

DATE: Jan. 2, 2019 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE CONTACT: Stephenie Wheeler, 265-2671, cell 382-3327 or Tim Sullivan, 265-2357, cell 223-7372

## Railroad solicits ideas for 2020 official art print Submission deadline is Feb. 22, 2019

ANCHORAGE, Alaska – In 1979, the Alaska Railroad (ARRC) began an annual art print (and poster) tradition. Four decades later, the tradition continues, as the railroad repeats a request for artists around the state to submit ideas for scenes that depict ARRC trains, routes and adventures.

Entries for the 2020 art print contest are due by Friday, Feb. 22, 2019. Once an entry is selected, ARRC will commission the artist to create a final version to be the basis for the railroad's official 2020 commemorative print, poster and gift shop merchandise. In turn, the program helps participating artists gain exposure with a connection to a beloved icon of the 49<sup>th</sup> state.

Artist submissions must include an Alaska Railroad theme. ARRC retains all rights to the artwork. From the completed artwork, the Alaska Railroad produces up to 750 signed and numbered prints, several thousand posters and several thousand lapel pins. The railroad pays the artist \$3,000 and provides 10 artist proofs and 20 posters. The artist agrees to participate in print/poster sale-and-signing events in Anchorage and in Fairbanks. Signing events may also occur in an additional community, depending on the subject of the artwork. The Alaska Railroad pays for the artist's travel expenses.

A list and images of previous ARRC art prints are available on the railroad's web site at: www.AlaskaRailroad.com > Corporate > In the Community (click on Annual Alaska Railroad Art Contest).

Artists should submit a sketch no larger than 11 x 17 inches. To provide some context, artists should also include several samples of their finished artwork.

Mail or hand-deliver submissions to the attention of John Simmons, Passenger Depot Services Manager:

- Mailing address: Alaska Railroad, P.O. Box 107500, Anchorage, AK 99510-7500
- Hand Delivery: ARRC Headquarters, 327 W. Ship Creek Avenue in Anchorage
- Drop off between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.
- Questions? Contact John Simmons at 907-265-2242, <u>SimmonsJ@akrr.com</u>, or Stephenie Wheeler at 907-265-2671, <u>WheelerS@akrr.com</u>

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The railroad will notify the selected artist via telephone and by U.S. mail by mid-March 2019. The railroad will return submitted materials to artists who include a self-addressed, stamped envelope, or who pick up their submitted materials in person. Submissions not picked up or mailed by April 5, 2019, will be discarded.

Dates to Remember:

December 1, 2018 – the contest entry period began

February 22, 2019 – print contest submissions must be received by 5:00 p.m.

early March 2019 – Committee review complete; winning entry selected.

mid-March, 2019 – Artists are notified of contest results.

April 1, 2019 – Submissions must be retrieved (or mailed in self-addressed/stamped envelope).

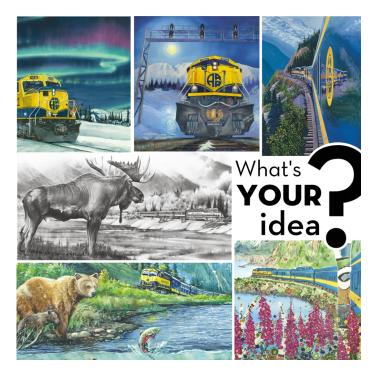
April 5, 2018 – Submissions not retrieved will be discarded.

August 5, 2019 – Chosen artist must deliver completed artwork.

October / November 2019 – Art print and poster are released for sale to the public.

Last Quarter 2019 – Chosen artist participates in sale-and-signing events.

The ARRC is an Equal Opportunity Corporation. If you need special assistance (including language) in order to participate in any ARRC service, program, or activity, please contact the Alaska Railroad Corporation; P.O. Box 107500; Anchorage, AK 99510; Attention: Legal Department, <u>zappasj@akrr.com</u>, (907) 265-2461; via Alaska Relay Service for hearing impaired – dial 7 11 anywhere inside Alaska, OR dial toll-free from anywhere outside the state 1-800-770-8255 (voice); 1-800 770-8973 (TTY). Upon request, printed materials can be made available in alternate formats.



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