



# Finlandia Foundation Seattle Chapter Newsletter

July 2026

# FINLANDIA FOUNDATION SEATTLE CHAPTER

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board through June, 2026.

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Members-at-Large serve two-year, staggered terms. 1st year terms begin July 1. Please send all membership inquiries, payments or changes of address to FFSC, PO Box 5024 Bellevue, WA 98009-5024 or e-mail [info@finlandiafoundationseattle.com](mailto:info@finlandiafoundationseattle.com).

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# Letter from the President

New board terms begin each July, making the summer newsletter a natural time to look back on the past year and ahead to the one now beginning. Much of that looking back comes from our annual meeting, held this year on Friday, April 17 at the National Nordic Museum, where — listening to each report in turn — one thing stood out: FFSC has grown in many ways.

Our Independence Day Dinner and Dance on December 6 drew more than 200, one of our largest Independence Day celebration events (a full recap of the event is in the [March newsletter](#)). Our membership remains modest in size, but it has grown steadily over the past year, helped by a new online payment system that makes joining and renewing far easier. Our Finnish language classes, taught online by Kata Hyvärinen, drew strong and loyal enrollment, including students well beyond the Puget Sound. And our presence on Instagram and Facebook, built almost from nothing by our editor and marketing lead Laura Galeev, has taken off: a single post after the Independence Day dinner reached more than 48,000 people. Laura even created [a free public map of saunas](#) across the Pacific Northwest — one that local sauna businesses now ask to be added to.

Behind the scenes, careful stewardship by our treasurer, Jussi Borland, has kept the organization on sound financial footing. Our largest undertaking by far is the Independence Day dinner, and rising costs make it a balancing act each year; donations and a lively raffle kept it comfortably in the black.

We also kept up the traditions that hold our community together — the Finnish Holiday Market at Leif Erikson Hall in November, our continued Nordic Mixer collaboration with Seattle's other Nordic organizations, and our sponsorship of the annual Vappu picnic in Redmond. And we were glad to award a \$1,000 scholarship to Maja Damstrom, a University of Washington environmental engineering student minoring in Scandinavian Studies, who plans to pursue graduate study in Helsinki and a career in renewable energy. We look forward to hearing from her at next year's annual meeting.

The board was re-elected unchanged for the coming term, and I'm grateful to every member for their continued service.

The year ahead will look much like the last in its rhythm: The next Nordic Mixer will be hosted by the Northwest Danish Association at the Swedish Club on October 16, the Finnish Holiday Market returns in November, and our Independence Day Dinner and Dance comes back to the National Nordic Museum on Saturday, December 5. The organizing committee is already meeting monthly; it's an enormous effort, and a growing one. If you'd like to be part of it, we would love your help — volunteers are always welcome.

My thanks to the board, the IDDD organizing committee, and the many volunteers who make all of this possible. Wishing everyone a warm and restful summer.

*Mikko Männistö*

FFSC BOARD PRESIDENT

## Letter from the Editor

A sure sign of spring is the Seattle Finnish community's annual Vappu celebration. In May, we gathered once again at our traditional location, Idylwood Park. The best part of this gathering is, of course, seeing all of you there, bringing dishes to share at our communal table, and enjoying a delicious variety of Vappu treats together. This year, we were able to enjoy sima (mead), munkit (doughnuts), salads, and many other traditional as well as new delicacies. How about introducing a friendly competition next year and awarding a prize for the most popular dish?



Another sign that summer is on its way is the Ice Hockey World Championship. Surely no one could have missed Finland's incredible victory! While we didn't rush to the town square (torille) here, we certainly celebrated in spirit. The Lions flew home to Finland from Zürich on blue wings, with the Finnish Air Force's F/A-18 Hornets escorting them along the way.

In this newsletter, alongside celebrating the arrival of summer, we also turn our attention toward the exciting programs planned for the fall season: Finnish language courses, the new term in Suomikoulu, as well as upcoming music and cultural events. I would warmly welcome your thoughts on whether a printed copy of the newsletter is still important to you, or if a digital-only version would serve you just as well. Please feel free to share your feedback with us at [newsletter@finlandiafoundationseattle.com](mailto:newsletter@finlandiafoundationseattle.com). You can also enjoy a Three Questions interview with Suomikoulu principal Anna Brinck, as well as learn more fascinating facts about Finland gathered by Gary London. Lastly, you'll find a fun peek at things Finns can feel embarrassed about.

Wishing you a wonderful summer filled with refreshing swims, relaxing sauna moments, delicious grilling, and plenty of Finnish Blueberry Crumble Pie (page 13) topped with a scoop of ice cream.

*Laura Galeev*

FINSC NEWSLETTER EDITOR



Explore the wonders of Finnish culture with Finlandia Foundation National's free monthly newsletter! Sign up for the E-News or dive into our archive to discover past issues. Start your Finnish journey today and start exploring at the Newsletter Archive:

<https://finlandiafoundation.org/e-news-newsletter!>

# The Three Questions

**For more than a decade, Anna has been a dedicated part of Suomikoulu of Seattle, helping generations of children and families stay connected to the Finnish language and culture. From classroom assistant to teacher, board member, and now principal, she has played a key role in guiding the school into its next chapter while fostering a strong sense of community for Finnish families in the Seattle area.**



In this column, we interview fascinating Finnish individuals and explore their lives in the Seattle area. We asked Anna Brinck our Three Questions and are excited to share her insights.

## **How did you first become involved with Suomikoulu of Seattle, and what inspired you to take on the role of principal?**

I moved to the Seattle area from Tampere in 2009. I didn't know anyone in the area, so I searched for Finnish communities and found the Finnish School. Started volunteering as an assistant in the classrooms. Later on I advanced to classroom teacher. Over these years I've been teaching all age groups from babies to teenagers and also arts & crafts for all age groups and served in the board. When the school's

founder Airi Suomalainen stepped down from the principal position when she moved back to Finland two years ago, she asked if I would be interested and obviously I was happy to take over steering the school onwards. I have two children who've also been students at the school since they were babies. I wanted to give back to the community and make sure the school's mission will continue.

## **What has surprised you most about the impact Suomi-koulu has on families?**

Suomi-koulu is not only a language school for children, it is also a community for the whole family. It's a place where parents can chat over a cup of coffee and a piece of Fazer chocolate while the kids are in their classrooms

or playing in the park. It's a place where we exchange Finnish books and magazines and children's clothing. Especially for families who have recently moved from Finland, I feel, it's a great reassurance to find other Finnish people who've literally been in your position and can give you valuable tips. When I had my youngest in 2016, there was a Finnish baby boom in the area and over 10 babies were born within a few months. Suomi-koulu was a weekly "breathing space" for many of us moms and I will never forget those times.

## **What are some of the biggest or most anticipated events and traditions at Suomikoulu throughout the year?**

In addition to teaching Finnish language, part of our mission is to continue the Finnish traditions and cultural celebrations for

families in Seattle. We celebrate Finnish Independence Day, have the real Finnish speaking Santa visit our Christmas party (where we sing all the most loved Christmas songs), we recognize vappu, Kalevalanpäivä and the Finnish Easter traditions of decorating the willow branches for virpomavitsa and growing rairuoho. Songs and stories leave some of the strongest impressions on children and our former students can probably still sing some of the songs taught in Suomi-koulu years later, if asked to.

This year we celebrated the school's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary and I'm excited to start the next chapter in the school's history.

**Registration for the next school year is now open and if you're interested in enrolling your child in Suomi-koulu, please contact Anna at [principal@finnishschoolofseattle.org](mailto:principal@finnishschoolofseattle.org)**



# FINNFO – FACTS ABOUT FINLAND

Contributor: Gary London

**5.27  
(of 10)**

Lowest average GPA at a Finnish secondary school.

**1/5**

Fraction of Finnish drivers who obey speed limits in school zones.

**850,000**

Number of Ryanair customers in Finland.

**120**

Number of Ryanair flights per week from Finland.

**45**

Percentage of Finnish workers who attend to some work-related matters during vacation.

**88**

Percentage of Finnish workers in management positions who attend to some work-related matters during vacation.

**1**

Rank of Oulu among 761 European cities for cleanest air.

**8**

Number of Finnish cities in ten top European cities for cleanest air.

**1**

Rank of Finland among EU countries for trust in impartiality of judiciary.

**12**

Rank of January among months in which marriages occur in Finland.

**1**

Rank of July among months in which marriages occur in Finland.

**110**

Percentage increase in coffee prices in Finland from 2015 to 2025.

# FINNFO – FACTS ABOUT FINLAND

Contributor: Gary London

**60**

Percentage of all icebreakers built that are built in Finland.

**110**

Number of prisoners in Finnish prisons for every 100 available beds.

**2,000**

Number in euros per month in increased expense to send a Finnish prisoner to an Estonian prison.

**1**

Rank of Turku among Best Summer Cities in Finland.

**2**

Rank of Helsinki among Best Summer Cities in Finland.

**1,564**

Amount in euros for two-column obituary in Helsingin Sanomat.

**1,246**

Amount in euros of least expensive cremation in Finland.

**Last**

Rank of those with Somali or Iraqi surnames interviewed for employment in Finland.

Source: All from Helsingin Sanomat — 1, 8/21/25, A28; 2, 8/1/25, A19; 3 and 4, 8/24/25, A31; 5 and 6, 7/25/25, A30; 7 and 8, 7/11/25, A14; 9 and 10, 7/11/2025, A11; 11 and 12, 7/13/25, A27; 13, 8/6/25, A8; 14 and 15, 7/27/25, A4; 16 and 17, 8/4/25, A9; 18 and 19, 7/7/25, A23, 20, 7/6/25, A10.

# FINLANDIA FOUNDATION SEATTLE CHAPTER FINNISH LANGUAGE COURSES FALL 2026



MONDAYS/THURSDAYS ONLINE VIA ZOOM (10 SESSIONS)

**Monday Beginners Class Starting: 9/7 – 10/5 and 10/26 - 11/23/2026**  
**5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. PST**

This class will familiarize you to Finnish Pronunciation, Alphabet, Greetings and Tourist Vocabulary, but also introduce a couple of essential grammar features. Easy and Fun Class where we learn by listening and repeating. Class meets on the following dates: 9/7 – 10/5 and 10/26 - 11/23/2026. Ten sessions of 90 mins.

**Thursday More Advanced Class Starting: 9/10 – 10/5 and 10/22 – 11/19/2026**  
**5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. PST**

This class we will teach you different sentence types in Finnish, Verb types 3 and 4 and a lot of vocabulary. You will also learn to make a story in Finnish. This is good for you if you have taken at least 2 previous classes. Class meets on following dates: 9/10 – 10/5 and 10/22 – 11/19/2026. Ten sessions of 90 mins.

## About our classes:

- Tuition for winter is \$150 per course (= 10 sessions) and is due at the start of the semester.
  - Courses are first-come, first-served. Please complete this registration form, scan it, and email it to [languageclasses@finlandiafoundationseattle.com](mailto:languageclasses@finlandiafoundationseattle.com). OR mail it with your payment check made to Finlandia Foundation Seattle Chapter to:

Finlandia Foundation Seattle Chapter  
PO Box 5024 Bellevue, WA 98009

Online payment can be done at <https://www.finlandiafoundationseattle.com/language-classes/>

## ■ STUDENT INFORMATION

Full Name	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	Phone Number	<input type="text"/>
Email	<input type="text"/>	Mailing Address	<input type="text"/>	
City	<input type="text"/>	ZIP/Postal Code	<input type="text"/>	

■ CLASS LEVEL     Vocabulary Class     Locations Class

## ■ ARE YOU A FFSC MEMBER YET? MEMBERSHIP IS BY THE CALENDAR YEAR.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Single \$25/yr        | <input type="checkbox"/> Senior \$20/yr        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Couple/Family \$30/yr | <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Couple \$25/yr |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting \$55/yr    | <input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime \$350        |

## ■ PAYMENT DETAILS

Payment amount: tuition \$	<input type="text"/>	Membership \$	<input type="text"/>	Total \$	<input type="text"/>
Check #	<input type="text"/>	Payment date	<input type="text"/>	Class Level	<input type="text"/>



## STRONGER TOGETHER – JOIN OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY!

The Finlandia Foundation of Seattle Chapter membership is by the calendar year.

- Single \$25/yr
- Couple/Family \$30/yr
- Supporting \$55/yr
- Senior \$20/yr
- Senior Couple \$25/yr
- Lifetime \$350

Full Name

Phone Number

Email Address

Mailing Address

City

ZIP/Postal Code

### ■ PAYMENT DETAILS (CHECK & ONLINE)

Membership \$  Donation \$  Total \$

Check #  Payment date

**Online payment:** <https://www.finlandiafoundationseattle.com/join/>

### ■ VOLUNTEERING

I want to contribute by volunteering at FFSC

Cut this out and mail it with your payment check made to Finlandia Foundation Seattle Chapter to: Finlandia Foundation Seattle Chapter, PO Box 5024, Bellevue, WA 98009.

Dues and donations are tax deductible. We are a 501(c)3 corporation.

# THE FEAR OF EMBARRASSMENT IS THE BEGINNING OF WISDOM

Contributor: Gary London

A Finn can easily find numerous reasons for feeling embarrassed

I received an invitation to a confirmation celebration. I gave the god child 50 euros. Other god parents gave 100 euros. Yes, I was embarrassed.

I went to a restaurant to eat. I ordered first and requested a pepper steak. Others ordered a vegetarian option. Yes, I was embarrassed.

I was bothered by mosquitoes. I left the Thermacell spray on the patio table overnight. A neighbor saw it. Yes, I was embarrassed.

I promised to lose weight for the summer. I put on a couple of extra kilos. The shirt continues to be too small. Yes, I was embarrassed.

I went to a music festival. I wore long pants and a long-sleeved shirt. Others were in denim shorts and a leather coat. Yes, I was embarrassed.

I went to Koli [a Finnish National Park] and praised its beauty to my pals. All of them had been there last summer. Yes, I was embarrassed.

I went to a spa. A guy from work unexpectedly wound up in the same hot tub. Yes, I was embarrassed.

I traveled abroad. Some Finns passed by. They were talking loudly and wearing socks with sandals. Yes, I was embarrassed.

I arranged a party in our yard. The cheapest beauty bark I had bought in the spring was already losing its color. Yes, I was embarrassed.

I grilled pre-marinated chicken for guests. Included in the freezer package were the ingredients for the finishing touches. One of the diners was a chef. Yes, I was embarrassed.

I accidentally set the summer table with Christmas napkins, Red balls and reindeer. Yes, I was embarrassed.

A neighbor and a fellow worker bought new cars. A chargeable hybrid and an electric car. My car will continue using gas for some time. Yes, I was embarrassed.

I remain in deep thought at a crosswalk waiting for the green light. Others might think I'm a rube from the country. Yes, I was embarrassed.

I use emojis in messages. They don't mean what they appear to. Yes, I was embarrassed.

There are many partly-clad women on social media. Pals tell me the more one looks at them the more they will appear. Yes, I was embarrassed.

I went to see the new "Top Gun." I didn't particularly like it. All my pals liked it. Yes, I was embarrassed.

I slept overnight at the cabin. I enjoyed my sleep. Others didn't because of my snoring. Yes, I was embarrassed.

I gave an acquaintance a ride home. I had set my radio for stations that play only 1980s music. Yes, I was embarrassed.

I listened to an audiobook on the Metro. I had wired earphones. All others had ear buds. Yes, I was embarrassed.

I went to an outdoor cafe. I drank an ordinary lager. An acquaintance came by who is an artisan beer hipster. Yes, I was embarrassed.

Fortunately it's summer. It's not necessary to sweat the small stuff.

*A translation of a column by Managing Editor Ari Kinnari in the Helsingin Sanomat, July 15, 2022.*

# FINNISH BLUEBERRY CRUMBLE PIE (MUSTIKKAPIIRAKKA)

A beloved Finnish summer dessert 'mustikkapiirakka', traditionally baked with fresh wild blueberries and served with vanilla custard or whipped cream.



## Crumble Topping

- ½ cup (1 dl) sugar
- 2 tsp vanilla sugar (or 1 tsp vanilla extract)
- ¾ cup + 2 tbsp (2 dl) all-purpose flour
- ½ cup (1 dl) melted butter

## Cake Batter

- 1 cup (2 dl) sugar
- ½ cup (1 dl) melted butter
- 3 eggs
- 14 oz (400 g) plain Greek-style yogurt
- 2½ cups (6 dl) all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp baking soda

## Topping

- 14 oz (400 g) blueberries (fresh or frozen)
- 2 tsp potato starch or cornstarch

## For Serving

- Vanilla custard, vanilla sauce, or whipped cream

## Instructions

1. Preheat the oven to 400°F (200°C).
2. Prepare the crumble topping by mixing the sugar, vanilla sugar, flour, and melted butter until crumbly. Set aside.
3. In a large bowl, whisk together the sugar, melted butter, eggs, and yogurt. In a separate bowl, combine the flour, baking powder, and baking soda. Add the dry ingredients to the wet ingredients and mix until smooth.
4. Spread the batter evenly onto a parchment-lined baking sheet or baking pan (approximately 11 x 14 in / 28 x 35 cm).
5. Toss the blueberries with the potato starch (or cornstarch) and spread them evenly over the batter.
6. Sprinkle the crumble topping evenly over the blueberries.
7. Bake in the center of the oven for about 30 minutes, or until golden brown and fully baked.
8. Allow to cool slightly before serving with vanilla custard, vanilla sauce, or whipped cream.

Makes one sheet pan (serves 12–16). Adapted from a traditional Finnish recipe by Valio.

# LOCAL ART NOTES

Contributor: Gary London

After a completely dry year with the Seattle Symphony in its past season, Finnish orchestral music makes a modest comeback in the 2026-27 season. The majestic **Sibelius Symphony No. 2** will be featured in concerts at Benaroya Hall on May 13 and 14. Guest Conductor Alexander Shelley will be at the podium. The British-born Shelley is rounding out an eleven year stint as Music Director of Canada's National Arts Center Orchestra. He is to assume duties as Music Director of the Pacific Symphony beginning with the 2026-27 season. Sharing what will doubtless be a very popular program is Rachmaninov's Piano Concerto No. 2, with Benjamin Grosvenor as soloist.

The romanticism of the Sibelius symphony is a far cry from what is sometimes called the "post spectralism" of **Kaija Saariaho's** music. Her *Lumière et Pésanteur* (Light and Gravity) opens the Seattle Symphony program on April 29 and May 1. She writes that this short piece, the eight of 15 stations in her *La Passion de Simone*, "is a gift to Esa-Pekka Salonen," who conducted the *Passion* while at the Los Angeles Philharmonic in 20029, and "especially likes" the eighth station. German conductor David Afkham, currently Chief Conductor and Artistic Director of the Spanish National Orchestra will lead the program, which also includes Lutoslawski's Piano Concerto, with Stephen Osborne as soloist, and Shostakovich's Symphony No. 10.

Just as Sibelius and Saariaho are a study in contrasts, the same could be said about the contrast between the the two kinds of musicians for which Finland is well-known internationally: the conductors of classical orchestra music and the performers of heavy metal. Seattle is on the touring schedule of some of the best known of the heavy metal bands. For example, **Oranssi Pazu** played at Neumos on May 8 — the first stop in a national tour and part of the Northwest Terror Fest. Next up is Ensiferum, which will do an all-ages concert at El Corazon on September 27. Founded in 1995 and with some nine albums to its name, Ensiferum appears in Seattle as part of its "Winter Storm Over North America Tour" — an exhaustive schedule that begins on September 9 and includes some 40 concerts in the United States and Canada. The five-member band plays self-described "melodic metal infused with Finnish folk traditions.

Absent from Seattle again this year is **Apocalyptica**, which is doing a US tour but not including the Emerald City. Fans will be disappointed. News of other Finnish bands performing in Seattle was not available at press time.

# LOCAL ART NOTES

Contributor: Gary London

Hard to imagine that anyone would need an excuse to go to Bainbridge Island, but, if one is needed, consider an exhibition of work by Finnish metalsmith **Heikki Seppä** at the Bainbridge Island Museum of Art from November 21, 2026 to January 31, 2027. Born in Finland, Seppä migrated to the United States, where he taught for decades at Washington University in St. Louis. After the death of his first wife, he married Laurie A. Lyall, a noted jewelry designer who lived on Bainbridge Island. With a large donation from Lyall and from other collectors, BIMA has acquired 45 pieces of Seppä's jewelry, functional hollowware and decorative art. This important retrospective follows Seppä's death in 2010.

While not precisely a local art note, this reporter, along with his two sons, attended the opening night performance of Kaija Saariaho's highly-praised opera "Innocence" at **New York's Metropolitan Opera** on April 6. It has been my hope to see this work since I first read of its world premiere at the Aix-en-Provence Festival in the summer of 2021. I was fortunate to be able to stream the opera when it was performed by San Francisco Opera in June of 2024, but I knew that nothing would compare to seeing an actual performance of "Innocence."

There was, however, the very real possibility that I was setting myself up for disappointment, having waited five year to see the opera in person. On the contrary, the experience was everything I had hoped for and more. I am not a musician myself, much less a music critic, but one need not be either to appreciate the power and the beauty of "**Innocence.**"

**Saariaho** has used the aftermath of a fictional shooting at an international school in Finland as the bones of her opera. We are introduced to the survivors of this violence — students and a teacher — as well as the shooter's parents and brother, who are gathered for the latter's marriage to a woman who knows nothing about this family tragedy. The secret will, however, be exposed by a waitress at the wedding whose daughter Marketa has been slain in the shooting. The daughter is a spectral presence, who moves effortlessly between the living and the dead.

While Joyce DiDanoto as the waitress/mother was a new addition to the cast, some of the performers at the Met production have been with "Innocence" since its premiere. They include Lucy Shelton as the teacher, Julie Hega as a friend of the shooter and **Vilma Jää** as Marketa. Jää has attracted particular attention with her unique vocalizations, utilizing the Viena Karelian yoik and Karjankutsu. The composer collaborated with Jää in the creation of the character and her spine-tingling singing techniques.

# LOCAL ART NOTES

Contributor: Gary London

One of the unique features of “Innocence” is the libretto, originally done in Finnish by celebrated author **Sofi Oksanen**, but then translated and adapted into eight other languages, representing those spoken by students at the school. The work of translation/adaptation was done by **Aleksi Barrière**, Saariaho’s son.

Ultimately, though, the strength of “Innocence” rests on the emotionally-compelling, immersive music of **Kajja Saariaho**, who had, in her friend **Susanna Mälkki**, the ideal conductor. Mälkki joined the cast, Director **Simon Stone**, Set Designer **Chloe Lamford**, **Oksanen** and **Barrière** for sustained applause and a standing ovation at the conclusion of “Innocence.” **Missing**, of course, was the real star of the evening. **Barrière** would not let us forget her, however. He raised Saariaho’s score high above his head, reminding us what a loss her death in 2023 is to us all.

## Save the Date: Nordic Fall Mixer

Mark your calendars for the annual Nordic Fall Mixer on **Friday, October 16, 2026**, at the **Swedish Club** in Seattle.

This year’s gathering will be hosted by the **Northwest Danish Association**, with the Swedish Club graciously serving as both venue and co-host. The evening will begin at 5:00 PM, followed by a light dinner service, remarks from participating Nordic organizations, and an opportunity to connect with friends from across the Nordic community.

Attendees are also welcome to stay for the Swedish Club’s popular Berserkaraoke Night beginning around 7:00 PM.

Additional details and registration information will be shared in the coming months. We hope you’ll join us for an evening of Nordic fellowship and fun!



# DISCOVER LOCAL EVENTS

Date & Time	Event	Location	Details
Sept. 7 – Oct. 5 & Oct. 26 – Nov. 23, 2026 Mon, 5:30–7:00 PM PST	Finnish Language Classes (Beginner)	Via Zoom	Ten-session beginner Finnish language course.
Sept. 10 – Oct. 15 & Oct. 22 – Nov. 19, 2026 Thu, 5:30–7:00 PM PST	Finnish Language Classes (Advanced)	Via Zoom	Ten-session beginner Finnish language course.
Ongoing	Suomikoulu of Seattle Registration	Kirkland	Registration for the 2026–27 school year is now open. Contact <a href="mailto:principal@finnishschoolofseattle.org">principal@finnishschoolofseattle.org</a> for more information.
October 16, 2026 5:00 PM	Nordic Fall Mixer	Swedish Club, Seattle	Hosted by the Northwest Danish Association. Light dinner, Nordic networking, and Berserkaraoke beginning around 7:00 PM.
November 2026	Finnish Holiday Market	Leif Erikson Hall	Annual holiday market featuring Finnish goods, food, and community vendors.
December 5, 2026	Finnish Independence Day Dinner & Dance	National Nordic Museum	FFSC's annual Independence Day celebration.



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