

DATE: Nov. 25, 2020 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE CONTACT: Stephenie Wheeler, 265-2671, cell 382-3327 or Tim Sullivan, 265-2357, cell 223-7372

Railroad delays Annual Print Sale-and-Sign Events

2021 official print and poster is first to feature eagle theme

ANCHORAGE, Alaska – In time for the holidays, the Alaska Railroad (ARRC) 2021 annual poster and print are now on sale at railroad depot ticket windows and gift shops in Anchorage and Fairbanks (see attached gift shop hours). Orders can also be made through the ARRC online Gift Shop — https:// AlaskaRailroadGiftshop.com. In addition, the gift shops have T-shirts sporting the 2021 print design.

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In-person sale-and-signing events featuring Anchorage

2021 print / poster featuring artwork by Debra Dubac

artist Debra Dubac were originally scheduled in early December. These events are delayed until early in 2021. Revised dates have not yet been confirmed. Look for an updated announcement after the New Year.

Entitled **Soar More**, the acrylic painting depicts a profile of an iconic Alaska Railroad locomotive, No. 4321, escorted by an American bald eagle flying prominently overhead.

"The painting's featured flying eagle symbolizes the spirit of Alaska, with the freedom to 'soar more' through the Last Frontier and the opportunities to do so, via the Alaska Railroad!" said Dubac, remarking on the painting title. "Of course, the eagle also coincides with the pride, freedom and beauty our great nation offers, not only during this historic election year, but throughout the test of time."

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This is the second time Dubac has been selected to create artwork for the Alaska Railroad's annual collector's series. In 2001, the year her son was born, she created art featuring prominent wildflowers and a freight train, which became the basis for the nearly sold-out 2002 print and poster.

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"In hindsight, who knew my choice of an eagle concept would become quite symbolic and personal. Just as my brushstrokes were creating feathers on the canvas, my son was earning his honorary Eagle Scout rank and graduating as a West High eagle," said Dubac.

The eagle theme went further this year. Remarkably, Dubac's eagle head artwork was selected as the official design for the <u>2O21 Alaska State</u> <u>medallion</u>. Medallions are produced annually by the Alaska Mint.



Dubac is an award-winning artist with an extensive background in fine art and

graphic design, including a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the University of Georgia in Athens. Dubac moved to Alaska in 1990, when she went to work for the *Anchorage Times* as an art director. Two years later, she established Dubac Designs where she has served as owner and art director ever since. Dubac Designs offers art, illustration and graphic design services over a range of mediums and platforms. She seeks opportunities to pursue a passion for Alaska's natural beauty, including epic scenery, wild animals, flowers and other aspects of nature. For more information, visit her website at http://dubac.net/.

— News Release

The railroad's annual art print program began 42 years ago, when ARRC commissioned renowned artist John Van Zyle to produce an official painting. Since that 1979 beginning, the annual tradition (except in 1984, when no painting was released) has evolved into a popular collector's item. More information about the Alaska Railroad's annual art print program, including history and images of prints from the recent past, are available on <u>www.AlaskaRailroad.com/Corporate</u> > Click IN THE COMMUNITY > then Annual Print Contest.

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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.

2020 Holiday Gift Shop Hours

Fairbanks Depot

Sunday-Wednesday Thursday-Saturday 7:00am-2:00pm Closed

Anchorage Depot

Thursday December 3rd Friday December 4th Saturday December 5th 7:30am-8:30am 11:00am-1:00pm 7:30am-8:30am

Wednesday December 9th Saturday December 12th

Friday December 18th Saturday December 19th

Tuesday December 23rd Saturday December 26th 11:00am-1:00pm

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If you not able to make it to the giftshop during open hours, please call 907-265-2326 or email giftshop@akrr.com to schedule an appointment

Visit us at www.AlaskaRailroadGiftshop.com