Hop**



**Mona Grib & Kim Liland of
Podcasting at West Anchorage
High School and East Anchorage
High School**



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