



Ketchikan

MUSEUMS

TOTEM HERITAGE CENTER

Totem Heritage Center 50th Anniversary Commemorative Design CALL TO ARTISTS

The Totem Heritage Center opened in 1976, stewarding the world's largest collection of original 19th century totem poles and serving as a Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian cultural center. This fall, we celebrate 50 years of the Heritage Center's long-standing partnership with Alaska Native elders and organizations, artists, teachers, students, and our community working together to preserve the totem poles for future generations.

The Totem Heritage Center's Native Arts Studies Program is dedicated to perpetuating Northwest Coast Native art and tradition. Since the Heritage Center opened, we have offered more than 700 classes and workshops in weaving, basketry, design, carving, regalia making, and more.

We celebrate the past 50 years and look forward to the future!

CALL FOR ART

The Totem Heritage Center requests two-dimensional design proposals to be used to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Center. The chosen design will be used as a logo on all Totem Heritage Center 50th Anniversary publications and promotions, printed on a commemorative poster, and potentially used on event memorabilia such as, and not limited to, mugs, pins, and other products and gifts recognizing and promoting the Totem Heritage Center. \$1,000 will be awarded for the chosen design.

The original artwork of the chosen design will become the property of the City of Ketchikan.

SELECTION CRITERIA

A selection panel will review the proposals and make recommendations to the Totem Heritage Center. The selection panel will include community representatives of various government, social service, historical, arts, and cultural organizations.

The selection criteria includes:

- Artwork should reflect and celebrate the Totem's Heritage Center's 50 years of sharing the stories and cultural legacy of the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian.
- Submissions must be original design and original artwork.
- No AI generated artwork will be accepted.

- Artistic merit
- Scalability and technical feasibility (i.e. Will the design look good both large and very small, in color and black & white)
- Artists with a connection to the Totem Heritage Center are encouraged to apply

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Digital artwork must be in a scalable vector format (EPS or PDF) or full-size high-resolution (300+ dpi) image file (PNG or JPG).

Traditional, non-digital artwork should be no smaller than 8.5” x 11” and no larger than 11” x 17”. Artists should be aware that in the digitization of drawings or paintings for promotional use, staff will do their best to honor and maintain the original design but some slight variations may occur through scanning, photography, etc.

Submissions can be:

- Emailed to marnirickelmann@ketchikan.gov
- Mailed to Ketchikan Museums, 629 Dock St, Ketchikan, AK, 99901
 - If mailed, enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you would like your design returned if it is not chosen.
- Dropped off at the Totem Heritage Center, 601 Deermount St, Ketchikan, AK 99901

Please include the following information with your submission:

- Artist Name
- Mailing Address
- Phone
- Email
- Title of Design
- Explanation/Inspiration for Design

DEADLINE

Design submissions must be received by 5:00 PM, June 30, 2026.

FOR QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT:

Totem Heritage Center, 907-225-5900, marnirickelmann@ketchikan.gov
Ketchikan Museums, 907-225-5600, samanthaforsko@ketchikan.gov