SEALASKA HERITAGE INSTITUTE is a private nonprofit founded in 1980 to perpetuate and enhance Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian cultures of Southeast Alaska. Its goal is to promote cultural diversity and cross-cultural understanding through public services and events.

Sealaska Heritage also conducts social, scientific, and public policy research that promotes Alaska Native arts, cultures, history, and education statewide. The institute is governed by a Board of Trustees and guided by a Council of Traditional Scholars, a Native Artist Committee, and a Southeast Regional Language Committee.

We offer numerous programs promoting Southeast Alaskan Native culture, including language and art. We maintain a substantial archive of Southeast Alaskan Native ethnographic material. We partner with local schools to promote academics and cultural education. Biennially, we produce Celebration, Alaska’s second-largest Native gathering. We own and operate the Sealaska Heritage Store in Juneau’s landmark Walter Soboleff Building, and curate cultural exhibits to help the public learn more about Southeast Alaska Native cultures.

SHI has a robust publications arm which produces books and scholarly reports on Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian cultures, art, and languages, as well as children’s books.

- **Culture**: Cultural resources include the award-winning, four volume *Classics of Tlingit Oral Literature* series by Nora and Richard Dauenhauer and SHI’s *Box of Knowledge* series.

- **Art**: Art-related titles include SHI’s Tlingit wood carving series and a formline textbook.

- **Language**: Texts include the most comprehensive dictionaries ever published for the languages, available in book form or as free PDFs.

- **Children’s books**: SHI’s Baby Raven Reads series offers culturally-based books for children up to age 5.

SHI publications are available through the SHI Store. Learn more at www.sealaskaheritage.org
**Haa Shuká, Our Ancestors: Tlingit Oral Narratives**


These 11 classic narratives by 13 Elders include *Naatsilanéí* (the origin of the killer whale), *Strong Man, The Woman Who Married the Bear*, and two stories about the coming of the white man. In Tlingit with facing English translations, the book includes a thorough introduction to the format, oral style, and cultural context of the narratives, as well as a lengthy explanation of Tlingit phonetics and grammar, extensive historical and linguistic notes, and brief biographies.

“*Haa Shuká* is simultaneously a work of literature, a contribution to scholarship, and an act of homage to the Tlingit Elders who contributed to the project for the sake of their descendants.”

—*World Literature Today*

**Haa Tuwunáagu Yís, for Healing Our Spirit: Tlingit Oratory**


*Haa Tuwunáagu Yís* is the first publication of Tlingit oratory recorded in performance. It features 32 speeches in Tlingit by 21 Elders with facing English translations and detailed annotations, photographs of the orators and the settings in which the speeches are delivered, biographies of the Elders, and a glossary. Most were taped between 1968 and 1988, but two speeches were recorded on wax cylinders by the Harriman Expedition in Sitka in 1899 and are the oldest known sound recordings of Tlingit.

Winner of the 1991 American Book Award.
Haa Kusteeyí, Our Culture: Tlingit Life Stories

This introduction to Tlingit social and political history features the biographies and life histories of more than 50 men and women, most born between 1880 and 1910, and includes a special section on the founders of the Alaska Native Brotherhood (ANB). The appendices feature Tlingit texts with facing English translations and previously unpublished documents, including material from the National Archives and the minutes from the historically important 1929 Haines ANB Convention, when ANB decided to pursue a land claims settlement, adopted the ANB and ANS koogéinaa, and established the Executive Committee in the ANB Constitution.

Anóoshi Lingít Aaní Ká: Russians in Tlingit America, The Battles of Sitka 1802 and 1804

This book explores an era from the 1790s through 1818 when Russians expanded into Southeast Alaska to take control of the Northwest Coast fur trade. The Tlingit people resisted the incursion into their ancestral homeland and events culminated in two historic battles between the Russians and Tlingits in 1802 and 1804. At the heart of the book are never-before published recordings by the National Park Service of Tlingit Elders telling oral histories of the battles. Editors Nora and Richard Dauenhauer were able to compare the recordings to eye-witness accounts by Russians translated into English by Lydia Black.

Winner of the American Book Award from the Before Columbus Foundation.
Menadelook: An Inupiat Teacher’s Photographs of Alaska Village Life, 1907-1932

Written and compiled by Menadelook’s granddaughter, Eileen Norbert. Sealaska Heritage Institute with the University of Washington Press, 2016. $44.95.

Features nearly 100 old, rare, and priceless photographs of Inupiat life in the early 20th century made by Inupiat photographer and teacher Charles Menadelook. The photos document life in Kingigin (Wales) in the Bering Strait from 1907-1932.

“Much like the Menadelook we meet in these pages, this book is modest on the surface, but its contribution to Alaska is profound.”

—Alaska Dispatch News

Haa Léelk’w Hás Aaní Saax’ú: Our Grandparents’ Names on the Land

Compiled by Thomas Thornton, Ph.D. Sealaska Heritage Institute with the University of Washington Press, 2012. $30. (Buy)

This landmark book documents more than 3,000 Native place names and their locations in Southeast Alaska. Nearly 20 years in the making, it was compiled by Dr. Thomas Thornton in collaboration with hundreds of people, including area tribes and Elders, under several grants administered by Harold Martin through the Southeast Native Subsistence Commission and Central Council of the Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska. The vast majority of place names in the book are of Tlingit origin. There are also Haida place names and some Tsimshian, Eyak, Chugach, and Athabaskan names.

Winner of the Alaska Historical Society’s 2012 Contributions to Alaska History Award and the Alaska Library Association’s Alaskana Award.
Aas Kwáani: People of the Trees – Ancient Ceremonial Rites
By Rosita Kaahání Worl, Ph.D.
Box of Knowledge Series, Sealaska Heritage Institute, 2019. $8.

In this Box of Knowledge essay, SHI President Dr. Rosita Worl outlines the ancient ceremonial rites related to Aas Kwáani (People of the Trees) in Southeast Alaska. Over the course of at least 10,000 years of continuous occupation of this region, the Tlingit people developed close relationships with the environment and accepted that everything has a spirit. They, along with the Haida and Tsimshian, developed practices and ceremonies recognizing the spiritual relationship they have with the land, including the Tree People. Tree ceremonies continue to be practiced today to ensure the sustainability of the forests and provide benefits for future generations.

The Distribution of Subsistence Herring Eggs from Sitka Sound, Alaska
By Thomas F. Thornton, Ph.D.
Box of Knowledge Series, Sealaska Heritage Institute, 2019. $40 color, $20 black and white. (Buy)

This book recommends major changes to the way the State of Alaska manages the sac roe herring fishery in Sitka Sound and predicts dire outcomes for the ancient subsistence herring roe fishery located there, which supports people across the state and Pacific Northwest, if things do not change. The book also touts the enormous, wide-ranging social and ecological benefits of Pacific herring from Sitka Sound and the unique Alaskan subsistence economy and ecosystem services which depend on their production and distribution.
Doing Battle with the Halibut People
By Chuck Smythe, Ph.D. Box of Knowledge Series. Sealaska Heritage Institute, 2017. $15. (Buy)

The most comprehensive book ever published on traditional northern Northwest Coast halibut hooks. Written by Chuck Smythe, Ph.D., the book delves deeply into the ingenious engineering, use of, and spiritual dimensions of the hooks as relayed by expert Native fishermen and members of SHI's Council of Traditional Scholars. Scientists are only now realizing the genius behind the traditional halibut hook, which was engineered to catch only halibut and to perpetuate the species by targeting only medium-sized fish. In 2018, the Juneau Economic Development Council and the Alaska State Committee for Research (SCoR) inducted the traditional wood halibut hook used by the northern Northwest Coast Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian into the SCoR Alaska Innovators Hall of Fame.

Haa Aaní, Our Land: Tlingit and Haida Land Rights and Use

In the early 1940s, a boom in White migration to Southeast Alaska brought questions of land and resource rights to courts of law, where neither precedence nor evidence was sufficient to settle claims. In 1946, the Commissioner of Indian Affairs assigned a team of researchers to go from village to village to interview old and young alike to discover who owned and used the lands and waters and under what rules. Their mimeographed report, The Possessory Rights of the Natives of Southeastern Alaska, established strong historical evidence to support Native land claims. Haa Aaní, Our Land publishes this monumental study in book form for the first time.
**Art Publications**

Learn the ancient Tlingit tradition of wood carving with Tlingit carver Richard Beasley—a lifelong artist with more than three decades of experience. These full color photo books will take you step-by-step through projects showing how to make a traditional tray, hat, and mask with traditional paint and paintbrushes. You’ll also learn how to inlay abalone and opercula into wood.

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**Northwest Coast Formline Design: Definitions and Student Activities**

Edited by Steve Brown, Annie Calkins, and Nancy Lehnhart. Sealaska Heritage Institute, [PDF]

This textbook for students in grades 5-8 provides an introduction to formline design shapes and definitions, the importance of balance in the design form, and ways an experienced Native artist would compose a formline design.
Beginning Tlingit

First published in 1976, *Beginning Tlingit* remains the major text in the field, combining a systematic introduction to Tlingit grammar with phrases and conversations for everyday use.

Moving from the easiest and advancing to more complex, the book teaches students how to make new sentences of their own. The 2018 edition includes a link to online audio so students can hear how the language sounds and follow along with the lessons. Appendices include Tlingit verb charts, song texts, and a checklist in traditional Tlingit education.

Lingít Yoo Ḵ’atángi:  
*Beginning Tlingit Workbook*

By Ḵ’unei Lance Twitchell, Ph.D. Sealaska Heritage Institute, 2017. $32. (Buy) (PDF)

Sealaska Heritage Institute’s *Beginning Tlingit Workbook* teaches Tlingit words and concepts through imagery. The volume was written and compiled by Ḵ’unei Lance Twitchell, Ph.D., a member of Sealaska Heritage Institute’s Southeast Regional Language Committee. It is an extension of the landmark book *Beginning Tlingit*—which was edited by the late linguist Richard Dauenhauer and his wife, Nora Dauenhauer, a fluent Tlingit speaker and scholar. The workbook is based on the teaching methods and steps developed by the Dauenhauers, as well as many other contributors over the years, but it also incorporates some of the ways people today are documenting and teaching various parts of Tlingit grammar, especially verbs.
Dictionary of Tlingit
Compiled by Keri Edwards with Anita Jeffery, John Marks, June Pegues, Helen Sarabia, Bessie Cooley, David Katzeek, and Fred White. Sealaska Heritage Institute, 2010. $25. (Buy) (PDF)

Sealaska Heritage Institute’s Dictionary of Tlingit is the product of years of documentation of the Tlingit language with assistance from fluent Elders. It is the first to include nouns and verbs and all the minor word categories such as adjectives, adverbs, and interjections in a single resource. The vast majority of the verb forms have never before been published.

Dictionary of Alaskan Haida
Compiled by Jordan Lachler, Ph.D., with Erma Lawrence, Ph.D., Claude Morrison, Woodrow Morrison, and Anna Peele. Sealaska Heritage Institute, 2010. $25. (Buy) (PDF)

Sealaska Heritage Institute’s Dictionary of Alaskan Haida is the product of years of documentation of the Haida language with assistance from fluent Elders. The Dictionary of Alaskan Haida is the most comprehensive dictionary for the Alaskan dialect of Haida, with more than 5,500 entries.

Dictionary of Shm’algyack
Compiled by Donna May Roberts. Sealaska Heritage Institute, 2009. (PDF)

Sealaska Heritage Institute’s Dictionary of Shm’algyack is the product of years of documentation of the Tsimshian language with assistance from fluent Elders. Compiled by Donna May Roberts, this resource covers the majority of the common vocabulary and is of great value to beginning and intermediate students of the language.
**Lingít X’éináx Sá! Say it in Tlingit: A Tlingit Phrase Book**
Edited by Nora Marks Dauenhauer and Richard Dauenhauer.
Sealaska Heritage Institute, 2002. $15. ([Buy](#))

Browse through this phrase book and identify situations in which you could use a Tlingit phrase with someone else in a meaningful context. With a multitude of carefully selected sentences for your analysis, this book gives students of linguistics an invaluable corpus of data. Practice locating and identifying the morphemes within Tlingit words, and the underlying logic of the language will open to you.

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**Lingít X’éináx Áx! Hear it in Tlingit**
By Nora Marks Dauenhauer and Richard Dauenhauer.
Sealaska Heritage Institute, 2002. $20. ([Buy](#))

This material was adapted from *Lingít X’éináx Sá!* The mini phrasebook fits into the CD case, which holds two discs with audio covering 17 subject areas, including topics such as introductions, colors, and greetings. The booklet was edited by SHI Linguist Keri Edwards and Tlingit speaker John Marks, who also narrated the Tlingit phrases on the CD, and Richard Dauenhauer and Nora Marks Dauenhauer, authors of *Lingít X’éináx Sá!*

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**Aan Aduspled X’úx’: Tlingit Spelling Book**
By Nora Marks Dauenhauer and Richard Dauenhauer.

This book is for learning to pronounce and spell Tlingit. It is designed for Tlingit speakers who want to learn to spell, students taking a course in spoken Tlingit, and adults learning Tlingit through self-study. This book can help teach children to spell Tlingit but should not be used to teach them to speak Tlingit. The *Tlingit Spelling Book* complements *Beginning Tlingit*, also by Nora and Richard Dauenhauer, and is recommended as an accompaniment.
Sneaky Sounds—A Non Threatening Introduction to Tlingit Sounds and Spelling

By Nora Marks Dauenhauer and Richard Dauenhauer.
Sealaska Heritage Institute, 2006. $12. (Buy) (Audio)

Tlingit presents about two dozen sounds not shared with English. Four of these sounds are unique to Tlingit – not shared with any other language on Earth (as far as linguists know). This complexity can prove discouraging for beginners and presents a major barrier to learning. This book seeks to introduce students to the sounds of the language in as non-threatening a manner as possible. The book also will help fluent speakers learn to write Tlingit. The language historically was not written and the orthography used today was developed by linguists in the late 20th century. The project was six years in the making and received support from SHI, the Juneau School District and the University of Alaska Southeast.

Alaskan Haida Phrasebook

By Erma Lawrence, Ph.D., edited by Jordan Lachler, Ph.D.
Sealaska Heritage Institute, 2010. $15. (Buy) (PDF)

The Alaskan Haida Phrasebook is the first book of its kind. The more than 4,000 sentences in this book cover some of the most common topics of Haida conversation, such as food, family, weather, health, traveling, fishing, working, music, and many others.

This book is intended primarily for students of the Haida language at the beginning and intermediate levels. Although it can be used by people with no background in the language, it will be most useful for students who have at least a basic understanding of Haida grammar patterns. While the book does not provide word-by-word translations for the sentences, students should be able to create their own translations by consulting Dictionary of Alaskan Haida, also published by Sealaska Heritage Institute.
**Raven and the Tide Lady**
Illustrated by Tlingit artist Michaela Goade. Sealaska Heritage Institute, 2018. $19.95. ([Buy](#))

In *Raven and the Tide Lady*, Raven fights with Tide Lady to bring low tide and allow humans to gather food. Adapted from the works of Tlingit scholars Nora and Richard Dauenhauer, who transcribed it from Tlingit Elder Susie James’ oral account.

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**Raven Makes the Aleutians**
Illustrated by Haida artist Janine Gibbons. Sealaska Heritage Institute, 2018. $19.95. ([Buy](#))

In *Raven Makes the Aleutians*, Raven’s ingenuity leads to the creation of the Aleutian Chain. Adapted from the works of Tlingit scholars Nora and Richard Dauenhauer, who transcribed it from Tlingit Elders Susie James’ and Robert Zuboff’s oral accounts.

Winner of a 2020 AILA Picture Book Honor Award.

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**Raven Loses His Nose**
Illustrated by Tsimshian artist David Lang. Sealaska Heritage Institute, 2018. $19.95. ([Buy](#))

In *Raven Loses His Nose*, Raven’s greediness results in a temporary loss of his nose. Adapted from the works of Tlingit scholars Nora and Richard Dauenhauer, who transcribed it from Tlingit Elder Susie James’ oral account.

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**About Raven stories**
The original Raven stories are complex, humorous, and sometimes filled with raucous adventures. Raven stories are not about what is viewed as proper behavior, but what is not acceptable behavior. Raven the Trickster is found in oral traditions throughout North America and elsewhere in the world.

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**Baby Raven Reads**
Through its Education Department, SHI sponsors Baby Raven Reads, a program that promotes early literacy language development and school readiness for Alaska Native families with children up to age 5. Twenty-four books have been published through the program since 2016, all of which focus on Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian cultures. The project is based on ample research that has shown that Alaska Native students do better academically when culturally relevant content is incorporated into learning materials and classes. The books also help educate non-Native families about Alaska Native cultures and languages, place-based storytelling, and traditional oral literature. In recognition of SHI’s success in applying research validated practices to promote literacy through Baby Raven Reads, the Library of Congress selected the program for its 2017 Best Practice Honoree award, making it one of only 15 programs in the world to receive the honor that year.

These three books—among the first publications of the Baby Raven Reads series—are derived from ancient creation stories that have been passed from generation to generation for thousands of years.

Origins of Rivers and Streams
Adapted by Tlingit writer Pauline Duncan, illustrated by Lindsay Carron. Sealaska Heritage Institute, 2016. $12. (Buy)

Raven and the Box of Daylight
Adapted by Tlingit writer Pauline Duncan, illustrated by Lindsay Carron. Sealaska Heritage Institute, 2016. $12. (Buy)

Raven Brings Us Fire
Adapted by Tlingit writer Pauline Duncan, illustrated by Lindsay Carron. Sealaska Heritage Institute, 2016. $12. (Buy)
Let’s Go! A Harvest Story
By Hannah Lindoff, illustrated by Tlingit artist Michaela Goade. Sealaska Heritage Institute, 2017. $19.95. (Buy)

Let’s Go! A Harvest Story is a children’s story that teaches about subsistence harvesting activities of the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian of Southeast Alaska.

Native Values: Living in Harmony
By Rosita Kaahâni Worl, Ph.D. Sealaska Heritage Institute, 2017.

Native Values: Living in Harmony explores the four core cultural values of the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian of Southeast Alaska. Written by Tlingit anthropologist and president of Sealaska Heritage Institute Rosita Kaahâni Worl, Ph.D.

Picking Berries
By Hannah Lindoff, illustrated by Tsimshian artist David Lang. Sealaska Heritage Institute, 2017. $16.95. (Buy)

Discover the different types of berries that grow in Southeast Alaska while also learning the names for berries in Lingít (Tlingit language), Xaad Kîl (Haida language), and Sm’algyax (Tsimshian language).
How Devil’s Club Came to Be
By Tlingit writer Miranda Worl, illustrated by Tlingit artist Michaela Goade. Sealaska Heritage Institute, 2017. $19.95. (Buy)

How Devil’s Club Came to Be is an original story inspired by ancient oral traditions that have been handed down through the generations. It tells the story of Raven’s niece who sets off to save her village after a giant kidnaps her village’s shaman and leaves her people ailing. Along the way, she meets the Thunderbird People and is transformed into a Thunderbird. In this form, she fights the giant and discovers devil’s club, a plant common in Southeast Alaska that is considered sacred for its medicinal properties.

Shanyaak’utlaax: Salmon Boy
Adapted by Johnny Marks, Hans Chester, David Katzeek, Nora Dauenhauer, Richard Dauenhauer; illustrated by Tlingit artist Michaela Goade. Sealaska Heritage Institute, 2017. $19.95. (Buy)

Shanyaak’utlaax: Salmon Boy is a children’s story that teaches about respect for nature, animals, and culture. You can also listen to Shanyaak’utlaax read aloud in Tlingit by Elder David Katzeek here: www.sealaskaheritage.org/salmonboyaudio

Winner of the 2018 American Indian Youth Literature Best Picture Book Award.
The Woman Who Married the Bear
Adapted by Tlingit writer Frank Katasse, illustrated by Haida artist Janine Gibbons, Sealaska Heritage Institute, 2017. $21.95. (Buy)

In this ancient Tlingit story, a woman who has insulted the bears while out berry picking meets a bear in human form. They fall in love and get married. Soon, the woman’s brothers come looking for her, and the woman learns her husband is not what he appears to be.

The Woman Carried Away by Killer Whales
Illustrated by Haida artist Janine Gibbons. Sealaska Heritage Institute, 2017. $21.95. (Buy)

When a woman is carried off by killer whales, her husband embarks on a journey to get her back. Aided by friends he meets along the way, the man follows her trail across the bottom of the sea to the Killer Whale House. Find out what happens to Nanasimgit and K’uljáad in this ancient Haida story.

Am’ala
Adapted by Tlingit writer Frank Katasse, illustrated by Tsimshian artist David Lang. Sealaska Heritage Institute, 2017. $16.95. (Buy)

In this traditional Tsimshian story, a young man who is teased by his brothers for being lazy and dirty trains secretly with a spirit and gains superhuman strength. He takes on warriors, animals, and even a mountain before facing his greatest challenge—the world itself.
Baby Raven Reads

10 Sitka Herring
By Tlingit writer Pauline Duncan, illustrated by Tsimshian artist David Lang. Sealaska Heritage Institute, 2016. $10. (Buy)

Learn to count by tracing the fate of a herring school from 10 to one fish as they encounter Southeast Alaska predators! Herring and herring eggs are a traditional and important food in Southeast Alaska.

Tlingit Baby Eagle
Clan crest illustrations by Tlingit Athabascan artist Crystal Kaakeeyáa Worl. environmental illustrations by Nobu Koch. Sealaska Heritage Institute, 2016. $10. (Buy)

Tlingit Baby Raven
Clan crest illustrations by Tlingit Athabascan artist Crystal Kaakeeyáa Worl. environmental illustrations by Nobu Koch. Sealaska Heritage Institute, 2016. $10. (Buy)

In Southeast Alaska, the Tlingit are divided into Raven and Eagle groups called moieties. Each moiety is divided into clans. Learn about the beings and creatures that are important to the different Eagle and Raven clans in these books.
Colors; Learn the Colors in Lingít
Compiled by Yarrow Vaara, illustrated by David Lang. Sealaska Heritage Institute, 2016. $10. (Buy)

Xanggáay: Learn the Colors in Xaad Kil
Compiled by Linda Schrak and Benjamin Young, illustrated by David Lang. Sealaska Heritage Institute, 2019. $10. (Buy)

Wilgyigyet: Learn the Colors in Sm’algyax
Compiled by The Haayk Foundation, illustrated by David Lang. Sealaska Heritage Institute, 2019. $10. (Buy)

Illustrated by Tsimshian artist Huk Yuunsk David Lang of Juneau, these three books teach the words for colors in Lingít (Tlingit language), Xaad Kil (Haida language), and Sm’algyax (Tsimshian language).

Cradle Songs of Southeast Alaska
Illustrated by Tlingit Athabascan artist Crystal Kaakeeyáa Worl. Sealaska Heritage Institute, 2019. $12 or $15 with CD. (Buy)

Sealaska Heritage’s first trilingual children’s book, this board book includes cradle songs in Lingít (Tlingit language), Xaad Kil (Haida language), and Sm’algyax (Tsimshian language). The selections include traditional songs in the public domain and original works reprinted with permission. A companion CD is also available.