

DENNOS MUSEUM CENTER

Museum celebrates its Inuit tradition

BY NANCY SUNDSTROM

Special to the Record-Eagle

Though a one-of-a-kind artistic tradition that dates back centuries, Inuit art is just five decades young in the United States.

2003 marks the official 50th anniversary of Inuit art being available here. In Traverse City, the Dennos Museum Center at Northwestern Michigan College is pulling out all the stops to help recognize this important event in the international art world with a series of exhibitions entitled "Recognizing 50 Years of Inuit Art in the United States." It opened in

late September and runs through Nov. 30.

Why Traverse City? Because since it opened a little more than 10 years ago, the Dennos Museum Center has had one of the largest and most prestigious collections of Inuit art in the country. Museum Director Eugene Jenneman said that from the onset, the museum saw the collection as its greatest artistic resource, and one that has continued to evolve over time, anchoring the facility and many of its programs.

"When we started, it was the

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