



NORDIC CENTER  
DULUTH

presents

2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL



JUNE 7TH & 8TH

# DULUTH-STAMMAN

NORDIC FOLK  
MUSIC & DANCE

WEBER HALL AUDITORIUM (UMD) & CHESTER BOWL!

PERFORMANCES DANCING

JAM CIRCLES WORKSHOPS



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***\*schedules and performers subject to change***



2024 T-Shirts will be available for purchase on the ticket website and at the Ticket Booth on Friday & Saturday.

## **Nordic Center Vision**

A warm and inclusive place for community engagement in traditional, contemporary and emerging Nordic culture and knowledge.

## **Nordic Center Mission**

To share Nordic culture with the greater community through social, educational, and arts programs.

# TERMINOLOGY

## **What is a *stämma*?**

A *stämma*, meaning "meeting" in Swedish, gathers together musicians and dancers to celebrate their traditions. This is an all-inclusive event that is designed to be family friendly and widely open to the public!

## **What is an *allspel*?**

An *allspel* is an opportunity for all musicians to play together, and there are many common and easily playable tunes that are favorites during this moment of the *stämma*.

## **What is a *polska*?**

*Polska* is a family of music and dance forms shared by the Nordic countries that is usually, but not always, in 3/4 time.

## **What is a *nyckelharpa*?**

The *nyckelharpa* (keyed fiddle) is known for its rich, resonant sound and is often used in Nordic folk music. Considered the national folk instrument of Sweden, it is played with a short bow and features a series of wooden keys that change the pitch of the strings.

## **What is a *hardingfele*?**

A Hardanger fiddle (Norwegian: *hardingfele*) is a traditional stringed instrument considered to be the national instrument of Norway. It is often made with ornate decorative elements, and is defined by understrings that resonate sympathetically when the instrument is played. *Hardingfeles* are often tuned a bit higher than the violin, which is why Norwegians refer to latter as a "flat fiddle."

**Other terms: *Skibakke* = Ski Hill /// *Bäck* = Creek /// *Ungdom* = Youth /// *Takk, Tak, Tack, Kiitos* = Thanks!**

# FRIDAY, JUNE 7th

## at UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA - DULUTH (UMD)

### 3:00 - 5:00 PM / **Workshops**

Enroll in a variety of hour-long dance and music workshops led by this year's talented teachers!  
Workshops run from 3-4 PM and 4-5 PM.

### 6:30 - 8:30 PM / **Friday Night Concert**

Join us at UMD's beautiful Weber Hall for a wonderful sampling of music from this year's blend of artists (see page 4 for details).

### 9:00 - 11:30 PM / **Welcome Dance**

Shake off that rust and get to some dancin'!

9:00 Lauluaiika

9:30 Paul Dahlin & Friends

10:00 OOOO - Grand March

10:30 TC Nyckelharpalag

11:00 McNordiques

Tweeners: Kvinnekraft



# FRIDAY NIGHT CONCERT

at UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA - DULUTH (UMD)

## FIRST HALF

Ole Olsson's Oldtime Orkestra  
Art & Ross  
ASI Spelmanslag  
Lauluaika  
Paul Dahlin & Friends  
McNordiques + Ponyfolk

*Intermission*

## SECOND HALF

Nordensong w/ Andrea Hoag  
Zosha Warpeha  
Sara Pajunen

### Greet the Folks at Home

**On the deck I stand at night, when the stars above are bright,  
Far away from friends and home, lonely here I roam.  
Swallows on their wings so high, now in spring they homeward fly,  
To the land where sunlight beams into my childhood dreams.**

### CHORUS:

**Greet my dear old mother, greet my father too,  
And my little brother, when he welcomes you.  
If I had wings to follow, happy would I be.  
Dearest little swallow, greet them all from me.**

**Additional Verses Listed on Website**  
*[www.nordiccenterduluth.org/festival](http://www.nordiccenterduluth.org/festival)*

# SATURDAY, JUNE 8th at CHESTER BOWL OVERVIEW SCHEDULE

9:00 - 10:00 AM / **Morning Workshops**

10:00 AM / **Gate Opens**

General Admission Tickets & Child All Day Access Pass Tickets

10:30 - 11:00 AM / **Opening Allspel**

Concluding with a Land Acknowledgement, Mayoral Proclamation, and Welcome!

11:00 - 4:30 PM / **Showcase Performances**

Music at Allspel, SkiBakke, and Bäck Stages (see breakout schedules for details)

11:30 - 4:30 PM / **Youth Arts & Culture Tent**

4:30 PM - 5:00 PM / **Closing Allspel**

Final gathering of the day at Chester Bowl.

***Closing Dance at UMD's Weber Hall from 7:30 - 11:00! See Ticket Site for Dance Schedule and Details.***

## SATURDAY, JUNE 8th at CHESTER BOWL STAGE SCHEDULES (after 10:30 AM Allspel)

### ALLSPEL

- 11:00 Lauluaika
- 11:30 Stoneybrook Orchestra
- 12:00 Sara Pajunen
- 12:30 ASI Spelmanslag
- 1:00 The Sutter Brothers
- 1:30 TC Hardingfelelag
- 2:00 Foot-Notes
- 2:30 Nyckelharpalag
- 3:00 Nordensong
- 3:30 Skållklubben Spelmanslag
- 4:00 Tjärnblom
- 4:30 Allspel

### SKIBAKKE

- 11:00 Ameriikan Poijat
- 11:45 Kip Peltoniemi
- 12:30 Kanteleen Soittajat
- 1:15 McNordiques
- 2:00 Ponyfolk
- 2:45 Kvinnekraft
- 3:30 Zosha Warpeha

### BÄCK

- 11:00 Kyle & Cooper Orla
- 12:00 Beth Rotto & Ann Streufert
- 1:00 John Agacki
- 2:00 Paul Dahlin & Friends
- 3:00 Art & Ross
- 4:00 Twinflower



# SATURDAY, JUNE 8th at CHESTER BOWL

## CHILDREN & YOUTH ACTIVITY SCHEDULES

### Ungdomsstämman

11:00 Song and Dance Games with Ross Sutter

12:00 Folk Dancing with KvinneKraft

1:00 Interactive Folktales with Rose Arrowsmith

2:00 Youth Tune Workshop with Ingela Haaland\*

3:00 Youth Tune Workshop with Renee Vaughan\*

4:00 Youth Pre-Allspel Jam\*

\*Instrument Required

### Youth Activities Tent

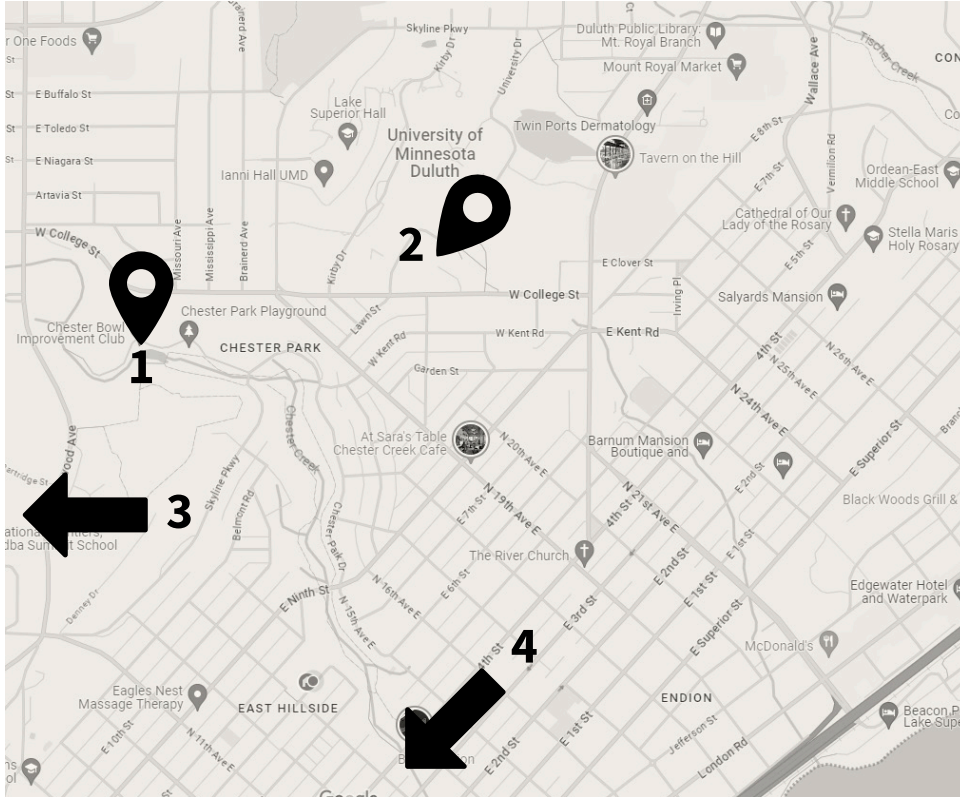
11:30 Activity Tent Opens (Coloring, Friendship Bracelets, and More!)

1:30 Make a Paper Heart Basket with Mary Klockeman

2:30 Paint a Dala Horse Ornament with Carrie Danielson

4:30 Activity Tent Closes

# DULUTH-STÄMMAN OVERVIEW MAP



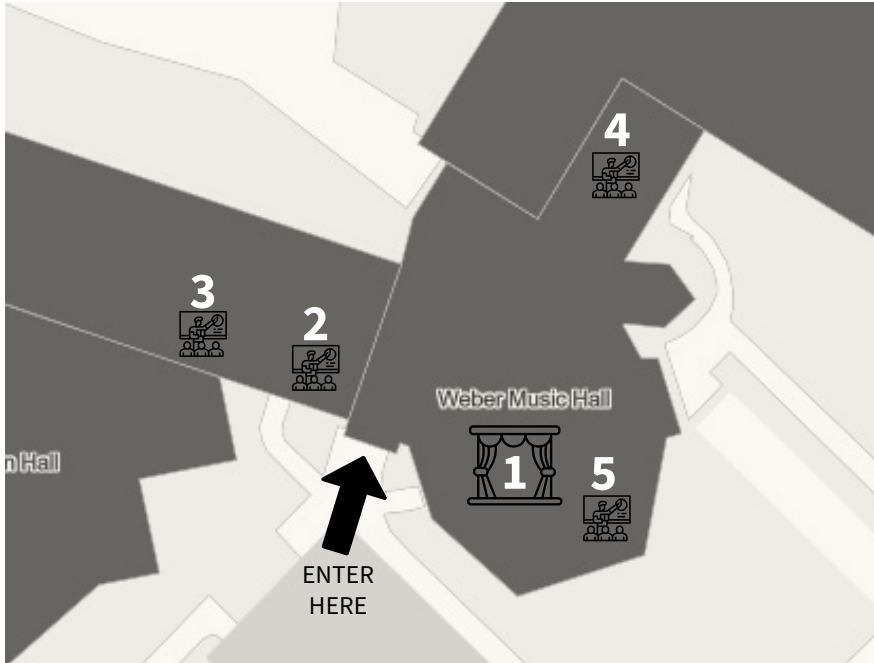
**1 - Chester Bowl**  
Saturday Daytime Activities

**2 - UMD Campus**  
Friday Night Concert, Dances

**3 - St. Scholastica**  
Housing

**4 - Direction to:**  
Bent Paddle (Thursday Jam)  
Nordic Center of Duluth

# UMD DETAIL MAP



## 1 - Weber Music Hall

Friday Night Concert, Dances, Workshops

## 2 - H170 Classroom

Workshops

## 3 - H150 Classroom

Workshops

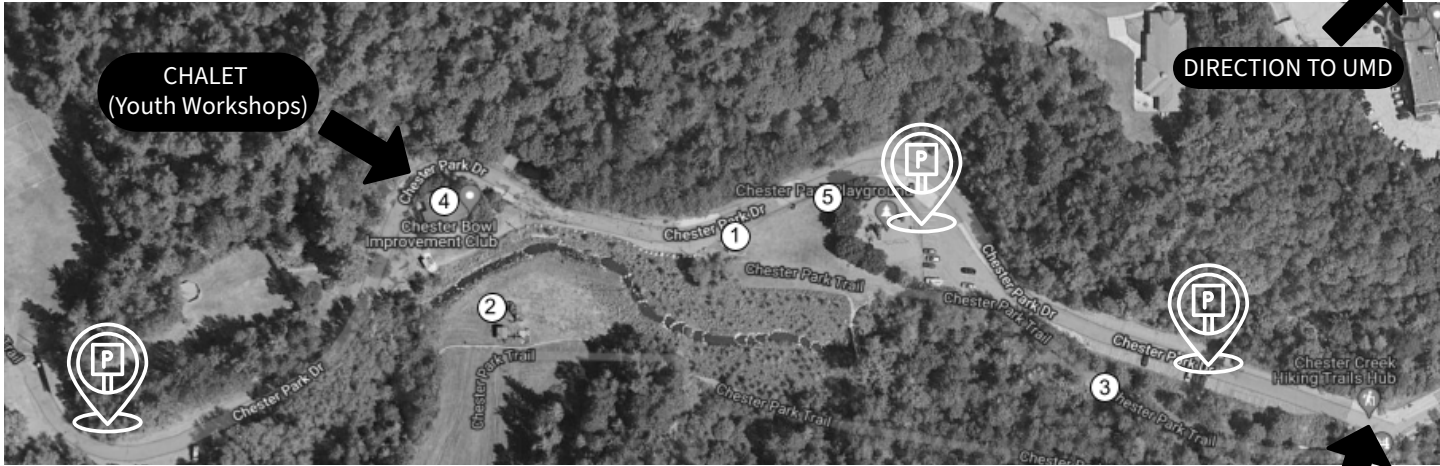
## 4- Singer Hall 206 (2nd Floor)

Workshops

## 5 - Green Room (2nd Floor)

Workshops

## CHESTER BOWL - OVERVIEW MAP



**1 - Allspel Stage**

**2 - Skibakke Stage**

**3 - Bäck Stage**

**4 - Ungdomsstämman**

**5 - Youth Activities Tent**



### PARKING INFORMATION

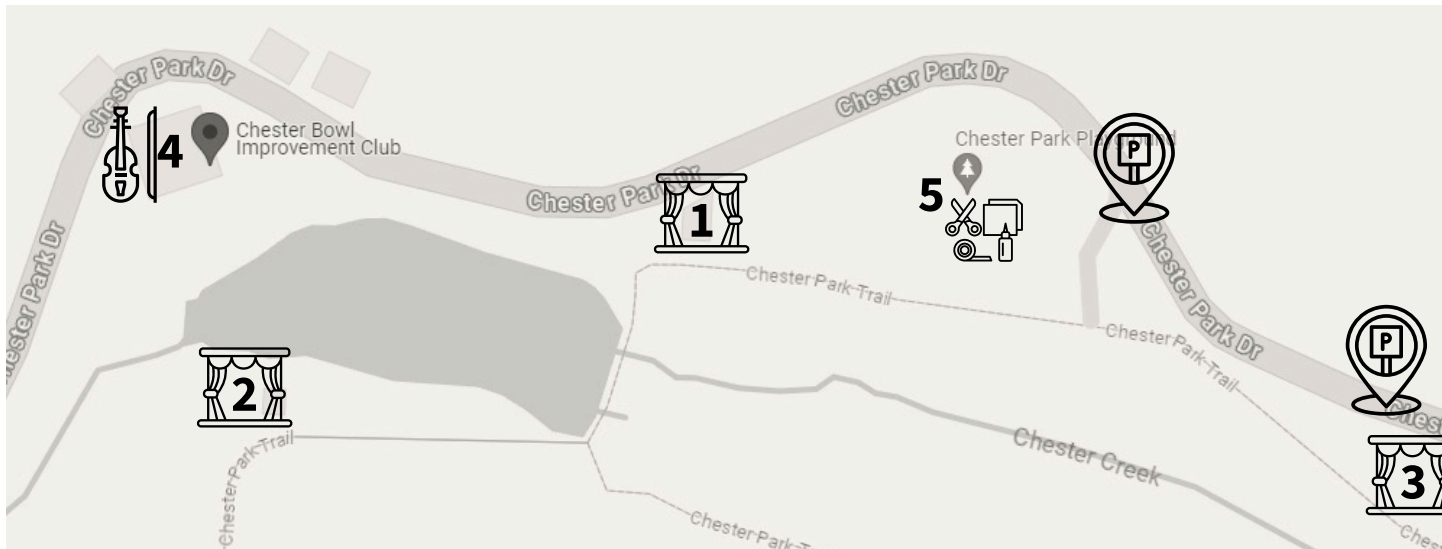
Chester Bowl is limited to about 100 vehicle parking spots, so any and all carpooling and ride sharing is highly encouraged.

Fill the parking area pictured on the left if you plan on being at the festival until 5 PM in order to avoid traffic going by the stages throughout the day.

There is some parking NE and SE of the Bowl in the neighborhoods that are adjacent to Skyline Parkway. A shuttle bus between UMD's Campus Parking and Chester Bowl may be available. Please check the ticket website for details.

ENTER BY CAR HERE

## CHESTER BOWL - DETAIL MAP



**1. Allspel Stage**

**2. Skibakke Stage (Skihill Stage)**

**3. Bäck Stage (Creek Stage)**

**4. Ungdomsstämman (Youth Stämman)**

**5. Youth Activities Tent**

## Artist Biographies

### **Nordensong with special guest Andrea Hoag**

Drawing on the history of Scandinavian, Celtic, and American folk music, Nordensong's rich musical world breathes new life into these ancient traditions.

Composer/guitarist Karl Lundeberg has written two albums worth of music featuring his own 12-string guitar, as well as GRAMMY-nominated Loretta Kelley on Norwegian Hardanger fiddle and Laura Hummel on Swedish nyckelharpa, resulting in Nordensong's bold, exciting sound that is a completely new re-imagination of musical eras and genres. They will be joined by award-winning master fiddler Andrea Hoag, whose music is "deeply rooted in the Swedish soul" (Falukirenen). More about Andrea at [andreaahoag.com](http://andreaahoag.com)

### **Zosha Warpeha**

Zosha Warpeha is a composer-performer working in a meditative space at the intersection of contemporary improvisation and folk traditions. Using bowed stringed instruments alongside her own voice, her long-form compositions explore transformations of time and tonality. She performs primarily on Hardanger d'amore, a sympathetic-stringed instrument closely related to the Norwegian Hardanger fiddle, as well as five-string violin. Her current acoustic and electro-acoustic work is informed by the cyclical forms, rhythmic elasticity, and the physical momentum of Nordic folk music.

### **Sara Pajunen**

Sara Pajunen is a composer-improviser and an audiovisual artist based in what is now called Minnesota (USA). Trained as a violinist and employing locally-responsive media ranging from field recordings to drone imagery, her work is motivated by interactions between her ancestral roots, American cultural histories, and connection to our environments through sound.

Pajunen has released six albums using folk and traditional music as the basis for singular collaborations. Her interests also lie in blurring human perceptions and cultivating presence through listening, using sound to shift our relationships to our surroundings and accepted histories. Longterm project *Mine Songs: Sounding an Altered Landscape* employs acoustic violin and hardanger d'amore, environmental recordings, image, historic material and processed sound to create a variegated depiction of Minnesota's Mesabi Iron Range, her childhood and ancestral home.

Pajunen has performed extensively in North America and Europe and her work has received funding from the Jerome Foundation, Minnesota State Arts Board, Kone Foundation, New Music USA, American Scandinavian Foundation, and the Arts Council of Finland, amongst others. She holds classical music degrees in both the United States and Finland and a Master of Music in Contemporary Improvisation from New England Conservatory.

# Artist Biographies

## Paul Dahlin & Friends

Paul Dahlin is a Swedish-American fiddler from Minneapolis, Minnesota. He was heir to a rich tradition of music from the Swedish province of Dalarna. His maternal grandfather is Ivares Edvin Jonsson. His uncle is Bruce Johnson.

By the time he was 17, Paul was performing regularly with his elders at Swedish American events. As he mastered the idiom, he moved into the lead role while playing with his grandfather, who had Americanized his name to Edwin Johnson, and Uncle Bruce. The three fiddlers called their group the American Swedish Spelmans ("folk instrumentalist") Trio.

Dahlin began teaching Swedish instrumental music at the American Swedish Institute in Minneapolis. In 1985 he developed his class into the ASI Spelmanslag ("fiddlers' team"). When the group performed in 1989 at Sweden's largest folk music festival, Musick vid Siljan, Dahlin was hailed by his Swedish colleagues as an important keeper of a deep musical tradition that includes wedding tunes and dance melodies that are more direct and less ornamented than some strains of contemporary Swedish fiddling. His original composition "Danielpojken's Polska" was selected from 40 entries as the most outstanding composition in its genre at Sweden's Dalarnas Hemygdsrings competition. The tune is in the traditional polska form. Not to be confused with the polka, it is the "oldest dance rhythm in Sweden" and is considered by some scholars as a predecessor of the triple-meter waltz.

## Skål Klubben Spelmanslag

Skål Klubben Spelmanslag is a traditional Scandinavian folk orchestra, founded in 1990, that plays "gammaldans" music of Norway, Sweden, Finland and Denmark on fiddles, accordion, guitar, pump organ, and double bass. The orchestra is comprised of 14 traditional folk musicians from central Minnesota.

Skål Klubben Spelmanslag was featured in the national broadcast of River of Song, Music on the Mississippi, on PBS television. They have traveled twice to Scandinavia to take part in music festivals and learn new tunes, and have hosted many Scandinavian groups on tour in America.

The orchestra has four recordings to their credit and have performed annually at many festivals around the midwest.

They have been regulars at the Minnesota State Fair, Nisswa-stämman in Nisswa, MN, and Nordic Fest in Decorah, IA.

# Artist Biographies

## McNordiques

An accordion, Irish pipes and a nyckelharpa walk in to a bar... and the music was really good... no joke!

The McNordiques blend Celtic, French and Scandinavian music in a way that shines through to make your toes wiggle with joy. The McNordiques are Tom Klein (uilleann pipes), Dan Newton (accordion), and Renee Vaughan (nyckelharpa). Together, it's a unique sound... one you are not likely to hear anywhere else!

## Ponyfolk

Ponyfolk was formed in 2014 by Clifton Nesseth (vocals, strings, guitar, keys, synthesizers) and Paul Sauey (vocals, strings, guitar, bass). Based out of Duluth and Minneapolis, MN, the pair's multi-instrumentalist abilities and vocal harmonies have carved them out a reputation of creating maximalist soundscapes that are defined by droning layers of guitars, strings, and a synth bass. They're Nordic roots are ever present in harmony and modality.

Pony's music has been described as "the dark side of Simon & Garfunkel" and "early Pink Floyd mixed with the Lord of the Rings soundtrack." That said, they'll be "keeping it trad" at the stämman, and they'll be joined by their new band members, Alex Jakob Nelson (pump organ), Mikey Marget (cello), and Lewis Franti (percussion).

## Tjärnblom

Traveling on a modern "Snoose Boulevard Highway," Tjärnblom's repertoire consists of Swedish, Finnish, and Minnesota tunes, old and new, both for dancing and listening. The band took its name in honor of a band member's Swedish grandfather; translated from Swedish, Tjärnblom means "woodland lake flower". Tjärnblom's instrumentation features Swedish nyckelharpa (a folk instrument with 4 playing strings, 37 keys and 12 resonating strings, played with a short bow), mandolin/guitar, cello, and harmonium (a portable type of pump organ). Tjärnblom's arrangements draw on traditional styles -- countermelodies, harmony and rhythm -- sometimes going in nontraditional directions. On occasion, näverlur (a birchbark natural horn) and Udu add unique sound color.

Tjärnblom has recorded three CDs, "Nicollet Island Waltz" (2015), "Starry-Eyed" (2017) and "Woods" (2023). As a group, Tjärnblom has studied with Swedish musicians, Leif Alpsjö, Maria and Anders Larsson, and Finnish musician, Arto Järvelä.

## Stoney Brook Fiddlers

Back by popular demand, Arnie Arneson leads this crowd-favorite youth group through a musical journey of traditions. Part chamber-orchestra, part dance band, part comedy troupe, you'll find yourself mesmerized by these talented youth. For many years, Arnie has been a huge inspiration for countless students, and his work to keep traditional and orchestral music accessible in and around the Brainerd area has been deeply inspiring. Don't miss this group when they perform at the festival!



## Artist Biographies

### Kip Peltoniemi

Kip Peltoniemi began performing in 1965 when he sang the “House of the Rising Sun” on the “The Empty Stocking Fund” Christmas radio show radio in Wadena, Minnesota. This unusual selection was made because it was the only song he knew and he wanted to be on the radio. Nonetheless, it set the tone for the rest of his genre-bending musical career. In the 1970s, he began playing Finnish and Zydeco music on the two-row button accordion. Later, in the 1990s, two famous Finnish musicians, Arto Järvelä and Kimmo Pohjonen, recorded several of Kip’s instrumentals and songs, including “The Two-Row Concerto” and “Hennepin Avenue Waltz.” This led to trips to Finland, where he guest-taught and recorded at Sibelius Academy in the Folk Music Department. In 2002, the Helsingin Sanomat, Finland’s largest newspaper, named his recording, “Minnesota Tango,” the folk album of the year. In 2020, Kip switched from the two-row diatonic button accordion to the more versatile five-row chromatic button accordion. He continues to play Finnish and Scandinavian music, but usually pelimanni fiddle music, not accordion tunes.

### The Sutter Brothers

Ross Sutter is best known as a singer of Scandinavian, Scottish, and Irish songs, and for his wide repertoire of American traditional and popular songs. He accompanies himself on guitar, dulcimer, button accordion, and bodhran. He has performed at countless venues throughout the region and beyond, from concert halls to libraries and schools, from senior centers to international festivals. For some years now, Ross has served as the MC and leader of dancers around the majstång at Swedish midsommar celebrations, including New York City’s in Battery Park. Bart Sutter is the author of ten books, and the only writer to win the Minnesota Book Award in three different categories. He has read his poems in venues that range from Pittsburgh’s International Poetry Forum to The World of Accordions Museum, from the American Swedish Institute to Braham Pie Day. Bart has had four verse plays produced, including Cow Calls in Dalarna, the premiere of which was sponsored by the Swedish Cultural Society of Duluth. When Ross and Bart perform as a pair, their work has the kind of counterpoint and easy intimacy unique to sibling acts.

### Ameriikan Poijat

Ameriikan Poijat (Boys of America), Finnish American Brass Septet, was founded in 1990. They’ve played performances in some rather unusual settings, such as in an ice arena, in fishing boats on the Finnish Perhojoki river, on a raft in an abandoned mine, at Finnish border defense installations, at a McDonnell-Douglas military aircraft plant, in a Wisconsin cow pasture, on a Florida beach, at an instrument museum, in a barn, and in a one room schoolhouse. This seven-piece group is very mobile, and the Finnish brass music we celebrate seems to have drawn us off the beaten path. Made up of Midwestern musicians, some of Finnish descent, we have been sharing the charm of the old Finnish brass band music and have also performed the newer compositions for septet that have proliferated recently. They have traveled all over the United States and to Finnish communities in Canada. 2017 (Finnish Centennial) was their sixth tour of Finland. They have released six CDs and have published their sheet music for other bands to play.

### ASI Spelmanslag

The ASI Spelmanslag is the fiddling group of the American Swedish Institute in Minneapolis, Minnesota. We play the traditional folk music of Sweden, primarily from the region of Dalarna. Their repertoire includes traditional dance tunes such as waltzes, schottisches, and polskas.

### Twin Cities Nyckelharpalag

The Twin Cities Nyckelharpalag (Key Fiddle Group) was formed in 1998 to practice and perform Swedish folk music. Their repertoire is drawn mostly from folk tunes in Uppland, Sweden, where the nyckelharpa tradition has its roots. Whether leading a procession, playing for dancing, performing in concert or providing focus for special events, the TC Nyckelharpalag enthusiastically carries on Swedish traditions through music. In performance members of the group wear folk-dräkt, folk costumes modeled after clothing worn on special occasions in the 19th century. The group is based in Minneapolis/Saint Paul, Minnesota and affiliated with The American Swedish Institute.

## Artist Biographies

### Twin Cities Hardingfelelag

The Twin Cities Hardingfelelag is a group of five to seven players of the Hardanger fiddle, the national folk instrument of Norway. We provide dance music at Scandinavian dances and events in the Twin Cities of Minneapolis/St. Paul and greater Minnesota such as: The Nordic Ball, The Scandinavian Ball, Syttende Mai Festival, Norway Day, Nisswa-Stämman, Scandinavian Folk Music Festival, Minneapolis Arts Festival, the American Swedish Institute's events, and the Festival of Nations.

### Kvinnekraft

Kari Tauring, Carol Sersland, and Mary Klockeman have been singing traditional Norwegian folk music individually for many years. Drawn together in 2013 by the desire to share vocal dance tunes with harmonies, descants, and other vocal ornamentation. From cow horns to the luring calls of fairy women to the trance inducing dance tunes, KvinneKraft summons up the most magical of Norwegian folk music. They weave music and stories together that wake up ancestor memories and entice everyone into a circle dance! Emerging from the pandemic shutdown, the three found strength and power in singing together again. The three began exploring singing for dancing together in 2013 along with Janet Hill and Arna Rennan and performed as Nordivas until just before the pandemic of 2020. KvinneKraft means WomanPower - sustaining and uplifting power that comes from singing songs of the powerful women within their shared Norwegian heritage and deep Nordic roots. In their repertoire are ancient ballad dances, leikarring or circle song dances, turdans or set dances, bygdedans or paired dances, and gammeldans (waltz, schottische, and polka). They sing and embody runes as old as 169 CE and family heirloom kulokk, an oral tradition equally as ancient. Norwegian women's working songs for churning and wool work find roots in chanted Edda poetry. You will hear nature instruments designed to attract or repel both animals and the magical folk of water, forests, and mountains. KvinneKraft takes us on a time traveling adventure of Norwegian culture.

### Lauluaika

Lauluaika, Finnish for "Song Time", is a group of musicians who share a passion for singing and playing Finnish folk tunes for audiences who enjoy listening or dancing. Their repertoire includes Finnish couples dances such as waltzes, polkas, humppa, jenkka, mazurkka, and hambo, as well as lively group dances for all ages to enjoy.

Lauluaika musicians play a variety of instruments including mandolin, two row button accordion, violin, guitar, bass, octave mandolin, harmonium, jouhikko, kantele, nyckelharpa, and percussive instruments such as tambourine, and pimpparauta.

### Twinflower

Twinflower is the wooden flute duo featuring Amy Shaw and Laura MacKenzie, accompanied by Chris Bashor, guitar.. Named for a wildflower that is native to both North America and Sweden, Twinflower performs traditional music from Scandinavia on two wooden flutes. The duo's special focus is the vibrant flute tradition that existed in parts of Sweden during the 19th and early 20th centuries. When people think of folk music, the fiddle often comes to mind; however, the wooden flute was another popular instrument in the Nordic countries. In the southern provinces of Sweden, many flute players in rural places had rich repertoires of polskas, waltzes, and other dance tunes. Many of these beautiful old flute tunes have been preserved, and a new generation of flute players is literally breathing new life into them. Thanks to a fellowship from the American-Scandinavian Foundation, Amy and Laura were able to study with some of these tradition bearers in Sweden (specifically, Andreas Ralsgård and Markus Tullberg). Having returned home to St. Paul, Minnesota, they are excited to share this music with audiences in the Upper Midwest.

# Artist Biographies

## Foot-Notes

Foot-Notes hails from Decorah, Iowa. The band has made a name for itself as a bearer of Norwegian-American old time dance music, bringing back tunes from the house party and barn dance era of the Upper Midwest.

Foot-Notes has played for hundreds of community events and dances, including those in a historic two-room schoolhouse in Highlandville, Iowa, a regular event that began in the mid-1970s with Minnesota fiddler Bill Sherburne.

Beth Hoven Rotto has led Foot-Notes since the group was established in 1991.

Guitarist, Jon Rotto is also a founding member. Erik Sessions picked up the mandolin to keep the Foot-Notes sound created by Jim Skurdall and John Goodin. Nina Sessions is one of the next generation of musicians, carrying the bass line after Bill Musser.

Everyone is invited to attend a Foot-Notes dance celebrating the opening of the exhibition Hand Me Down the Fiddle- Norwegian Fiddlers, Fiddles and Fiddle Tunes in the Upper Midwest at Vesterheim Museum in Decorah on Friday, Sept. 13, 2024.

## Beth Rotto & Ann Streufert

Ann Streufert and Beth Hoven Rotto have been arranging and playing their favorite Scandinavian tunes on twin fiddles for over 30 years. They feel that making music with each other is truly “playing.” They have performed at Nisswa-Stamman many times and have worked on numerous music projects together. Since 2008, they have led the Burning Bright Fiddlers, an ensemble of all ages who offer a medley of Scandinavian tunes at an annual holiday benefit concert.

## Kanteleen Soittajat

Many Kantele (the beautiful and mysterious dulcimer-like instrument from Finland).

## Ole Olsson's Oldtime Orkestra

Ole Olsson's Oldtime Orkestra (usually referred to as O.O.O.O.) is a fun loving group of musicians who first met at the Good Templar Hall in Minneapolis, Minnesota playing for Scandinavian dances in times gone by. Nowadays, they still play some pretty darn good Scandinavian music for oldtime dancing and/or just plain enjoying.

They play fiddles, accordions, pump organ and guitar, and sing some funny Scandinavian vaudeville songs that may occasionally make Lutheran ladies smile. They play for festivals and lutefisk feeds all around Minnesota and even make it out of the state once in awhile in their old yalopy to perform in far flung places. They have traveled from New York City to Thousand Oaks, California; from Minot, N.D. to Swedesburg, Ia., all in their quest to spread the joy of Scandinavian folk music and perhaps find the perfectly formed piece of lefse.

## John Agacki

People in the Duluth area will recognize the name John Agacki, the smooth-voiced troubadour who brings sea chanties and Celtic ballads, as well as original music to Duluth area venues and music festivals. In fact, his original music won first prize in a

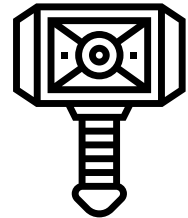
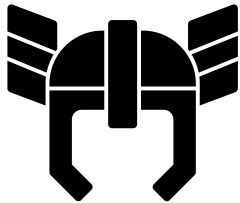
Garrison Keillor talent contest that led to his music being used for Keillor's Halloween and St. Patrick's Day events. He's currently under contract writing music for TV and film. His Finnish heritage led him to become the founding editor of the Työmies' Finnish American Reporter. He's been a regular at the Julebyen Scandinavian Christmas Festival in Knife River. John will be performing some Finnish songs and Scandinavian-inspired instrumentals accompanied by his 12-string guitar and button box accordion.

## Weather Contingency Information

In the event of inclement weather, a decision may be made to move all activities from Chester Bowl to UMD for Saturday events. Because of the big lake, Duluth is famous for its hard-to-predict weather. If there appears to be a good chance of rain, severe thunderstorms, or extreme heat or cold, please check social media, your e-mail inbox (if you have purchased tickets through Ticketspice), and our ticket website for updated information and instructions. Our "Weather Council" will make a decision based on a number of triggering conditions, and the stämma staff and volunteers will carry out the plans to move the festival inside! Youth Activities will go to H150 & H170 in the humanities hallway at UMD. If a weather event causes the festival to shift to UMD, some performance times may be impacted. The stage schedules will transfer as follows with all bands continuing to perform at their designated set times regardless of weather:

**Allspel Stage = Weber Hall**  
**Skibakke Stage = Singer 206**  
**Bäck Stage = Hallways**

*\*see map on page 9 for more information\**



## Acknowledgements

**The stämman, as it was practiced in Nisswa and now in Duluth, would not be possible with the incredible community of dancers, musicians, artists, teachers, and traditional practitioners that keep these tunes, movements, and artifacts of life and community alive.**

**The 2024 steering committee included Paul Wilson, Ross Sutter, Renee Vaughan, Paul Sauey, Janet Hill, Carrie Ann Danielson, and Karen Keenan. They were instrumental in helping to grow the festival into new venues and maintain continuity between the Nisswa and Duluth stämman.**

**There are also innumerable staff and volunteers that contribute their talent and time to this festival. Without them, this festival would not happen.**

**The following granting agencies have contributed immensely to this year's festival: American Scandinavian Foundation (ASF), Minnesota State Arts Board (MSAB), and Arrowhead Regional Arts Council (ARAC).**

**A big thanks to Christine Severson (Duluth Parks) and Donald Schraufnagel (UMD) for their dedication to the institutions they serve and for being wonderful guides as the Duluth-stämman team expanded into new venues this year.**

**Finally, thanks to the Nordic Center membership for their support, and the Board of Directors for their wisdom, experience, and passion to fulfill the Nordic Centers Mission through events like Duluth-stämman.**

## Sponsors & Partners

### *Sponsors & Supporting Organizations*

**Bell Bank**  
**Nisswa-stämman**  
**American Swedish Institute**  
**UW Center for the Study of Upper Midwestern Cultures**  
**North House Folk School**  
**Minnesota Public Radio**  
**KUMD "The North"**  
**College of St. Scholastica**  
**University of Minnesota Duluth, Music Department**  
**Swedish Cultural Society**  
**Sami Cultural Society**  
**Twin Ports Rosemaling Society**  
**Sons of Norway: Nortun Lodge 1-016**  
**Bernick's of Duluth**

### *Partners*

**Shel Don**  
**JS Print**  
**Johnny B's Food Truck**  
**Doucette's Special Events**  
**Best Day Ever Tents & Events**  
**Voyageur Buses**



***A special thanks to Paul Wilson and the planning team from Nisswa-stämman for breathing life into this tradition and helping to keep it alive in Duluth.***

# Land Acknowledgement

From the Shores of Gichi-gami, the Nordic Center of Duluth exists on the traditional, ancestral, and contemporary lands of the Anishinaabe, Cree, Cheyenne, and Dakota people. We recognize that this stolen land was ceded from the Dakota and Ojibwe people through different treaties, including the Treaties of 1837 and 1854.

As an organization whose mission includes a desire to share our collective culture with the greater community, the Nordic Center recognizes that the land the Center rests on was given to Bichiki/ Gichi-waishke, also known as Chief Buffalo, by President Pierce in 1854, and was swindled from his descendants after his death. Indeed, our address on Lake Avenue is located on an ancient trail used by American Indian people to travel from their summer camps at Shagawamik (Park Point) to the winter camps on Canosia Lake (Pike Lake) and Kitchi-sagaiigun (Grand Lake).

We pay our respect to the ancestors of this land and reaffirm our relationship with one another as we continue on the path of reconciliation. We acknowledge the painful history of genocide, the forced removal, assimilation, and broken treaties which have alienated Indigenous people from their homelands. The Nordic Center of Duluth is committed to ongoing efforts to recognize, support, and advocate for American Indian peoples and their nations' sovereignty.

This land acknowledgment, the resources made available via our organization, and our continued partnership development with area indigenous organizations are some of the ways in which we work to educate ourselves about this land, our relationships with it and each other. More resources about the history of the Indigenous people of Onigmiinsing (Duluth) can be found on our website.

# Community Events

## Midsommar Celebration

presented by Swedish Cultural Society of Duluth  
June 30th / 2 - 5 PM  
Spirit of God Lutheran Church  
2431 W 3rd Street, Duluth, MN  
Crafts, Flower Crowns, Singing, Dancing & Food  
More Information Here:  
[www.swedishculturalsociety.org](http://www.swedishculturalsociety.org)

## FinnFest

July 24 - 28, 2024  
DECC  
More Information Here:  
[www.2024.finnfest.us](http://www.2024.finnfest.us)

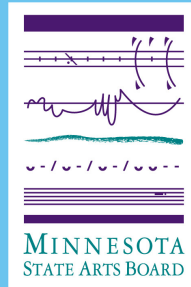
## 43rd Annual Scandinavian Festival

presented by Twin Ports Rosemaling Society  
Sept 21st / 9 AM - 3 PM  
St. Luke's Sports & Events Center  
Proctor, MN  
More information Here:  
[www.twinportsrosemaling.org](http://www.twinportsrosemaling.org)

## Pepperkakebyen (Gingerbread City)

presented by The Nordic Center of Duluth  
October - December 2024

# DULUTH-STÄMMAN 2025: JUNE 13th & 14th



This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

This activity is made possible in part by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Arrowhead Regional Arts Council, thanks to legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.