

FINNFEST USA 2017 SCHEDULE

THEME: YHDESSÄ – TOGETHER

SEPTEMBER 15-20 Pre-FinnFest USA 2017 opportunities

SEPTEMBER 21 THURSDAY

Sept 21-24--Exhibit, "Dora Jung: Painter in Linen"

An exhibit of weavings by Dora Jung (Finnish designer, 1906-1980), made possible by art collector Dr. Tuomas Sopanen, are on exhibit at Studio Ella. Opening is Thurs, Sept 21, 6:30-8 pm, with speaker Dr. Tuomas Sopanen. Suggested donation, \$5. 10 am-7 pm (closed on Fri, Sept 22), Studio Ella 364, Northrup King Bldg., 1500 Jackson St. NE, Minneapolis. For info, call 763-381-9432.

9:00 AM to 4:30 M.

Finnish Genealogy Symposium (see separate agenda posted on the website)
Hilton Hotel, Minneapolis

9:00 A.M.-2:00 PM

Finnish American Progressive History: A Symposium on Labor, Co-operatives and Politics (see separate agenda posted on the website)
Norway House, 913 E. Franklin Avenue, Minneapolis

9:00AM- 4:00 PM

Finnish American history tour to Cokato, Minnesota: the oldest, continuous Finnish community in North America.

This all-day bus tour leaves the Hilton Hotel at 8.15 and can pick up additional passengers at the Sears parking lot at Ridgedale at about 8.30. Harvey Barberg, a descendant of the original settlers, will be your tour guide, introducing you to the community as the bus travels 50 miles west of Minneapolis. Once in Cokato, Harvey will continue to provide interpretation as the tour stops at TyloHyllo's sauna construction plant, the Cokato City Museum, the Temperance Corners open air museum, the Apostolic church with its early cemetery, and the old tin church at Pioneer Park in Annandale. Finnish style pasties' picnic lunch will be provided. Back in Minneapolis around 4 PM. Reservation requested. Price is \$30 paid online at the FinnFest USA website, mailed to the postal address or paid when boarding the bus.

3:00-3:30 PM Public Ceremony at the Finnish monument in Theodore Wirth Park

The only public monument in America to recognize both Finland's unique identity and its effort to create a separate nation state, including the price it has paid, stands in Theodore Wirth Park, Minneapolis. This granite monument features on one side, a map of Finland, marking also the lands lost in Finland's mid-twentieth century wars, and, on the other side, a map of Minnesota, honoring the 1864 start of Modern Finnish Immigration to North America. Finnish Ambassador the United States, Kirsti Kauppi, will participate.

5:00 PM to 9:00 PM

"Traditional Finnish Thursday Pea Soup and Pannukakku Supper" with musical entertainment by Finn Hall and sing-a-long with Margaret Vainio, Tiina Watts & friends. St. Urho presentation. Supper will be served from 5:00 – 8:00 PM. Cost: \$16.00 (\$13.00 for FinnFest USA registrants with badge.) \$5 for children age 3-7, free for children 2 and under. Cash (& local checks) at the door. Danish American Center, 3030 West River Parkway, Minneapolis.

6:00-8:00 PM Euro-Cocktail

The Twin Cities area European Chamber of Commerce groups commemorate the 100th anniversary of Finland's Independence in a reception at Guthrie Theatre on the Plaza. Registration begins at 5:30. The Ambassador of Finland, Kirsti Kauppi, will be special guest and speaker. The Finnish American Chamber of Commerce-Minnesota invites FinnFest USA registrants to attend at the guest rate of \$30 with code received following FinnFest registration. Pre-registration required. Hors d'Oeuvres and cash bar.
Guthrie Theatre on the Plaza, 818 Second St. S, Minneapolis.

7:00 PM

Contemporary Finnish and Finnish American pop/rock concert

Tuomas and Markus (a "roots-rock" band from Finland). Eric Koskinen (Twin Cities musician) opens for the evening. FinnFest registrants will receive a promo code and link to order \$15 discounted tickets. Cedar Cultural Center, 416 Cedar Avenue S., Minneapolis. <https://www.thecedar.org/event/1486075-tuomo-markus-erik-koskinen-minneapolis/>

7:00-PM Finnish film festival at the Minneapolis/St. Paul Film Society

Järven Tarina (Tale of a Lake), 2016, Marko Röhr director, 75 minutes

Tale of a Lake creates a cinematic poem about Finland's natural waters. The script invokes tales based around the myths, legends and old beliefs recorded in Finnish mythology. Antti Tuuri, the popular author of Finnish historical novels, co-wrote the script accompanying this film about Finland's thousands of lakes. Taking viewers on an unprecedented adventure, ranging from crystal-clear springs to the basins of the big lakes, the film opens a whole new world of underwater nature for the viewers. Film director and Cinematographer present at the screening. St. Anthony Main Movie theatre tickets sold at the theatre. FinnFest USA full registrants will receive discounts with FinnFest badge. Film repeats on September 23, 1 PM.

SEPTEMBER 22 FRIDAY

6:00-10:30 AM

FinnFest USA 2017 Tori set-up time in Orchestra Hall foyer and tented Peavey Plaza space

8:00-9:30 Unique opportunity to learn Finnish

Dan Karvonen, Senior Lecturer, at the University of Minnesota will introduce the Finnish language to people who know nothing but want to know something. People attending this session will learn some basic phrases and begin to appreciate the nature of the Finnish language. Marquette Room, Hilton Hotel.

8:00-9:30 FIRST BREAK-OUT SESSIONS: YHDESSÄ - TOGETHER

1. Future of our Water Supply: Minnesota.

The Land of 10,000 Lakes and Finland, the Land of 1,000 Lakes share a concern for water. Prof. Mulla, internationally respected expert on water, will discuss water conservation from the perspectives of science. Steve Riedel will add the perspectives of business and trade. This session will give attendees insight into why Minnesota and the Upper Midwest may have good reasons to be talking and working with Finland. Speakers: David Mulla, Prof. and the N.E. Larson Endowed Chair for Soil and Water Resources, Dept. of Soil, Water, and Climate, University of Minnesota; Steve Riedel, Minnesota Trade Office. **Congress A, Hilton Hotel.**

2. **Finland Culture Heroes, The real-life struggles of Jean Sibelius and Axeli Gallen Kallela**
Panel: “The Jean Sibelius beyond the music: The Letters of Jean and Aino,” Helena Halmari, Sam Houston State University; “Gallen Kallela’s Epic Images” Thomas DuBois, University of Wisconsin-Madison.
Congress D, Hilton Hotel

3. **Natural Health and Healing: Introduction to Asahi a health fitness program from Finland**
Asahi is a health fitness program based on the eastern traditions of T'ai chi ch'uan, qigong, yiquan and yoga, with a western scientific viewpoint. Developed in 2004, Asahi is designed to suit everybody, regardless of physical condition or age. Ilpo Jalamo and Dr. Yrjö Mähönen, two of the four founders of Asahi, will explain how the fitness program developed out of sports medicine and life-time fitness, becoming quickly something being practiced throughout Finland in sports medicine and life-time fitness situations. The session will include an opportunity for the audience to do some of the exercises. Throughout the weekend, Asahi exercise sessions will give people a chance to learn and practice the movements. Presenters: Ilpo Jalamo, personal trainer & Karate instructor, and Dr. Yrjö Mähönen, Sports medicine researcher. **Atrium, Orchestra Hall**

4. **Thinking about the Road Finland Took to Arrive at Its Independent Nation Status in 1917**
The Reformation and your Smart Phone presentation by Rev. Dr. Jarmo Tarkki, Pastor of Finnish churches in California and Texas, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Adjunct Professor of Theology at California Lutheran University, Thousand Oaks; a Teaching Fellow in Philosophical Theology at the Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary, Berkeley.
The authority of the church was questioned and challenged by Martin Luther 500 years ago when he published his famous 95 theses on October 31, 1517. This radical act encouraged and emboldened others to begin to question the “common wisdom” in various fields of life. This in turn gave impetus to an entire era called *The Age of Enlightenment*. As people were encouraged to think for themselves, *sapere aude*—have the courage to reason for yourself—became the motto. All this in turn advanced various sciences and technologies that eventually have made it possible for you to own a smart phone!
Congress B & C, Hilton Hotel.

10:00-11:30 SECOND BREAK-OUT SESSIONS: YHDESSÄ/TOGETHER

1. **Earth, Air, Water, Fire: The Primary Elements in a Quintessentially Finnish Sauna**
Keith Raisanen, Saunatec Inc, CEO, gives keynote. Steve Leppala, Duluth, sauna aficionado, responds. Raisanen and Leppala will speak as two Finnish Americans for whom the sauna has been a way of life since childhood. In this session, they will think with us about “what is a Finnish sauna?” **Conrad B & C, Hilton Hotel.**

2. **Finnish American Co-operatives and their Legacy in the 21st century**
“An Overview of Finnish-American Cooperatives in the Upper Midwest, 1903-2017,” Arnold Alanen, Prof. Emeritus, UW-Madison; “Radicalism in the Finnish Co-operatives in the 1920’s and 1930’s,” William Pratt, Prof. Emeritus, University of Nebraska-Omaha. **Conrad A, Hilton Hotel.**

3. **Negotiating Artistic Expression Created in Small Cultural Communities:**
Dora Jung, Finnish Textile Artist: Painter in Linen
Presentation by Tuomas Sopanen, Independent Finnish Art curator
Kosti Ruohamaa, Legendary Photographer of Maine “Close to the Land, Close to the Sea”
Presentation by Deanna Bonner-Ganter, Curator, Photography, Art & Archives, Maine State Museum, emerita.
Marquette VI , Hilton Hotel.

4. **The Legacy of Reformation for a Secular and Religiously-Pluralistic Finland--- and Beyond**
Rev. Dr. Veli-Matti Kärkkäinen, Professor of Systematic Theology, Fuller Theological Seminary & Docent, University of Helsinki. What is the lasting legacy of the Protestant Reformation for Nordic countries, particularly Finland, the world's "most Lutheran" country? What is the Reformation's contribution to churches other than Lutheran - or other than Christian communities, for example immigrant Muslims? What about the secular people, a rapidly growing segment in all European societies? **Congress D, Hilton Hotel**
5. **Theatre: The Reading Room** by Ann Toumi; Production by Theatre Fiasko, Joensuu, Finland.
Performed in Finnish: **Orchestra Hall Atrium**

The Reading Room (Lukusali) is a one-act play based on a short story of the same name, written by Ann J. Toumi and published in *Kippis! – A Literary Journal* by the Finnish North American Literary Association (FinNALA), Fall 2016. The story's point of view is revealed from the perspective of a teenage girl, whose first job is in the Reading Room of the Duluth City Library, circa 1968. Two Finnish men, whose unfulfilled dreams as emigrants led them to a homeless existence and long days spent in the safe haven of the library's reading room, represent the many immigrants who ended up alone and homeless in Northern Minnesota. The men's poverty and loneliness intrigues the young girl, who develops compassion and empathy for these solitary immigrants.

Theatre Fiasko, an amateur theater ensemble, was founded in 1980 in Joensuu, North Karelia, Finland. Since its inception, Fiasko has remained rooted in North Karelia, still a highly ambitious and creative theater ensemble which includes its original founding members as well as a new generation of amateur actors. Over the years, many of Fiasko's members have performed in film and television productions in addition with other theater ensembles in Finland and abroad. Free to FinnFest registrants. \$5 fee at the door for others. All welcome.

12:00-1:30 PM

Economic Club of Minnesota is hosting a luncheon in honor of Finland 100. The President of Finland, Sauli Niinistö, will attend and make remarks with a focus on economic issues. For security reasons, no reservations will be accepted after September 15. Go to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/inaugural-luncheon-of-ecoms-10th-season-with-his-excellency-sauli-niinisto-president-of-the-tickets-36523704383> to reserve at the special price of \$50 for Friends of Finland. Lunch will be held at the Hilton Hotel.

1:00 PM-2:30 PM THIRD BREAK-OUT SESSIONS: YHDESSÄ/TOGETHER

1. **Finnish Technology Tackles Wood: The New World of Wood Treatment in Minnesota**
Panelists: Pat Donahue, Director, Forestry/Forest Products Division, Center for Applied Research and Technology Development, University of Minnesota-Duluth; John Bieganeck, Bieganeck Construction; Sue French, former Scientist at the Forestry/Forest Products Division, University of Minnesota-Duluth. Finnish technology has enabled architects to reconsider the wood products that they specify for their designs. The construction industry is discovering that, with Finnish technology's help, trees previously defined as "weed trees" are, in fact, solid, strong, and even beautiful products to use in contemporary building. Conrad A, Hilton Hotel. GENE
2. **The Iconic and the Everyday: Creative Finland in America**
Keynote: Peter MacKeith, Dean and Professor of Architecture, Fay Jones School of Architecture and Design, University of Arkansas; **Marquette VI, Hilton Hotel.**
3. **Finnish Americans Together with Other Nordic Americans**
 - a. Finns and Norwegians in 19th Century America: the Example of Minnesota: Greg Isola
 - b. Finns and Swedes in early 20th Century: Klas Bergman \Conrad D, Hilton Hotel

4. **Finland's Independence 100. The Church and State in Finland: Then, Now, and in the Future**
Dr. Tarkki and Dr. Kärkkäinen will reflect on the meaning of the independence of Finland and the place of the “state” church in modern, secular and pluralistic society. What are the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT) going forward another 100 and even 500 years? **Congress B & C, Hilton.**
5. **Finnish American Literature**, curated by Beth Virtanen, President, Finnish North American Literature Association. Each day, during FinnFest USA 2017, authors will read from their work. On Friday, three Minnesota Finnish Americans will share their work. **Atrium, Orchestra Hall.**

Sheila Packa, former Poet Laureate of Duluth, Librettist for “Migrations” a work composed by Olli Kortekangas as a commission from the Minnesota Orchestra and given its world premiere in February, 2016, as the second part of a concert which featured Sibelius’ *Kullervo* performed by the YL Chorus of Helsinki. An award-winning author, she has published four books of poems.

Donna Salli, An MFA in poetry, college professor, and published poet, Donna writes in multiple genres—poetry, fiction, drama, and the essay. Her creative work focuses on family, heritage, spirituality, changing gender roles, and other social issues. Her poems and essays have appeared in numerous journals, magazines, newspapers. Her work has been anthologized.

Jim Johnson, former Poet Laureate of Duluth, award winning published author and teacher of writing on both the high school and college level. His poetry focuses on the story of the immigrant experience (including the Finnish immigrant) and of families, hunger, nature, and hard work. He has published seven books of poetry.

3:00-4:30 PM YHDESSÄ/TOGETHER – FIRST PLENARY SESSION FINNFEST USA 2017 CONVOCATION:

The President of Finland, Sauli Niinistö, is attending this year’s festival. At this Convocation, FinnFest USA organizes a program to honor Finland 100 and its President. President Niinistö will address the Finnish North American Diaspora, and the American community will respond. This warm and elegant program will include the University of Minnesota Wind Ensemble, Suomi Finland 100 Chorus, Ameriikan Poijat, theatrical pieces by Singing Strings and Theatre Fiasko and the singing of the national anthems. Wendy Knox, Artistic Director of Frank Theatre, directs the program in the Orchestra Hall auditorium.

7:00-PM Finnish Film Festival at the Minneapolis/St. Paul Film Society

Saattokeikka (Unexpected Journey), 2017, Sauli Valkama director

In this “road trip” film, an elderly Finn, Lasse, traveling to his summer cottage, needs to find someone to take him there. He hires a driver, sixteen-year old Kamel, a Somali immigrant. Contemporary Finland and its social issues come alive as they two share the journey.

St. Anthony Main Movie theatre tickets sold at the theatre. FinnFest USA full registrants will receive discounts with FinnFest badge. Film repeats on September 26, 7 PM.

7:00 to 7:30 PM

Suomi Finland 100 Chorus performs in the Atrium of Orchestra Hall; no fee.

8:00-10:00 PM

Minnesota Orchestra Concert

Kalevi Aho *Minea*

Jaakko Kuusisto, *Violin Concerto* (soloist Elina Vähälä)

Jean Sibelius, *Symphony #2*

10:30-11: 30 PM FINNISH-THEMED JAZZ in the ATRIUM

The Juli Wood Quartet, located in Chicago, will be playing Finnish folk songs in jazz styles. Juli Wood - tenor sax, Paul Silbergleit- guitar, Clay Schaub- bass , Mike Schlick- drums. \$10 tickets sold at the Atrium door. Cash bar

SEPTEMBER 23 SATURDAY

7:30-8:30 AM

Asahi exercise: Start Saturday with this group opportunity to participate in this Finnish health exercise based on the eastern traditions of T'ai chi ch'uan, qigong, yiquan and yoga, with a western scientific viewpoint. Ilpo Jalamo, a personal trainer and Karate instructor, and Dr. Yrjö Mähönen. Meet on Peavey Plaza.

7:30-8:30 AM Unique opportunity to learn Finnish

Dan Karvonen, Senior Lecturer, at the University of Minnesota will introduce the Finnish language to people who know nothing but want to know something. People attending this session will learn some basic phrases and begin to appreciate the nature of the Finnish language. Marquette A, Hilton Hotel.

9:00 AM - 4:30 PM & 6:30-9:30 PM

Tori open. Demonstrations of Finnish folk crafts during the tori hours.

**9:30-10:30 AM YHDESSÄ /TOGETHER: SECOND PLENARY SESSION
THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNSOTA COMMEMORATES FINLAND 100**

The University of Minnesota, which has been involved academically with Finnish Studies since the 1910's, creates a special colorful ceremony to honor Finland. President Eric Kaler will bestow an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree on the President of Finland, Sauli Niinistö. President Niinistö will respond to this honor with a talk that will speak about Finland in the context of Finland's 100th anniversary. Orchestra Hall Auditorium. Free and open to the public.

10:15 AM Finn Sisu 5K run Theodore Wirth Park

Finn Sisu is sponsoring the 5k component of a Half marathon being run at Theodore Wirth Park. See the Loppet Foundation website for registration: <http://www.loppet.org/trailloppet/register/> This event is an opportunity that FinnFest USA 2017 has discovered. This local event is not organized by FinnFest USA 2017 or endorsed in any way, but it is listed here as an information courtesy.

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM Fourth Break-out Sessions Yhdessä/ Together:

1. Independent Finland: A North American Perspective

In recognition of the 100th anniversary of Finland's independence in 2017, Finlandia Foundation National has appointed five scholars to each develop a lecture directly related to Finland's national independence and identity: Prof. Thomas DuBois, Scandinavian Studies, University of Wisconsin; Prof. Sharon Franklin Rahkonen, History, Indiana University of Pennsylvania Prof. Peter MacKeith, University of Arkansas Fay Jones School of Architecture; Prof. Börje Vahämäki, emeritus, Scandinavian Studies, University of Toronto; Marianne Wargelin, Independent Scholar.

During 2017, these Lecturers of the Year (LOY) are presenting their lectures as single events made available specifically to Finlandia Foundation chapters. However, for FinnFest USA 2017, the Finlandia Foundation National has funded a special panel discussion entitled "Independent Finland: A North American View. The scholars will reflect on three topics: the cultural underpinnings of Finnish

nationhood; Finland holding on through wars, civil and global; and Finland reaching the top, internationally. Jon Saari, professor Emeritus, North Michigan University and LOY Coordinator will moderate the panel. **Conrad B & C**

2. **Theatre: “The Reading Room”** by Ann Toumi (Repeat from Friday but this time performed in English) Production by Theatre Fiasko, Joensuu, Finland
Free to FinnFest registrants. \$5 fee at the door for others. All welcome. **Atrium, Orchestra Hall.**
3. **Using Nature’s Harvest and Seasonal Eating to Improve Your Health: rethinking the Finnish Cuisine**
Elena Yorgason is a licensed sports nutritionist and dietitian who grew up in Finland. She will speak about “Seasonal Eating: Nature's harvest and living in the circadian rhythm of nature could be the missing link to your optimal health.” Mimmu Salmela, UMN public radio, responds. Jaana Nyström, A introduces and also comments. **Congress A, Hilton Hotel**
4. **Forests & Wildlife imperiled: Minnesota at Risk**
Ron Moen, Professor, Center for Water & the Environment, University of Minnesota-Duluth; Lee Frelich,, Professor, Center for Forest Ecology & Institute for the Environment, University of Minnesota; Gerald Niemi, Professor of Biology, Natural Resources Research Institute, University of Minnesota-Duluth. Trees, animals and birds are all being affected by changing ecological concerns in the 21st century. Using Minnesota as the example, this panel will consider a topic of mutual interest to Americans and to Finns. **Congress D, Hilton Hotel**

1:00 to 2:30 PM Fifth Break-out Session: Yhdessä/Together

1. **Nurturing Your Body: Movement for Health for Normal Folks**
Athletics is part of the Finnish “gene pool”, and that means it is not just for professionals but for all of us. These people share their experiences with
“Long distance hiking” Shane Peltonen
“Outdoor activities: kayaking, hiking, skiing, canoeing, snowshoeing” Matti Erpestad
“Kickbikes for exercise: a Finnish Invention” Tiina Watts
“Asahi for conditioning: a Finnish Invention” Ilpo Jalamo & Yrjö Mähönen
Congress B & C, Hilton Hotel.
2. **Panel Discussion: Nordic Americans in the American Political Arena**
Nordic influences on American politics: the Minnesota Example
Keynote: Klas Bergman; **Congress A, Hilton Hotel.**
3. **Americans looking at Finland’s 100 years**
 - a. ***The Northern Light: An American Looks at Finland and Scandinavia***
(Mary Bikkie Michelson’s book about her 1950 trip to Finland)
Hilary Virtanen, Finlandia University
 - b. **Travel over 50 years, 1950-2000:** Anita Smiley’s observations, first as an exchange student and as an organizer of tours to Finland
Anita Smiley, Finlandia Foundation National
Congress D, Hilton Hotel.

4. **Finnish American writing and publishing:** the Finnish North American Literature Association & the Journal of Finnish Studies keeping Finnish American writing alive and published.

Beth Virtanen, President, Finnish North American Literature Association; Helena Halmari, Editor, Journal of Finnish Studies. **Congress D, Hilton Hotel.**

5. **"Löylyä Lissää, (More Steam) - Suomi Finland 100 and Women's Contributions**

Singing Strings, the performing component of Evergreen School of Performing Arts, will present a short play depicting Finland's last 100 years as seen through the lives of several of Finland's Notable Women. Using song, dance, music, and narrative, the play explores women's unique leadership and contributions. Helina Leino Pakola, violin and Hilpi Leino Kantola, piano/ directors; Carol Pakola Leino Narrator.

Free to FinnFest registrants. \$5 fee at the door for others. All welcome. **Atrium, Orchestra Hall.**

2:00-4:30 PM Finnish Choral Music

Philip Brunelle: Vocal Essence, Plymouth Congregational Church; Mark Sedio: Central Lutheran Church, Augsburg College; Rachel Lucius, Angelica Cantanti; Margaret Vainio, Church of Finland. This overview of Finnish choral music will include choral works from the 16th century *Piae cantiones* through the flowering of the Romantic Period (Sibelius, Madetoja, Palmgren, Kuula) to the new generations (Rautavaara, Mäntyjärvi, Kortekangas). Two Twin Cities choral music conductors, Philip Brunelle and Mark Sedio, will provide this guide and share their experiences with performing this music. In addition, Margaret Väiniö – a cantor (organist, choral conductor and translator) in the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland and Rachel Howe Lucius (recently returned Fulbright Scholar studying children's choirs and music education in Jyväskylä) will discuss their thoughts and experiences regarding music in Finland.

Location: **Guild Hall, Plymouth Congregational Church, 1900 Nicollet Avenue, Minneapolis.**

Free to FinnFest registrants. \$10 fee at the door for others. All welcome.

3:00 -4:30 PM Sixth Break-out Sessions: Yhdessä/Together

1. **Finland's Public Education at 100**

Finland is doing major renovation on its curriculum to better prepare their students to live and work in a 21st century world. Joensuu Public School Educators discuss their experiences with the "New Finnish Curriculum." Monika Hoffman, Minneapolis Public Schools, curates this event. Speakers: Irja Hara, Special Needs Educator and Teacher Trainer; Tuire Hindikka, Kansalaisopisto Drama Education; Pirkko Kuriika, Vocational and technical education; Ann Toumi, English as a Foreign language. This relaxed presentation by the group will be followed by generous time for Q and A with the audience.

Congress B & C.

2. **Finnish American Literature** curated by Beth Virtanen, President, Finnish North American Literature Association. Each day, during FinnFest USA 2017, authors will read from their work, on Saturday, two writers who grew up outside of the Midwest and live outside of the Midwest. The winner of the Finnish North American Literature Association Finland 100 literature prize joins them. **Atrium, Orchestra Hall.**

Suzanne Matson: Professor of English, Boston College. A 2012 Fellow in fiction writing for the National Endowment for the Art, she is the author of three published novels and two published collections of poems.

Christina Maki: Winner of the first prize of the 2017 *Kippis!* writing contest and Finland 100 FinnFest Writer Award. *Kippis!*, the publication of the Finnish North American Literature Association, awarded for her poems titled “Sacrifice of Minnesota Wildflowers,” “The Lady of the Lake,” “The Train Station in Windsor,” “Making Psychosis Look Easy,” and “My Old French Teacher Was a Hologram.”

3. **The Passion of the Sauna: Old Finnish Saunas across America and the Growth of a New 21st Century Millennial Approach to Sauna Culture**

“**Finnish saunas of the past**” Frank Eid, documenter of historic sauna buildings still in existence across America; “**Saunatimes.com - Building New Saunas**” Glen Auerbach, a non-Finn with a passion for building saunas; “**Sauna Magic: A Video of Finnish Saunas in North America**” Garret Conover, videographer who has photographed the variety of saunas and American Millennials’ interest in saunas, including Minnesota’s 612 sauna movement. **Congress A, Hilton Hotel.**

4. **Preserving Historic Places that Matter to Finnish American Communities**

Are you worried about a historic place in your community? This session outlines tools and case studies drawn from Partners for Sacred Places’ innovative work with historic building preservation, nurturing transformation, and shaping vibrant, creative communities—tools that can applied to both civic and sacred properties. Highlights include a new project on the architecture and folk arts of historic Nordic churches in the Upper Midwest, the Keweenaw National Heritage Area, and the Architecture of Finnish Settlement in South Dakota. Panelists: Laurie Sommers, Project Director, Partners for Sacred Places; Carolyn Torma, American Planning Association, retired; Lynn Bjorkman, Keweenaw Historic Park, retired. **Congress D**

7:00-7:30 PM

Ameriikan Poijat play music in the Atrium.

7:30 PM Women Musicians Concert

Women Musicians: Finland and Finnish America women commemorate Finland 100

Over 100 years ago, the ancestors of these musicians were all living in the Grand Duchy of Finland, a special geographical and political unit in Imperial Russia. At this concert, their descendants, citizens of the USA or Finland, will join together to create this special evening of music devoted to women’s music making and composing.

Aallotar, a duo with Sara Pajunen, an American violinist and Teija Niku, a Finnish accordionist, will perform both traditional Finnish folk music and the new sounds they have created together to express their contemporary cultures and interests.

Diane Jarvi an American singer, song writer, guitarist and kantele player, will share her own Finnish folk music repertoire and her rich melodious music compositions. Known in Finland as the “Minnesotan Satakieli” (Minnesota Nightingale), Diane will perform on guitar and kantele, the Finnish national folk instrument. Diane’s music reflects her gift for the sounds and images of language, as her four published four volumes of poetry attest.

Maija Kauhanen, specializes in Finnish Saarijärvi kantele and the old and rare technique of playing kantele using a tiny wooden stick as a plectrum. Weaving this together with poly-

rhythms and organic beats, she creates unique soundscapes and compelling grooves..Maija is a composer and a versatile multi-instrumentalist as well as a charismatic performer with an entrancing stage presence. The rural music traditions of Finland and Karelia are her main influence and inspiration and she deftly gives their time-honoured melodies a new life.

O'Shaughnessy Auditorium, 2004 Randolph Avenue, St. Paul. FinnFest Registrants will be given a discount with the code given to them when they register. Shuttle bus available for today and Sunday events.

Special pre-concert guest: Sofi Oksanen, Finnish author. She will autograph copies of her book during the intermission.

8:00-10:00 PM

Minnesota Orchestra concert. Repeat of Friday night's concert
<http://www.minnesotaorchestra.org/buy/tickets/browse-calendar/eventdetail/905/-/celebrating-finland-s-centennial>

10:30 PM Minnesota Orchestra Night-cap

Free admission to FinnFest USA donors who have requested this option. Attendees will be given an opportunity to hear more Sibelius in an intimate setting.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2017

Christ Church Lutheran

3244 34th Ave S, Minneapolis, MN 55406

Christ Church Lutheran, an Eliel Saarinen designed sanctuary, includes an education wing designed by Eero Saarinen. The joined pair of buildings stands today as the only example of the father's and son's individual works combined. Christ Church Lutheran, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, was designated a National Historic Landmark in January 2009.

9:30-11:00 AM Finland Centenary Worship Service, Pastor Kristine Carlson, Cantor Robert Farley and the Christ Church congregation welcome the following FinnFest USA participants:

Jarmo Tarkki, Pastor of Finnish churches in California and Texas, Evangelical Lutheran Church of America; Veli-Matti Kärkkäinen, Professor of Systematic Theology, Fuller Theological Seminary & Docent, University of Helsinki; Amerikan Poijat, Brass Septet; Osmo Vänskä, clarinet; Margaret Vainio, Church of Finland Cantor and translator of Finnish hymns into English; Maija Kauhanen, kantele. Finnish hymns sung by the congregation.

10:30 Kirkkokahvi (Church Coffee follows the service)

10:30 Tour of this renowned Finnish architecture begins after the church service

AN AFTERNOON AT THE AMERICAN SWEDISH INSTITUTE

2600 Park Avenue

This Twin Cities Nordic Center welcomes FinnFest to its campus for an afternoon devoted to Finnish Art, Sports, and Popular Culture. Famous Finns and not so famous Finns will join hands to create an afternoon that creates the capstone for FinnFest USA 2017, this in-depth Suomi Finland 100 weekend experience with Finland, its Diaspora and its Yhdessä Together relationship with the USA.

12:00-5:00 PM: Finnish and Finnish American Arts together with Famous Finns

Ongoing activities throughout the afternoon.

- FinnFest USA 2017 handcraft and art tori in the courtyard and the corridors
- Dance instruction and dancing in the courtyard
- Strolling musicians
- Asahi (Finnish health exercise) demonstrations
- Kickbike demonstrations
- Finnish menu sold at FIKA, the Twin Cities renowned Nordic café written about in the NY Times
- Craft projects for all ages in the craft room or elsewhere as appropriate
- Meet Joulupukki, direct from Rovaniemi. Finland's Santa Claus (the world's genuine Santa) will pose for photos and talk about his workshop in the far northern Tunturi region of Finland.
- Videos on Finland life and Finnish American crafts repeating throughout the afternoon

Special events:

12:30-1:00 PM

Angelica Cantanti in Concert. Angelica Cantanti, one of the finest community youth choral programs in the Upper Midwest, provides a comprehensive musical experience for young people ages 7-18. This concert permits people to hear one of the rich musical treasures of the Twin Cities singing Finnish music. The Cantabile group, boys and girls in 4th -6th grades, will present a concert of Finnish songs with their conductor Rachel Lucius, who has just spent the first half of 2017 in Finland where she was studying children's choirs on a Fulbright.

12:30-1:30 PM

Finnish American rug weaving

“Kangaspuut: Finnish weavers and their looms in Northeastern Minnesota”

Janet Meany, Duluth & Mary Erickson, Superior, WI. Introduction by Yvonne Lockwood

Finnish American authors reading:

Diane Dettman is the author of *Twenty-Eight Snow Angels A Widow's Story of Love, Loss and Renewal*. She is also the co-author of *Miriam Daughter of Finnish Immigrants* and a contributing author for the national Women's Voices for Change organization in New York City. *Miriam, Daughter of Finnish Immigrants*, uses her own family as subject matter. Her paternal great-grandfather Robert Kaurala, paternal great-grandmother Wilhelmiina Partanen and paternal grandfather, Paul Paavo Kaurala all were born in Finland; maternal great-grandfather Kaarlo M. Lukkarila and maternal great-grandmother Gustava A. Miettunen and maternal grandmother Hilja E. Lukkarila all were born in Finland

Diane Jarvenpa is the author of *Divining the Landscape* (New Rivers Press), *Ancient Wonders, the Modern World* (Red Dragonfly Press), *The Tender Wild Things* (New Rivers Press) recipient of the Midwest Independent Publishers Association book award in poetry and *swift, bright, drift* (Red Dragonfly Press). *The Way She Told Her Story* (New Rivers Press) is forthcoming in 2017. She has received artist initiative and fellowship grants in writing from the Minnesota State Arts Board. She is a teaching artist with the Alzheimer's Poetry Project and an instructor with *Poetry-Scapes*, a creative, interactive approach to making poetry with paper art. She has worked for the past thirty years with a wide range of poets, writers, students, musicians and artists. She has presented poetry readings at community colleges, universities, colleges and literary festivals. She has given poetry workshops and classes working with a range of ages from young children to older adults.

1:30-2:30 PM

Sofi Oksanen interview. Lynette Reini-Grandall, Normandale Community College Professor, will moderate this interview. Reini-Grandall hosts a radio interview program on KFAI radio in Minneapolis.

Finnish-Estonian novelist and playwright Sofi Oksanen (b. 1977) debuted in 2003 with *Stalin's Cows*, which won her the recognition of Northern Europe's readers and critics. Her international breakthrough came not long thereafter with the publication of *Purge*. Translated into more than 50 languages, the novel earned Oksanen the title of "literary phenomenon" in the American press. Sofi Oksanen has, with her powerfully evocative narrative, established herself as the greatest voice of her generation. Her latest novel *Norma*, published in 2015, creates a new landscape where reality's darker sides are edged with a whisper of old magic. She will speak about this book, newly published in an American edition. Sofi Oksanen is the recipient of many prestigious awards including **The Finlandia Award 2008, The Mika Waltari Award 2008, Cristina of the Year 2008, The Great Finnish Book Club Prize 2008, The Runeberg Award 2009, The Nordic Council Literature Prize 2010, Prix Femina Étranger 2010, Europe Book Prize 2010, Swedish Academy Nordic Prize 2013, Budapest Grand Prize 2013 and Salerno Libro d'Europa Prize 2015.**

Finnish folk arts interest and life in 21st Century Finland and the USA

Panel discussion: Annikka Mattila, South Dakotan Finnish American working in textiles, speaks about her observations of contemporary interest in the folk arts Finland and the Upper Midwest. Textile Center, Minneapolis, artists, speak about the interest in Minnesota.

Finnish language is not impossible to learn. Spend an hour with Dr. Karvonen and learn some Finnish.

Dan Karvonen, Senior Lecturer, at the University of Minnesota will introduce the Finnish language to people who know nothing but want to know something. People attending this session will learn some basic phrases and begin to appreciate the nature of the Finnish language.

1:00-4:40 PM

Meet Joulupukki, Finland's Santa. Learn about the Lapland world and the tunturi where his workshop exists. Joulupukki will talk with individuals and groups and pose for photos. Joulupukki

3:00-4:30 PM

Nordic Traditional Crafts and their 21st century renaissance and nurture

Panel discussion: Hilary Virtanen, Finlandia University; Leena Käykö, Professional handcraft instructor, Joensuu, Finland. Moderator: Yvonne Hiipakka Lockwood, Curator Emerita, Michigan State University Museum

Finnish American sing a long: "Let's get past those Finnish folk songs. Enough already! Give me something new and fun to sing!" Learn to sing some 20th century Finnish pop songs. Words and music provided. Margaret Vainio & Tiina Watts

4:00 PM

Vocal Essence Concert:

Minnesota, is home to one of the true international gems in choral music – the Vocal Essence Ensemble Singers, a 32-voice professional chorus, directed by founder Philip Brunelle, and assistant conductor G. Phillip Shultz III. The choir has achieved worldwide acclamation: declared by The *Oxford Times* (UK) to "have a blend that could — and should — be the envy of every choir in the business." Founded in 1991, the Ensemble Singers are applauded for their "superbly blended sound" (*Birmingham Post*, UK) and "exemplary technique" (*Minneapolis Star Tribune*) and lauded by the *Times of London* as "polished, bright and brilliantly balanced."

FinnFest is pleased to partner with Vocal Essence to present an all Finnish composers' vocal music concert. Music by Jaakko Mäntyjärvi, EL HAMBO and COME AWAY, DEATH; Einojuhani Rautavaara's HALAVAN HIMMEÄN ALLA (Three Songs from "Aleksis Kivi"), commissioned and premiered by VocalEssence in 1998 and his WITH JOY WE GO DANCING; Kaija Saariaho's HORLOGE, TAIS-TOI; Olli Kortekangas's THREE PIAE CANTIONED SONGS and Jean Sibelius's FINLANDIA HYMN. Guest artists in this concert: Osmo Vänskä, clarinet and Sara Pajunen, violin.

4:00-PM Finnish film festival at the Minneapolis/St. Paul Film Society

Syysprinssi (Love and Fury) 2016, Alli Haapasalo director

In 1980's Helsinki, a city just about to burst with young energy and rebellion, two young writers determined to conquer the world fall madly in love. For Inka, their love affair puts everything in motion: she finds her own voice – and becomes a sensation. The intensity of their love has a different affect on Juhana, who starts to lose control. At the height of the relationship Inka starts to suspect that being madly in love may actually be driving Juhana mad. St. Anthony Main Movie theatre tickets sold at the theatre. FinnFest USA full registrants will receive discounts.

POST FINNFEST USA FINLAND 100 events:

September 25:

FinnFest USA Board of Directors meeting, 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM

September 26:

7:00-PM Finnish film festival at the Minneapolis/St. Paul Film Society

Saattokeikka (Unexpected Journey), 2017, Sauli Valkama director

In this “road trip” film, an elderly Finn, Lasse, traveling to his summer cottage, needs to find someone to take him there. He hires a driver, sixteen-year old Kamel, a Somali immigrant. Contemporary Finland and its social issues come alive as they two share the journey. St. Anthony Main Movie theatre tickets sold at the theatre. FinnFest USA full registrants will receive discounts with FinnFest badge.

September 27:

4:30PM-7:00 PM Dinner cruise leaving and returning to Stillwater, MN

Musical St. Croix Riverboat cruise with the Runebergskoren Chorus (Swedish language men's chorus) from Porvoo, Finland and American Swedish Institute Male Chorus. This dinner cruise departs from Stillwater at 4:30 PM and returns at 7:00 PM. A buffet dinner on the Avalon, the most spacious paddleboat in the Midwest, will be served. This fall color tour also gives attendees a chance to listen to these two men's choruses share their Nordic musical repertoire in this informal setting. Tickets at \$43.95 include taxes. Call 612-669-9158 for information at tickets.

7:00-PM Finnish film festival at the Minneapolis/St. Paul Film Society

Äkkilähtö (Off th Map) 2016, Tiina Lumi, director

This action-packed road movie follows the journey that a single career woman and a neglected girl from next door make towards the girl's Grandma's. The journey from Helsinki city to the Kainuu countyside brings together three strong women of different generations, who find each other during the journey, and in the Kainuu wilderness, solutions to their problems. St. Anthony Main Movie theatre tickets sold at the theatre. FinnFest USA full registrants will receive discounts

September 28:

Runeberg Chorus concert; Christ Church Lutheran, 7 PM

The Runeberg Men's Chorus presents a concert in the national landmark church designed by Eliel Saarinen. This concert will present an evening of Finnish choral music sung in Swedish and Finnish. Both traditional and contemporary repertoire will be presented by this acclaimed male chorus on a ten day tour to the Midwest. Freewill offering in lieu of tickets.

September 29 8:00 PM

KARDEMIMMIT with Special Guest, Friday, 8 p.m. (Doors open at 7 PM.)

Kardemimmit are four young women playing the ancient Finnish national instrument, kantele. The band members, Maija Pokela, Jutta Rahmel, Anna Wegelius and Leeni Wegelius play 15 and 38 stringed kantele and sing original

pieces with a modern approach. Their work has a strong foundation in Finnish, Eastern European and Scandinavian traditions. The Finnish reki-singing style, 19th century dancing music and Perhonjokilaakso kantele playing style, Eastern Finnish archaic improvisation and ancient runo singing are all present in Kardemimmit's music. Cedar Cultural Center. FinnFest USA full time registrants will be able to receive a discount on the ticket price.

October 7 5:00-9:00 PM

Magnetic Resonance Imaging: – the Power of Investigation, Helpful Diagnoses, and Collaboration

What is an MRI and what does it do? How can it be used in specific diagnoses, why might it have “no answer”, and how it helps connect Minnesota and Kuopio, Finland? The University of Minnesota's Center for Magnetic Resonance Research (CMRR) is home to some of the most advanced instrumentation in the world, including the world's largest and most powerful human imaging magnet: a 10.5 Tesla magnet capable of delivering the sharpest images ever seen through magnetic resonance imaging technology. The UMN works in close partnership with Kuopio, Finland's University of Eastern Finland because its advanced research parallels and works in tandem with the UMN's work. UEF boasts the second most significant magnetic imaging research in the world. The evening discussion will give the general public an opportunity to learn about the MRI and to hear how Finland and the US work as partners in this important research. Abbott Northwestern Education Building Auditorium at Abbott Northwestern Hospital, 800 East 28th Street, Minneapolis, MN, 55407. Light dinner will be served, starting at 5 pm, program beginning at 5.40 PM. Parking is available in adjacent parking ramps. Tickets are available at BrownPaperTickets.com for \$25 plus fees.

October 8, 3:00-5:00 PM

Suomi...How We Love You! Concert

Manny Laureano, Music Director and Conductor, Bloomington Civic Orchestra; Eeva Savolainen, Chorus Director, and the Suomi Finland 100 Chorus. The Bloomington Symphony Orchestra and the Twin Cities-based Suomi Finland 100 Chorus will present an exciting program in celebration of Finland's 100th anniversary. The symphonic and choral compositions of Finnish composers Jean Sibelius and Einojuhani Rautavaara will grace this performance, depicting the journey of Finland from its birth to the highly-developed modern country it is today. Ives Auditorium, at the Masonic Heritage Center. Tickets: \$10 and \$15, general admission. Students free.