



Finlandia Foundation - Boston Newsletter

www.finlandiafoundationboston.com

April 2019

Message from Our President Linda Ilona Lindell

First, I would like to thank Saga Kranz for an excellent talk on Synchronized Skating at our March meeting. It was truly enjoyed by those who attended. A video shown at the event can be found at <http://scandicenter.org/event/1746-2/>

Finland certainly has many talented people. And, as you probably know, Finland has, for the second year in a row, been named the "happiest country in the world" by the United Nations World Happiness Report. The report, which was released on March 20, ranked 156 different countries based on six key variables that support well-being: income, healthy life expectancy, freedom, trust, social support, and generosity. The study asked the countries to assess their lives today on a scale from 0 to 10 with the best possible life being a 10. The other Nordic countries, Denmark, Norway, Iceland, and Sweden, also ranked among the top ten. Reportedly, some Finns feel that the findings about their happiness are exaggerated and that they do not deserve the number one spot. And people in Finland do have a reputation of being rather serious and not prone to showing positive emotions. The weather does not help since long periods of darkness and cold weather can lead to depressed moods. There are, of course, many other ways to measure happiness and, depending on the method used, the rankings can be very different. But Finland can certainly be proud of this recognition and of all it has accomplished over the past several decades. As noted in a U.S. News article published last year, Finland is an international leader in providing quality education, has an economy that reflects engagement with the world community, and ranks high for its performances in civil rights, press freedom, and quality of life. Congratulations to all!

Spring is right around the corner and the Vappu celebration on Sunday April 28 will be our last event before September. Please bring your families and let's have some fun! We would like to have all those planning on attending this joyous event to RSVP us at FinlandiaBoston@gmail.com. Also, if you have program suggestions for next year or would like to be on the FF Board in 2020, please let us know. We welcome your suggestions and would be delighted to have you on the Board.

Thanks for the privilege of serving as your president again this year. Best wishes for a wonderful spring and summer! In the meantime, Hyvää Pääsiäistä and Glad Påsk to all!

- Linda Ilona Lindell

Kiitos, kiitos, kiitos!

Many thanks to Sirkku Konttinen and Bert Beander for their donations to the March Coffee Table.

Cultural Program for April

FF-Boston invites members and friends to attend our
Vappu Celebration and Spring Party



**Sunday, April 28 at 3:00 pm
Scandinavian Cultural Center
206 Waltham Street, Newton, MA**

Spring is almost here and with that comes Vappu. In Finland, Vappu is celebrated on May 1 and marks the end of a long winter. It is the Finnish version of the May Day, an international holiday honoring the workers in various countries. In Finland, people take to the streets and parks, celebrate spring and welcome the warmer weather. Student traditions including music, singing, and donning of the white graduation caps are an important part of the celebrations.

Our Vappu celebration will be held on April 28 and it will be fun! We will have Finnish music, good food, and various activities for the children: 'fishing', face painting, and balloons. Sima and drinks will be served along with salads, meatballs, hotdogs, munkki, and tippaleipä. We look forward to seeing you all at this event. Please RSVP us at FinlandiaBoston@gmail.com by noon on Friday April 26, if you plan to attend.

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

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 ¼ mi.

Email us at FinlandiaBoston@gmail.com

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
lindalindell@verizon.net

Art Exhibit Featuring Laura Tilus-Korhonen at the Scandinavian Cultural Center Through April

Artist Laura Tilus-Korhonen was born in Espoo, Finland. She studied at the Turku University, and at the Helsinki University of Art (Taideteollinen). She received a Master Degree in Education, and is a certified Art teacher. Laura lives and works in West Concord, MA, where she has a studio, and she teaches drawing and painting for adults, teens and kids (also in Finnish language).

This is Laura's first solo exhibition. Under the title "Human Form", Laura shows her drawings and painting; as she sees, feels and memorizes. The exhibit will be on display from March 9th through April.



FINLANDIA FOUNDATION - BOSTON
P. O. BOX 308
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Membership: Time to Join! Time to Renew!

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:

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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 remaining cultural programs for Spring 2019 are:

- Sunday, April 28, 3:00 PM: Vappu Celebration and Spring Party at the Scandinavian Cultural Center in Newton.

Suomi-koulu meets at the Waldorf School in Lexington, MA, at 10 am on the following 4 Saturdays:

- April 13 and 27; May 11 and 25

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

Newsletter Editors: Greta Ljung & Tapani Ronni

Hyvää Pääsiäistä!!! Glad Påsk!!!

