



Finlandia Foundation - Boston Newsletter

www.finlandiafoundationboston.com

April 2018

Message from Our President Linda Lindell

Dear Finlandia Foundation-Boston Members,

Welcome to Spring - listen to those beautiful birds and enjoy the wonders of nature!

Did you know that the United Nations' *World Happiness Report* ranked Finland the happiest country in the world? Finland has 5.5 million residents and enjoys more forest per square mile than any European country, with extremely high environmental standards and very few threats to personal safety, making it one of the most peaceful places on Earth. Of course saunas and beautiful lakes add to the ambiance.

Monday, April 16, the 122nd running of the Boston Marathon will take place. Starting in Hopkinton, MA at noon and ending on Boylston Street in Boston, over 23,000 will be qualified to run. 19 registered runners are from Finland, so let's cheer them on!

I will be traveling to Finland June 18-30th visiting with friends and family while also participating in FinnFest 2018 in Tampere.

The Knights & Ladies of Kaleva of Maynard at Fort Pond in Littleton has an exciting line up of spring and early summer festivities to engage local Finns after the FF Boston programming season breaks for its off-season.

All events will be at the lodge grounds of the Knights & Ladies of Kaleva. Be sure to put "8 Kaleva Rd, Littleton" in your GPS so you don't accidentally end up in Lancaster! The lodge is located ¼ mile from Exit # 41 (Newtown Rd) off Rte 2, heading towards Littleton Center.

1. VAPPU PIKNIKKI - May Day Picnic, Sunday April 29th, Noon-5 PM. Bring your picnic blanket, food, and beverage to enjoy while relaxing and taking in the view of the pond.

2. MAY MÖLKKY MADNESS - Games, Sundays, 1-4:00 PM

3. JUHANNUS - Enjoy the bonfire by the pond, Saturday June 23rd, 5:30 PM-Midnight. Bring food to share for 6PM dinner as well as your own beverage, folding chair, bathing suit and towel, and cold weather clothing.

Event flyers with further information are available at our website, www.finlandiafoundationboston.com.

One final note, if you've had a recent change of address, phone number, or email address, please get in touch with our Membership Chair, Liisa Chanoff, at lchanoff@comcast.net.

Enjoy! See you at our April 22nd concert at the Scandinavian Cultural Center.

Tervetuloa! Welcome!

-Linda Ilona Lindell

Cultural Program for April



FF Boston
is thrilled to present

**PIANIST
MACKENZIE
MELEMED**

Performing works by
Sibelius, Schumann,
Rachmaninoff, Strauss,
Grieg, and Puccini.

SUNDAY, APRIL 22 at 3 PM

WITH SOPRANO ILONA JOKINEN

**Scandinavian Cultural Center
206 Waltham Street, West Newton**

**Purchase tickets at
finlandiaboston.brownpapertickets.com
or mail a check to
Finlandia Foundation-Boston
PO Box 308, Arlington, MA 02474-0007**



**Tickets are \$20 to FF Boston members (enter code
hyvaavappua) and \$25 to the general public.**

Mackenzie Melemed is a 22-year-old pianist studying at The Juilliard School with Robert McDonald. In 2017, following two solo rounds, live improvisation, a piano quintet performance, and a piano concerto performance with the Helsinki Philharmonic, Melemed was awarded the 1st Prize and Chamber Music Prize at the 4th Maj Lind International Piano Competition.

Fun fact: soon after being accepted at The Juilliard School, Mr. Melemed began studying Finnish at Columbia University, his interest having been sparked during an extended layover in Helsinki while traveling back to the US from a performance in the Czech Republic. He now has three years of Finnish language study under his belt, a Bachelor of Music degree, a wide array of music prizes and accolades, and he is working on his Master of Music degree. Read his full bio and see video of his performances at mackenziemelemed.com. You will not want to miss him! He is a rising star and we are fortunate to have the opportunity to host him.

Ilona Jokinen has a Master of Music degree from Sibelius Academy in Helsinki. Her versatile repertoire ranges from baroque to contemporary music. She has won many prizes for singing competitions in Finland. She has performed as soloist with many Finnish main orchestras, at the Finnish National Opera, and the Savonlinna Opera Festival.

**Cape Ann Finns Co-sponsoring a Concert May 13
Traditions in Finnish-American Music**

FF Boston is excited to welcome a new Finlandia Foundation chapter to the fold – Cape Ann Finns! Off to an auspicious start, they will join the Lanesville Community Center and St. Paul Lutheran Church in sponsoring *Traditions of Finnish American Music*, featuring Gloucester-connected Muriel Anderson, a brass septet, an accordionist, a trumpeter, and a choir, with commentary by Paul Niemisto, music professor emeritus from St. Olaf College. A multi-media show and displays round out the program. St. Paul Lutheran Church, 1123 Washington St, Gloucester. Suggested donation \$20. Email capeannfinns@gmail.com for more information.

Kiitos, kiitos, kiitos!

Many thanks to Laura Tilus-Korhonen, Linda Lindell, Kim Bell and Auli Batts for their donations to the March coffee table.

Scholarship Opportunities

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 music or journalism scholarships, please contact:
Edith Syrjala Eash, 80 Potter Pond, Lexington, MA 02421
syrjalaeash@verizon.net

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 for the architecture scholarship, please contact:
Linda Lindell, 471 Waltham St, Lexington, MA 02421
lindalindell@verizon.net

June 29, 2018 application deadline for all scholarships!



FINLANDIA FOUNDATION - BOSTON
P. O. BOX 308
ARLINGTON, MA 02474-0007

Membership Dues

The annual membership fee is \$30 for families, \$20 for individuals and \$10 for senior members. Please check your mailing label for your membership standing. If your membership has expired or is about to expire, kindly send your check to:

FINLANDIA FOUNDATION – BOSTON
P.O BOX 308
Arlington, MA 02474-0007

Tax deductible donations are not only greatly appreciated, they are critical to our program budget.

Please help us continue to bring high quality programs!

**Directions to the Scandinavian Cultural Center
206 Waltham Street, West Newton**

From 128 take exit 21 / Route 16 East. Stay on it 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.

Calendar of Events

Saturday, April 14, 10 am

Suomi-Koulu, Waldorf School, Lexington, MA

Sunday, April 22, 3 pm

Cultural Program:

Pianist Mackenzie Melemed & Soprano Ilona Jokinen

*** Ticketed event. Please see page 1. ***

Scandinavian Cultural Center, Newton

Saturday, April 28, 10 am

Suomi-Koulu, Waldorf School, Lexington, MA

Saturday, May 12, 10 am

Suomi-Koulu, Waldorf School, Lexington, MA

Saturday, May 26, 10 am

Suomi-Koulu, Waldorf School, Lexington, MA

Saturday, June 2, 10 am

Kevätjuhla/Spring Celebration in the auditorium

Suomi-Koulu, Waldorf School, Lexington, MA

Email us at FinlandiaBoston@gmail.com

Newsletter Editors: Molly Pratt & Tapani Ronni