

Friends of Suomi Hall, Finlandia Foundation Astoria Chapter

Founded December 6, 1886 as a non-profit, non-political organization

KAHDEN UUTISET

President's message

Autumn Greetings,

Hopefully many of you were able to enjoy the delicious Lakslođa Luncheon. Again the Auxiliary did a wonderful job. Thank you to Auxiliary and all the Volunteers who make it happen

It's been a great start to our busy Fall season at Suomi Hall and it will continue as we have some fun holiday events planned. Mark all events on your calendar so you won't miss them. This winter, for our Sunday Lodge Meetings, arrangements are in the works for speakers or entertainment at each meeting. November starts with Greg Jacobs sharing insight into the Kalevala, the Finnish National Epic.

It's Prune Tart time and most Monday mornings this month you'll find members busy in the Suomi Hall kitchen making prune tarts for you for your holiday celebrations. Order yours by calling 503-440-9002 by November 28th. Tarts are frozen and ready to bake for \$20. Pick up days are December 9 th and 10 th from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM. If you interested in making tarts contact Beth at 503 791-3467..

Sunday, November 6 th Eepi Ursin will perform at the Charlene Larsen Center for the Performing Arts on 16 th Street at 7 pm. If you missed her performance at the Naselle Finnish Folk Festival here's your second chance. Eepi is the Finlandia Foundation National Performer of the Year and has performed worldwide as a vocalist, composer and musician in Jazz, Pop, A Cappella and Modern Opera. Tickets are \$15 And maybe purchased at the door or in advance, online at partnersfortheepac.org. Don't miss this opportunity to experience some world class entertainment and support your local Lodge.

Next Lodge meeting is on Sunday, November 13 th and is a potluck with the Lodge providing turkey, bread and dessert. Starts at 1 pm. Members are asked to bring side dishes. We need help with set up and clean up. Set up is Friday, November 11 th at 10 am . Call or text Karen 503 791-7805, Beth 503 791-3467 or Dea 503 741-6317 to volunteer, to let us know what special dish you are bringing, or to find our what type of dish we may be lacking. Donations are accepted In lieu of a potluck item.

On Saturday November 19 th from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM join us for a "Make and Take a Finnish Christmas Craft. All supplies are included as members of Suomi Hall assist with the creation of adorable keepsake decorations with a Finnish theme. All ages are welcome. Cost is \$10. Space is limited. To pre-register call or text 503-791-7805 or e-mail kvanleave53@gmail.com. This event is in support for our Suomi Summer School 2023.

Friends of Suomi Hall will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, December 11 th at 1 pm with a meal prepared by the Auxiliary, nominations and election of board members, and reports from committees and activities of the past year. If you are interested in serving on the board please contact me at 503 791- 7805 or kvanleave53@gmail.com.

Hope to see you at the Suomi Hall soon.

Karen

Pictures from Lakslođa Luncheon!!





Make and Take a Finnish Christmas Craft will be held at Suomi Hall on Saturday, November 19th

from 10:00 am to 11:00 am. All supplies are included as members of Suomi Hall will assist with

the creation of an adorable, keepsake decoration with a Finnish theme. All ages are welcome.

Cost is \$10.00. Suomi Hall is located at 244 West Mariner Dr.

Space is limited. To pre-register call or text 503791-7805 or email kvancleave53@gmail.com.



PM. Eepi has a versatile career with gold and platinum selling recordings as well as collaborations and performances worldwide as a vocalist, composer and musician in Jazz, Pop, A Cappella and Modern Opera. She is the Finlandia Foundation National Performer of the Year. Tickets are \$15 and may be purchased in advance online at partnersforthejac.org or at the door.

This event is sponsored by Finlandia Foundation Astoria Chapter, Friends of Suomi Hall.

New York based Finnish singer-songwriter and pianist Eepi Ursin will perform at the Charlene Larsen Center for the Performing Arts on Sunday, November 6th at 7:00

Friends of Suomi Hall Board of Directors

- President: Karen Van Cleave
- Vice president: Peggy Nikkila
- Secretary: Mike Duncan
- Treasure: Faith Swanson
- Financial secretary: Katie Ryding
- Director: Carole Lyngstad
- Director: Julie Leonhardt-Overby
- Director Mike Geer-Wagenblast
- Director: Marvin Hautala
- Director: Eric Williams
- Director: Dena Tuveng



Laksloda workers!!!!

VALUE ADDED

Value Added! This was my biggest take away from the amazing time I had in New York at the Joint Chapter meeting of Finlandia Foundation. It was a true honor to represent our new chapter and learn all the things that I was able to learn and bring back to share.

Value Added. If what we do doesn't add value, then why are we doing it! This was what I heard that resonated with me the most and it came from the Young Leaders Board! If we are to be engaged, then what needs to be there is something that adds value. So, are we doing things that add value to our members? Are we doing events that just take up time to take up time or are we adding value to the participants lives? I think you can each answer the question for yourselves, but value is what we need to be aware of. We need to be current, add value, and make sure Finland is represented in USA!

The weekend was great! Friday night we enjoyed "Diamonds of the Snow" second annual revue featuring Eppie Ursin, Johanna Telander, and others. What talent! Afterwards there was a short reception. On Saturday we had a full day of information. We got a preview of the new Performer of the Year, Lecturer of the Year, and Artist of the Year! Each chapter was able to share what they have done, brag, or ask for help! Themes I heard were keeping youth engaged, membership, communication, events, and keeping things fun.

The Youth Leaders Board shared their mission, how they have been doing since their recent inception, and how to keep youth engaged! Mind you, these are young adults who have very busy careers! They shared their struggles yet their vital interest in keeping Finnish alive in the USA. In the evening there was a reception with music from the new Kalevala The Musical written by Johanna Telander, and a greeting from the NYC Consul General, Ambassador Jarmo Sareva.



Diamonds of the Snow Revue!
Johanna Telander, Eepi Ursin, Petra Jasmiina, Jonna, and Ida Metsberg



Heli Haatanpaa-Wetzel, Leila Collier, Kaisa Perkiomaki, Eppie Ursin, Anne-Mari Paster, Katariina Lehtonen, Adam Perkiomaki, Pirjo-Liisa Schulback.



Jarmo Sareva



Anne-Mari Paster
Eepi Ursin
Ida Metsberg

Being able to hear the current Performer of the Year, Eppie, who will be in Astoria on NOVEMBER 6 was quite the treat! She is amazing! And Ida Metsberg was chosen to be the Performer of the Year for 2023, I sure hope we get Ida here next year! She has a beautiful voice that I can't wait to have everyone hear as well!

My sincerest thanks go to the Friends of Suomi Hall and our Finlandia Foundation Chapter for allowing me to represent the Northwest in NY. It was truly an adventure that will be with me forever. Representing the west coast was so amazing, and being able to speak and hear Finnish was so truly heartwarming. THANK YOU, KIITOS Sydmeellisesti!

Leila Koskela-Collier

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, November 6 th : Eeppi Ursin Concert. 7:00 pm. PAC. 588 16 th St. \$15 at the door.

Monday, November 7 th : Auxiliary Meeting. 10:00 am Coffee. 10:30 am Business Meeting.

Sunday, November 13 th : Turkey Dinner Potluck. 1:00 pm. Membership Meeting. 2:00 pm.

Saturday, November 19 th : Make and Take a Finnish Christmas Craft. 10:00 am. Suomi Hall.

Friday, November 25 th : Sankta Lucia Festival. 7:00 pm. Astoria High School Auditorium.

Monday, November 28 th : Friends of Suomi Hall Board of Directors Meeting. 9:30 am.

Monday, December 5 th : Auxiliary Meeting. 10:00 am. Coffee. 10:30 am. Business Meeting.

Tuesday, December 6 th : Finland Independence Day Celebration. 10:00 am. Nordic Park.

Sunday, December 11 th : Friends of Suomi Hall Annual Meeting. 1:00 pm. Meal included.

**** HOLIDAY TART PICKUP AT SUOMI HALL ****

**FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9 th & 10 th FROM 10 – 1. SUOMI HALL
ORDER YOURS TODAY BY CALLING 503 440-9002**

Friends of Suomi Hall
PO Box 146
Astoria Oregon