



Finlandia Foundation - Boston Newsletter

www.finlandiafoundationboston.com

February 2019

Message from Our President Linda Ilona Lindell

The winter has been extremely cold in many parts of the country. I read that the cold temperatures are the result of a low-pressure system that escaped from the Polar Vortex, which is an area of cold arctic air that is normally parked around the Arctic Circle. While frigid air escaping may not be rare, it still seems a bit scary in light of the many unusual weather extremes that we have seen in recent years. How bad will it get when the full impact of climate change starts to kick in? No one knows for certain. But let's be prepared to the degree that we can. In regards to the current winter, I would like to give some advice on how to keep warm: Limit time outdoors, dress in layers, wear a hat or headband to cover your ears, wear scarfs, mittens rather than gloves, wear socks & sock liners, and keep well hydrated. It is always good to have the car battery charged and to keep a shovel, ice melt, sand, and ice-scraper in your trunk. Keep your cell phone charged at all times, and keep emergency numbers in glove compartment. Stay warm and enjoy your winter activities. After all, we are the strong Finns... SISU...

Let your smile change the world and don't let the world change your smile. Hope to see you at our February 24 Program. **Hyvää Ystävänäpäivää - Happy Valentine's Day!**

- Linda Ilona Lindell

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 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 for the architecture scholarship, please contact:

Linda Ilona Lindell
471 Waltham St., Lexington, MA 02421
lindalindell@verizon.net

The application deadline is June 29, 2019

Cultural Program for February

FF-Boston invites members and friends to a lecture by

Dr. Riikka Pietiläinen-Caffrey



"Choral music tradition in Finland"

Sunday, February 24, 3:00 pm

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

Finland has always been famous for its choral tradition, composers, and beautiful choral repertoire. In this interactive lecture we will take a look at how the ensembles and the tradition has changed over the course of the past twenty years. We will watch video performances of some of the best known Finnish choral ensembles, and hear music by Finnish choral composers. In the end all audience members will get to participate in singing traditional Finnish songs.

Dr. Riikka Pietiläinen-Caffrey is an associate professor of music at Bunker Hill Community College. Riikka, a native Finn, has toured Europe and South America with the internationally-acclaimed Finnish choir, Philomela. Riikka is an active conductor, singer, and vocal coach, and is frequently invited as a soloist, adjudicator, and guest clinician for schools and choral ensembles, both in Europe and within the United States. Her compositions and arrangements have been published by Alliance Music Publications and Kandinsky Music. Riikka's research interests include holistic choral experience, vocal pedagogy, mindfulness in choirs, and the mirror neuron system. Her article "Monkey See, Monkey Do - The Choral Conductor and the Mirror Neuron System" was published in the United States in The Choral Journal as well as in the Australian National Choral Association's national publication, Sing Out! Riikka holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the City College of City University of New York as well as Master of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees from the University of Colorado.



In Memoriam of Dr. Leena Peck, 1945-2019

Finlandia Foundation-Boston is deeply saddened by the loss of our dear friend and 2014 President of Finlandia Foundation-Boston. Leena was an Orthodontist, a friend, and a wife and mother of two children. She was a true inspiration to us all and she gave her generosity to everyone she knew. We will miss her dearly and remember her with fondness.

-Linda Lindell, Finlandia Foundation - Boston President

Suomi-koulu of New England remembers Dr. Leena Kataja Peck warmly and with gratitude for her years of service to the school, and to the Boston Finnish community in general. Leena contributed to the Finnish School in so many ways: She served as the school's treasurer for decades, keeping the school's finances in excellent shape. She regularly helped in the school's kitchen and cafeteria making coffee, taking care of refreshments, and helping with clean-up. Leena's children Anya and Mark were also involved in the school for a long time, both as students and teacher's helpers. Leena was a pillar of the school community, committed to its success since its founding. The Peck family was one of the cornerstones of the school's solid foundation that generations of students, teachers and Suomi-koulu families are still able to rely on. Her legacy is strong, and we will miss her dearly.

- Maria Heiniluoma, President of Board | Suomi-koulu of New England

Email us at FinlandiaBoston@gmail.com

Newsletter Editors: Greta Ljung & Tapani Ronni



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

Kiitos, kiitos, kiitos!

Many thanks to our Board Members and to Marja Lianko for their donations to the January Coffee Table.

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:

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

Tax-deductible donations are also welcome and much appreciated!

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Our cultural programs for Spring 2019 are:

- February 24, 3 pm. Presenter: **Riikka Pietiläinen-Caffrey: "Choral music tradition in Finland"**. Scandinavian Cultural Center, Newton
- March 24, 4 pm (Note: Later start time). Presenter: **Saga Krantz, "Finland ranked #1 in Synchronised Skating - What it takes and what it gives"**. Scandinavian Cultural Center, Newton
- Sunday, April 28, 3 pm, **To be announced.**

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

- February 16
- March 2, 16, and 30
- April 13 and 27
- May 11 and 25

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.