



EYAK,
TLINGIT,
HAIDA,
TSMISHIAN
VILLAGE SITE



Ulaq

Qiqpaq

Tlingit: Nao Hiti
Haida: Xaapda Nnaac, na
Tsimshian: Wap Nageyik

Carving Shed

TALKING
CIRCLE

LAKE
TIULANA

VILLAGE
CIRCLE

OUTDOOR DECK

Raven's Call
Cafe

GATHERING
PLACE

CROSSROADS

Exit to Village Sites

HERITAGE
GIFTS

Welcome
Desk

Restrooms

Restrooms

Restrooms

Restrooms

THEATER

HALL OF
CULTURES

Artist Studios

Cultural Galleries

Feature Walls

Raven
the
Creator

Main
Entrance



INUPIAQ/
ST. LAWRENCE
ISLAND YUPIK
VILLAGE SITE

Restrooms

Qaqg

Gray Whale Exhibit

YUP'IK/
CUP'IK
VILLAGE SITE

Qasq

ATHABASCAN
VILLAGE SITE

Qeny'a

CULTURAL SYMBOLS

Alaska's Native people are divided into eleven distinct cultures, speaking twenty-one different languages. In order to tell the stories of this diverse population, the Alaska Native Heritage Center is organized based on five cultural groups, which draw upon cultural similarities or geographic proximity. Throughout the Center, these cultural symbols are used to depict each of the five groups:

ATHABASCAN

Made of dentition shells and beads, the **'U'ayasi or Chief's Necklace** symbolizes the Athabascan culture.

It is a symbol of power, pride and protection. Great chiefs throughout the vast Athabascan region wore such necklaces.



The **Ellingqooq or Eye of Anawanaq** is universally recognized and appreciated by all Yup'ik and Cup'ik people. Its design is frequently seen in masks, dance fans, heaving tools and handlets. The **Ellingqooq** also helps educate others about the depth and richness of the symbolic universe of this cultural group.

INUPIAQ/ ST. LAWRENCE ISLAND YUPIK

"The first thing we do when we all get together is to sing... the **Saayyaq** (Ellingqooq) brings us all together." The **Saayyaq or Drum** is used at all gatherings and ceremonies. In some Inupiat dialects the word for the "skin" of the drum also means "future eye" relating to the "eye of anawanaq."

ALUUTIQ

The **Hunter** in a **Qeqpaq** or **iqpaq** represents the Alutic/Aliut culture's relationship with the ocean and its resources. The split bow of the kayak, and the sea lion whiskers on the heaving vice are distinctive features of the Alutic/Aliut culture. The split bow is an advanced design feature that aided the hunter in navigating the turbulent waters of the region.

EYAK, TLINGIT, HAIDA, TSMISHIAN

In the past, a chief would commission the making of a **Copper or Totem** (Tlingit) to be given away at a potlatch. Depending upon the event, the copper would either be given away whole or in pieces. This symbol was chosen to represent the cultures of the Southeast region because copper was a valued trading item. The avoid design on the copper was used in the artwork of all four cultures in this region.

