



Finlandia Foundation — Boston May 2026 Newsletter



Message from our President

Dear FFB members and friends,

Summer is almost here and our activities are winding down for our summer break. We extend our heartfelt thanks to our valued members for your contributions and participation in our community events over the spring season. As a small nonprofit run entirely by volunteers, your support and membership fees are crucial in sustaining our efforts and organizing engaging activities.

We had two **Vappu (Finnish May Day) celebrations**, you can see the pictures below in this newsletter. We thank everyone who joined us!

This past Saturday was particularly busy, as Suomi-koulu of New England visited the UKTS Sauna in Pembroke, and we held our first Book Club meeting at the Scandinavian Cultural Center.

Looking forward to the fall, we have several exciting events planned! More information will follow on [our website](#), [Facebook group](#) and next newsletter.

Wishing everyone a relaxing and joyful summer!

Warm Regards,
Erika Verkkonen

Save the Date!
Independence Day Gala — Saturday, December 5



More information to follow.

Highlights from our recent events



FFB and Suomi-koulu had a wonderful Vappu!

Thank you to everyone who came. You truly made it a fun afternoon.
While our Suomi-koulu teacher Matti Goldberg played harmonica, munkki made by Sweet Finnish bakery (Rindge, NH) was enjoyed with delicious sima made by Lydia Rigby.

We had approximately 60 people; even some Swedish Scandinavian Living Center residents after they had fetched their white student caps!

We cannot wait for next year!



Upcoming community events

APOCALYPTICA with Special Guest: The Rasmus 14 May 2026
New Haven, CT College Street Music Hall

Scholarship applications are open

Two scholarship awards were established to acknowledge the contribution of and to honor past members, as well as provide funding for current students with a Finnish background.

The students must have a major in music, or journalism/communications depending on the scholarship. Applications are due May 31st.

Contact laurentuiskula@gmail.com with any questions.

[Learn more here](#)

Oral History Interview Opportunities

Did you grow up in the United States speaking Finnish at home? Do you feel strongly about passing on your cultural heritage to the next generation? Have you been active in organizing events for the Finnish American community? Are you aged 60+?

As part of Finlandia Foundation National's [Oral History Project](#), the Boston Chapter will be conducting oral history interviews in the greater Boston area. This is your chance to share your journey—or your family's—and have it preserved for future generations. These stories will become part of a growing national archive that honors Finnish American experiences across time and place. We want to hear from anyone interested in sharing their Finnish American story!

Interviews will be about an hour long, and the one-on-one conversations will be recorded by the interviewer. Questions will focus on your personal background, your family's immigration story, the community you grew up in, when you heard or spoke Finnish, and Finnish and Finnish American cultural traditions you remember or were a part of.

Questions? Interested in signing up? Email Cathy Mannick at catherine.mannick@gmail.com.

Membership Renewals Are Due!

It is now time to renew your membership or to become a new member of Finlandia Foundation – Boston for 2026. The annual membership fee, which runs from January through December, is \$20 for individuals, \$10 for senior members and students, and \$30 for families. To renew your membership please send **a check to:**

FINLANDIA FOUNDATION – BOSTON
P.O. BOX 308
Arlington, MA 02476

If more convenient, you can also pay your membership fee using **PayPal or Venmo** by going to our website.

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