

Finlandia Foundation® Fall 2011

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POY 2012: Singer & Songwriter MARIA KIZIRIAN

By Satu Mikkola, Trustee

Maria is a Finnish-American pop singer/songwriter/ producer and multi-instrumentalist. She started playing violin at the age of 4, piano at 8, and finally, singing in her early teens. She can either accompany herself with piano or she can use the pre-recorded background sound or possibly sing with a local band.

Maria's career in the music business began as a recording artist at EMI Music in Finland. Her singles, "Onnellinen" (Happy), "Katsoin aurinkoon" (I Looked at the Sun), and "Olipa kerran" (Once Upon a Time) were played frequently on Finnish radio stations in the late 1990's. Maria moved to the USA with her American husband and has received an extensive audience and airplay on a number of different American radio stations. Today she focuses mainly on producing music. Maria's music can be heard at: www.mariakizirian.com.

Maria works also as a music expert for a large modeling agency. Her purpose is to guide aspiring models who have musical aspirations. Some chapters might be interested in organizing a local fashion show in conjunction with Maria's concert.

The 2012 Performer of the Year term starts January 1, 2012 and runs the full calendar year. During that time, Maria Kazirian is available to perform throughout the country in various chapter events with travel expenses covered by the grant of Finlandia Foundation National. Host organizations are responsible for local arrangements including performance fees, local travel and accommodations. Maria's suggested performance fee is \$300.

For additional information, please contact Satu Mikkola, Coordinator of the Finlandia Foundation Performer of the Year Program at satum@aol.com.



Maria Kizirian. Photo by Kirsti Anna Urpa.

SOIVA MUSIC CAMP NEWS

By Dennis Anderson, Trustee

The international SOIVA MUSIC CAMP has a new home! The Finlandia Foundation National is partnering with Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota, for the June 17-24, 2012 camp.

Concordia College is readily accessible by air to Fargo, North Dakota, or to the Twin Cities of St. Paul and Minneapolis, Minnesota, where ground transportation is available to Moorhead, Minnesota.

The camp will continue to provide instruction in piano, violin, flute and clarinet as well as improvisation and composition with both Finnish and American faculty. Student counselors will provide additional assistance and supervision throughout the week. Students ages 11 to 17 may apply if they have completed three years of private lessons on their primary instrument. The application will also include a short example of their performance skills, which will be reviewed prior to final acceptance into the program.

Continued on page 11

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

This year with Finlandia Foundation National has been enlightening and exciting for me as I witness how interest in Finland among non-Finns is growing and how deep the Finnish roots are among our Finnish-Americans. As Finlandia Foundation members, we can all be proud of helping those roots grow stronger by the nourishment we provide. All ages are benefiting from the many programs that are funded through FFN and through innovative programs being held at the chapter level.

Our young scholarship recipients returned to their studies this fall, and for many of them there was no summer break as they took summer employment to help finance their education. Expressions of thanks from recipients point to the value of the financial help FFN is able to provide. Those young people who attend Salolampi Language Camp return to their homes enriched by the experience, and many are already eagerly looking forward to the next summer's camping experience and more Finnish immersion. Salolampi is often a life-changing experience for the youth who attend. Here lies the future of Finnish-America, and FFN scholarship funding for Salolampi is invaluable.

Elsewhere in this newsletter you'll be reading about the exciting changes taking place with the Soiva Music Camp, being held from June 17-24, 2012, at Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota. The Camp involves immersion into Finnish methods of music education, with students and educators from both the United States and Finland attending. Scholarship funding through FFN is available.

As our Performer of the Year (POY), Wilho Saari, and our Lecturer of the Year (LOY), Carl Rahkonen, have traveled throughout the country, they have been a shining example of the richness of our Finnish culture. They are to be commended for so generously sharing their talents and touching the hearts of Finns and non-Finns alike with their beautiful music and dialogue. Finlandia Foundation National's mission statement relating to sustaining Finnish-American culture in the United States and the ancestral tie with Finland is being lived out with these representatives.

Finlandia Foundation National remains committed to our mission, and thus fundraising plays a vital role in advancing that mission. In order to provide the scholarships for college students, Salolampi campers, and Soiva campers, and to fund a POY and an LOY each year to promote Finnish-American culture, we depend on the generosity of those who feel as strongly we do about our mission. We urge you to use the enclosed envelope to send your contribution, to be matched 100% by the Paloheimo Foundation.

During the year, I have had numerous occasions to share my PowerPoint presentations, "My Vision of Finland" and "Finland as a Travel Destination," comprised of my photos taken over the years in Finland. As I share my experiences traveling throughout Finland through my photos, and as I arrange tours to Finland, I feel great pride in my Finnish roots; and my hope is that the programs offered through Finlandia Foundation National will develop that same sense of pride in the young people whose lives we touch.

In recapping this past year, my deepest gratitude goes out to our FFN officers and trustees and to the chapter leaders, all volunteers working to accomplish the FFN mission. We are a nationwide network with a common purpose. These leaders deserve your support, whether it is a helping hand, a donation to the coffee table, a raffle prize, an offer to chair a committee or event, or monetary funding. I extend the best wishes of our Board of Trustees to all Finlandia Foundation members and friends.

Happy holidays!

Anita Smiley, President

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If you would like to receive this newsletter as a PDF by e-mail only, let us know by emailing

office@finlandiafoundation.org.

NEWSLETTER: The Finlandia Foundation National newsletter is a production of the FFN Communications Committee--Jacqueline Harjula, Chair, Armi Koskinen Nelson, Mervi Hjelmroos-Koski and Satu Mikkola. Editing, Computer Production and Distribution--Christina Lin, Executive Assistant. Mailing address: P.O. Box 92298, Pasadena, CA 91109-2298. Phone: (626) 795-2081 Email: office@finlandiafoundation.org.

2012 Lecturer of the Year Glenda Dawn Goss. Photo by Beth Thompson Photography.

THE FINLAND PHENOMENON INSIDE THE WORLD'S MOST SURPRISING SCHOOL SYSTEM

The Finland Phenomenon DVD is now available to borrow from the FFN Lending Library. Full list of items for loan on page 14.

Board Selects 2012 LOY – Glenda Dawn Goss

Jon Saari, Trustee

The LOY for 2012 is Glenda Dawn Goss, a prominent Sibelius scholar and musicologist who teaches at the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki. This is the first LOY appointee who lives much of the year in Finland, so her availability is specific to that part of the year when she lives in the United States: January through May, 2012, November-December, 2012, and January through March, 2013.

Glenda Goss is an American southerner, who for a long time taught Renaissance culture and music at the University of Georgia. In 1989, intrigued by the Sibelius presented in the correspondence of a New York music critic, she uprooted herself and moved to Finland for a year. It was the beginning of a long immersion. She learned Swedish and Finnish, and eventually became Editor-in-Chief of the team creating the critical edition of Sibelius' works in the 1990s.

English readers perhaps know Glenda Goss best through her 2009 book "Sibelius: A Composer's Life and the Awakening of Finland" (University of Chicago Press). This massive undertaking is the fruit of 20 years of research and writing.

As a non-Finn, Glenda Goss brings what she calls an "outsider's perspective" to the Sibelius story. She approaches it in a way that makes sense to Americans, and in a way that the FFN Board thinks will also be illuminating to Finnish Americans, whether descendants or expatriates. Because of her special position between cultures, the Board welcomes her as an LOY partner in interpreting Finland to America.

So chapter leaders, think big! Plan a Sibelius event around Glenda Goss. Her extemporaneous style and wide knowledge make her an outstanding lecturer. To plan an event, check with the LOY Coordinator Jon Saari at <code>jsaari@nmu.edu</code> for date availability during the months that she is in the United States.

Finlandia Foundation National Capital Chapter

By Ossi Rahkonen, Trustee

One of the highlights of the season was the Finlandia Foundation National Gala Concert and Dinner on Saturday, October 29. Held at the Embassy of Finland in Washington, D.C., under the gracious patronage of H.E. Ritva Koukku-Ronde, Ambassador of Finland and Dr. Ronde, the Gala was organized jointly by FFN and FF National Capital Chapter (FFNCC).

Ambassador Koukku-Ronde welcomed everyone to the Embassy; followed by Anita Häkkila-Smiley, FFN President; and Kirsti Frenzen-Noring, 1st VP of FFNCC. She introduced Hanna Wagner, President of Finn Spark, a ladies association in the Washington, D.C. area with shared goals.

The concert was planned to highlight the musical talent of Finnish-America, and FFN's active support of this talent, as well as the importance of fundraising to provide continued support in maintaining Finnish-American culture in the U.S. and cultural ties with Finland.

Four of the artists performing at the Concert were former FFN Performers of the Year (POYs): Craig Randal Johnson, piano, in 1999; Maarit Vaga, soprano, in 2003 and 2004; and the duo Brent Buswell and Bert Stromholm, both on accordion, in 2008. A talented and award-winning young flutist, Elena Olshin, a 2009 graduate of Soiva Music Camp, also performed.

Music during the cocktail hour and intermission was provided by Valerie Junttila, flute, and Marilyn Harwood, piano, both local FFNCC talents. One of the highlights of the evening was the dinner prepared by Leila Takala, FFNCC President, and her volunteers.

The evening ended with a raffle drawing, conducted by Dave Junttila, M.C. for the evening, and other FFNCC volunteers. The first prize, two tickets on Icelandair to Helsinki and a Baltic Cruise, was won by Paivi and Brent Tetri. They generously auctioned their prize, with the proceeds going to FFN. The entire evening was delightful, with beautiful music, delicious food, generous raffle prizes, and happy attendees. The event planning committee wishes to thank all who assisted in any way to make this an immediate fundraising success.







TOP PHOTO: FFN Trustee Ossi Rahkonen, FFNCC VP Kirsti Frenzen-Noring and FFN President Anita Häkkila-Smiley. BOTTOM PHOTO: Top row: Anne-Mari Paster, Paul Halme, Jon Saari, and Dennis Anderson. Third row: Paivi Tetri, Mervi Hjelmroos-Koski, and Dr. Ronde. Second row: Ossi Rahkonen, Jacqueline Harjula, Satu Mikkola, and Peter Makila. Front row: Rita Vermala-Koski, Ambassador Ritva Koukku-Ronde, and Finlandia Foundation National President Anita Häkkila Smiley.

FF SF Bay Area Chapter First Vice President Tuttu Tucker, Maria Männistö, Terhi Miikki-Broersma and Marion Sundquist.



Terhi Miikki-Broersma



Maria Männistö

Finlandia Foundation San Francisco Bay **Area Chapter**

By George Sundquist, Trustee

Music lovers gathered in late October at the First Presbyterian Church to enjoy the performances of former FFN Performers of the Year (POYs) soprano Maria Männistö and multitalented musician Terhi Miikki-Broersma. Maria's rendition of "Finland is my Homeland" and Terhi's "Finlandia" brought tears to the eyes of many. In her welcome and introduction, San Francisco Bay Area FFN Chapter Vice-President Tuttu Tucker briefed the audience on the history and success of the FFN POY program.

After the concert, the guests gathered in the warmth of the church courtyard for a social hour with wine and hors d'oeuvres. Dinner followed in the beautifully decorated Fellowship Hall, with a menu of pork, salmon, scalloped potatoes and string beans. Pumpkin pie topped with whipped cream was served for dessert.

Finland's Consul Kirsti Westphalen addressed the gathering in a short speech, and several guests from Finland were introduced by board member and MC Don Fidler. FFN Trustee Emerita Anja Miller was recognized for her contribution as the originator of the FFN POY program. During dinner, many attendees commented on the exceptionally high quality of the FFN performers, as well as on the quality and enjoyment of the entire evening experience.



FF SF Bay Area Chapter President George Sundquist, Marion Sundquist, and LA Consul Kirsti Westphalen. 5



FF LONG BEACH CHAPTER founder and FFN board member from 1953 - 70, Mrs. Suomi Rauanheimo-Owen with her husband Victor Owen in front of their beloved "smoke tree" at their home in Woodburn, Oregon, 1970.



FF LONG BEACH CHAPTER members. Back: Charlie Koskela, Aino Bonner, and Eila Van Sauter. Front: Sylvia Magnuson, Sadie Mursu, and Helen Anderson.

Finlandia Foundation Long Beach Chapter

In August, the Long Beach FFN Chapter gathered for their final meeting at the Sunnycrest Senior Living Center in Fullerton, California. Those present were: President Sadie Mursu (87), Helen Anderson (97), Aino Bonner (7?), Sylvia Magnuson (94), Treasurer Eila Van Sauter (93), and Vice President Charlie Koskela (91).

Helen was particularly proud of her age and that she was able to walk without a cane. Eila, jokingly giving her age as 39, is still self-employed as a homecare aide with a regular patient who is 98; she's considering retiring soon. Charlie entertained the group singing songs in Finnish.

Finnish American Heritage Association of Ashtabula County, Ashtabula, Ohio

By Elsa Shepard, FAHA Ashtabula President

The Finnish American Cultural Center celebrated its Fifth Anniversary in July with a musical program at the Bethany Lutheran Church. Vocal presentations, piano solos, a flute solo, and readings delighted the audience, as did the luncheon that followed. The celebration continued the following day with a neighborhood tour of the old Finntown area, with emphasis on the Finnish businesses that were there many years ago. **The Sisu Dancers**, founded and directed by Linda Riddell, who also accompanied them on the accordian, performed several Finnish folk dances. Coffee and nisu were served at the close of the festivities.

Helen's mother, Irene Kilstrom, was one of the founders of the Long Beach Chapter. Other founders in 1954 included Suomi Owens (Axelin Tytar), Mildred Lindroth, Lillian K. Williamson, Selma Saari Evans and Julia Suoja Moore.

From the May 1959 Finlandia Foundation Newsletter:

"Last Fall \$20.00 was allotted for the purchase of English translations of Finnish literature for the Long Beach Public Library. To date four books have been purchased: *Seven Brothers* by Aleksis Kivi; *The Finns on the Delaware* by John Wuorinen; *Finlandia* by S.C. Olin; and *The Stone God* by Leo Vuosalo and Steve Stone."

The chapter also made annual donations to the Finnish American Olympic Fund, the Sibelius Memorial Scholarship Fund and the Finlandia Foundation Trust. Over the years the chapter helped to promote Finnish culture by sharing their love of Siblelius, Finnish Folk dancers and the Kalevala among themselves and with others.

Unfortunately, the chapter voted unanimously to close, due to the advanced age of their remaining members. While they understood that they could continue without formal officers and just send in \$1.00 per member, however no one wanted that responsibility. They also voted to donate the balance of their treasury of about \$283 and change, to Finlandia University, which they have supported over the years when someone dear to them passed away.

The Power's Association of Additional Power's Character of Additional Power's Chicago St. S. I. S. U. DANCERS.

THE SISU DANCERS. Left to Right: Julie Altonen, Dorothy Altonen, Rebekah Altonen, Rachel Altonen, Linda Riddell, and in front Amelia Riddell. Photo by John Riddell.



RED RIVER FINNS Esther Garrity, Elsie Foss, Irene Harvala promoting Finnish culture at the 2011 Scandinavian Hjemkomst Festival in Moorhead, Minnesota, last June. Photo by Red River Finns' President Ellen Liddle.



FINLANDIA GARDENS at the Finnish Center Association in Farmington Hills, Michigan.

Tervetuloa! Red River Finns

The Red River Finns have dual membership in the Minnesota Finnish American Historical Society (MFAHS) and meet nine months of the year in Moorhead, Minnesota. Their president is Ellen Liddle and their group formed in 1985.

They participate in their local annual Scandinavian Hjemkomst Festival in June and the annual Nordic Gala, which is the fundraiser for the Scandinavian Hjemkomst Festival at the Hjemkomst Center in Moorhead.

The Red River Finns welcome the public to their annual St. Urho and Pikkujoulu parties and to Finnish film showings. They also support Salolampi through the MFAHS.

At their last Scandinavian Hjemkomst Festival in June of 2011, they sold *Mojakka* (beef stew), *Leipä* (bread), prune tarts, and *Pulla* (sweet cardamom bread). Finnish-American humorist and accordionist Kip Peltoniemi performed.

In 2012, the 35th Annual Scandinavian Hjemkomst Festival "Nordic Footprints" will be held June 22 - 23.

Finnish Center Association Farmington Hills, MI

By David Sharpe, FCA Landscape Coordinator

Commencing with a Master Gardener class in 2002, and continuing with the formation of the FCA garden club, Finlandia Gardens was begun. Located on six acres, there are now over sixty-five gardens, each with individual themes and groupings. Also, numerous green initiatives, including rainwater collection, recycling, and composting, have been implemented, receiving local, regional, and state awards. The FCA has been designated as an Urban Wildlife habitat by the National Wildlife Federation.

Voluntary donations support the maintenance and development of our gardens. Open from dawn to dusk daily, we are increasingly recognized as a point of interest in the local community. For more information about FCA and Finlandia Gardens, please visit our websites: www.finlandiagardens.org and www.finnishcenter.org.

HILARY VIRTANEN

Ph.D. Candidate at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and recipient of multiple Finlandia Foundation National scholarships and grants, now works at Finlandia University in Hancock, MI, in a multidimensional role combining education and outreach.

Currently writing her dissertation on Finnish-American ethnic folklife, Virtanen is coordinating the development of a proposed Paloheimo Fellows program at Finlandia University, which would not only center a freshman experience seminar on the theme of "sisu" but also create a program in which upperclassmen would conduct independent study in Finland. She is also the coordinator of public programming at the university's Finnish American Heritage Center, connecting with the community through a wide array of activities, including enrichment classes, lectures, cultural celebrations, and more. She is also participating in preparations for FinnFest 2013, which will take place in Hancock.

Virtanen was in the first Finnish language class offered at Jeffers High School; and James Kurtti, current director of the Finnish-American Heritage Center, was her teacher. This class led her to realize that Finnish and Finnish American culture and language fascinated her and that

she would find her calling within this area of interest.

Virtanen has a B.A. in English and cultural anthropology from Michigan State
University, an M.A. in Folklore from Indiana
University, and an M.A. in Scandinavian Studies from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.
She was an intern at the Finnish American Heritage Center in 2004 and 2005 and has taught courses in



Hilary Virtanen Photo Credit: Courtesy Finlandia University/ Karen Johnson

Finnish language, folklore, religious studies, Chicano/ Latino Studies, Scandinavian Studies, and ESL. She is both frank and exuberant when she states that "the Finlandia Foundation National and Finlandia University have made my dreams come true. It is not often that a working-class girl can get advanced degrees in such things as folklore and Finnish and then land a job doing what she wants where she wants. This has happened to me, and both institutions have my deepest gratitude."

FFN GRANT Produces Exciting Results

By David Bean, Sec. and Constance Pim, President

The Sugar Island (Michigan) Historical Society Finn Hall Preservation grant was used to replace the metal roof and repair the chimney in this wonderful building. Since the additional renovations to the ceiling and floor have been in progress, a concert was presented by KAIVAMA, filling the Hall with Finns and non-Finns from several states and Canada. Also, generous donations have been received honoring former members now deceased. Raffle proceeds have also increased.

This success story continues with an increase in donations of historic items, including looms and other personal items. There has been an interest in holding memorial services in the Hall and also receptions. Once the building has been returned to its former glory, the group will be renovating a one-room schoolhouse on the island.



The Sugar Island (Michigan) Historical Society Finn Hall

FFN grants certainly promote local interest in the Finnish tradition, and we are extremely grateful for their support.

APPLICATIONS for GRANTS and SCHOLARSHIPS DUE FEBRUARY 1, 2012!

GRANTS

For non-profit cultural projects of local or national significance

- Projects should benefit the general public, not only the sponsor or sponsoring organization.
- Grants should show evidence or testimony of high cultural, educational, artistic, or scientific merit.
- Special consideration is allotted to projects endorsed or sponsored by a FF chapter.
- Salaries to project staff or employees are not allowable.
- Read www.finlandiafoundation.org

SCHOLARSHIPS

- Scholarships are awarded to fulltime undergraduate (sophomore or higher) and graduate students enrolled in an accredited post-secondary institution.
- Students must maintain a minimum of a 3.0 GPA.
- Financial need and course of study are considered, and U.S. or Finnish citizenship is required.
- Students studying subjects related to Finnish culture receive special consideration.
- Read www.finlandiafoundation.org

Mail **BOTH** Grant and Scholarship applications to:

Finlandia Foundation National

P.O. Box 92298

Pasadena, CA 91109-2298

Email: office@finlandiafoundation.org

Fax (626) 795-6533

FUNDS

The following funds support Grants and Scholarships:

Vaino Hoover Memorial General Fund
MidWest General Fund
Gertrude Kujala Memorial Finnish Music Fund
Jaakko Tuominen Memorial Sports Fund
Jean E. Sainio-Nolan Scholarship Fund
Urho Kivikoski Education Fund
Walima Fund for Folk Music
Paloheimo/Fenyes Visual Arts Grant &
Scholarship Fund
Elma Randall Memorial Finnish-American
Heritage Fund

Festival Fund
Finlandia Foundation Florida Scholarship Fund
Finlandia Foundation National Capital Chapter
Special Fund
Finnish-Swedish Cultural Fund
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Business Education Fund
Sundquist Endowment for the Arts Fund
UFBS Lodge # 1 of San Francisco Fund for Scholars
Helin/Korpela Social Sciences Fund
Pertti Lindfors Legal Studies Fund

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FFN President Anita Smiley, First Selectman Brian Sear, and Jack Smiley at the document signing ceremony. The photo was taken by George DeGray.

Canterbury, Connecticut And Hanko, Finland As Sister Cities

By Anita Smiley, President

A "Sister City Resolution" between the town of Canterbury, CT, and the city of Hanko, Finland, became official in late September when the document was signed by Hanko Mayor Jouko Mäkinen and Canterbury First Selectman Brian Sear. A ceremony was held at the Canterbury Town Hall on September 28, presided over by the first selectman, to signal the beginning of a relationship to deepen friendship and mutual understanding through educational and cultural exchanges.

Anita Smiley shared a PowerPoint presentation of photos taken in Finland and gave some background information on the Hanko area and its significance to the emigration movement of Finns to the United States in the early 1900s. Many of these emigrants settled in Eastern Connecticut, which contributes to the significance of this Sister City project.

The local school system and the Finnish-American Heritage Society, along with the townspeople in Canterbury, will make plans to promote this exchange, beginning with a display about Finland in the Town Hall. The League of Finnish-American Societies in Hanko and the local museum are enthusiastic about the future of the project.



Ritva Koukku-Ronde, Ambassador of Finland to the United States..

Ritva Koukku-Ronde The 1st Female Ambassador To the United States

On September 1, Ritva Koukku-Ronde assumed her post as the appointed Ambassador of Finland to the United States. "I'm excited to be Finland's first female ambassador to the United States," says Mrs. Koukku-Ronde, who comes to Washington after serving in the Ministry for Foreign Affairs for almost three decades.

Ambassador Koukku-Ronde has worked in various positions in the foreign ministry in Helsinki and at Finnish diplomatic missions abroad. Before her posting as ambassador, she served as the Under-Secretary of State at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs in Helsinki. During her term the ambassador seeks to develop further the relationship between the two countries in the areas of economy, education, security, environment, high technology and culture – to mention just a few.

From an interview by Finnish journalist Tomi Hinkkanen of http://www.finntimes.com:

What can we Finns who live in The United States, do to benefit Finland?

Q.

In their daily lives, Finns living in the U.S. already represent Finland in many ways. From my perspective, all Finns, Finnish Americans, and Finnish organizations in the U.S. form a so called "Team Finland"

that shares the same goal of improving and deepening relations between our countries. We may have different ways of working toward that goal, but we all benefit from a strong relationship between Finland and the U.S. Also, I would like to encourage all Finns and Finnish Americans to visit our website, finland.org, and follow us on Facebook

(http://facebook.com/FinnishEmbassyWashingtonDC) and Twitter (http://twitter.com/FinnEmbassyDC) to keep up to date on news regarding Finland and Finland's role in the U.S.

Soiva Music Camp News

Continued from cover

Tuition costs have been significantly reduced to \$750 per student. This includes housing and meals on campus, all instruction, and the opportunity to utilize every one of the amenities of a great music school with 36 practice rooms, 30 studios, a computer lab, a recording studio, and a performance hall that has the capability to web cast performances to friends and relatives over the internet.

An "early bird" discount of \$100 is available for applications received by **March 1, 2012**.

For more information and a Soiva Music Camp application please email **soivaatcord@yahoo.com**.

More information will be posted to the Finlandia Foundation National web site at

www.finlandiafoundation.org in the near future.



Young flutist, Elena Olshin, a 2009 graduate of Soiva Music Camp with Trustee Dennis Anderson. Elena performed at the FF National Capital Chapter Gala Concert, page 4.

We look forward to seeing YOU at the Soiva Music Camp from **June 17-24, 2012**. Soiva Music Camp is a partnership between Finlandia Foundation National, the Association of Finnish Music Schools and Concordia College, Moorhead, Minnesota.

Finlandia Foundation National Scholarships For Salolampi

With Local Chapter Participation

By Mervi Hjelmroos-Koski, Trustee

Finlandia Foundation National is encouraging its member chapters to support the Salolampi Language Village program. **Eight (8) scholarships**, of \$300 each, are made available in 2012, covering approximately one half of the one-week tuition, matching the equal or larger scholarship from the local chapter. Selection will be made on a first-come first-serve basis, with first-time campers receiving priority. The name of the participating child(ren) must be submitted to the Finlandia Foundation National office by **February 29**, **2012**. This scholarship can also be used as a part of the tuition for a multi-week session at Salolampi. The individual scholarship funds will be transferred directly to Concordia Language Villages.



Photo taken at Salolampi courtesy of Sirpa Cossaboon, mother of three children from the Finnish American Society of Delaware Valley who received scholarships to attend Salolampi.

Additional **Salolampi scholarships** are available through Concordia Language villages.

http://www.salolampi.org/village/youthscholarships.html, application form at

http://www.salolampi.org/applications/index.html. Any remaining costs, such as travel, need to be covered by the parents.

FinnFest USA and FFN:

A MoveTowards Better Cooperation

By Jon Saari, Trustee

FinnFest USA celebrated 28 years of service to Finland and Finnish America at a special reception in San Diego during FinnFest 2011. The written program for the event was a valuable compendium of historical data on the group. What was striking was how much FFN and FinnFest USA have in common.

The purpose of FinnFest USA, from its Articles of Incorporation, is "through...an annual festival to provide Finnish-Americans and their progeny an opportunity to meet one another and to broaden and deepen their knowledge of Finland and Finnish-American history and culture." The 2009 mission statement of Finlandia Foundation National is to "sustain both Finnish-American culture in the USA and the ancestral tie with Finland by raising funds for grants and scholarships, initiating innovative national programs, and networking with local chapters." Two organizations, similar goals, different means.

It is not surprising that since the beginning of FinnFests in 1983, some individuals have served on both Boards, albeit at different times: Kalevi Olkio, David Hinsa, John Laine, Peter Makila, Satu Mikkola, and Reuben Perttula. But this has not been typical of recent years, and mutual suspicions have sometimes festered.

In the interest of improving cooperation, FFN invited FinnFest USA to send two of its younger leaders to Washington D.C. for the fall FFN Board meeting. Vice President Ryan Braski and Elaine Kumpula attended the Board meeting on Saturday and were guests at the Gala that evening. Much mutual learning took place about how these two national Finnish-American organizations function and see themselves.

A proposal for a joint working committee emerged to develop guidelines for an annual FFN block grant to FinnFests and to improve the usefulness of the FinnFest Festival Fund created in 2003. Other issues focused on how the POYs and LOYs are best represented at FinnFests and whether there should be liaisons on both Boards.



FFN President Anita Smiley, Jon Saari and Satu Mikkola - all promoting Finnish culture at Finn Fest 2011 in San Diego, California..

Finnish Citizenship

Again available by Declaration

Amendment to the Finnish Nationality Act As of September 1, 2011

Former Finnish citizens can regain their citizenship again through the declaration process. There are no deadlines for submitting the declaration. The application must be submitted in person.

The underage children of a former Finnish citizen may also be co-applicants and acquire Finnish citizenship through the declaration application submitted by the main applicant.

Adult children may acquire Finnish citizenship by declaration only, if they themselves have had Finnish citizenship at some time.

More detailed information is available on the following website **www.migri.fi.**

Letter to FFN from Jean Sibelius

Translation by FFN Emerita Anja Miller:

I have received your letter of February 28, in which you ask me to be a patron of the association.

Nothing would be more preferable to me than that the cultural relations between our two countries. which have always been close, would become even stronger to the benefit of both peoples. Accordingly, I can fully appreciate the work performed by your association, and I consider your suggestion a great honor. I am happy to agree to your request and wish your association continued success as a cultural bridge builder.

With warm regards, Respectfully yours,

Signed by

Jean Sibelius

Järvenpää, 13 p. huhtik. 1954.

Olen vastaanottanut kirjeenne helmikuun 28 päivältä, jossa pyydätte minua yhdistyksenne suojelijaksi.

Mikään ei minusta olisi mieluisampaa, kuin että maittemme väliset kulttuurisuhteet, jotka aina ovat olleet läheiset, yhä entisestäänkin lujittuisivat molempien kansojen hyväksi. Niinpä osaankin antaa täyden arvon sille työlle, jota yhdistyksenne suorittaa, ja pidän esitystänne suurena kunniana. Mielihyvin suostun pyyntöönne ja toivotan yhdistyksellenne yhä jatkuvaa menestystä kultuurisillan rakentajana.

Ystävällisesti tervehtien Kunnioittavasti



Courtesy of the Archives, Pasadena Museum of History

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From April 14, 2011 to December 2, 2011

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FFN is grateful for countless gifts in-kind.

Ralph A. Tuttila

If there is an error, please e-mail Treasurer Anne-Mari Paster (ampaster@rcn.com).

FFN's LENDING LIBRARY

The following items are available for loan from the FFN office in Pasadena:

CDs from POYs and DVDs from LOYs

DVDs:

Sibelius
Fire & Ice
Letters from Karelia
Mother of Mine
Finland Phenomenon

Kalevala Tuohitorvi Soi! Produced by Evergreen School of Performing Art; Directed by Helina Pakola

BOOKs:

The Helsinki Chronicles of Dr. Louise C. Love and Mr. P.:
Six Adventures in Finland's Capital
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Jazz Consciousness: Music, Race and Humanity Includes photos and info on Teppo Repo, Edward Vesala, and Heikko Sarmanto Ed. By Paul Austerlitz

The Legacy of Ida
Lillbroända: Finnish
Emigrant to America 1893
"An insightful analysis of a
Swedish-speaking woman
and of her adjustment
within a multitude of
different settings in the
American West."
By Arlene Sundquist Empie

Essential Passions: Fairbanks-Salmenhaara Letters 1959-1986 Ed. By Dixie Parker-Fairbanks and Helen Abbott

Melancholy By Jon Fosse

Sibelius: A Composer's Life and the Awakening of Finland By Glenda Dawn Goss

By Bernhard Hillila:
The Finnish Line
Cutting Edge
The Sauna Is: Reheated
and Revised

A Fool's Paradise (A novel) By Anita Konkka

Musiikkiopistosta musiikkiyliopistoksi: Sibelius-Akatemia 125 Vuotta By Reijo Rajamo

The Travels of Peter Kalm: Finnish-Swedish Naturalist, Through Colonial North America, 1748-1751 By Paula Ivaska Robbins

*Nikolai's Fortune*By Solveig Torvik

A History of the Kaleva Knighthood & the Knights of Kaleva By Alfons Ukkonen

The second edition of FFN's history, *Black Ties and Miners' Boots: Inventing Finnish-American Philanthropy, A History of Finlandia Foundation National 1953-2010* by Jon L. Saari, is available for \$19.95 (California residents also pay 9.25% sales tax). All new members receive a free copy: email office@finlandiafoundation.org or call (626) 795-2081.

Dear Friends of Finlandia Foundation,

Finlandia Foundation National (FFN) raises funds to strengthen its endowment and to enable it to support expansion of its grant and scholarship programs, as well as other cultural programs (Performer and Lecturer of the Year, Salolampi Language and Soiva Music Camps).

This year, more than \$100,000 was awarded in support of these programs.

In addition many of the Finlandia Foundation 40 Chapters are providing their own grants and scholarships, supporting similar goals. Finlandia Foundation is by far the most important organization supporting Finnish-American culture in the U.S. The need, however, is substantially larger: FFN is able to fund only a fraction of the well-qualified applicants for grants and scholarships.

Finnish- American culture and traditions, combined with Finnish heritage are too rich and valuable to be lost. By building a solid network of chapters throughout the United States and increasing the amount available for grants and scholarships, *FFN will continue to inspire and strengthen the Finnish-American community in the U.S. and cultural ties with Finland for years to come*. This requires, however, concerted efforts to increase the level of giving to support FFN programs. These donations are made much more attractive not only by their tax-free status, but through a dollar-for-dollar matching from the Paloheimo Foundation up to an annual total of \$100,000.

Equally important, all the donations are used 100% to support these programs and are not spent on overhead or administrative expenditures.

There are many ways to give:

- Make Your Gift Online at: www.finlandiafoundation.org
- Become a **Monthly Donor**: sign up to have your gift automatically debited from your account every month
- Give a **Gift of Stock**: Contact our attorney, Paul Halme, FFN Trustee to learn more: pohhc@aol.com
- Make a Planned Gift: Contact Paul Halme at pohhc@aol.com
- Join **The President's Council**, the FFN Leadership Program. To find out more, contact Ossi Rahkonen, FFN Trustee at **ossir98425@aol.com**

Note: You may have other **matching programs** available, which can be used to further enhance the dollar-for-dollar FFN matching

Please consider making a tax-deductible contribution to support Finlandia Foundation National. Use the **envelope attached** in this newsletter for sending your gift today!

Finlandia Foundation National is a US non-profit organization recognized by the IRS as tax-exempt and designated public charity under Section 501 (c) 3 of the IRS Code.

Sincerely yours,

Ossi Rahkonen, Trustee

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Joel Wasti - jhwasti@finns.org

Finns and Friends of Phoenix - 2010 Hannele Waissi - mhannele@hotmail.com

CALIFORNIA

FF/Los Angeles Chapter - 1974 Janet Santiestevan Jsantiestevan@gmail.com

Finnish-American Home Association -

2005

Markku Ratilainen - Info@fahausa.org

FF/San Francisco Bay Area Chapter - 1956 George Sundquist - George Sund2@aol.com

Finlandia Club of Sacramento - 2006 Heli Hatanpaa-Wetzel helihw@sbcglobal.net

COLORADO

FF/Colorado Chapter - 1993 Juha Mäkikalli - jmakikalli@comcast.net

CONNECTICUT

Finnish American Heritage Society - 2011 Stan Karro - swkbrklyn@aol.com

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

FF/National Capital Chapter - 1960 Leila Takala - leilatak@verizon.net

FLORIDA

FF/Florida Chapter - 1954 Kaarina Langeland plangeland@bellsouth.net

GEORGIA

Atlanta Finland Society, Inc. - 1975 Katriina Naukkarinen katriina.naukkarinen@comcast.netcom

Finnish-American Society of the Midwest

Oscar Forsman - OForsman@yahoo.com

MAINE

Finnish Heritage House- 2007 Jacqueline Hariula jackielee207@gmail.com

MARYLAND

FF/Baltimore Area Chapter - 1974 Anna Braganza annabraganza@mris.com

MASSACHUSETTS

FF/Boston, Inc. - 1955

Andrew Heiniluoma - andy@andy.fi

The Finnish Center at Saima Park, Inc. -

Maija Mård - MaiLis1@aol.com

The Finnish Heritage Society - Sovittaja

Barry Heiniluoma - fhss@sovittaja.org

MICHIGAN

Finnish Center Association – 2004 Cortland Book - fcacenter@sbcglobal.net

Finnish Theme Committee of Hancock -FF Copper Country Chapter - 2006 James Kurtti - jkurtti@chartermi.net Becky Hoekstra -

mommabecca@hotmail.com

MICHIGAN continued

Upper Peninsula Chapter of the League of Finnish-American Societies - 2006 Ron J. Hill - ronjhill38@aol.com

Finnish-American Society of West Central Michigan - 2007 Carol Dukic - caroldukic@sbcglobal.net

MINNESOTA

Finnish-Americans and Friends (Hibbing Chapter) - 1998 Wes Kutsi - wesleykutsi@yahoo.com

FF/Twin Cities Chapter - 1993 Betsey Norgard -

norgard@winternet.com

FF Northland Chapter - 2010 Hanna Erpestad - h.erpestad@lsc.edu

Red River Finns - 2011 Ellen Liddle - ellen.liddle@yahoo.com

MONTANA

Finn Club of Helena - 2007 Marjorie Peura Reilly - marj@jeffbb.net

NEW YORK

FF/New York Metropolitan Chapter -1954

Tarja Silverman -

tarjasilverman@finlandiafoundationny.org

Finger Lakes Finns - 2006 Lisa Koski - rkoski@zoom-dsl.com

Finnish-American Heritage Association of Ashtabula County - 2004 Elsa Shephard - ellishepard@yahoo.com

OREGON

FF/Columbia-Pacific Chapter - 2001 Seppo Saarinen seppo.saarinen@comcast.net

PENNSYLVANIA

FF/Pittsburgh Chapter - 1990 Seija Cohen - Seija C@aol.com

Finnish-American Society of Delaware Valley

Jukka Kervinen - jkervine@its.jnj.com

Finnish-American Soc. of Dallas/Fort Worth

Jeremy Martin - president@texfinn.org

VIRGINIA

FF/Tidewater Virginia Chapter - 1978 Riikka Mohorn - riikkamohorn@verizon.net

WASHINGTON

FF/Seattle Chapter - 1968

Gary London - garyjlondon@gmail.com FF/Inland Northwest Chapter - 1970 Don Heikkila - idfinn@sm-email.com

Swedish-Finn Historical Society - 1991 Dick Erickson - twoswedes@aol.com

FF Suomi Chapter - 2010

Tapio Holma - tapiok@comcast.net

Finnish-American Folk Festival - 2011 Mike Swanson - swanson@wwest.net Jennifer Bennett -

JBennett@bankofastoria.com