

The Arctic: Our Home, Our Future

There are hundreds of communities in Alaska spread out over 663,268 square miles. These communities represent many cultures that have been in Alaska for thousands of years. The Arctic is not our field of study, it is not our career, it is not a place that we go to work. The Arctic is our home. "Arctic Futures" refers to the future of our kids, grandkids, families, communities, and the future of our cultures.



New Generation of Berry Pickers, Pic: Kaare Erickson



Generations of Beauty, Pic: John Orr

"This is a picture of my Amau (great grandmother) and my Paniks (daughters)... it makes me think about the past, present, and future of my home all at once. She turned 100 recently, and with luck and good fortune, my girls could live to be that age as well. Which makes that particular point a kind of balancing point; if there is going to be any hope for my kids to have a life full of the natural riches that my great grandmother enjoyed, then we, here and now, have to be the ones to allow that to happen." John Orr, Bethel



Feeding Thousands of Inupiat, Pic: Rita Acker, Department of Wildlife Management, Utqiagvik, Alaska



Unalakleet Salmon, Pic: Jeff Erickson



Fishing on Thin Ice, Pic: John Orr



Off to look for Eggs on the Bering Sea Coast, Pic: Jeff Erickson



Qunniq Crew works on their Umiak in Utqiagvik 2018, Photo: K Erickson



Bear Creek basketball team (and family) travels to a tournament in Shishmaref, Pic: Kaare Erickson



Photo: Jerica Aamodt



Photo: Clarence Daniel



Carefully Bringing up Dinner: George Noongwook



Success! Pic: George Noongwook



Providing for Family in Savoonga, Pic: George Noongwook

"There is a lot of faith and confidence that we have in our knowledge because we are here, we live here. We see it year after year. That is the hypothesis of science: you test over time. That is how come their data series go way back. Our data series too, go way back. Because we live here."

– Inuit Circumpolar Council Alaska. 2018. Yup'ik and Cup'ik Past and Current Managers of Salmon Focus Group: Food Sovereignty and Self Governance – Inuit Role in Managing Arctic Marine Resources. Anchorage, Alaska



Pure Health, Pic: Clarence Daniel



Circle of Life, Pic: Jenna Pitka



Learning Young, Pic: Unknown

"We have to adapt to these changes and the way to do that is make daily observations to feed your families." George Noongwook, Savoonga



Laurel Raking for Herring Eggs on Sea Weed, Pic: Jeff Erickson



Bounty of the Bering Sea, Pic: George Noongwook

Background Art: Growing Up "Village" Fine Art, Ryder Erickson