



Godafoss #6, 2004, oil on canvas, 60"x96"

Art in the Arctic



Raudfjord Snow 2 (Diptych), 2014, archival pigment print, 30"x30"

This fall, ASHM presents *Nordic Changes*, an exhibit of paintings and photographs by internationally-renowned eco-artist, Diane Burko. Burko has traveled to every continent to portray monumental landscapes and geological phenomena. From ship to satellite; Cessna seaplane to helicopter, the sources for Burko's art are as varied as her travels.

Nordic Changes highlights work produced following Burko's expeditions to the Nordic Arctic in Greenland, Iceland, and Svalbard (a small Norwegian archipelago near the North Pole) over the past twenty years. Since her first visit to Iceland in 2002, Burko has focused on environmental issues, blending science with beauty to create art that is a vessel for eco-activism. These pieces reveal how the Arctic is being transformed due to climate change, reminding viewers of what is at stake in our debates about the issue.

At the same time, Burko introduces us to the stunning beauty of Arctic landscapes. Her depictions of natural features in Iceland reflect upon a country still being marked by geological forces—over 500 volcanoes form new land masses while 300 glaciers sculpt stunning features. Burko's massive paintings such as *Godafoss #6* transport viewers to the contours and colors of a land still being born.

Burko also expands upon traditional landscape paintings to include new techniques and technologies. Her art draws from scientific imagery such as NASA satellite photographs to capture the scope of the threat to the Arctic, featured in monumental paintings such as *Arctic Melting, July 2016 (after NASA)*. Burko also blends statistics and skill in paintings such as *UNESCO National Heritage II*, which chronicles the retreat of glaciers in Greenland over the past century.

Note from the Director

What is old is new again. Knowing about history means that you can spot “new” things as actually something that is re-occurring. Take the current trend called “upcycling.” Upcycling is defined as “reusing discarded objects or material in such a way as to create a product of higher quality or value than the original.” People are making fun and beautiful products from food packaging, recycled plastics, license plates, skate boards. The list could go on and on... At a recent community fair, I bought jewelry made from silver clay that came from recycled x-rays! You will have the opportunity to see the range of things that are called “upcycled” at our Upcycled Craft Fair on Sunday, October 13th.

When my mother was growing up on a farm in Minnesota they had no trash collection. This caught me by surprise, so I quizzed her on what they did with their trash. The answer was reuse, burn, or bury, but definitely the preferred option was to re-use. Coffee containers became cookie jars which are now family heirlooms. (Really? Trash as family heirloom?) Fabric scraps and worn out clothes became quilts, or children’s clothes, or doll clothes! This is what people did for millennia until just a few decades ago!

Whether upcycling feels trendy or traditional to you, it is a small thing we can do to reduce waste. Of course much larger changes are needed in order to truly be good stewards of the Earth. Our fall exhibition features the art of Diane Burko. As she captured the landscapes of the Arctic, she realized how fragile they were and how much they were being impacted by climate change. She made it her mission to bring awareness of the problem through her art. We hope that the exhibition *Nordic Changes* and the programs we have planned inspire you to do something good for the planet as well.



Tracey Beck

From the Art in the Arctic continued from front cover

Photography allows Burko to bear direct, personal witness to these regions. In 2013, Burko sailed around Svalbard and spent time in Ny-Alesund with scientists from the Norwegian Polar Institute as she visited the largest ice fields in the world. Four large photographs in the exhibition draw on these expeditions to Svalbard; the striking scenery in *Raudfjord Snow* could be lunar but for the pale turquoise shards of ice dotting the snow.

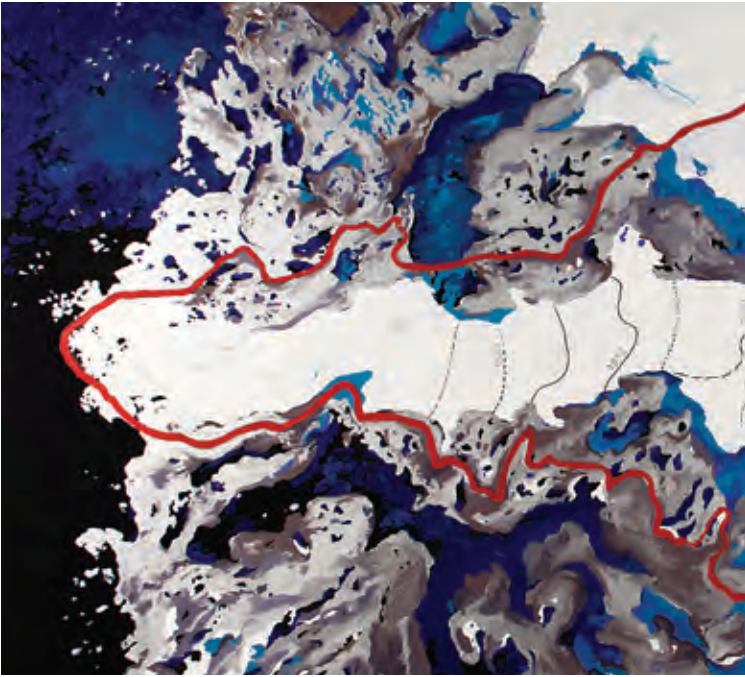
Burko’s art represents Arctic landscapes in ways steeped in artistic traditions and themes of change. While Burko’s early landscape paintings reference traditional American artists such as Frederic Church or Albert Bierstadt, her art is also tied to Iceland’s pioneering artists of the early 1900s. Paintings by Þórarinn Þorláksson (1867–1924) and Ásgrímur Jónsson (1876–1958) showed immense landscapes in a romantic, naturalistic style still recognizable today. For this small nation, these early paintings were tied to cultural independence and national identity. Icelandic landscapes were bound to the push for sovereignty from Denmark, portraying the nation’s rugged, sublime beauty through its own eyes for the first time.

Through Diane Burko’s show, we glimpse an exotic landscape undergoing immense change. This exhibit coincides with the 75th birthday of the Republic of Iceland, reminding us how art has driven great political and social change in this region in the past. This exhibition proves that environmental artists continue to uphold this tradition today.

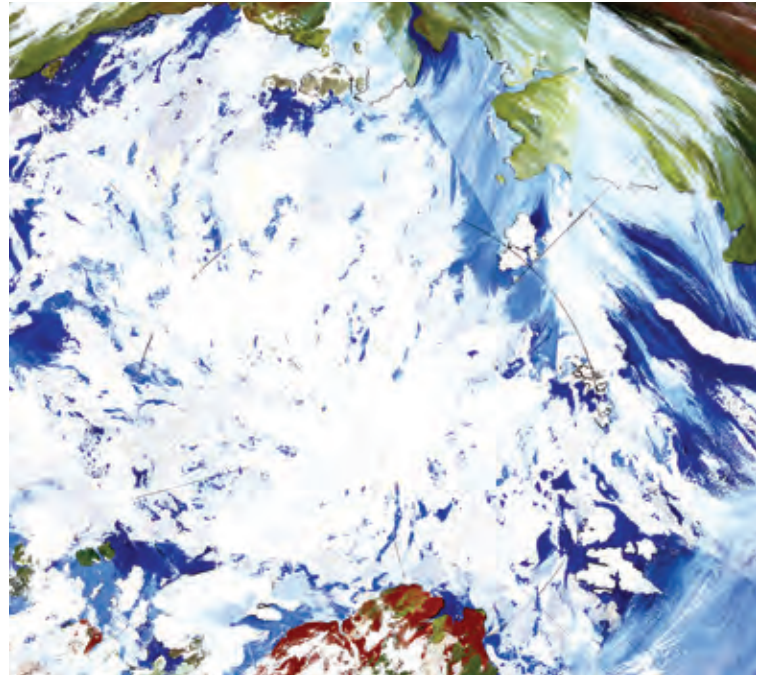
Nordic Changes: Works by Diane Burko is curated by Dr. Kirsten Jensen. It is supported by grants from the ASHM Auxiliary, Barbro Osher Pro Suecia Foundation, George C. and Esther Ann McFarland Foundation, Midsommarklubben, and an anonymous foundation. Support provided in part by the Philadelphia Cultural Fund. Funding for the American Swedish Historical Museum is supported by a grant from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.



Ásgrímur Jónsson, *Mt. Tindafjoll*, 1904, oil on canvas. Courtesy of the Reykjavik Art Museum.



UNESCO National Heritage II, 2015, oil and flashe paint on canvas, 42"x72"



Arctic Melting, July 2016 (after NASA), 2016, oil and mixed media on canvas, 60"x84"

Congratulations to Elsa Orescan: 2019 Amandus Johnson Volunteer Award Recipient



Don't be surprised if you visit the museum on a Thursday, you are welcomed by this year's Amandus Johnson Service Award recipient, Elsa Orescan. You would never guess that Elsa is 89 years old either! She says, "I am blessed to be able to do the things I do at my age—it's my good Swedish genes."

Elsa and her husband lived in this area at several points in their lives from the 1960s onward, and became involved at the museum in the 1980s. Since that time, Elsa has been an active and involved member of the Swedish Museum Singers, Genealogy Club, and many event committees to plan galas and dinners. One of her favorite memories is of working in the kitchen with her son Jud when he was around 20 years old, cutting up and preparing the herring for the Sillbord dinner. Other interesting projects included helping with ASHM's gift shop table at

events in Delaware, serving on the accreditation committee with Margaretha Talerman, organizing the handmade goods sale at the Julmarknad, and of course planning events for the Royal Visit in 1994!

In recent years, Elsa has been a great connector between the museum and the other Swedish organizations she is involved in such as the Augustana Heritage Society and the Delaware Swedish Colonial Society. We are thrilled that she continues to be a regular front desk volunteer on Thursdays whenever she is not driving across the country to visit with friends.

Please join us at this year's annual meeting on September 15th at 3pm when we will present Elsa with the Amandus Johnson Volunteer Service Award.

Upcoming Events and Registration Info

To Register For Events

call 215-389-1776, or visit online at
www.americanswedish.org/calendar.htm

There is always something going on at the American Swedish Historical Museum. See below for scheduled events. Please check with the Museum to confirm dates and other details. Refunds will not be granted for cancellations after the registration deadline. To register for events by phone call (215) 389-1776. Online registration is available through links in the museum's email announcements or on the Events Calendar page of our website, www.americanswedish.org/events.

MONTHLY PROGRAMS:



Toddler Time 10:30 am - 11:30 am

The third Tuesday of each month ASHM offers specially designed programs to introduce Swedish culture through art, science, and literature in fun and creative ways to children ages 18 months to 4 years old. The cost is \$5 per child or free for museum Household Members. There is no charge for accompanying caregivers. Register by phone or online.

Tuesday August 20: Crayfish Party!

Tuesday September 17: The Dala Horse

Tuesday October 15: Landscapes of the North

Tuesday December 17: Warm Holiday Traditions



Crayfish Party Friday, August 16 6:30pm

Get a taste of Swedish summer at our annual Crayfish Party! Enjoy a buffet of crayfish or Swedish meatballs, along with crisp bread, cheese, potatoes, cheese pie, and glass of aquavit all outside under our beautiful lighted and decorated tent. \$50 for ASHM and SACC Philadelphia members, \$60 for non-members. Register by phone or online by August 12th.

Annual Meeting Sunday, September 15 3pm

ASHM members are welcome to join us for our annual meeting, where the Amandus Johnson Volunteer Service Award will be presented to Elsa Orescan. Marja Kaisla will be speaking on a new exhibit focusing on Finnish children relocated during World War II.



Swedish Language Class **Conversation: Mondays** September 16-November 18 (5:00-6:30) **Beginner Part I: Mondays** September 16-November 18

(6:45-8:45pm)

Intermediate Part I: Mondays September 16-November 18 (6:45pm-8:45pm)

Brush up on your Swedish with our language classes! Join instructors through a ten week course on the intricacies of the Swedish language.

Class subscription for Beginners and Intermediate Part I is \$180 for members, \$245 for non-members. Conversation subscription is \$150 for members, \$215 non-members (cost of text books not included).

Nordic Changes: Works by Diane Burko **Exhibit Opening** Sunday, September 29 1:30pm-5pm

Join ASHM for the opening of *Nordic Changes: Works by Diane Burko*. Diane and guest curator, Dr. Kirsten Jensen, will lead a walk-through of the gallery between 3:30 and 4:00. At 2:00, Diane will join a panel of local experts to discuss the impacts of climate change in the Philadelphia area. This event is free with museum admission and refreshments will be served.

Upcycled Craft Fair Sunday, October 13th Noon-5pm

Learn about creative reuse at this special museum craft fair! Local artists and craft vendors will show how they have taken "reduce, reuse, and recycle" to the next level. Take the opportunity to do some early holiday shopping while doing something good for the planet. You might even find inspiration for your own creativity. \$5 craft fair admission, free for children under 12. Includes museum access

The Auxiliary Presents: **A Cross Stitch Workshop** Saturday, October 19th 10am-1pm

Join the Auxiliary for a fun day of needle work. This cross stitch workshop is designed for beginners and includes all supplies. Basic skills will be covered and instructors will help you create a beautiful cross stitch project based on Swedish patterns. Refreshments provided. Pre-registration required, \$20 for museum members, \$25 for non-members

Fall Concert- Jenny Lind's America Thursday, October 24th Reception 5:30pm, Concert 6:30-8:00pm

Soprano and Harpist Zoe Vandermeer and New York pianist/conductor Richard Nechamkin present their delightful program 'Jenny Lind's America', a potpourri of songs and arias sung by Miss Lind on her American Tour 1850-1852. Enjoy music composed for Miss Lind, Welsh triple harp and piano solos featuring music dedicated to Jenny Lind, a rousing 1850 vocal version of the 'Jenny Lind Polka', and the Swedish Nightingale's favorite opera arias. Members \$25, non-members \$30. Pre-registration is encouraged.

New Sweden History Conference: Celebrating Holy Trinity's 320th Anniversary Saturday, November 2nd 8:30am-3pm

Location: Lazzaretto Ballroom,
99 Wanamaker Ave, Essington, PA 19029

The New Sweden History Conference is a day-long exploration of the life and legacy of the New Sweden Colony (1638-1655). This year's topic

celebrates the 320th anniversary of Holy Trinity (Old Swedes) Church in Wilmington and the ways in which this church has kept Swedish heritage alive in Delaware. Speakers include experts in church's furniture and furnishings, early church graffiti, and its Swedish pastors. Following the conference, attendees have the option to meet at Holy Trinity for a behind-the-scenes tour of one of America's oldest churches. Registration includes breakfast and lunch, \$60 per person (\$35 for students and teachers). Early bird \$50 registration by October 11th. Registration deadline is Friday, October 25th.

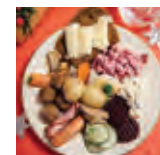


Lucia Rehearsals Sunday November 10th and Saturday 23rd November 2pm-4pm

Museum members are invited to have their children participate in our annual Lucia performance on December 6th and 7th. They are sure to have fun dressing up as tomtar, pepparkakor, folk dancers, star boys, and Lucia and her attendants while singing traditional Swedish Christmas songs. Attendance at both rehearsals is required. Please call or visit our website for more information.

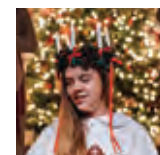
A Date with Paint Friday, November 22nd 7pm-9pm

Draw inspiration from our Nordic Changes exhibit and paint your own northern landscape! Make time to spend time with someone you love before the busy holiday rush at this exclusive museum date night experience. Our instructor will walk you through painting your very own Nordic scene as you enjoy a sample flight of Scandinavian chocolate! This event is BYOB and the price includes all class supplies. Pre-registration required, deadline November 19th. \$35 members, \$40 non-members.



Julbord Friday, December 6th 6pm

Join us for a very special Swedish holiday tradition. Cocktails and an authentic Christmas smorgasbord dinner are followed by the Lucia procession. The Christmas Market is open all evening. Members \$55, non-members \$65, children \$25. Cash bar. Register by phone or online by November 26th.



Lucia & Christmas Market Saturday, December 7th 11:30am-4:30pm

Drop in for our family-friendly Lucia Fest, with Lucia processions at 1pm and 3:15pm. The Christmas Market includes your favorite holiday deli items, Christmas decorations, and gifts, and the SWEA bakery tables will be open all day. The Swedish Christmas Café will be selling holiday foods and sweets for your refreshment. Admission is \$12 for non-members, \$8 for members, children 4-12 \$5, and children under 4 are free. Reservations are not required, but tickets may be purchased in advance on our website.

Images from Recent Events

Photographs by ASHM Staff



▲ Participants singing along to the Norwegian national anthem on May 17th, Syttende Mai.



◀ The museum hosted an orienteering day where participants got to try out the sport in FDR Park



◀ During May's Toddler Time kids got to learn more about turtles.



▲ At June's Toddler Time, children practiced dancing around the Maypole in the Grand Hall in preparation for Midsommar.



◀ H.E. Karin Olofsdotter, Ambassador of Sweden to the US, speaking at Spring Ting..

▼ Outstanding Achievement Honoree, textile artist Helena Hernmarck accepting her award with Chairman of the Board Erik Muther at Spring Ting



▶ Our Executive Director Tracey Beck speaking to the press on Sweden's National Day



▼ At this year's Midsommar celebration we had award-winning Swedish folk music band JAERV perform.



▲ The Swedish Meatballs along with new Midsommarklubben president Karin Kornaga in front of the maypole at Midsommar.



◀ Participants engaging in ring dances at the museums Midsommar celebration.

Candidates for the Board of Governors

The ASHM Nominating Committee presents the following candidates for three-year terms on the Board of Governors beginning in September of 2019.

TO SERVE a 1st TERM:

ABBY SHAW has worked in the field of archival storage materials for museums for 20 plus years. She is presently employed by Hollinger Metal Edge as an eastern representative for marketing, sales and new product development. She worked as part of the administrative staff of the Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts for 8 years, including serving as its executive director for 4 years. Abby has served on the ASHM Museum Committee for several years and currently serves as chairman of the committee. She assisted with the planning for the ASHM exhibition, Go Swedish: Smörgåsbord and Beyond and other exhibitions during her tenure. Abby Shaw has an MA in the History of Art from the University of Michigan and is a member of FACTS (Fine Art Care and Treatment Standards).

TO SERVE a 2nd TERM:

ROBERTA S. PETUSKY has been a Philadelphia resident for more than 20 years and works in the Board Services unit of the

Pew Charitable Trusts. She has a BA in Spanish and English from Valparaiso University and an MPA from the University of Pennsylvania's Fels School of Government. In her personal time, Roberta enjoys social dancing, following the Philadelphia political and cultural scenes, and exploring different city neighborhoods via bicycle. It was during a sightseeing ride that she discovered the ASHM. Struck by the museum's beauty and historical significance, she married her fiancé on the Grand Hall staircase several months later. Roberta has served a three-year term on the ASHM Board of Governors and is Chair of the Membership Committee.

EARL SEPPALA has Bachelors and Masters of Science degrees in Mechanical engineering from Michigan Technological University. He is also a graduate of the U. S. Army Command and General Staff College. He pursued concurrent civilian and military careers. As an Engineer, he was employed by the E.I. DuPont Co. for 30 years followed by four years with Dade Behring, Inc. and then retired in 2000. Earl was awarded four United States and three foreign patents. As a commissioned officer of the United States Army, he served 2 ½ years on active duty followed by 30 years of service in the Delaware Army National Guard. Upon retirement in 1993, he was promoted to the rank of Brigadier General. His wife of 56

years, Sylvia, was an elementary school teacher. They enjoy traveling and volunteering for several organizations. Earl serves on the board of directors, or as an officer, of several of them. For 1-1/2 years, he served as Acting Executive Director of the Kalmar Nyckel Foundation – owner and operator of the Tall Ship of Delaware. He serves as Commissioner on the Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs.

JOINING the Board as Midsommarklubben's Elected President:

KARIN KORNAGA was born and raised in Bollnäs, Sweden. She came to Montclair, NJ after graduating from gymnasiet, arriving by the ship Gripsholm in 1962. After a year as an au pair she found secretarial work in New York City. She moved to San Francisco and after a few years got married to an American and had 2 children. Her family moved to Philadelphia in 1971. Since retiring from the IRS, she has enjoyed getting more involved at ASHM where she has been a member for over 30 years. In addition to being the elected President of Midsommarklubben, she is an active Education and front desk volunteer, former member of the Swedish Museum Singers, and member of the Auxiliary. Karin received the museum's Amandus Johnson Award in 2017.

Introducing ASHM's New Marketing Assistant, Jennie Skynäs

Hello, I am the new Marketing Assistant here at the museum. I grew up in the small village of Stallarholmen, right on Lake Malaren, where I would spend my time enjoying all the fine things that the Swedish countryside has to offer. Growing up, my dad would take me on road trips across USA which planted a seed in my mind that I would seize the opportunity to live in other countries and experience other things than my everyday life back home in Sweden.

As soon as I graduated from Swedish high school I packed by bags and my life since has been heavily influenced by my love for the English language. From moving to Jersey, Channel Islands in the UK to work as an au pair, to studying English Literature at

University of Sussex in England, which led me to get my BA in English from University of Gothenburg and move down to Spain to work as an English teacher. Now, I once again find myself in a new city in a foreign country and I could not be more excited to see what this year at ASHM has in store for me!



Contributions

To the Collection

The ASHM has recently received several generous fine-arts donations to its collection. The Delaware Swedish Colonial Society has donated a painting of the Fort Christina Monument in Wilmington, Delaware by artist Michael Brock. Dr. Signe Rooth, a supporter of the museum since 1953, donated two paintings by well-known Swedes. One is a watercolor by singer, Axel Evert Taube. This lovely image shows a ship in Australia's Adelaide Bay painted in a free moment during the singer's tour and is dated 1928. Signe's second painting is by Axel Törneman and depicts a scene in Paris in an expressionistic style. A young, wealthy girl with her parents scoffs at a crowd of homeless people. In Signe's words: "This little girl—she is not very nice!"

New Members

May 1-July 15, 2019

Friend

Christine Söderman & Noel Figueroa

Household

Allison & Robert Britt-Stewart
Chris & Jennifer Bush
Linda Conzentino
Lindsey & Marcus DeSutter-Duval
Patrice Donnelly & Paul Boben
John & Patricia Evenwell
Dr. Christer Fuglesang
Allie & Zach Hilovsky-Semenetz
Kayleigh & Anthony Jones-Heiler
Claire & Michael LeMasters-Fox
Dan & Sarah Liddick-Hacking
Jessica & Adam Meres-Pfendt
Dan & Allison Muller-Frank
Molly & Dan Pak-Dinsmore
Christine & Jason Rudloff-Pirring
Heather & Michael Sisson
Courtney & Brendan Tomlinson-Grady
Jessica & David Ullestad-Katz
Rachel & Mohammad von Vital-Juboori

Individual

Colleen Blaisdell
Jill Pearson Reider

Senior/Student

Maryanne Olivieri
Hannah Pingry
Susan G Wilson

In Memoriam

ASHM lost some very special members in the last few months. We send our condolences to their friends and family.

Ragnhild Bergqvist
Florence Anderson Chatas
Dorothy Springer Kleppe
Peter Newman

Gifts In Memory of Ragnhild Bergqvist

Kristina & John Antoniadis
Fernando & Luciana Aspesi
Görel Bengtzon & Roman Hrycushko
Bo Bergqvist
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Biberman
Richard & Marlene Bluestein
A. Raymond Bossert
Elisabeth & Wayne Brown
Robert & Ingrid Cagan
Lorraine Conley
Ken & Kerstin Cook
Thomas & Jane Edel
John & Carin Foster
Peggy Franck
Roy & Linda Friedlander
Mary Gifford
Ulla M. Heinicke
Susan Marie Heist
Kerstin Hoeldtke
Elisabeth Hohman
Jayne & Peter Hunt
Margaretha Joelsson
Jane Johnston
Joseph & Josephine Keating
Jodie Klein
Karin Kornaga
Suzanne & David Mattern
Robert Meredith
Midsommarklubben
Kristina & John O'Doherty
Maud Palmer
Robert & Alice Powell
Helena Englund-Sarkees
Kirk & Shelly Seagers
Lori Shaer
Katarina Sheronas
Barbara Sippel
Inger & Andy Stone
Ann-Charlotte Storer
John & Nancy Swaney
Margaretha Talerman
Roger & Carol Thorne
Kerstin & Bjorn Tyreus
Gunilla & Herbert Westin
Harold & Maud Witt
Carina Åhren & Robert Weir

Annual Giving and Contributions

May 1-July 15, 2019

Serafimer

Anonymous

Vasa

Dr. & Mrs. Mark Martz
Mary McCoy
Erik & Nicole Muther
Jim & Sophia Waker

Gold

Roberta Petusky
Bank of America Charitable Foundation
Countess Clarissa Bonde
Sophia Louise Bonde
Mrs. Marshall A. Mundheim
Timothy Nurvala & Al Wulff
Virginia Swedberg
James & Cynthia Traverso

Silver

William Eaton
Dr. & Mrs. Paul Engstrom
Kathi Keefe
Catherine & Fredrik Khayati
Kristina & John O'Doherty,
in memory of Dorothy Springer Kleppe
Abby Shaw

Bronze

Jens & Allison Clausen
Rose Marie G. Oster
Kristina & John Antoniadis,
in memory of Peter Newman
Christer & Patricia Baeckstrom
Marianne Baeckstrom
John Basinski, *in memory of Peter Newman*
Sandra E. Brown
Keith & Hilma Cooper
Samuel & Janet Heed
Wendy & William Holden,
in memory of Florence Anderson Chatas
Thomas F. & Mary Ann Hudson
Doris Lehman
Mary Anne Carlson Morgan
Jere & Birgitta Paddock
Eleanor D. Redfield
Barbara & Kenneth Rideout,
in memory of Peter Newman
Christian Roden
Will Springer, *in memory of Dorothy Springer Kleppe*
Rev. Dr. Kim-Eric Williams & Ms. Ruth Nelson Rizzi

Friends

Len & Flo Beck
Alice Christensen
Morris & Birgitta Davis
The Gould Family
Sylvia Holteen
Alice Hurwitz
Karin Kornaga
Marlin R. Mattson, M.D.
Thomas Nilsson
William Nilsson, Jr.
Donna Ellen Norling O'Connell
Maud Palmer
Carolyn Peterson
John & Kerstin Radel
Linda T. Raffa & James O'Riordan
Margaret D. Rogers
Ellen T. Rye
David O. Segermark
Patricia Spampinato
Theresa Stuhlman
Ralph A. Swanson
Inger M. Zeller

Addition to the Language Class Team!



New ASHM Marketing Assistant Jennie Skynas is excited to take on a dual role this fall as she will be joining Carina Åhren as a Swedish language class instructor. Jennie is from Stallarholmen and has prior experience as a language teacher. Jennie will be leading Swedish Beginners Part I and will be happy to share her travel adventures while introducing new Swedish vocabulary.

ASHM offers a variety of classes to engage your curiosity about Sweden. Swedish Beginners Part I is a basic introduction to language and culture. Swedish Intermediate Part I builds on skills and encourages discussions in Swedish. Conversation is the highest level in the program and is for advanced students to continue to hone their skills. No matter your level, there is a class for you! If you are unsure of where you might fit in, be sure to contact us directly and we can help assess which class is best for you.

Classes are held on Mondays from September 16-November 18. Class subscription for Beginners and Intermediate Part I (6:45-8:45pm) is \$180 for members, \$245 for non-members. Conversation (5-6:30pm) subscription is \$150 for members, \$215 non-members (cost of textbooks not included). To register, please email Lauren Burnham at lburnham@americanswedish.org.