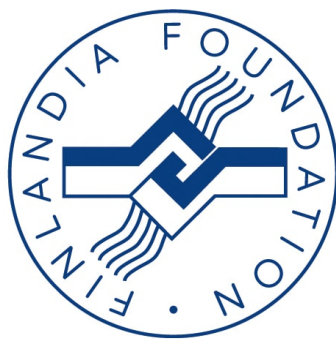


FFB Newsletter September 2023

From: Finlandia Foundation Boston (karoliina.muukari@gmail.com)

To: ngf0rs@yahoo.com

Date: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 at 01:50 PM EDT



Finlandia Foundation - Boston September 2023 Newsletter



Message from Our Interim President

Dear FFB members and friends,

It's hard to believe the summer months are behind us and it's time to get ready for fall. I hope your summer was wonderful, filled with relaxation and good moments spent with family and friends.

This August was really special for me as I visited Helsinki with my daughter and 10 month old granddaughter. My mom met her great granddaughter for the first time. Having four generations together was absolutely memorable. She also got her Finnish passport, so her Finnish roots will always be with her, even living in the States. During my stay I was fortunate to attend a music festival in Tapiola where my favorite Finnish pop groups performed. I explored Ateneum in Helsinki admiring the extraordinary exhibit by painter Albert Edelfelt. I enjoyed the Helsinki Taiteiden Yö (Arts Night) and the beginning of the three week long Helsingin Juhlaviikot where there are free concerts, plays and exhibits for everyone to attend. I walked miles and miles along the Helsinki harbor, around the Esplanade, and visited my old Töölö neighborhood where I ate all my favorite Finnish

foods. As much as I love my life here in Boston, I am a little girl at heart when I am back in Finland.

I am excited to share with you that Finlandia Foundation Boston is planning exciting in-person events for the fall and winter. In September we have the Summer Social in Lexington at our Board member Greta Ljung's house and FFN's artist of the year Eric Aho will be presenting his work at the Scandinavia House in Newton in November. We also have a tentative date for our Christmas celebration on December 9th. And let's not forget the third annual National Sauna Week February 18th-24th. More detailed information will be sent to you a little bit later.

We look forward to seeing you all ~ greeting current members and hopefully meeting new faces at all of these events. Also, please don't hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions or ideas.

I wish you a delightful September!

Yours Sincerely,
-Tuija Voutilainen-Lynch, FFB Interim President



**Finlandia Foundation - Boston Fall Social
Saturday, September 30, 2:00 – 4:00 pm**

Come celebrate the arrival of fall with an outdoor social gathering at the home of Greta Ljung and Bert Beander in Lexington, MA. This will be an opportunity to re-connect with old and new friends that you may not have seen for a while, when we have had fewer programs due to the pandemic. We are all eager to start the new season! This will also be an opportunity to enjoy emerging fall colors and see a lovely suburban garden that includes many native plants and a pollinator meadow designed to benefit butterflies, birds, and other wildlife.

You are all invited to join us for a relaxing and fun afternoon. Please bring along your special someone and a plate of finger food to share. Beverages will be provided.

Date: Saturday, September 30, 2:00-4:00 pm
Rain Date: October 1, 2:00-4:00 pm
Address: 14 Fairfield Drive, Lexington, MA

On-street parking is available along Fairfield Drive, which is a short dead-end street, only a block long.

Please RSVP to [Greta Ljung](#)



**Please Join us to Celebrate FinnFunn 2023 on Cape Ann,
October 27-29**

The 2023 FinnFunn New England Weekend will take place **October 27-29 in Rockport and Gloucester, MA**. The event is hosted by the Cape Ann Finns in partnership with Gloucester 400+ which celebrates Gloucester's 400 year history this year. The weekend will center on the contributions made by the local Finns and spotlight the imprint of the Finnish community on Cape Ann. "Our FinnTown," consisting of Rockport and the villages of Pigeon Cove and Lanesville in Gloucester, provide the back drop for the celebration. The Finnish community in this area was thriving and between 1920s and 1940s there were about 5,000 people of Finnish descent living here.

The program will include presentations, workshops, tours, and entertainment focused on music, theater, dance, history, and other aspects of Finnish/American culture. It will be funn!

The event is open to the public and anyone curious about the Finnish community on Cape Ann and elsewhere will find events of interest during the weekend. Complete program and event information is available at finnfunn.org Select from weekend, day rates and/or single-event tickets.

See you there. Nähdään siellä. Vi ses där!



Come Meet Artist Eric Aho on November 5

We are delighted to announce that Artist Eric Aho will be our guest speaker on **Sunday November 5, 2-4 pm**, at the Scandinavian Cultural Center in Newton.

Eric Aho is our inaugural Artist of the Year, a program introduced last year by Finlandia Foundation – National to spotlight outstanding talent within the Finnish-American arts community.

He is an American of Finnish descent who lives in Vermont, and studied at the Central School of Art and Design in Vermont. He has a BFA from the Massachusetts College of Art in Boston and did postgraduate work at the Institute of Art and Design in Lahti, Finland.

Eric Aho is known for his immersive paintings of the natural world. With color and form that bridges the way we experience nature in totality. His canvases occupy a zone of perception between sober realism and ecstatic abstraction. His works have been shown and collected widely in the United States and abroad and can be found in the permanent collections of many art museums including the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco; The Metropolitan Museum of Art; Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; and the Oulu Museum of Art, Finland, among many others. Eric has been called “One of the leading painters of landscape and the environment of his generation.”

In his presentation, Eric will describe the role Finland has played both in his imagination as a child and in his daily life as an artist. He will introduce the audience to his Finnish grandparents, aunt and uncle and share the story of his work. We trust the audience will find his presentation informative and very engaging.

Further details to follow on how to register for this event.



Suomi-koulu of New England

School Dates for Fall 2023:

September 9 - Sign-up
September 23
September 30 - Gathering Outdoors
October 7
October 21
November 4
November 18
December 2 - Holiday Bake Sale & Raffle
December 16 - Christmas Celebration

When: **Saturdays 10 am - 12 noon**

Location: **Weston United Methodist Church, 377 North Ave, Weston, MA 02493**

For more information, please contact [Saija Laurila](#)

Useful Information: the Fee for Finnish Passports Application Submitted Abroad Has Increased

Please note that the price of a passport when applied for at a Finnish mission overseas has risen from 175 euros to 235 euros as of 1 September, 2023.

More details on the new processing fees on the [Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland](#) website.

Membership Renewals Are Due!

It is now time to renew your membership or to become a new member of Finlandia Foundation – Boston for 2023. The annual membership fee, which runs from January through December, is \$20 for individuals, \$10 for senior members, and \$30 for families. To renew your membership please send a **check to:**

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

If more convenient, you can also pay your membership fee or make a donation using **PayPal or Venmo** by going to <https://finlandiafoundationboston.com/membership/>.

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