

Photography + Recording Policy

Sealaska Heritage Institute (SHI) sponsors biennial Celebrations and other events for the cultural enrichment and enjoyment of Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian. People attend SHI events hoping to photograph and record regalia, dances, and Native people. Many dancers wear Native regalia with clan crests, perform dances and present clan objects that are proprietary and historic. Under Native traditional law, clans own crests, stories, songs, and much of the regalia and crests are protected by copyright. SHI adopts this policy to protect the clan ownership of their intellectual property and limit commercialization of Celebration and SHI-sponsored activities, while permitting appropriate photography and recordings:

Commercial Photography & Recordings

Commercial photography, videotaping, filming and audio recording of any kind is prohibited.

News Media Photography & Recordings

Any individual, organization or company wishing to engage in still photography, audio recording, videotaping or filming for broadcast or public news dissemination by any means on or in property used for SHI Celebrations must obtain permission by registering in advance with an appropriate SHI official. By registering, news agencies agree not to reproduce their work in any forum other than print or broadcast news, and further agree not to sell their work for any non-news use. Recordings are to be used only for news coverage of Celebration. Only excerpts of twenty seconds or less of songs may be used for news coverage. Broadcast or use of songs in their entirety is prohibited without written permission from clans that own the songs. Photography and recording is permitted only in public performance areas, and photographers shall not interfere with any participant's enjoyment of Celebration. Flash photography, use of props, disturbing or seeking to pose performers, rearranging backdrops, and changing of lighting are expressly prohibited. Courtesy requires obtaining permission from an individual (not group) subject before taking his or her picture or recording them. Commercial photography and recording of any kind is expressly prohibited. SHI reserves the right to eject any person it believes is taking photographs or making recordings for commercial purposes at Celebration or violating protocols noted above. SHI will help enforce copyright in the event any news media photograph, audio recording or footage is sold.

Personal-Use Photography

Personal-use photography, videotaping, filming and audio recording is permitted only in public performance areas. Photographers and recorders shall not interfere with any participant's enjoyment of Celebration. All individuals except tribal members taking photographs or making recordings for personal use must register with SHI. Flash photography, use of props, disturbing or seeking to pose performers, rearranging backdrops, and changing of lighting are expressly prohibited. Courtesy requires obtaining permission from an individual (not group) subject before taking his or her picture or recording them. Commercial photography and recording of any kind is expressly prohibited. SHI reserves the right to eject any person it believes is taking photographs or making recordings for commercial purposes at Celebration or violating protocols noted above. SHI will assist the owners in enforcing their copyright in the event any personal-use photograph, audio recording or footage is sold.

Register

Individuals and organizations wishing to photograph or record Celebration must register at the information booth, where a pass will be issued. Those persons taking photos or making recordings without a pass will be asked to leave. Tribal members taking photographs, videotaping or audio recording for personal use are not required to register.