

HOLLAND-ALASKA EXCHANGE 2004: HOW THE PROJECT BEGAN

In 1979, Dutchman Peter Hoevenaars scaled Mount McKinley and fell in love with Alaska. Twenty-five years later, in May 2004, Peter organized a unique cultural exchange which allowed several Alaskan artists and musicians to exhibit their work and perform in his home town of Bergen op Zoom, Holland over a period of two weeks.



Photographers Anke Hoeper and Kate Wool mounted an exhibit of Alaska photos shot from Barrow to Kodiak. Painters David Mollett and Tony and Julia Crocetto also showed their work. Alaska's renowned bluegrass band, McLeod, and musicians Denise Martin and Jim Kerr gave several performances, and they also played for the students of the local music school and for the opening of the Alaska exhibit at the town museum.

During this same two-week period, representatives of the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute hosted a culinary open house featuring their products. A local movie theater presented special screenings of "Nanook of the North", and dog sledding demonstrations were held in the town's main park.

This unique presentation of Alaska art and culture was made possible through Peter's hard work and the generous donations of many Dutch sponsors. This cultural exchange was well-received by the community, and it was lauded by both the Mayor of Bergen op Zoom and the United States Ambassador to the Netherlands, Clifford Sobel.

www.akice.org

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Alaska/Holland



A project of
Alaska International Cultural Exchange
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ALASKA-HOLLAND EXCHANGE 2006

To continue Peter Hoevenaars' vision, a committee comprised of Alaskans who visited Holland in 2004 is now seeking corporate sponsorship that will enable select representatives from the Netherlands to visit Alaska and share their unique talents and cultural experiences with us here in the Great Land. These visitors are sure to gain knowledge of our state and enjoy what our community has to offer! The committee is planning a program that will include:

- Music, dance, and song from the Netherlands
- Dutch art and photography exhibits
- Dutch films
- Culinary specialties prepared by guest cooks
- Science exhibits and school lectures

Won't you help support what promises to be an important and exciting cultural exchange?!

**Target date for
Alaska-Holland
Exchange:
September, 2006**

Learn more at
www.akice.org

**Alaska International Cultural
Exchange, Inc. (AKICE)**
A non-profit organization
www.akice.org



Proposals for the Sept. 2006 Alaska-Holland Exchange:

MUSIC / FILM: Two **Jazz groups** from Holland are under consideration. One of these a quartet which provided live accompaniment for a special screening of the classic movie "**Nanook of the North**" during the 2004 Holland/Alaska Exchange. This quartet, led by Andre Goudbeek of the Dutch group "Willem Breuker Collectief", played an original score written specially for "Nanook". This special screening was the best-attended movie ever shown in Bergen op Zoom. If the quartet is sponsored for the 2006 Exchange, another such screening can take place in Alaska with live musical accompaniment. (see <http://www.cinemaparadiso.nl/nanook.html>) Dutchman Peter van Baal, who runs special film programs at the Cinema Paradiso in Bergen op Zoom, is prepared to bring other Dutch films and documentaries to Alaska.

CUISINE: The top chef in the Netherlands is **Harry van Heyst**, the chef de cuisine at the Hotel De Draak (see <http://www.hoteldedraak.nl/en/index2.htm>) Harry prepared lunch for the U.S. ambassador when he visited Bergen op Zoom during the 2004 Exchange. Harry is skilled in preparing Alaskan seafood, and he would be a perfect guest chef at a hotel or restaurant in Anchorage.

Holland is famed for its high-quality chocolates. The 2006 Exchange plans to feature Dutch chocolates in a variety of fillings and shapes, including light, dark, and white chocolates. (See, for example, <http://www.boulangers.nl/>)

DANCE: Representatives from the youth dance group "**Grondwerk**" are available to visit Alaska in 2006. These students from Bergen op Zoom offer modern dance performances.

EDUCATION / LECTURES : The United States recently experienced terrible loss of life and property from a hurricane that flooded the low-lying coastal areas of Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama. The Dutch people suffered a similar catastrophe in 1953, when a huge storm broke through their dikes and flooded large areas of their country. (More than one-third of all the land in Holland sits below sea level.)

Determined never to suffer a repeat of this disaster, the Dutch people began construction of the "Delta Works" — one of the greatest hydraulic engineering projects in history. This series of dams and moveable sea walls, constructed over a 40-year period, is designed to prevent the sea from ever again flooding the communities of Holland.

As part of the 2006 Exchange, we plan to have Dutch experts describe the construction and operation of the Delta Works in a series of public lectures and school assemblies.

Updates on the proposals can be found at **www.akice.org**

**Dutch Artists
under consideration for
Alaska-Holland Exchange 2006:**

Jan Wessendorp



Dees Goosen



Yvette Bakker



Jaques & Marie Jose Bakker



Gerrit Westerveld



**View samples of these
artists' work at
www.akice.org**