

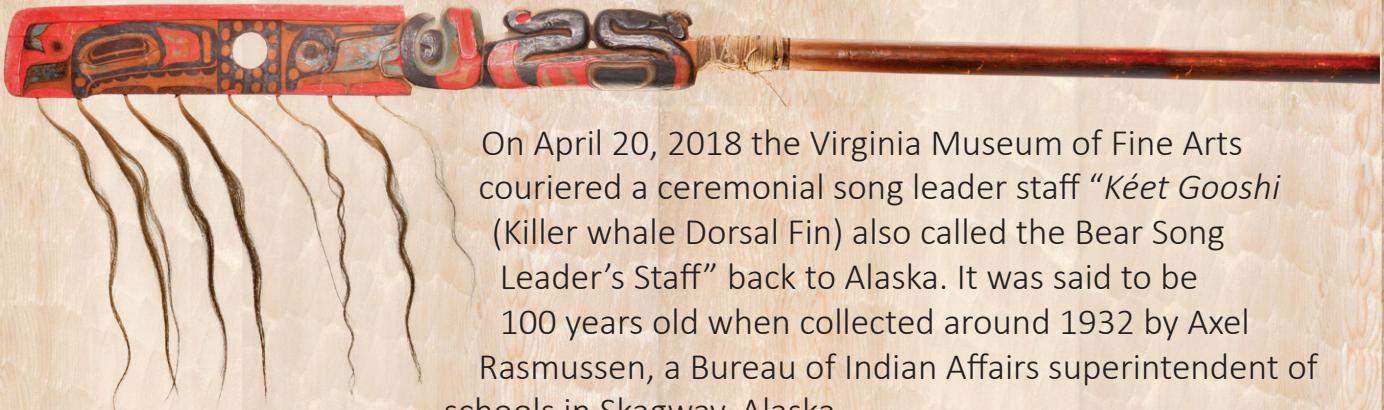


Repatriation Ceremony

June 5, 2018 • 5:00PM–6:00PM • 4400 Thane Road • Juneau, Alaska

Kéet Gooshi or Killer Whale Dorsal Fin

(Teikhweidi Clan from Angoon)



On April 20, 2018 the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts couriered a ceremonial song leader staff “Kéet Gooshi (Killer whale Dorsal Fin) also called the Bear Song Leader’s Staff” back to Alaska. It was said to be 100 years old when collected around 1932 by Axel Rasmussen, a Bureau of Indian Affairs superintendent of schools in Skagway, Alaska.

Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (Tlingit & Haida) and representatives of the *Teikweidi* clan identified that the staff depicts a representation of the *Xoots* (Bear) crest and is owned by the *Teikweidi* clan of Angoon, Alaska. This crest is an object of cultural patrimony and has historical, traditional, and cultural importance to the Tlingit people and their culture. It is also a sacred object vital to the ongoing cultural and religious practices that are unique to the Tlingit.

Tlingit & Haida repatriates objects of cultural patrimony, sacred objects, funerary objects, and human remains in accordance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990 and the National Museum of the American Indian Act of 1989. For more information, contact Native Lands & Resources at 907.463.7186 or deptnlr@ccthita-nsn.gov.

