



Finlandia Foundation - Boston Newsletter

www.finlandiafoundationboston.com

October 2019

Message from Our President Linda Ilona Lindell

I trust that you all had a good summer and are ready to welcome the upcoming fall months. September was certainly beautiful this year!

During the weekend of September 19-22, I was fortunate to participate in FinnFest 2019 in Detroit, Michigan. First held in 1983, FinnFest is an annual festival that provides Finnish Americans a chance to meet, have fun, and broaden their knowledge of Finland and Finnish American culture. This year's event had more than 800 registered participants. The program was filled with live music, seminars, and exhibits with some sixty presenters participating. The opening program on Thursday evening celebrated three Finnish anniversaries:

- The 175th anniversary of the birth of Minna Canth
- The 100th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Finland and the USA
- The 75th anniversary of the signing of the Peace agreement between Finland and the Soviet Union.

The musical programs that followed included performances by the very talented Järnefelt Piano Trio, Kardemimmit Kantele Ensemble, and the Tallari trio. Their performances were truly amazing. Finn Camp was a great place to gather for singing, dancing, and playing games. Finnish costumes were worn by many. A delicious evening buffet prepared by master chef Soile Anderson and Food Editor Eleanor Ostman was served at the Finnish Center Association. On Sunday morning, many of us went to Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Southfield Michigan, where Pastors Jarmo Tarkki, Veli-Matti Kärkkäinen, and Jill Heather lead the congregation in Worship. During FinnFest, I also had the opportunity to meet pianist Ruusamari Teppo who has a direct family connection to Finnish composer Jean Sibelius. We hope to have her perform for us sometime in the future.

Another high point of FinnFest 2019 was a private tour of the Cranbrook Art Museum and the Saarinen House, the former residence of architect Eero Saarinen. The House and the surrounding Gardens are just splendid. A special exhibit of Loja Saarinen's textiles was part of the guided tour.

At the FinnFest Tori, I purchased myself a pair of Nordic Ski Walking Poles. This is one of the fastest growing Fitness Activities in Europe and is very popular in Finland also. A copy of the FinnFest 2019 program can be found at <https://finnfest.us/finnfest-2019/>

I wish you all a Good Fall Foliage viewing.

- Linda Ilona Lindell

Kiitos, kiitos, kiitos!

Many thanks to Aire-Maija Schwann, Raija Nieminen, and Sirkku Konttinen for their donations to the September Coffee Table!

Cultural Program for October

FF-Boston invites members and friends to a viewing of

Land of Hope (Oma MAA) Directed by Markku Pölönen

Sunday, October 27 at 3:00 pm
Scandinavian Cultural Center in Newton



Markku Pölönen's film Land of Hope (Oma MAA) is a charming Historical Romance out of Finland. It takes place amidst the events of the Continuation War, where Finland fought off an infringing Soviet Union, to defend Finnish borders. Anni (played by Oona Airola), is the strong-willed daughter of a prominent baker. When her brother dies in the war, war invalid Veikko (played by Konsta Laakso), comes to return her brother's horse, Liinu (played by a fantastic horse), and they find a spark of romance in the stables. The film celebrates the Finnish spirit and is also a declaration of independence, where the fight for the borders have subsided and now romance and love can blossom in their place.

Directions to Scandinavian Cultural Center 206 Waltham Street, Newton, MA:

From 128 take Exit 21 / Route 16 East for 1.5 mi. After the overpass of the Mass Pike, take left at the 1st light onto Cherry St, then take the 1st right onto Webster St. At the end of Webster, turn left onto Waltham St. and stay on it for ¾ mi.

Special Invitation to Holiday Pops at Symphony Hall on December 8

Linda Lindell's term as President of Finlandia Foundation, Boston expires this fall. To thank you for your membership and your continued support of FFB, Linda is inviting you to attend a Boston Pops Concert free of charge at Symphony Hall in Boston at 8 pm on December 8. Please email us @ FinlandiaBoston@gmail.com by noon on **October 14** if you wish to join us. We hope you will. Transportation will NOT be provided. But there are many Parking lots around Symphony Hall.

See you @ Holiday Pops....

Scholarship Opportunities

Applications will be accepted until June 29, 2019 for the following scholarships:

Savele Syrjala Journalism Scholarship

For a student of Finnish-American heritage studying in the field of Journalism or Communications.

Aina Swan Cutler Music Scholarship

For a student of Finnish-American heritage studying music (excluding hard rock and electronic music).

For more information or an application for the journalism or music scholarship, please contact:

Edith Syrjala Eash
80 Potter Pond, Lexington, MA 02421
syrjalaeash@gmail.com

Lauri Armas Lindell Architectural Scholarship

For a student of Finnish-American heritage studying architecture in the United States or Finland. For more information or an application, please contact:

Linda Ilona Lindell
471 Waltham St., Lexington, MA 02421
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Membership: Please Join Us!

The annual membership fee, which now runs by the calendar year, is \$30 for families, \$20 for individuals and \$10 for senior members. Please renew your membership by sending a check to:

FINLANDIA FOUNDATION – BOSTON
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Tax-deductible donations are also welcome and much appreciated! Please help us keep our programs going.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Our October cultural event will take place on Sunday October 27 at 3:00 PM and feature the movie Oma MAA

On December 8, 8:00 PM, you are invited to attend Boston Pops at Symphony Hall in Boston.

Suomi-koulu meets at the Waldorf School in Lexington, MA, on the following Saturdays, 10am-12 noon:

- October 12 and 19
- November 2, 16, and 23
- December 14
- December 21 – Joulujuhla (Christmas Celebration)

Information about upcoming events organized by the **Finnish Center at Saima Park** can be found on their website at <https://www.saima-park.org/>.

Many thanks to Rachel Lee Priday for a fantastic violin concert on September 22. Thanks also to Sirku Kontinen for sponsoring this event!

