



ASHM's Spring Ting returns with two Honorees!

The American Swedish Historical Museum is excited to bring back our Spring Ting Benefit Dinner and Auction to celebrate two Philadelphians with our Outstanding Achievement Award. This year ASHM will recognize Adam Joseph, a meteorologist at 6abc and Philadelphia Flyers forward, Oskar Lindblom.

It has been three years since we have held our Spring Ting event and we hope you can make it on April 30th to celebrate with us. This year's event falls on *Valborgsmässoafton*, "Walpurgis Night," an especially festive Swedish holiday that celebrates the end of winter and the coming of spring. Traditionally featuring bonfires and boisterous singing, we plan to incorporate these elements to add an ambiance to the evening.

About Oskar Lindblom

Oskar Lindblom was born in Gävle, Sweden. He began playing ice hockey as a child with his brothers, following in the footsteps of their father Johan, who played for several Swedish hockey teams. One of his childhood idols was Washington Capitals player Nicklas Bäckström, who is also from Gävle. Oskar had early success when he became a team captain for the Brynäs under-16 team in the 2011-12 season, and was quickly promoted to the under-18 team after scoring 18 points in nine games. Lindblom then competed as a member of Team Sweden at the 2013 World U-17 Hockey Challenge, where he led Sweden to a Gold Medal as the tournament's leading scorer.

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Note from the Director

One of the highlights of the museum's Spring calendar is our annual dinner and auction fundraiser, Spring Ting. I have been asked many times over the years how it got its name. A *ting* in Viking culture was a gathering or assembly. They were usually gatherings of local clans where people got together at a designated place and time to resolve conflicts, make alliances, show honor, and make rulings. And of course, when you gather people together, other things happened as well, such as entertainment, trading, drinking games, and making merry!

The word *ting* (or equivalents, *ding* and *thing*) appears in Old Norse, Old English, Icelandic, Dutch, German, Afrikaans, Norwegian, Danish, Swedish, and Faroese. It exists in Northern European place names, where the Viking *tings* happened, such as Tingvalla, Tingvoll, Tynwald, and Tingwall. The national legislatures of Norway (*Storting*, or "Great Thing"), Denmark (*Folketing*, or "People's Thing"), and Iceland (*Alþingi*, or "General Thing") all incorporate a form of the word. Other government bodies include district courts in Sweden and Finland called *tingsträtt*, county councils or *landsting*, the body representing Finland Swedish (*Svenska Finlands folkting*), and the 3 elected Sámi assemblies which are called *Sameting* in Norwegian and Swedish or *Sámediggi* in Northern Sami.

Our event isn't nearly as official in nature as a Viking *ting* or the ruling bodies named after them, but it is a time to honor our Outstanding Achievement Awardees, and of course, to financially support the future of the museum. The disputes that are settled at Spring Ting only relate to who is going to be the one to bring home the most contested auction items. In true Viking spirit, when we gather together we have good food and drink and lots of merriment. We have some new surprises in store for those of you who can gather with us in person this year. I hope to see you at the museum on April 30th!

Tracey Beck
Tracey Beck

Spring Ting continued from front cover

A fifth-round pick in the 2014 NHL Draft, Lindblom played three seasons for Brynäs in the Swedish Hockey League and was named Swedish forward of the year in 2016-17. He signed a three-year contract with the Flyers in 2017. Philadelphia coach, Alain Vigneault, placed Lindblom in a top-six role to start the 2019-20 season and Lindblom appeared to be hitting his stride when he was diagnosed with Ewing's sarcoma in December 2019. Oskar took time off to get treatment which was completed in July 2020. He made his return to the Flyers lineup in September and played against the New York Islanders.

Lindblom was part of the starting lineup for the 2020-21 season as a left-wing forward and scored 14 points in 50 games. On 18 April 2021, the Flyers honored Lindblom at their annual Hockey Fights Cancer game, his first since returning to play after his cancer diagnosis and treatment. He was voted the winner of the Bill Masterton Memorial Trophy for best exemplifying the qualities of perseverance, sportsmanship, and dedication to hockey for the 2020-21 season.

ASHM is excited to honor Oskar with our Outstanding Achievement Award and look forward to the many more accomplishments to come in his career.



About Adam Joseph

You may recognize Adam as a meteorologist on 6abc's Action News, but you may not know he is a Swedish-American. He joined the Action

News weather team as a meteorologist in April 2005. Adam graduated from Lyndon State College in 2000 and his first on-air experience came in 1998 when he forecasted and anchored the weather on LSC-TV. After college he landed a job with

WSAZ-TV in Charleston-Huntington, West Virginia, where he received the prestigious AMS Seal of Approval for Television, as well as several awards for meteorology excellence. Now you can find Adam every weekday on Action News at 4 pm, 5:30 pm, and Action News at 10 pm on PHL-17. He contributes to countless station specials, including the 6abc Thanksgiving Day Parade, The Flower Show preview special, and the Philadelphia Auto Show preview special.

Outside of work Adam enjoys recreational activities and spending time with family. Adam is strongly committed to making a difference in the community and works with Hospice and the American Cancer Society. He is also heavily involved the companies Belong and Pride to make the workplace a more diverse and comfortable through a commitment to celebrate differences and educate coworkers. Adam has received many honors throughout his career. He was voted Philadelphia's Best Meteorologist by Philadelphia Magazine in 2009 and has been award best TV Meteorologist by Main Line Today several times, most recently in 2021. He was honored to accept the 40 under 40 award from the Philadelphia Business Journal for professional excellence and community involvement in 2011. In 2015, Adam was named in Out Magazine's Out 100 when he became Philadelphia's first major on-air news personality to be out publicly. ASHM is excited to add our Outstanding Achievement Award to his list of achievements.

We hope to see you at Spring Ting on April 30th to honor our award winners and support ASHM. Spring Ting raises critical funding for exhibitions and educational programs offered both at our Museum and throughout the Philadelphia region. Tickets begin at \$95, and you can RSVP online. Please note proof of vaccination is required to attend this event.

Can't make it to the dinner? Support the Museum through our online auction that will run April 16th-29th.

Flying to Blåkulla: Letters from an Easter Witch



The Easter witch (*påskkärring*) tradition in Sweden dates back to at least the 19th century when children would dress up as witches and trolls on Maundy Thursday. The day included people hiding their broomsticks, sending Easter letters (*påskbrev*), dressing up as witches, and lighting bonfires to scare the witches away. Children were a particular target for witches who were said to swoop down and carry them to Blåkulla. The place where these witches performed evil deeds was said to be a mountain or island in the Baltic Sea and derives its name from a similar place in German folklore called Brocken or Blocksberg.

Originally the place was a habitation for trolls, but quickly grew into a meeting-place for witches in Swedish folklore.

In the 19th century, dressing up as witches, especially in western Sweden, was done on Easter Saturday. Both males and females dressed up in costumes. If the children were representing female witches, they were called *påskkärringar*, and if they portrayed male figures they were referred to as *påsktroll* or *påskgubbar* (Easter trolls). The age range for this tradition included older children through young adults. The motifs of troll and witch inspired the drawings and watercolors received during this time of the year.

Easter witch costumes and letters were often homemade, but could also be bought by the end of the 19th century due to the rising popularity of the tradition. Easter letters were sometimes frightening, depicting witches flying to Blåkulla where the Devil resided. The letters were sealed shut with wax and a feather, perhaps to

remind children that a witch could tickle them to death, but more often than not, the letters helped children become excited for the Easter holiday.

The exhibition features handmade watercolors and drawings depicting witches, dancing children, trolls, and other fantastical things. Passed down through the Batcheler Family from artist and great grandmother Axeline Sahlin, the letters were given from mother to daughter in the early twentieth century and represent a truly intriguing archive of Swedish folk art and a beloved custom still celebrated in Sweden today.

Flying to Blåkulla: Letters from an Easter Witch is on view at the Museum from February 12, 2022 through May 1, 2022.

This exhibition was made possible by a grant from SWEA New Jersey.

FBI Returns Stolen Revolver to ASHM

In December, ASHM retrieved an 1861 Colt Revolver that had belonged to Swedish immigrant Major Nere A. Elfving, who fought in the American Civil War. The revolver was part of a 50-year-old cold case that was cracked by the FBI in 2019. It was stolen from ASHM in the 1970s, by Thomas Gavin, who was recently convicted of a series of thefts in the 1960s and 70s from several institutions in the area. ASHM joined other museum representatives on December 17th for a Repatriation Ceremony at the Museum of the American Revolution. ASHM is glad to have this artifact returned as it is one of the few pieces in our collection related to Scandinavian involvement in the Civil War. You can now see the revolver on view in the Chicago Room and learn about Major Elfving.



The Colt Revolver on view in the Chicago Room..

Spring 2022 Upcoming Events and Registration Info

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, americanswedish.org/events. ASHM follows the city of Philadelphia COVID regulations.

MONTHLY PROGRAMS:



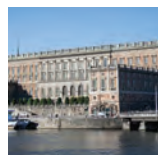
Toddler Time

10:30 – 11:30 am

On the third Tuesday of each month ASHM offers specially designed programs to introduce Swedish culture through art, science, and literature in uniquely fun and creative ways to children ages 2 to 5 years old.

Tuesday March 15, 2021 Whatever the Weather
Tuesday April 19, 2022 Easter Traditions
Tuesday May 17, 2022 Celebrate Norway!

Please note there will not be a June Toddler Time due to the PHS Flower Show.



Virtual Field Trip Friday Series

12:15 – 1:00 pm

Take a break from your day, whether at home or work, to be immersed in a Scandinavian cultural experience. Each field trip experience is 45 minutes long and presented over Zoom. \$5 for members and \$10 for nonmembers, registration is required.

March 18th: The Royal Palace, Stockholm
April 22nd: Bishop Hill Heritage Association, IL
May 20th: Zorn Museum, Mora Sweden



Virtual Guided Swedish Easter Candy Tasting

Thursday, March 24th

6:30 pm

Join ASHM and Sweetish Candy as we explore Swedish Easter candy traditions. Swedish candy expert and store founder Tyler Graybeal will lead a tasting of treats that you will surely want in your basket this year! Candy kits can be picked up from either the Museum, the Sweetish Candy store in Lancaster PA, or mailed for an additional \$15 shipping fee.

Tickets are \$20 for members and \$25 for non-members. Registration includes one candy kit the deadline for mail orders is March 11th.



Virtual Hemsjö Workshop: Dala Horse Painting

Saturday, April 2nd
10:00 am-12:30 pm

ASHM is excited to offer another virtual Dala Horse painting workshop this spring! In partnership with the Bishop Hill Heritage Association, artist Carol Ann Curry will teach participants the traditional kurbits style of painting. The Zoom workshop includes a large hand-carved wooden horse, paint, brushes, and step-by-step instruction. Workshop kits can be picked up from the Museum or mailed right to your home (\$15 shipping fee). Space is limited, \$70 members, \$75 nonmembers. Registration deadline March 18th.



Virtual Lecture:

Tattoos for Human Health: The Future of Smart Tattoos
Thursday April 7th
6:30 pm

Join us for this virtual lecture **Tattoos for Human Health: The Future of Smart Tattoos**, with Dr. Carson J. Bruns. Dr. Bruns is an Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering in the ATLAS Institute at the University of Colorado Boulder. During this lecture, they will share exciting developments in the world of high-tech tattoos. \$5 members, \$10 nonmembers, register online.

Easter Family Fun Day and Egg Hunt

Sunday April 10th

2:00 -4:00 pm

Introduce your little ones to Swedish Easter traditions. Children can make Swedish Easter crafts, dress up as Swedish Easter witches, enjoy face painting, and take part in an egg hunt. Free for members and children 2 years and under, \$10 per non-member. Pay at the door.

Virtual Members Discussion:

The Swedish Easter Witch Tradition
Wednesday, April 20th

6:30 pm

All ASHM members are invited to this exclusive discussion. Museum members have the opportunity to socialize, learn about the organization, and get a behind the scenes peek of our collection and exhibits. This month members will get a virtual guided tour of our exhibit, *Flying to Blåkulla: Letters from an Easter Witch*. This members only program is free and held over Zoom. Visit our website to register for the program or become a member today!

Plogging in FDR Park

Saturday, April 23rd

10:00 am

Join us to celebrate Earth Day by Plogging in FDR Park! We are excited to partner with FDR Park to help keep our natural space beautiful.

To Register For Events

call 215-389-1776, or visit online at

www.americanswedish.org/calendar.htm

Plogging is a Swedish craze in which you pick up trash while exercising. This event is free. Register online.

Family Earth Day

Sunday, April 24th

2:00 – 4:00 pm

Join us in FDR Park for activities for the whole family on recycling and sustainability. This program is free. Check our website for more details and registration.



Spring Ting

Saturday April 30th
6:00 pm

Join us at our special fundraiser, featuring a silent auction and three

course dinner. During this year's event, we are pleased to honor Adam Joseph, Channel 6 ABC meteorologist and Oskar Lindblom, Philadelphia Flyers, with the museum's Outstanding Achievement Award. Tickets start at \$95, RSVP online. Proof of vaccination is required.

extrABBAganza Dance Party!

Saturday, May 7th

7:00 – 10:00 pm

ABBA's back, and so are we! What better place to celebrate the iconic music of ABBA than the American Swedish Historical Museum's 2nd Annual ExtrABBAganza Dance Party. Highlights of the evening include a dancing and costume contest and live performance. The event will be held outside on the Museum Terrace with limited capacity. \$35 members, \$45 nonmembers. Preregistration required. 70's inspired attire is encouraged!



PHS Flower Show

June 10th – 19th

ASHM is proud to once again be a part of the 2022 PHS Flower Show, "In Full Bloom". The Flower Show is taking place June 11-19, 2022 in

FDR Park. This year's theme connotes good health, positive well-being, and a passion for life that culminates in a gorgeous and colorful spectacle. During the PHS Flower Show ASHM is only open to Flower Show ticket holders. Please check our website for more details.

Save the Date:

Midsommarfest

Saturday, June 25th

4:00 – 7:00pm

Celebrate summer at our annual Midsommarfest. \$5 per person over 12. Pre-register online or pay at the door.

Images from Recent Events

Photographs by ASHM Staff



▲ Melinda Byrd leading a virtual Ryd rug workshop where participants crafted their own traditional Ryd rugs.



▲ A family enjoying crafts during December's Toddler Time.

▼ Our staff proudly holding our new banner from the Metro naming us Best Museum in Philadelphia!



▲ Shoppers enjoying our annual Christmas Market.



▲ Chief Coker speaking during the NSHC.



▲ The 2021 New Sweden History Conference was held in person at Winterthur Museum.



▲ The ABBA After Dark event with the Philly POPS!



▲ Children dancing like tom-tom during our December Toddler Time.



▲ Executive Director, Tracey Beck and Curator, Christopher Malone at the Repatriation Ceremony at the Museum of the American Revolution.



► Children singing during the Luciafest procession.

Contributions

Do you want to make a contribution? There are several easy ways to support us. Visit our web page americanswedish.org/support or call **215-389-1776** for more information.

New Members

October 1, 2021 – January 31, 2022

Life Member

Pamela Sjogren

Household

Joel Atkinson
Jennifer Beale
Elin Berlin
Burton Family
Louise & Jack Clark
Jeffery S Deacon
Neri Dekramer
David Firn
Carla Fiske
Sarah Foss
Kathy Gibbs
Barry Grahn
Bit Grubbstrom
Cecilia Halligan
Andrew H. Johanson Jr.
Joge Jurgenson
Stephen & Mary Kurtz
Darren Lipski
Nora Madison-Klang
Wesley Mah
Ed Phillips
Dennis Polsz
Lois Purcell
Elizabeth Reilly
Catherine Roberts
Rafaela Saruk
Kirsten Sebright
Scott Signell
Michael & Agnes Tinker

Individual

Karin Bates
Michael Brown
Janet Cary
Jessica Coombs
Lauren Crouch
Rae Dooley
Lisa Dybus-Clay
Elsbeth D Mason
Kelly Maurer
Lisa Schallert
Kathryn Smith
Cynthia Spangrud
Chelsea Thomas
Jaimi Thompson

Seniors/Students

Sherry Brandt-Rauf
Michael Catalano
Carolyn Curran
Dorothy Davis
William Ericsson
Jill Ferguson
Richard Goldberg
Mike Hughes
Amy M Johnson
Paul Keogh
Cheree Kess
Anne Panico
Deborah Pentz
Robert Renner
Karen Sinatra
Mr. Eric Sundin
Melanie A Taylor
Cherilyn
Karen Yeager

Annual Giving and Contributions

October 1, 2021 – January 31, 2022

Serafimer

Estate of John V. Hanovsky – *In memory of John Zanders and Charles Zanders*

Duane Malm
Paul Muther and Dr. Ulla Dagert-Muther

Vasa

Kristina and John Antoniadis
Capozzi Scarmuzza Foundation
Barbro & Ernst Larsson
Margot & James Patterson
Britta A. Mattson
Mary McCoy
Erik and Nicole Muther
Sandra Pfaff
Carl D. Rapp
SWEA New Jersey
Richard Waldron
In memory of Lorraine Waldron
James and Sophia Walker
Al Wulff

Gold

Kristina and John Antoniadis
Flo Beck
In memory of Leonard Beck
William and Tracey Beck
Karin Bergqvist
Ken & Kerstin Cook
Margaret Copeland
Gordon & Jane Downing
Jim Gaffney
Mr. and Mrs. David Hang
W. Robert & Judith A. Lang
Nord Cascading Unitrust Fund of Central Carolina
Community Foundation
Earl & Sylvia Seppala
Margaretha Talerman
James and Cynthia Traverso
Verdandi Lodge No. 3, I.O.S.

Silver

Marianne Baeckstrom
Anna-Lena Bromberg
Elisabeth Brown
Leonard Busby & Ruth Lindeborg
Dr. and Mrs. Paul Engstrom
Genevieve Haines
Samuel & Janet Heed
Doris Lehman
Kirstin Mattson
Elsa Orescan
Thomas & Julia Patterson
Kristina H. Smith
Melissa Weismann & Tom Hooper

Bronze

Linda & Kenneth Alexy
Ann Anderson
Christer & Patricia Baeckstrom
Eleanor Poe Barlow
Helene Y. Basile & Family
Alison Bennett
Cynthia & Bruce Brandt
Lisa C. Caplan
Margaret Churchville
Morris and Birgitta Davis
Lennart A. Hahr
Ulla M. Heinicke
Dr. William L. Honig and Elizabeth TG Yijuan Li
Charitable Trust
Thomas F. and Mary Ann Hudson
Gudmund Iversen
Kathi & Richard Keefe
Karin Kornaga
Gunilla Knutson
Sandra Lazo
Mark Lundgren

In memory of Kenda Lundgren
Mary Anne Carlson Morgan
Dan & Allison Muller-Frank
Timothy Nurvala & Al Wulff
Annika Pelme
Barbro & Wayne Pollock
Mary Anne Powell
Herbert R. Rambo
Meryl & Joseph Rodgers

Ellen T. Rye
Faith Sandstrom
John & Susan Soffronoff
Patricia Spampinato
Ann-Charlotte Storer
Gretchen & Luke Walker
Sargit Warriner
Rev. Dr. Kim-Eric Williams & Ms. Ruth Nelson Rizzi

Friends

Anonymous
Sven H. E. Borei
Ragna and Richard Brown
William Callahan & Vivianne Englund-Callahan
Catharina Copeland
Tracy & Steve Carr
Susan Durand
Barbara E. Good
Veronica Greenbaum
In memory of Mona Grillet
Lisa and Bill Hoffman
Sylvia Holteen
Alice Hurwitz
Delmar & Irene Karlen
Susan Keyser
Richard Kiger
Norman S Marcus
Mr. and Mrs. McCann
Ulla-Britta and Jerry McCarthy
Mr. & Mrs. Roger S. McCreah
Midsommarklubben

In memory of David Copeland

Rosemary and Jeffrey Moller
Juta Nolan
James J Oriordan
Maud Palmer
Lynne Schaefer
David O. Segermark
Theresa Stuhlman
Dr. Carl-Erik Sundberg
Hillary Shade
Karin and David Svahn
Selma Tepper
William Thompson
Amy & Harry Verngren
Inger M. Zeller

The following gave gifts in memory of Bo Bergqvist

Kristina and John Antoniadis
William and Tracey Beck
Lorraine Conley
William Eaton
Peggy Franck
Deborah Hang
Christina Holm
Jayne & Peter Hunt
Margaretha Joelsson
Karin Kornaga
Robert & Alice Powell
Jason and Carrie Rozes
Lori Shaer
Randi Stanley
John & Nancy Swaney
Margaretha Talerman
Roger and Carol Thorne
Tredyffrin Easttown Historical Society
Fanny Warren

In Memoriam

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

David Copeland
Gun-Marie Kratz
Sandra Rapp

Collections Contributions

The museum received a wonderful donation from Linda Fasteson of her paternal Grandfather's wedding suit. The suit consists of a black coat and a vest lined with striped fabric, and pants that button up in the back and front. The suit's fabric seems ideal for a winter wedding and possibly could have been used for other events Bror Johansson attended after he came to America. These textiles will greatly enhance our collection by not only telling the story of Swedish immigration to America, but they help to broaden our understanding of the types of clothing Swedes wore in the early 20th century for special events.



Photo of Bror and Alma Johansson in their wedding attire.

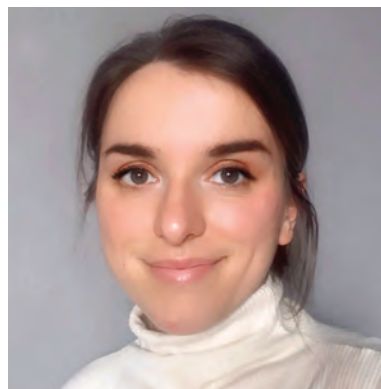
The Fasteson family's inclusion of a wedding photograph of Bror and Alma will help us interpret this donation in a future exhibition or display of the museum's textile collection. The family generously donated several other textiles, a collection of dolls owned by Linda's paternal grandmother Alma, and a family photo album featuring carte-de-visite photographs taken of family members both in Sweden and America.

Recent Bequests

The ASHM was thrilled to receive two bequests in recent months of \$44,506 from the Marie W. McCauley Charitable Remainder Unitrust and \$17,650 from the estate of John V. Hanovsky.

Because neither donor specified how they wanted their gift to be used, the museum is able to use these gifts wherever they are needed most. The ASHM board has discussed it and plans to allocate a portion of the funds to help us with our strategic plan and capital campaign development. In addition, we will use some of the money from John Hanovsky to restore a window at the museum, so that his gift which he made in memory of his great-grandfather, John Zanders, and his great-great-uncle, Charles Zanders will have a visible presence through a plaque on the window sill. The balance of these donations will be invested so that the money will benefit the museum in the decades to come. Generous gifts like these from members of our community are so important to the future of the museum. If you have included the museum in your estate plans or are interested in doing so, please contact Tracey Beck, Executive Director.

Meet our new Marketing Assistant, Megan Kelly!



Megan was born and raised in Philadelphia and takes great pride in being from this beautiful city. Megan comes to us after working in marketing and interpretation roles at other institutions including the Elmwood Park Zoo, Winterthur Museum Library & Garden, and the Eastern State Penitentiary Historic Site.

Her diverse knowledge about the museum field will make her an asset to our small, but strong team! When she's not working, Megan enjoys going on runs throughout the city, thrifting, watching movies, and spending time with her family. Be sure to say hi and welcome her next time you stop by the Museum!

ASHM was Voted Metro Philly's Best Museum!

Have you heard the news? The American Swedish Historical Museum was voted Best Museum by Metro Philly readers! We are incredibly proud to receive this honor. The next time you visit the Museum be sure to see our commemorative plaque in the Grand Hall and pick up a copy of Metro Philly's Best 2021 Winner's Guide.



ABBA's Back and so is the ExtrABBAganza Dance Party!

Saturday May 7th 7-10pm

What better place to celebrate the iconic music of ABBA than the American Swedish Historical Museum's 2nd Annual ExtrABBAganza Dance Party. There is an ABBA song for everyone. Come and experience all your favorites at this unique event! Highlights of the evening include dancing and costume contests plus a live performance by Summer St. Cartier, Cherry St. Cartier, Morgan Morgan Morgan, and Amerie Jameson. The event will be held outside on the Museum Terrace with limited capacity. Registration is \$35 for members and \$45 for nonmembers and includes delicious Swedish inspired appetizer stations. A cash bar will also be open to serve our specialty cocktail, The Fernando, and mocktail Waterloo! 70's inspired attire is encouraged!

