



Finlandia Foundation® National

Inspiring, celebrating and connecting the Finnish-American community since 1953

Chapter Membership

A Cultural
Handshake
Across the Sea
Since 1953



TERVETULO!

WELCOME!

Thank you for your interest in Finlandia Foundation National (FFN), the non-profit, philanthropic organization that since 1953 has been promoting Finnish-American culture and the ancestral tie with Finland.

FFN was established in Pasadena, California, by nine Finnish-Americans who wanted to encourage preservation of homeland traditions in the United States and “unite all Finland Friends in this country.” FFN now has 58 affiliated organizations in 25 states and Washington, D.C.

(Find the list of chapters and contacts at FinlandiaFoundation.org.)

Through educational and cultural programs, FFN encourages closer relations between Finland and the U.S. It strives to strengthen the bonds of friendship among Finnish-Americans and others interested in the culture and heritage and historical connections with the country, as well as contemporary Finland.

Membership in FFN is open to individuals and chapters that share this common goal. Its official language is English.

FFN-affiliated organizations maintain their independence as self-governing entities responsible only to their membership.

Each chapter determines its mission, plans its own activities and controls its funds and property, with no FFN involvement or interference.

Membership in FFN is mutually beneficial:

- Chapter participation in a mature, well-endowed national organization with international connections offers tangible and intangible benefits derived from strength and common purpose.
- FFN benefits from a broad and representative roster of member chapters with shared interests and a desire to help to fulfill its mission through participation, communication and financial support of its programs.

Chapters in good standing display their affiliation through use of the Finlandia Foundation name and logo. Chapters gain visibility via the FFN website, publications, Facebook and Instagram, and are encouraged to contribute material for the FFN newsletter, website, Finnish-American press and social media.

Each individual member receives the newsletter, which informs, inspires and publicizes national and chapter activities, as well as a complimentary copy of the FFN history book, *Black Ties and Miners' Boots: Inventing Finnish-American Philanthropy*, by Jon L. Saari.

The FFN office in Pasadena is a resource for members and is available to provide chapters with guidance, direction and materials, including a lending library.

Chapters may request FFN grants for cultural programs, support the grant requests of others and endorse applications of qualified scholarship candidates.

FFN chapters help to shape the national organization by presenting candidates for FFN trustees and Performer of the Year and Lecturer of the Year. Chapters may take advantage of FFN travel funds for hosting these touring programs.

The significant funds awarded by FFN in grants, scholarships and chapter support reflect favorably on all Finlandia Foundation affiliates, as do major programs undertaken by FFN and its chapters.

These include celebrations in 2015 recognizing the 150th anniversary of the birth of Finnish composer Jean Sibelius, and the hosting and support of events in honor of the centennial of Finland's independence in 2017.

New organizations are encouraged --but not required--to include the words “Finlandia Foundation” in the official name (for example, Finlandia Foundation Florida Chapter). Existing groups affiliated with FFN may opt to use the original name of

incorporation, such as the Hibbing, Minnesota FFN chapter, “Finnish-Americans and Friends.”

FFN chapters agree to publicize their affiliation by utilizing the official logo in newsletters, websites, letterhead, brochures and other materials.

Each FFN chapter should qualify as a not-for-profit cultural and/or educational 501(c)(3) organization approved by the IRS.

The bylaws of each FFN-affiliated group shall clearly state that the purpose of the organization is to provide its membership and the general public with cultural and/or educational programs and events featuring Finnish and Finnish-American culture.

Each chapter remits to FFN an annual contribution per mailing address in the member organization. The dues partially offset the cost of printing and mailing the FFN newsletter.

Organizations interested in chapter membership must contact Finlandia Foundation National for an application, and arrange for the approval of the FFN Board of Trustees.

Finlandia Foundation is a federally registered trademark. The name Finlandia Foundation and the Finlandia Foundation logo are to be used only by organizations associated with Finlandia Foundation National.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please see the Finlandia Foundation National general information brochure or website (FinlandiaFoundation.org) for a brief history of the organization, information about FFN programs, contributions and the list of FFN chapters.

In addition, the website is a source for:

- Chapter contact information
- Biographical information for the FFN Board of Trustees
- Deadlines and guidelines for grant and scholarship applications
- Profiles of the Performer of the Year and the Lecturer of the Year
- Information about Soiva International Music Camp
- Information about funds for

students attending Salolampi Finnish Language Village in Bemidji, Minnesota

- A calendar of Finnish-American events
- Links to other Finnish-American organizations
- Past newsletters and sign-up for the free monthly E-News
- And much more!

NATIONAL OFFICE

The Finlandia Foundation National office is located at the site of the birthplace of the organization, now the Pasadena Museum of History, 470 West Walnut Street in Pasadena, California.

Look for us on Facebook!



FFN is a 501(c)(3) organization. For more information: FinlandiaFoundation.org
Finlandia Foundation National P.O. Box 92046 Pasadena, CA 91109-2046

Please contact the FFN office for more information:
Phone: 626.795.2081 Email: office@finlandiafoundation.org