



DULUTH MINNESOTA

JULY 26 - 30, 2023

FINNFEST 2023

SCHEDULE

NOTES:

All events at the Duluth Entertainment Convention Center (DECC) unless otherwise noted

Bold+Italicized titles indicate the thematic grouping that the panel discussion covers.

FinnFest themes:

- Indigenous Arts (Sámi, Finnishinaabe, Finnish/Ojibwe collaborations)
- Finnish American Folk Music/All Tradition is Change
- Nordic America: Creating Bridges to Finland
- Finnish and Finnish American History
- Finnish and Finnish American Spirituality
- Nordic 21st Century Literature
- Environment and Sustainability
- Finnish and Finnish American Literature
- Contemporary Finland and Finnish America

■ This image indicates that the event is included with the cost of your full festival registration



FINNFEST 2023 Locations

Duluth Entertainment and Convention Center (DECC)

350 Harbor Drive, Duluth, MN 55802

- All panels and keynotes
- Symphony Orchestra and Samuli Edelmann concerts
- Tori (free for everyone)
- Registration desk
- Finnish passport renewal (in Harborside section)

Zeitgeist

222 E Superior Street, Duluth, MN 55802

- 1 mile from the DECC
- Finnish Films - Thursday, Friday, Saturday
- \$10 at the door for everyone - Not included in registration

Pizza Luce

11 E Superior Street, Duluth, MN 55802

- 0.7 miles from the DECC
- Live music performances from Finnish and Finnish American musicians - Thursday, Friday, Saturday

Fitger's Theater

600 E Superior Street, Duluth, MN 55802

- 1.2 miles from the DECC
- Film - Wednesday

Holiday Inn Duluth - Downtown

200 W 1st St, Duluth, MN 55802

- 0.8 miles from the DECC
- Traditional live music and dancing - Thursday and Saturday
- \$10 for non-registrants

Nordic Center of Duluth

23 N Lake Avenue, Duluth, MN 55802

- 0.7 miles from the DECC
- Pop up exhibit: Inspiraatioita: Finnish Art and Design in Minnesota
 - Open: 1-4, Wednesday-Sunday
 - Reception: Friday, 7-9 PM

Kirsten Aune Showroom

12 N 21st Avenue, Duluth, MN 55806

- 2 miles from the DECC
- Artist talk - Saturday, 1-2 PM

Joseph Nease Gallery

23 W 1st Street, Duluth, MN 55802

- 0.8 miles from the DECC
- Open: 12-4 PM, Thursday through Saturday

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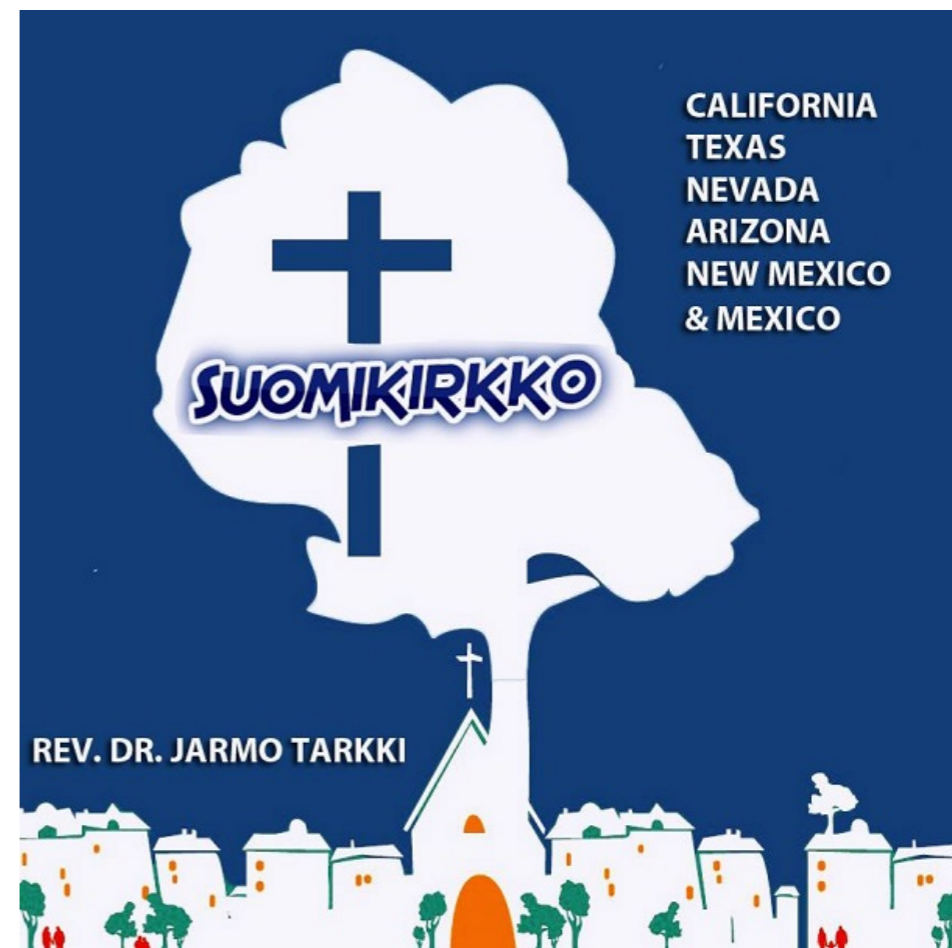
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AN ALLETE COMPANY



WEDNESDAY, JULY 26, 2023

7:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Registration desk open

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Tori vendors can start to set up their booths

TOURS

ALL DAY

Tour buses leave the DECC circular drive

SAX-ZIM BOG

8:30 AM bus leaves

All-day experience in a pristine bog located in a Finnish immigrant farm area. Travel to the Welcome Center (a building that features Arborwood's iron-like wood products). Learn about a Northern rainforest bog and tour sites. Two extensive interpretative/guided tours on boardwalks built over the bog will be interspersed with presentations and discussion at the Welcome Center.

Tour guides: Sparky Stensaas & Clinton Nienhaus, Naturalists and Eugene Ollila, Friends of the Sax-Zim Board

Limited to 25 people

Accessibility: Walking on boardwalks and uneven terrain. Trails are wheelchair accessible.

EASTERN IRON RANGE

8:00 AM bus leaves

Visit the Mesabi range and learn more about early 20th century Finnish immigrant urban and rural life. Stops at Eli Wirtanen Homestead, Embarrass (where you'll see Seitaniemi Housebarn, the only remaining example in the US of a combined house and barn built by Finnish immigrants), and Kaleva Hall - all open air museums. Local volunteers at each site will interpret. The tour includes coffee at the Wirtanen and Embarrass sites and lunch at the Kaleva Hall.

Tour guide: Charles Ek

Limited to 45 people

Accessibility: Walking outside, some stairs at historic sites

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26, 2023

FINNS, FORESTS, FARMS, AND FIRES: SOUTH FROM DULUTH

9:00 AM bus leaves

Finns started to arrive in the area in 1872 to homestead farms and work in the forests and mills. They built a strong Finnish community in Carlton County only to have to start all over again after the devastating fires of 1918. On this tour, we will visit the Carlton County Historical Society, the Esko Historical Museum and Palkie Gristmill, Fond du Lac Cultural Center and Museum, and Jay Cooke State Park. Lunch and refreshments are included in the tour.

Tour guides: Mary Lukkarila and Anja Bottila, along with featured speakers: Marlene Wisuri, Rodney Ikola, and Lyz Jaakola.

Limited to 45 people

Accessibility: Walking outside. People are encouraged to wear comfortable walking shoes and clothing. Some stairs at historic sites.

Organized and hosted by Finlandia Foundation Northland

NORTHWESTERN WISCONSIN

8:30 AM bus leaves

Along the south shore of Lake Superior in Douglas and Bayfield counties are found the oldest and most extensive Finnish farming communities in Wisconsin. We will visit their sites, including the Davidson Windmill, an engineering marvel from 1900 that ground 300 pounds of grain every hour. Bayfield County's Oulu Cultural & Heritage Center features various Finnish vernacular construction styles exhibited along with period artifacts including the John and Justina Palo Homestead. An ethnic Finnish-American lunch consisting of mojakka, riisipuuro, pulla, rieska, garden vegetables, and beverages will be served in the rustic timber frame pavilion at the site.

Tour guides: Jim Pellman and Duane Lahti

Limited to 45 people

Accessibility: Walking outside. Oulu buildings are mostly ADA accessible.

NORDIC RIVIERA

8:00 AM bus leaves

Travel north along the Lake Superior lakeshore as far as Two Harbors; stopping at Gooseberry Falls Visitors Center (designed by David Salmela) and the one-room Larsmont School, going up the shoreline to Grand Marais and the Grand Marais Sauna. The Finland, Minnesota stop will include the Heritage Museum and the Cooperative Store, Minnesota's oldest continuing functioning Co-op store.

Tour guide: Arnold Alanen

Limited to 40 people

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26, 2023

10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

▀ **R/V Blue Heron tours**

Free tours open to all. The ship will be moored at Pier B.

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Split Rock Room

▀ **Finnish American Film Festival - Day One**

Finnish American Folklife: An Upper Midwestern Retrospective

- 9:00 AM *Alan Lomax Goes North* (1938 & 2015), 28 minutes, a film by James P. Leary and Guha Shankar
- 10:00 AM *Finnish American Lives* (1982), 47 minutes, a film by Michael Loukinen and Tom Davenport
- 12:00 Noon *At Laskiainen in Palo, Everyone is a Finn* (1983), 58 minutes, a film by Elli-Kaija Köngäs-Maranda, Marsha Elizabeth Penti, & Thomas Vennum
- 1:00 PM *Tradition Bearers* (1983), 47 minutes, a film by Michael Loukinen
- 2:00 PM *Bobby Aro, King of the Great North Woods* (2013), 57 minutes, a film by Ted Pellman and PBS North/WDSE-TV

1:00 - 4:00 PM

Nordic Center

▀ **Pop Up Exhibition - Inspiraatioita: Finnish Inspirations in Minnesota**

This exhibition will feature the work of 8 Minnesota artists who draw inspiration from traditional and contemporary Finnish art and design. These artists will share works that explore diverse themes through textiles, drawing, painting, ceramics, photography, and mixed media. The Nordic Center is a non-profit cultural center established in 2011, with a mission to share Nordic culture with the greater community through social, educational and arts programs.

Curator-Artists: Alison and Kirsten Aune

Participating Artists: Justin Anderson, Mary Erickson Tia Keobounpheng, Lenore Lampi, Natalie Salminen, Marlene Wisuri

8:00 PM - 9:30 PM

Fitger's Theater

▀ **Film: Laveata Tietä (The Wide Road)**

Finland's last silent film, featuring live musical accompaniment from Johanna Solem of Duluth.

Teuvo Tulio, "Finland's Rudolph Valentino," stars as violinist Anton Lardoza in this romantic drama from 1931. Lardoza is living the high life in Europe in the roaring 20's, and using his fame and charms to seduce women along the way. But when he wrongs the wife of a rich and influential manager, it's time for revenge!

THURSDAY, JULY 27, 2023

7:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Registration desk open

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Tori vendors continue to set up their booths

12:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Pioneer Hall & Edmund
Fitzgerald Room

■ **Tori open**

Concerts and Artisan Sessions

Sponsored and organized by the Nordic Folklife/Center for the Study of Upper Midwest Cultures, University of Wisconsin-Madison

1:00–1:45: Himmeli Making featuring artist Alana Maijala with moderator Mirva Johnson

2:00–2:45: Woodcarving featuring artist Pekka Olson with moderator Nathan Gibson

3:00–3:45: Swedish Hair Ornaments featuring artist Karen Keenan with moderator Jason Schroeder

4:00–4:45: Jouhikko (a 2 or 3 stringed lyre) Making and Woodcarving featuring artist Matt Durocher with moderator Marcus Cederström

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Harbor Side Convention
Center, Room 201

Finnish Citizen: Passport Renewal

By appointment only

Consulate of Finland, New York City

THURSDAY, JULY 27, 2023

WORKSHOPS

8:00 AM to 4:00 PM

French River Room

Application of Finnish Methods in American Classrooms

Enrollment limited to 126 participants

This workshop will explore how Finnish educational theories have been implemented in schools. Classroom teachers (Margaret Hanson, Mavis Mantila, Anne Shadrack, Erika Suo, and Ulla Tervo-Desnick) from Minnesota, northern Wisconsin, and Michigan's Upper Peninsula will present methods they have used successfully in classroom settings. A college professor, Dr. Katie Raisanen Bonawitz, will address "Positive Effects of Collaboration between the USA and Finland." In addition, an administrator, Jim Kurtti, and classroom teacher, Steve Aho, will speak about their experiences working in partnership with Finland.

Lake Superior Rooms L, M,
and N

Finnish Language Instruction

I BEGINNING

Enrollment limited to 20 participants

Come and have fun learning the basics of our incredible, fun, and beautiful SUOMI! After this morning, you can greet people, compliment a gorgeous Finnish girl or a handsome guy, complain about the weather and the mosquitos, buy coffee, pulla, karjalanpiirakka, makkara and beer, yell at the ice hockey match - as well as swear properly!

II INTERMEDIATE

Enrollment limited to 20 participants

Let's talk! We'll be practicing conversational skills by learning to state facts, fiction, and opinions! We'll be talking about the weather, the Eurovision song contest, the Parliamentary elections, the non-Finnish speaking waitstaff in Helsinki restaurants, etc. Finn-fun topics.

THURSDAY, JULY 27, 2023

Lake Superior Room J

Arctic Region Genealogy - Looking for Family in the 21st Century

Enrollment limited to 100 participants

- Keynote: DNA in a 21st Century Context - The example of Tribal Citizenship: The Anishinaabe Experience with Race/Blood Quantum

Jill Doerfler, Ph.D., Professor & Dept. Chair: American Indian Studies University of Minnesota-Duluth

- Who left Finland? Why did they leave? Who returned? The Example of Central Ostrobothnia

Rainer Smedman, Ph.D., Tokoi Seura, Finland

- Forest Finns and late 19th Century migration to the US

Wayne Peterson & Sarah Kammlah, Forest Finns in America

- Oral History as Data for Family & Community: Reaching the narratives of small cultures

Hilary-Joy Virtanen, Ph.D. Finlandia Foundation National Project

- Siirtolaisuusintituutti: The Migration Institute

- Reimagining a Finland-based Resource for the 21st century North American researcher

- Finnish American Migration Patterns in North America

Introduction: Mary Lukkarila

- Finding Family in the migration patterns: Two Experience

Patricia Kennedy

- A family raised in Detroit explores its roots in South Dakota

Karl Morris

THURSDAY, JULY 27, 2023

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Split Rock Room

■ Finnish American Film Festival - Day Two

Finnish American Folklife: Five New Films by Michael Loukinen and Hilary-Joy Virtanen

- 9:00 *Melvin Kangas: Kantele Man*, 27 minutes
- 10:00 *Matikka (Burbot): American Finlander Lobster*, 38 minutes
- 11:00 *Finnish American Chip Woodcarvers*, 56 minutes
- 1:00 *Finnish American Rag Rug Weavers*, 53 minutes
- 2:00 *Yooper Creoles: Finnish Music in Michigan's Copper Country*, 65 minutes
- 3:15 Meet the filmmakers and featured artists for a panel discussion, questions and answers

9:00 - 10:30 AM

Walking tour of a historic Duluth neighborhood: The Finnish community along St. Croix Avenue

Enjoy a walking tour of St. Croix Avenue, one of Duluth's historic Finnish neighborhoods, one right near the DECC. Conducted by members of the Jarvenpaa Chapter Number 1 of the Minnesota Finnish American Historical Society, the tour begins at the DECC and covers about 10 blocks packed with Finnish history. Wear comfortable walking shoes and be prepared for the day's weather.

Purchase your \$10 ticket at the Registration desk on Wednesday but no later than 8:45 A.M. Thursday.

THURSDAY, JULY 27, 2023

- 1:00 - 3:00 PM
Harbor Side space
- **Asahi Workshop: Too much sitting? Stand up for your health!**
Get back in balance with a revolutionary mind-body practice from Finland: Asahi, designed by medical sports experts to be fun, safe & effective for everyone: no pain, all gain! Connect with your breathing and deepest muscles for improved balance, posture, coordination, flexibility, circulation, boosted spirits & immunity through very simple flowing movements in a standing (or sitting) position - no need to get down on a mat!
In this two hour workshop you can master the basics of Asahi in a standing and sitting position and create a daily health routine that works for you. Join us, and when you turn 100, you'll be glad you did! This can be done in street clothes. No special clothing necessary, flat shoes or barefoot.
- 1:00 - 3:00 PM
Paulucci Hall
- **Folk Dance Workshop**
Open to all. Instruction for beginners and advanced. Jenkka and valsi dance instruction will be featured, using music composed by Hiski Salomaa, Finnish America's Woody Guthrie.
Organizers: Kiikurit Dancers, Thunder Bay, Ontario
- 1:00 - 4:00 PM
Nordic Center
- **Pop Up Exhibition - Inspiraatioita: Finnish Inspirations in Minnesota**
This exhibition will feature the work of 8 Minnesota artists who draw inspiration from traditional and contemporary Finnish art and design. These artists will share works that explore diverse themes through textiles, drawing, painting, ceramics, photography, and mixed media. The Nordic Center is a non-profit cultural center established in 2011, with a mission to share Nordic culture with the greater community through social, educational and arts programs.
Curator-Artists: Alison and Kirsten Aune
Participating Artists: Justin Anderson, Mary Erickson Tia Keobounpheng, Lenore Lampi, Natalie Salminen, Marlene Wisuri
- 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Zeitgeist Movie Theater
- **Finnish Film: Jope Ite (Documentary)**
\$10 at the door
Explore the life and career of beloved folk artist Jope Ruonansuu.

THURSDAY, JULY 27, 2023

5:00 - 6:30 PM

DECC Symphony Hall

■ Opening Convocation

Join Jim Paine, Master of Ceremonies and Mayor of Superior, Wisconsin, along with Mayor of Duluth Emily Larson, FinnFest President Marianne Wargelin, dignitaries and special musical groups to kick off the 40th anniversary of FinnFest!

Featuring Festival favorites:

- FinnFest USA Choir - 2023, directed by Maria Männistö (First FinnFest appearance: 1983)
- Ameriikan Poijat, Finnish American brass septet (First FinnFest appearance: 1991)
- Finn Hall (First FinnFest appearance: 1983)
- Featured soloist Eepi Ursin, New York-based Finnish Singer and Pianist and 2022 Finlandia Foundation National Performer of the Year by Finlandia

You won't want to miss this exciting event!

7:00 - 9:00 PM

Zeitgeist Movie Theater

Finnish Film: *Happy Worker* (Documentary)

\$10 at the door

How empty corporate jargon, management fashions and self-serving bureaucracy masquerading as efficiency hijacked the purpose of work. How it came to be and above all; how we can break free from it.

8:00 PM

Holiday Inn Ballroom

■ Traditional Dancing Party

Teresa Aho/*Pohjan Tahtet Sami Tyttöt* (Northern Star Sámi Girls) performing old time Finnish American dance music

Non-registrants: \$10

8:00 PM

Pizza Luce

■ Music in Downtown Duluth:

Laurel Premo (Roots music: violin, guitar, vocal) with guest artist Sara Pajunen (violin)

FRIDAY, JULY 28, 2023

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Registration desk open

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Pioneer Hall & Edmund
Fitzgerald Room

■ **Tori open**

Concerts and Artisan Sessions

Sponsored and organized by the Nordic Folklife/Center for the Study of Upper Midwest Cultures, University of Wisconsin-Madison

9:00–9:45: Rag Rug Weaving featuring artist Lisa Wiitala with moderator Hilary Virtanen

10:00–10:45: Rosemaling featuring artist Tara Austin with moderator Marcus Cederström

10:45-11:00: Kisarit folk dance group

11:00–11:45: The Duluth Færing Project featuring artists Justin Anderson & John Finkle with moderator Tom DuBois

11:45-12:00: Kiikurit folk dance group

12:00–12:45: Diane Jarvi

12:45-1:00: Kisarit folk dance group

1:00–1:45: Nate Gibson & Rami Soini

2:00–2:45: John Westmoreland

3:00–3:45: Breanne Tepler

3:45-4:00: Kiikurit folk dance group

4:00–4:45: Teresa Aho trio

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Harbor Side Convention
Center, Room 201

Finnish Citizen: Passport Renewal

By appointment only

Consulate of Finland, New York City

FRIDAY, JULY 28, 2023

9:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Harbor Side Room 302

■ **Finnish American Film Festival - Day Three**

Director's Spotlight: Films of Kelly Saxberg and Ron Harpelle/[Sheba Films](#)

- 9:30 *Sirpa Säkijärvi* (2019), 8 minutes
- 9:45 *Where the Poppies Grow* (2018), 30 minutes
- 10:20 *Journey to Our Homeland* (2022), 30 minutes
- 11:00 *Pulp Friction* (2014), 59 minutes
- 12 Noon, *Under the Red Star* (2011), 79 minutes
- 1:30 Meet the filmmakers, Kelly Saxberg and Ron Harpelle
- 2:00 *Letters from Karelia* (2004), 76 minutes
- 3:30 *Under the Red Star* (2011), 79 minutes

Panels

9:00 - 10:00 AM

French River Room

■ **Indigenous Arts (Sámi, Finnish/Inaabe, Finnish/Ojibwe collaborations)**

Sámi art by the Seaberg family

Featuring Eric and Kurt Seaberg with moderator Ellen Marie Jensen

Gooseberry Room

■ **Finnish American Folk Music/All Tradition is Change**

Singer-Songwriters of the Finnish American Experience

Diane Jarvi, Eric Peltoniemi, Breanne Tepler with Jim Leary

Lake Superior Ballroom

■ **Nordic America: Creating Bridges to Finland**

Finnish food and careers in the USA

Three Finnish American women discuss their professional careers which have been built around the subject of food. They are the quintessential voice of Finnish foods and cooking in America.

Panelists: Beatrice Ojakangas, Soile Anderson, and Eleanor Ostman

FRIDAY, JULY 28, 2023

Horizon 202

■ *Nordic Experiences for Children (ages 8-16)*

William Durbin, award-winning historic fiction author.

Durbin will read from his three Finnish American-themed novels and talk about the experience of writing them.

Horizon 203-204

■ *Finnish & Finnish American History*

Finnish culture in Colonial America: The Delaware Colony

- Finnish log construction and saunas in Colonial America
 - Frank Eld, Finlandia Foundation National Lecturer of the Year, 2018-19
- The Forest Finns in the Delaware Colony
 - Sarah Kammlah & Wayne T. Peterson, Forest Finns in America

Paulucci Hall

■ *Nordic America: Creating Bridges to Finland*

The Iconic and the Everyday: Creative Finland in America

This presentation will describe the contemporary presence and influence of Finnish design, industry and identity in the United States. It aims to produce a composite understanding of the presence and strength of Finnish architecture, design and industry in the lives of everyday Americans - and to benefit both nations' mutual appreciate and understanding.

Peter MacKeith, Professor & Dean, Fay Jones School of Architecture and Design, University of Arkansas.

St. Louis River Room

■ *Finnish and Finnish American Spirituality*

Spiritual movements in Finland and their influence on Finnish hymnody

Samuli Korkalainen, Research Institute, University of the Arts, Helsinki

FRIDAY, JULY 28, 2023

10:00 - 10:30 AM

Break

Panels

10:30 - 11:30 AM

French River Room

■ ***Indigenous Arts (Sámi, Finnishinaabe, Finnish/Ojibwe collaborations)***

Finnish, Sami, Ojibwe Cultural Connections – An Artist’s Journey with Marlene Wisuri

Visual artist, author, and curator, Marlene Wisuri, will share her stories of making cultural connections through art, books, and exhibits.

Gooseberry Room

■ ***Finnish American Folk Music/All Tradition is Change***

Playing Across Cultures/Creole Sounds

Sara Pajunen, Laurel Premo, and Oren Tikkanen speak with Jim Leary

Lake Superior Room

■ ***Nordic America: Creating Bridges to Finland***

Salmela Architects: An Architecture of the American North

Kai Salmela, of Salmela Architects, and Thomas Fisher, a professor in the School of Architecture at the University of Minnesota, will have a conversation on the work of Salmela Architects, looking at three recent residential projects and how they respond to their locations, their clients, and to the larger environment. They will discuss the different approaches the three houses take to energy conservation, landscape design, interior daylighting, and materials selection

Moderator: Brice Aarrestad

Sponsored by H Window

Horizon 202

■ ***Nordic Experiences for Children (aged 8-16)***

Part II: A workshop with William Durbin

William Durbin, award-winning historic fiction author, works with attendees, helping them start their own fiction writing project based on Finnish American themes and characters.

FRIDAY, JULY 28, 2023

Horizon 203-204

■ ***Nordic 21st Century Literature***

Writing Finnish and Finnish American historical fiction

Mark Munger, author of Finnish American trilogy; John Simon, author of Strangers in a Strange Land, a fictional novel about Finland's Jews during WWII.

Moderator/Commentator: Suzanne Matson, Boston College.

St. Louis River Room

■ ***Finnish and Finnish American History***

Utopian communities

- Towards A Better World: Utopian Communities established by the Finnish Americans
 - Teuvo Peltoniemi, Author of upcoming 2024 book on Finnish Utopian Communities
- Utopian dreams that Soviet Utopian communities in Karelia
 - Russ Mattson, Author of *Karelia Fever*

Paulucci Hall

■ ***Contemporary Finland and Finnish America***

Not Just Heavy Metal: Finnish Pop and Jazz Music

Eepi Ursin shares her musical repertoire of Finnish Popular Music

Horizon 205

■ ***Finnish and Finnish American Spirituality***

The Finnish Heritage Hymnbook: A 90 year project with a Contemporary Conclusion

Margaret Vainio, Marianne Wargelin & Samuli Korkalainen talk about the resources

Ballroom 301

■ **Finnish Language: Beginning Finnish Class**

Say it in Finnish! - The Finnish you've just got to know - in 60 minutes!

Limited to 20 students

FRIDAY, JULY 28, 2023

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Harborside Ballroom

■ Finlandia Foundation National: Saving Finland in America Project

Finlandia Foundation National (FFN) is excited to host a panel discussion about our newest initiative "*Saving Finland in America*." Representatives from the foundation and project will report on the progress and plans for saving the historical and cultural treasures put at risk after the March 2023 announcement of the closure of Finlandia University in Hancock, MI. The project involves the Finnish American Heritage Center, Price of Freedom War Museum, Art Gallery, North Wind Books, The Finnish American Reporter, and the Finnish Folk School.

11:45 AM - 12:45 PM

Harborside Patio

■ Asahi Exercise Opportunity

Use this mid-day break to relax and stretch using Asahi methods. Asahi exercise hour will include an instructor and assistants trained in this revolutionary mind-body practice from Finland. No pain, all gain! Connect with your breathing and deepest muscles. Re-energize yourself for the afternoon.

1:00 - 4:00 PM

Harborside Patio

■ Nordic Experiences for Children (ages 8-16)

▸ SOIVA Workshop: Using your body as a musical instrument

Sibelius Academy of Finland instructors share and teach. Sponsored by Finlandia Foundation National.

Limited to 25 participants, first come, first serve

▸ Happy Himmeli: Explore a Nordic Craft Revival for Children

Horizon 202

Learn how to make a mixed-media himmeli using a variety of colorful materials!

Alison Aune shares her popular workshop.

Limited to 25 children and their parents

FRIDAY, JULY 28, 2023

1:00 - 4:00 PM

Nordic Center

■ **Pop Up Exhibition - Inspiraatioita: Finnish Inspirations in Minnesota**

This exhibition will feature the work of 8 Minnesota artists who draw inspiration from traditional and contemporary Finnish art and design. These artists will share works that explore diverse themes through textiles, drawing, painting, ceramics, photography, and mixed media. The Nordic Center is a non-profit cultural center established in 2011, with a mission to share Nordic culture with the greater community through social, educational and arts programs.

Curator-Artists: Alison and Kirsten Aune

Participating Artists: Justin Anderson, Mary Erickson Tia Keobounpheng, Lenore Lampi, Natalie Salminen, Marlene Wisuri

Panels

1:30 - 2:30 PM

French River Room

■ ***Indigenous Arts (Sámi, Finnishinaabe, Finnish/Ojibwe collaborations)***

Ojibwe and Sámi Handwork

Featuring artists Laurel Sanders, Wendy Savage, and Pam Capin with moderator Tom DuBois

Gooseberry Room

■ ***Finnish American Folk Music/All Tradition is Change***

Old-Time Songs and Tunes

Featuring Teresa Aho, Rich Koski, Ralph and Jaana Tuttila with moderator Carl Rahkonen

FRIDAY, JULY 28, 2023

Horizon 203-204

■ *Finnish and Finnish American History*

DNA as a research tool: Two sides of the data base

- A small cultural group, the Forest Finns: Discovering their 19th and 20th C. American migration history with the assistance of DNA research
 - Sarah Kammlah & Wayne Peterson, *Forest Finns in America*
- Who do we think we are? Finnish identity - language, folklore, nation and race.
 - Lynn Laitala, Author, Journal editor, Historian.

St. Louis River Room

■ *Nordic 21st Century Literature*

Suomalaisen kirjailijan kokemuksia Pohjois-Amerikasta. (A Finnish author's experiences of North America.)

Poetry & Prose related to travels and observations in North America, including his father's experiences in Canada and the U.S. in the 1920's.

Hannu Niklander, Finnish poet, fiction and non-fiction writer

Readings and comments in Finnish with English translations

Paulucci Hall

■ *Environment & Sustainability*

Bicycles: A 19th century transportation mode; an active transportation alternative in 21st century Finland

Discovering Finland on Bikes: How Finland earns a return on their cycling investment. Tony Desnick, Executive Director, Finnish Bicycling Embassy

FRIDAY, JULY 28, 2023

Keynote

2:00 - 3:00 PM

Lake Superior Ballroom

■ **Finland, the United States, and European and American Security**

Finland's Ambassador to the United States Mikko Hautala discusses recent events with a distinguished panel.

Moderator:

Ross Wilson, U.S. Ambassador, retired. Global Minnesota Board Chair.

Panelists:

Mikko Hautala, Finland's Ambassador to the United States

General Philip M. Breedlove, retired four-star general in the United States Air Force, former Supreme Allied Commander of NATO

Member of the United States Congress

Panels

3:00 - 4:00 PM

French River Room

■ ***Indigenous Arts (Sámi, Finnishinaabe, Finnish/Ojibwe collaborations)***

Wild ricing film: *Stewards of All Creation*

With filmmaker Kristin Ojaniemi and Aurora Conley of the Bad River Ojibwe

Gooseberry Room

■ ***Finnish American Folk Music/All Tradition is Change***

Country Music in Finland and Finnish America

Eric Koskinen and Rami Soni with Nate Gibson, moderator

Horizon 205

■ ***Finnish and Finnish American History***

Introducing the Collections and Resources of the Migration Institute of Finland

Collections explained with tips on how to use the Institute.

Saara Pellander, Executive Director; Samira Saramo, Senior Research Fellow; Veli-Matti Ritakallio, Chair of the Board of Directors

FRIDAY, JULY 28, 2023

■ **Nordic 21st Century Literature**

Horion 203-204

Hanna Pylväinen and *The End of Drum-Time*, her Novel, and the Inter-Ethnic Collisions of the Sámi, the Finns, and the Swedes

The End of Drum-Time opens in 1851 at the northernmost parish in Sweden with the conversion of a Sámi reindeer herder to Laestadianism, a form of Lutheranism practiced today largely by Finns. The novel's main plot is a love story between Laestadius's daughter and the son of the reindeer herder, but its backdrop is the earliest days of the founding of Laestadianism and the political and social background which led to its rise. In this presentation, Hanna will read from related portions of the book and present findings from her research and time among the Sámi reindeer herders, discussing how that contributed to her understanding of Laestadianism as she depicts it in the book, and as she understand it in her own life as a former Laestadian.

■ **Environment and Sustainability**

Paulucci Hall

Sustainable Metals: Finland and Minnesota

John Kearney and Aaron Klemz, Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy

3:00 - 5:00 PM

Zeitgeist Movie Theater

Finnish TV Show: Selected episodes of Reindeer Mafia

\$10 at the door

When the matriarch Brita Nelihanka, who for a long time ruled over the wastelands in the north, dies, the relatives gather to distribute the inheritance. However, the testament offers big surprises. Soon the family is embroiled in a power struggle. Starring Saturday's concert performer, Samuli Edelmann.

5:00-7:00 PM

Joseph Nease Gallery

■ **Reception and Meet the Artist - Sara Pajunen: Listening through context**

The Nease Gallery is hosting an opening reception and meet the artist event! This exhibition will show Sara Pajunen's recent sound and film work about our region, and includes work from two on-going projects "Mine Songs: Sounding an Altered Landscape" and "The Places We Know." The connected projects focus on themes of long-rhythm and broken connections with environment, dominant cultural narratives, and listening as presence.

FRIDAY, JULY 28, 2023

7:00-9:00 PM
Nordic Center

■ Reception for Pop Up Exhibition - Inspiraatioita: Finnish Inspirations in Minnesota

This exhibition will feature the work of 8 Minnesota artists who draw inspiration from traditional and contemporary Finnish art and design. These artists will share works that explore diverse themes through textiles, drawing, painting, ceramics, photography, and mixed media.

The Nordic Center is a non-profit cultural center established in 2011, with a mission to share Nordic culture with the greater community through social, educational and arts programs.

Curator-Artists: Alison and Kirsten Aune

Participating Artists: Justin Anderson, Mary Erickson Tia Keobounpheng, Lenore Lampi, Natalie Salminen, Marlene Wisuri

7:00 - 9:00 PM
Zeitgeist Movie Theater

Finnish Film: Women of Standing Rock (documentary)

\$10 at the door

A group of Indigenous women risks their lives to stop the construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline, which jeopardizes their land, water and entire way of life. Though focusing on issues in the USA, this film's production team and a share of the movie's financing came from Finland.

7:30 PM
DECC Symphony Hall

Symphony Orchestra Concert

Craig Randal Johnson leads the FinnFest Symphony Orchestra on the 40th anniversary of FinnFest USA. Our concert features the US premiere of the late Jaakko Kuusisto's recently composed Piano Concerto, played by the Helsinki based American pianist Mackenzie Melemed, a 2022 Avery Fisher Career Grant Award winner. The concert then moves to dramatic selections from Leevi Madetoja's opera 'The Ostrobothnians', the first Finnish-composed opera to command international attention and performances. The concert opens and closes with music by Finland's national composer Jean Sibelius.

Join the FinnFest orchestra, soloist and the FinnFest Chorus at the DECC for an inspiring wonderful evening of Finnish classical music.

Link: [Tickets available via TicketMaster](#)

8:00 PM
Pizza Luce

■ Music in Downtown Duluth

Finnish American Alt-Country Music

Erik Koskinen & Band

SATURDAY, JULY 29, 2023

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Registration desk open

■ **Tori open**

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Concerts and Artisan Sessions

Pioneer Hall & Edmund
Fitzgerald Room

Sponsored and organized by the Nordic Folklife/Center for the Study of Upper Midwest
Cultures, University of Wisconsin-Madison

9:00–9:45: Kantele Making featuring artist LynnAnne Vesper with moderator Mirva Johnson

10:00–10:45: Metku Trio

10:45-11:00: Kiikurit folk dance group

11:00–11:45: Lautala Pojat

12:00–12:45: Lyz Jaakola

12:45-1:00: Kisarit

1:00–1:45: Eric Peltoniemi

2:00–2:45: Steve Solkela

3:00–3:45: John Westmoreland

3:45-4:00: Kisarit

4:00–4:45: Lauluaiika

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Finnish Citizen: Passport Renewal

Harbor Side Convention
Center, Room 201

By appointment only

Consulate of Finland, New York City

9:00 - 11:30 AM

■ **Nordic Experiences for Children (ages 8-16)**

Ballroom 301-302

Finnish Language and Culture Morning

Tiina Watts & Susan Harstad, Salolampi Language Village

SATURDAY, JULY 29, 2023

9:00 - 11:30 AM

St. Louis River Room

■ ***Finnish and Finnish American Spirituality***

Faith Issues in Lutheranism

The rapidly declining Lutheran Church in Finland & the USA: Crisis of faith? Or the Church? Or both?

Jarmo Tarki. Ph.D., D.Min. & Veli-Matti Kärkäinen, Ph.D

Panels

9:00 - 10:00 AM

French River Room

■ ***Indigenous Arts (Sámi, Finnishinaabe, Finnish/Ojibwe collaborations)***

History, Religion/Beliefs, Language, Society and Politics

An Introduction with Ellen Marie Jensen

Gooseberry Room

■ ***Finnish American Folk Music/All Tradition is Change***

Finnish American Labor Songs: The T-Bone Slim Project

Kirsti Salmi-Niklander, Saijaleena Rantanen, Saku Pinta, Lotta Leiwo, John Westmoreland

Paulucci Hall

■ ***Environment and Sustainability***

Minnesota and Finland - Leading on Collaborative Innovation

Minnesota is one of only a select group of states designated by Finland for a special trade relationship. In 2021, Finland and Minnesota signed a Letter of Understanding formalizing a new partnership to collaborate on selected topics, to the benefit of both. What's in the Letter? What's happened as a result and what new opportunities have emerged? Join this session to learn what both Finland and Minnesota have to gain from the partnership. Come asking the question "What's in this for me and my business?"

Elaine Kumpula, Honorary Consul of Finland; Steve Riedel, Corporate Relations Officer, Global Minnesota

SATURDAY, JULY 29, 2023

Horizon Room 203-204

■ ***Finnish and Finnish American Literature***

Suzanne Matson

Matson, Finlandia Foundation Lecturer of the Year, reads from her novel Ultraviolet and talks about her writing life.

Co-sponsored by Finlandia Foundation Northland.

Moderator: Mary Lukkarilla, President

Horizon 205

■ ***Finnish and Finnish American History***

Forest Finns: Officially recognized ethnic minority in Sweden and Norway

A best kept secret from Nordic Americans in the Upper Midwest?

Sarah Kammlah and Wayne T. Peterson, *Forest Finns in America*

Keynote

Lake Superior Ballroom

9:00 - 10:00 AM

■ **What's the Secret to Finland Being the Happiest Country in the World? Lessons Learned from the World Happiness Report**

Finland has been once again named the World's Happiest Country: When work-life balance, support for family, education and healthcare are the norm and people feel heard and seen, it can lead to contentment that has nothing to do with monetary riches and everything to do with interpersonal relationships and an individual's belief of their own importance as a part of the society. What lessons can we apply to our personal and profession lives?

Presenter: Erica Tukiainen, MD, MPH; Primary Care Sports Medicine Physician, Physical Wellness Advocate & Researcher, Former Professional Athlete.

10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Split Rock Room

■ **Finnish American Film Festival – Day Four**

Director's Spotlight: Kristin Ojaniemi Films

- 10:00 *Co-operatively Yours* (2017), 57 minutes
- 11:00 *Sirkka: Past and Present* (2019), 57 minutes
- 1:00 Meet the filmmaker, Kristin Ojaniemi
- 1:30 *Roy Helander* (2019), 20 minutes
- 2:00 *Born in a Barn*, excerpts from a series-in-progress

SATURDAY, JULY 29, 2023

Panels

10:30 - 11:30

French River Room

■ ***Indigenous Arts (Sámi, Finnish/Inuit, Finnish/Ojibwe collaborations)***

Sámi Cultural Expressions, Rights, and Representations

An Introduction with Ellen Marie Jensen

Gooseberry Room

■ ***Finnish American Folk Music/All Tradition is Change***

Accordionist Humorist: Steve Solkela

Horizon 205

■ **Intermediate Finnish, Session IV**

Let's chat suomeksi!

Develop spoken fluency - in 60 minutes!

Limited to 20 students

Harborside Ballroom 302

■ ***Nordic America: Creating Bridges to Finland***

Aalto in America

This presentation will highlight the “American” dimension to the Aaltos’ life and work, through case studies in particular describing exhibitions of Artek furnishings at the Museum of Modern Art, the 1939 Finland Pavilion at the New York World’s Fair, the Baker House Residence Hall at MIT, and the Mt. Angel Library in Oregon, as well as projects in Finland possessing an American dimension.

This presentation seeks to identify more generally the role that architecture can play in building identity and mutual understanding between nations.

Peter MacKeith, Professor and Dean, Fay Jones School of Architecture and Design, University of Arkansas

Moderator: Brice Aarrestad

Sponsored by H Window

SATURDAY, JULY 29, 2023

Horizon 203-204

■ *Finnish and Finnish American History*

Oskari Tokoi: Finnish American Immigrant, Finland's First Prime Minister, and Finnish American in Fitchburg, MA

Rainer Smedman, Oskari Tokoi Society

St. Louis River Room

■ *Finnish and Finnish American Literature*

Diane Jarvi and Greg Watson

Twin Cities Finnish American poets, Diane Jarvi and Greg Watson, read and discuss their work.

Lake Superior Ballroom

■ *Environment and Sustainability*

Minnesota Energy Companies' Efforts to Create and Meet Clean Energy Goals

Finland has proposed to meet 50% share of its 2030 energy from renewable sources in gross final consumption of energy, making Finland one of the EU frontrunners in renewable energy. How do Minnesota's efforts compare? This panel of three Minnesota Energy Companies will discuss Minnesota's own ongoing efforts to create and meet 21st century clean electrical energy goals.

Ken Smith, Ever Green Energy; Jeff Haase, Great River Energy; TBD, Minnesota Power.

Moderator: Rao Konidena, Finnish American Chamber of Commerce - Minnesota

11:45 AM - 12:45 PM

Harborside Patio

■ *Asahi Exercise Opportunity*

Get back in balance with a revolutionary mind-body practice from Finland: Asahi, designed by medical sports experts to be fun, safe & effective for everyone: no pain, all gain! Connect with your breathing and deepest muscles for improved balance, posture, coordination, flexibility, circulation, boosted spirits & immunity through very simple flowing movements in a standing (or sitting) position - no need to get down on a mat!

SATURDAY, JULY 29, 2023

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
St. Louis River Room

■ **Boost Yourself to Happy Finland**

Quality education, healthy work-life balance, beautiful nature, unparalleled safety... Sounds too good to be true? Finland has it all!

Join us for a Finntastic fireside chat with Consul General of Finland in New York, Ambassador Jarmo Sareva and Consul Mikko Nieminen to hear more about what opportunities the Happiest Country in the World offers for you. Moderated by the Consulate's Communications Adviser Satu Järveläinen.

1:00 - 4:00 PM
Nordic Center

■ **Pop Up Exhibition - Inspiraatioita: Finnish Inspirations in Minnesota**

This exhibition will feature the work of 8 Minnesota artists who draw inspiration from traditional and contemporary Finnish art and design. These artists will share works that explore diverse themes through textiles, drawing, painting, ceramics, photography, and mixed media. The Nordic Center is a non-profit cultural center established in 2011, with a mission to share Nordic culture with the greater community through social, educational and arts programs.

Curator-Artists: Alison and Kirsten Aune

Participating Artists: Justin Anderson, Mary Erickson Tia Keobounpheng, Lenore Lampi, Natalie Salminen, Marlene Wisuri

1:00 - 2:00 PM
Kirsten Aune Showroom

■ **Reflections and Inspirations from Finland: Kirsten Aune Textiles**

A talk with Kirsten Aune, a local Duluth artist with a global reach.

1:30 - 4:30 PM
Harborside Patio

■ **Nordic Experiences for Children (ages 8-16)**

"Making music with our bodies" workshops draw from the practices of global pedagogy, which is an immersive way of music and experiencing music. This method leans on the ideology of inclusivity, embodiment, co-creation and improvisation--experiencing music through body and movement, voice, creativity and contribution. This is a free session sponsored by Finlandia Foundation National and taught by instructors from Helsinki's Sibelius Academy, limited to 40 participants each session, first-come, first served. Registration begins one hour prior to class start.

Anybody and everybody interested in music is welcome; you only need to bring yourself and your curiosity!

SATURDAY, JULY 29, 2023

Panels

1:30 - 2:30 PM

French River Room

■ ***Indigenous Arts (Sámi, Finnish/Inaabe, Finnish/Ojibwe collaborations)***

Decolonize Your Bucket List!

Why Your Next Visit to Finland Should Include Inari, and What To Do Once You Get There

Tom DuBois, Professor of Scandinavian Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Gooseberry Room

■ ***Finnish American Folk Music/All Tradition is Change***

History of Finnish American Dance Bands

Carl Rahkonen, Professor Emeritus, Indiana University of Pennsylvania

Horizon Room 203-204

■ ***Finnish and Finnish American History***

Finnish American Socialism in the Upper Midwest

- 1918 Draft dodgers in the Keweenaw - Hilary Joy Virtanen
- Socialism on the Iron Range - Aaron Brown

Moderator: Jeff Iisakka, President, Minnesota Finnish American Historical Society

Paulucci Hall

■ ***Contemporary Finland and Finnish America***

Finland's Forward Thinking: Past, Present and Future

KONE is one of Finland's successful international companies. John Simon will explore why KONE should be of interest to anyone who wants to understand Finland's political-economic development. KONE was Finland's first company to break out of the domestic market and succeed internationally. KONE began in 1908 when Finland was still a relatively poor country, KONE will provide an example of Finland's industrialization and export-centric transition to the creation of a modern, successful economy based on innovative technology and future thinking.

Panelists: John Simon, author. Chris Heck, Wärtsilä. Comments by Ambassador Jarmo Sareva, Consul General of Finland, New York City

Moderator: Roa Konidena, President, Finnish American Chamber of Commerce.

SATURDAY, JULY 29, 2023

Horizon 205

■ ***Nordic America: Creating Bridges to Finland***

Himmeli Crafts

Join artists Mary Erickson and Alison Aune for a look into the traditional origins of himmeli and current practices and innovations into this ancient art form.

Alison Aune, Professor, Art Department at the University of Minnesota - Duluth

St. Louis River Room

■ ***Finnish and Finnish American History***

Finding your family's and your community's history in your home movies

Dwight Swanson, independent scholar

Keynote

Lake Superior Ballroom

2:00 - 3:00 PM

■ **Women and Leadership**

15 Years Later: Revisiting a FinnFest 2008 Topic

- Emily Larson, Mayor of Duluth, Minnesota
- Amy Hietapelto, Interim Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, University of Minnesota-Duluth
- Anne-Mari Paster, Managing Director, Omega Funds, and President of Finlandia Foundation National
- Moderator: Elaine Kumpula, Honorary Consul of Finland

2:30 - 3:00 PM

BREAK

3:00 - 5:00 PM

Zeitgeist Movie Theater

Finnish Film: Risto Rappääjä (youth feature film)

\$10 at the door

Ricky lives with his Aunt Serena and loves to play drums. But when Serena breaks her leg, her strict cousin Fanny moves in to take care her and Ricky. The first in a series of popular children's films.

SATURDAY, JULY 29, 2023

Panels

3:00 - 4:00 PM

French River Room

■ ***Indigenous Arts (Sámi, Finnishinaabe, Finnish/Ojibwe collaborations)***

Finnishinaabe Music and Song

Lyz Jaakola, American Indian Studies & Music Instructor, Fond Du Lac Tribal and Community College

Gooseberry Room

■ ***Finnish American Folk Music/All Tradition is Change***

The Legacy of Viola Turpeinen

Päivi Takala speaks regarding her film-in-progress, *The Lady and the Accordion*, focused on the life and music of Viola Turpeinen, with accordionist Riita Kossi (formerly of Värttinä) and moderator Jim Leary

St. Louis River Room

■ ***Finnish and Finnish American Literature***

Sheila Packa and Jim Johnson

Two of Duluth's past Poet Laureates read from their work.

Horizon 203-204

■ ***Contemporary Finland and Finnish America***

The journey at the crossroads of elite athletes, language and heritage

Finnish-American athlete Kayleigh Karinen's journey to become a four-time world champion with the Finnish National Team

Kayleigh Karinen, University of Helsinki

Paulucci Hall

■ ***Nordic America: Creating Bridges to Finland***

Music Commissions

Ameriikan Poijat and its music commission from contemporary Finnish composers, performance and discussion.

SATURDAY, JULY 29, 2023

Horizon 202

■ **Environment and Sustainability**

Electric vehicles

Minnesota electric vehicle owners circle experiences

Sponsored by Minnesota Power Company

Horizon Room 203-204

■ **Finnish and Finnish American History**

Finnish log buildings including smoke saunas: Past and present

Frank Eld, Finlandia Foundation National Lecturer of the Year, 2018-2019

Location TBD

5:00 PM

■ **Young Professional Gathering**

Opportunity to meet and network with other young professionals and learn more about businesses in Finland and Minnesota.

7:00 - 9:00 PM

Zeitgeist Movie Theater

Finnish Film: Häät ennen hautajaisia (romantic comedy)

\$10 at the door

Wedding planner Joanna tries to find a fake boyfriend so that her depressed dad would cheer up. Joanna meets Sakke, a peculiar funeral contractor, who is also in search for a girlfriend.

8:00 PM

DECC Symphony Hall

Samuli Edelmann Concert

Samuli Edelmann, a Finnish actor and singer with more than half a million albums sold during his career - three platinum and three gold albums - make him one of Finland's best-selling male artists. His wide-ranging repertoire, from art records to pop music, will invariably find its way into the hearts of visitors at Finn Fest.

Link: [Tickets available via Ticketmaster](#)

8:00 PM

Holiday Inn

■ **Finnish American Music & Dancing**

- Oren Tikkanen's Yooper Creole/Backroom Boys
- Metku Trio

Non-registrants: \$10

SUNDAY, JULY 30, 2023

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Pioneer Hall & Edmund
Fitzgerald Room

■ **Tori open**

■ **Ecumenical Worship Service**

- FinnFest USA Choir, Maria Männistö, director
- Finnish Heritage Hymnal (Finnish hymns in English translations)
- Ameriikan Poijat brass ensemble
- Jarmo Tarkki, Lead Pastor
- Samuli Edelmann, featured soloist
- Eepi Ursin, featured soloist

10:00 - 11:30 AM

Symphony Hall

■ **Using Your Body as a Musical Instrument**

"Making music with our bodies" workshops draw from the practices of global pedagogy, which is an immersive way of music and experiencing music. This method leans on the ideology of inclusivity, embodiment, co-creation and improvisation--experiencing music through body and movement, voice, creativity and contribution. This is a free session for adults is sponsored by Finlandia Foundation National and taught by instructors from Helsinki's Sibelius Academy. In the workshop we will go through the basic ideology of global pedagogy and make hands-on group exercises and musical games, or "frames," involving movement, rhythm, body percussion and singing. This session is first-come, first served.

1:00 - 4:00 PM

Rooftop patio

■ **Pop Up Exhibition - Inspiraatioita: Finnish Inspirations in Minnesota**

This exhibition will feature the work of 8 Minnesota artists who draw inspiration from traditional and contemporary Finnish art and design. These artists will share works that explore diverse themes through textiles, drawing, painting, ceramics, photography, and mixed media. The Nordic Center is a non-profit cultural center established in 2011, with a mission to share Nordic culture with the greater community through social, educational and arts programs.

Curator-Artists: Alison and Kirsten Aune

Participating Artists: Justin Anderson, Mary Erickson Tia Keobounpheng, Lenore Lampi, Natalie Salminen, Marlene Wisuri

1:00 - 4:00 PM

Nordic Center

2:00 - 4:00 PM

Harborside Ballroom

■ **Family Style Dance**

Finn Hall band and Lauluaiika playing songs for dancing

Sara Pajunen Solo Exhibition

Joseph Nease Gallery
23 West 1st Street,
Duluth, MN

Open: July 27-29, 12:00 - 4:00 PM
Reception: July 28, 5:00 - 7:00 PM

From the Nease Gallery: We look forward to this summer's solo exhibition of Sara Pajunen's recent sound and film work about our region. Sara Pajunen is a composer-improviser and an audiovisual artist based in what is now called Minnesota (USA). Trained as a violinist and employing locally-responsive media ranging from field recordings to drone imagery, her work is motivated by interactions between her ancestral roots, American cultural histories, and connection to our environments through sound.

Specific to this exhibition from the artist: "Sara Pajunen will present audiovisual work, sound art, and photographs from her projects "Mine Songs: Sounding an Altered Landscape" and "The Places We Know." The connected projects use field recording, violin, aerial image, and archival material to focus on themes of long-rhythm and broken connections with environment, dominant cultural narratives, and listening as presence."



Downtown Duluth Exhibits

Inspiraatioita: Finnish Art and Design in Minnesota

Nordic Center
23 N Lake Avenue
Duluth, Minnesota

Open: July 26-30, 1:00 - 4:00 PM
Reception: July 28, 7:00 - 9:00 PM

This exhibition will feature the work of 8 Minnesota artists who draw inspiration from traditional and contemporary Finnish art and design. These artists will share works that explore diverse themes through textiles, drawing, painting, ceramics, photography, and mixed media. The Nordic Center is a non-profit cultural center established in 2011, with a mission to share Nordic culture with the greater community through social, educational and arts programs.

Curator-Artists:

Alison and Kirsten Aune

Participating Artists:

Justin Anderson
Mary Erickson
Tia Keobounpheng
Lenore Lampi
Natalie Salminen
Marlene Wisuri

FINN FEST
POP-UP EXHIBITION

NORDIC CENTER
DULUTH

Inspiraatioita:

Finnish Art and Design in Minnesota

Curator-Artists:
Alison and Kirsten Aune

Participating Artists:
Justin Anderson Tia Keobounpheng Natalie Salminen
Mary Erickson Lenore Lampi Marlene Wisuri

Visit nordiccenterduluth.org
23 N Lake Ave, Duluth, MN
EXHIBIT OPEN HOURS: 1-4PM

Find us on

2023

This activity is made possible in part by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Arrowhead Regional Arts Council and the Minnesota State Arts Board thanks to appropriations from the Minnesota State Legislature's general and arts and cultural heritage funds.

Downtown Duluth Exhibits

Reflections and Inspirations from Finland: Kirsten Aune Textiles

Kirsten Aune Showroom and Gallery
12 N 21st Ave West
Duluth, MN

July 29, 1:00 - 2:00 PM

Kirsten Aune has had exhibitions in Minnesota, Illinois, Massachusetts, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland, and Estonia. She has received several awards including the Jerome Foundation Travel, Arrowhead Regional Arts Council Fellowship, and Finlandia Foundation Grant. Her work is in the permanent collection at The Tweed Museum of Art, the Municipal Arts Collective in Växjö, Sweden, the Unitarian Universalist Congregation Duluth, The Duluth Children's Museum, and in numerous private collections in Washington D.C, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New York City, North Carolina, Austria, Paris, Finland, and Japan.

Kirsten creates original geometric and floral designs using stencils that she cuts by hand and then arranges in dynamic visual compositions using bright blocks of color and bold designs. She also works with silkscreen printing to create textile yardage of repeat patterns on a variety of cloth objects including wall hangings, garments, toys, table linens, handbags, lampshades, coasters, shower curtains, holiday stockings, ornaments, bracelets, hats, quilts, dolls, puppets, aprons, pillows, potholders, wallets, purses, facemasks, and more. Her artistic style has been called "Modern Scandinavian." She has traveled to Scandinavia to research designs and to exhibit her work. Her connection to Danish, Swedish, and Finnish design is rooted in her childhood, growing up in a home of Mid-Century Modern Scandinavian furniture, and Marimekko wall hangings, that her parents collected when her mother worked in the first Danish furniture store in Minneapolis in the 1950s. Her love of color and simple lines are present in Scandinavian design and is reflected in some of her work.

kirsten
AUNE
textiles

