



From the exhibit “Tilling the Past” photography by Hilma Ljung

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## Mission Statement

*Through its arts and educational programs and its permanent collection, the Swedish American Museum interprets the immigrant experience for children and adults and promotes an appreciation of contemporary Swedish-American culture.*

### Flaggan

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# Dear members and friends,

The sun is shining and with summer in the air we think of Midsommarfest. Celebrations kick off early here in Andersonville with a street fest during the second weekend of June. Later in the month when we have celebrated in Rockford, Geneva, and Bishop Hill we reach summer solstice and Swedish Midsommar. It is so wonderful that we can celebrate Midsommar several times. We are able to enjoy dancing around the Midsommarpole, make flower crowns, and eat Matjes herring with potatoes and sour cream followed by strawberries that taste of summer. Many of us remember how wonderful the strawberries tasted growing up. For some of us summer in Sweden and strawberries are closely connected.

Another summer memory is eating ice cream on a stick or in a cone. We would buy it in the store or sometime Hemglass (Home Ice Cream) would deliver ice cream directly to the house. You probably have your own ice cream favorite that reminds you of childhood or special occasions.

The warmer weather also encourages more outdoor activities. Camping in the woods, hiking through the forests and mountains, fishing in the lakes, swimming in usually very cold water, and sitting and eating outside. Here at the Museum we are so thankful that we have the courtyard where we can enjoy the outdoors in a peaceful environment. All visitors are welcome to go and sit outside for a break and many of our pop-up café customers take their coffee and treats outside. One of the signs that the warmer weather is coming is that our Bullerbyn group (the younger Swedish children and parents) have used the courtyard for their hour-long song and play time on Sunday mornings.

Me and my family live only a short distance from the Museum and we have a small backyard that we enjoy now when the weather is warmer. The evenings are still a little cooler and we are now able to enjoy a beautiful and warm fire with the Swedish FireIgloo that we purchased during Julmarknad. The first use was in May for one of the family gatherings to celebrate the wedding of our daughter Kathryn and Joe.

Family gatherings are often associated with special events, joyous like weddings and birthdays and other times more sad like funerals. We have been very fortunate to be able to gather for both kinds and the joy and warmth of being with your family is truly special. However, I am always thankful for my American Family that is a group of very good and close friends. When I first came to the USA in 1980, it was my relatives who supported me. Over the years, I have also had the support and close caring of extended family and friends in addition to my own family of Dan, Kathryn and Joe.

I'm almost sure that is how the early immigrants felt as well, that their close friends became the support of a family. The current exhibit that we have in the gallery is focusing on immigration and how we stay connected to our biological family but also make a new home and new family in our new country.

Enjoy the summer months by yourself and or with family and friends. We hope to see you at the Museum to see our exhibits, participate in a program, purchase some items in the store, or enjoy some treats at a pop-up café.

Thanks for being part of our Swedish American Museum community.

Med vänliga hälsningar.

Karin Moen Abercrombie  
Executive Director

# The Day in the Life of a Museum Volunteer

Arriving at the Museum I am immediately hit by the scent of freshly baked cinnamon buns. It surrounds me with a warm feeling of home. As I settle in at the front desk I am greeted by Phoebe, as she makes her way around the Museum turning on lights and unlocking doors. Layne comes downstairs to let me know that today we have a school tour coming in at 11 a.m. and that we also have a pop-up café today. I am excited at the prospect of a busy day at the Museum. Depending on the day and the weather some days can be very quiet and that is nice too, but I prefer when the Museum is buzzing with people. Karin comes over with a cinnamon bun and strongly brewed coffee that I enjoy before the rush begins.

At 10:50 a.m. a yellow school bus stops in front of the Museum. Jack comes down to greet the teachers and usher the children inside. This time it is a group of Kindergarteners and they are often the most excited, although I have seen the eyes light up on high schoolers as they walk in too. The children are having a hard time waiting as it becomes their turn to walk up the stairs and travel to late 1800's Sweden in their imagination.

The day continues with a steady stream of visitors. Most are drawn in by the scent of freshly baked goods coming from the gallery and many make their way around the Museum. Some stop to chat for a bit and ask questions about the exhibits or the neighborhood. I have been here long enough now that I have heard most questions before. At the beginning I was always a bit nervous but I knew I could call one of the staff members to come down and help out. Now I just feel calm and at home. Another volunteer stops by the front desk for a chat before heading upstairs to help with labeling postcards of the upcoming exhibit.

As we get closer to 4 p.m., I start getting ready to pack up and leave. Being at the Museum front desk is such a nice way to meet people and be part of something. I can understand if people are nervous about being by the front desk where you have to talk on the phone and greet people. I love it, and luckily there are so many ways to volunteer at the Museum that there is something for everyone.

As the doors are locked to visitors, I head outside in the sunshine. I have time to head over to the farmers market to get what is missing for dinner. I feel happy about the day and look forward to next week when I will be back to see faces familiar and new.



# Curators Corner

by Phoebe Yates

## *Life of a Museum Artifact: Deaccession*

This series, Life of a Museum Artifact, was started to give you, our community members, an insight into what happens to an item once it is donated to a museum. Over the course of this series, we have discussed donation, accessioning, cataloging, housing and storage, research and exhibit display, and conservation. In this final installment, we will discuss the process of deaccessioning: what it is, why it is important, and how we do it here at the Museum.

### *What is deaccessioning and why is it important?*

The process of deaccessioning is the formal removal of accessioned objects from a museum's permanent collection. Deaccessioning is a procedure done in every museum, as it is a natural part of a museum's collecting process and policy. Most museums, especially smaller ones such as our own, had few restrictions on collecting in earlier years. This was a common practice because museums felt they needed to fill their collection in order to build the museum. Today, many collection departments are now tasked with managing an over-filled storage area and materials that are not necessarily worth keeping in the collection.

Deaccessioning is an important process because it provides room for a museum collection to grow. Museum collections should never be static without change and growth they risk no longer connecting to the community they were built to represent. Allowing for growth in a collection also means ensuring there are enough resources for proper care of accessioned items. In not deaccessioning items that should be, there is a diversion of resources from items that are of greater importance and more central to a museum's mission and activities.

### *The Process*

The process of deaccessioning is acknowledging that a museum cannot collect everything. When done properly, periodic re-evaluation and deaccessioning is as important as the acquisition of new items. All museums should have a Collection's Policy in which they describe and lay out their Deaccession Policy and Procedure.

### *I. Assessment*

- a. Provenance: How did the item come to the museum?

Prior to deaccessioning an item, a museum must be sure of its legal ownership over said item. Best practices today dictate that provenance research should be done prior to acquisition of an item so you can avoid accepting items that may have been looted, stolen, or acquired in an unethical way. If possible, items in a museum collection that have a questionable provenance should be deaccessioned and repatriated (return an item to its original legal owner).

Some items in a museum collection are considered "Found in Collection" items, or FICs. FIC items are those that original donation paperwork cannot be found and the item was never properly cataloged. As long as a concerted effort has been made to track down the associated paperwork and/or donor, FIC items can be deaccessioned even though there was never a legal transfer of ownership to the museum. Exact FIC policies can differ per museum.

- b. Condition: Does the museum have the ability to care for the item?

Many smaller museums, such as ours, do not have a conservator on staff and therefore have a limited ability to treat items in poor condition. When assessing an item it is important to think about the cost of care. For some items in very poor condition, it is simply too expensive to treat the item and is a drain on resources. It is also important to assess whether the condition of the item is hazardous to other artifacts (i.e. mold, pest infestation, asbestos).

- c. Relevance: Does the item fit the current museum mission?

Mission Statements and Collection Policies change over time and a museum's collections should reflect those changes. Some items that were accepted in early collecting days may have never fit the museum's mission but

Repatriation is currently a hot topic of discussion among museum professionals and government officials. One of the most important laws passed in the United States surrounding repatriation is the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), enacted in 1990. NAGPRA address the rights of lineal descendants, Native American tribes, and Native Hawaiian organizations to certain Native American human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, and objects of cultural patrimony.

were accessioned simply to fill the collection or maintain good relations with donors.

## II. Present Proposed Deaccessions to the Board of Directors

After assessing which items should be deaccessioned, the Curator or Collections Manager will present the chosen items to the Board of Directors for approval. All parties must agree on an appropriate mode of deaccessioning.

- a. Transference: Transfer the item to the museum's education or teaching collection, research files, donor or accession files, or library. Transfer the item to another institution or museum.
- b. Disposal: Two or more staff members destroy and dispose the item.
- c. Sale: Place the item for sale in a public auction.

## III. Documentation

Proper documentation is imperative, recording the reason and mode of deaccession. This paperwork is filed with the associated accession record.

## IV. Notify Donor (if appropriate)

Notification of deaccession can be a way to maintain good relationships with donors. However, if an item is donated to a museum without restriction, the donor no longer retains legal ownership over it and the item becomes the museum's property. In that case, a museum does not legally need to notify the donor prior to deaccession. Prior to deaccessioning, it is imperative to look at the Gift Agreement for any legal restrictions.

## Deaccessioning at the Swedish American Museum

Do we deaccession items at the Swedish American Museum? Yes, we do! We have carefully considered deaccession criteria in our Collection's Policy, which can be found on our website. Items proposed for deaccession must meet one or more of the following criteria.

- I. The material or object is outside the scope of the Mission of the Museum and its Collection Policy
- II. The material or object is irrelevant to the purposes of the Museum and has doubtful future potential for use in the foreseeable future.
- III. The material or object lacks physical integrity
- IV. The material or object has failed to retain its identity or authenticity, or has been lost or stolen and remains lost for longer than 2 years.
- V. The material or object is duplicate and/or without intrinsic value
- VI. The Museum is unable to preserve the material or object properly
- VII. The material or object has deteriorated beyond usefulness
- VIII. The material or object is subject to international, federal, state or local law which dictates that the Museum deaccession and/or surrender the object.
- IX. The material or object has accidentally been accessioned twice and/or other records error.

In the last year, we have deaccessioned about 60 items. The majority of these were ripped or badly damaged posters and photocopied photos and documents. The posters were deaccessioned due to their poor condition, and lack of display value. The photocopied photos and documents were deaccessioned because they are not originals and were better suited for either our research collection or stored in the associated donor file. Currently, we are in the process of deaccessioning broken LP music records. We have an abundance of music records and given their poor condition, they are not worth keeping in our collection. By deaccessioning these items, we are beginning to create more space in our collection storage area, which will allow us to grow and fill holes in our collection surrounding the Swedish-American experience.



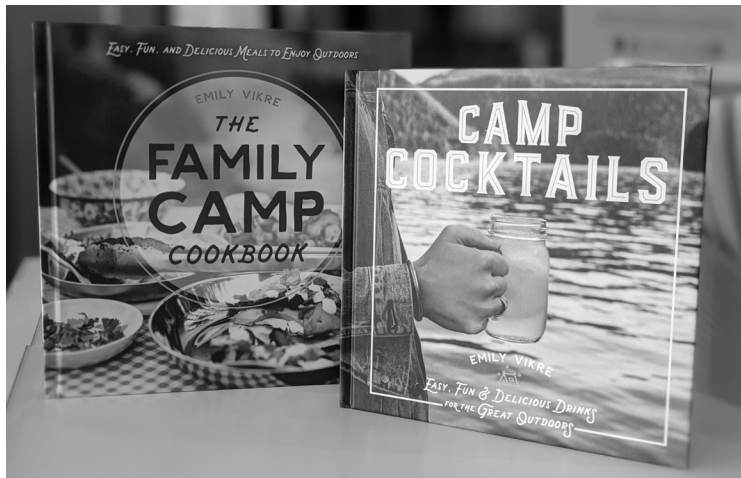
*This record is being deaccessioned because it is broken in half and no longer usable.*



*This poster was deaccessioned due to its poor condition. As you can see, it is ripped in many places and had little to no display value.*

# Museum Store

By *Kristen Larson*



*The Family Camp Cookbook and Camp Cocktails are available at the Kerstin Andersson Museum Store now!*

My campsites are booked! This is just the beginning of my summer planning, for the other logistics still need to be thought through and organized. One goal on my list is to elevate the camping meal menus. Previously, my camping trips have been remote or backpacking where space and weight was limited. Unfortunately, that meant dehydrated items that only required some water were my go-to meals. Now, my family is venturing more into the car camping sphere, which is one way we can begin to instill a lifelong love of nature or friluftsliv as the Nordics call it.

The Family Camp Cookbook is the place I am starting for my menu goals. I liked that the book labelled different methods for cooking meals. If you have a dutch oven or if you have a camping stove or even if you prefer to cook your food over a fire, you will not be left out. Many recipes can be adapted to any of these methods that you are equipped to handle. Another perk are the sample three day menus for any kind of eater: classic, gourmet and vegetarian. Lastly, the author's recipes have many Norwegian and Scandinavian influences as evidenced by the pannekaker (pg 49) and pinnebrød (pg 102). My pickiest eater loves the Squash and Apple Foil Packs (pg 153) that we adapted to our home oven; I think we are well on our way to camping enjoyment after all.

Another way I intend to broaden our camping breakfasts is to use our newest product, a Danish Ebelskiver Iron, to make Ebelskivers, of course! I love that with this simple recipe the end result is an easy hand held breakfast that won't create a large amount of dishes to wash before we go on our day hikes. Nordic specialty cookware can be difficult to find in-store and we are excited to announce that you can find almond cake pans and the ebelskiver irons at the museum. In the fall/holiday seasons we will increase our offerings to include Swedish Rosette and Timbale Sets and Norwegian Krumkake Irons.

*4 Reusable Doodle and Coloring Books Designs.*



Announcing our newest additions:

1. Reusable Doodle and Coloring Books: Springtime Gnomes, Spaceship, Mermaids and Reykjavik. While three of the designs have blank pages, the Reykjavik Coloring Book has four dedicated pages for iconic Iceland buildings and more blank pages for doodling.
2. Sweden, Denmark, Norway and Faroe street maps, perfect for traveling and vacations.
3. Artistic watercolor street maps of Stockholm, Copenhagen and Chicago.
4. New Moomin Glass Bottles with Summery designs, available in 0.5L and 1L.
5. Enamel mugs with silicone lids and glass straw accessories.

If you are looking to add to your dining, barware collection or have another special occasion you would like to commemorate, the Kerstin Andersson Museum Store makes custom orders from Orrefors and Kosta Boda with an approximate two week turnaround time. Call 773-728-8111 and ask to speak with the Store Manager, Kristen, to place your custom order.



*A bowl and plate Kosta Boda Brnk Set on top of a non-slip serving tray.*



*Our 0.5L Moomin Glass Bottles "Fun in the Water" features Moomin characters swimming.*



*Make your drink to-go! All the silicone lids fit atop our enamel mugs and can be paired with these glass reusable straws.*

We are always adding new designs and book titles every week, stop by to check our newest items!

# Preservation and Access through Digitization

by Lisa Lindström

The Museum is embarking on an extensive digitization project over the next year! This project consists of digitizing over 1,000 documents and photographs and creating documentation that describes our archives – so-called finding aids – to help preserve and make our collections accessible. Our collections represent an important part of the Swedish-American history in Chicago and we have a duty to the community to preserve this heritage and have it accessible for anyone to view.

## *What is digitization?*

Digitization is the process of turning an analog item into digital form – a so-called digital surrogate or copy. Still images and paper, such as documents, photographs, books, magazines, maps, posters, newspapers, or scrapbooks, can be captured using a scanner. Video and audio material requires specialized hardware and software in order to convert it into digital format. The primary objective of digitization is to produce a digital image or file that looks or sounds like the original record as closely as possible.

It is important to remember that the digital copy is just that – a copy. It is not meant to replace an original item. Rather, it should be seen as a means to help preserve and provide further access to original records. Original items are irreplaceable and very rarely discarded after digitization.

## *What is the importance of digitization?*

There are two main reasons why digitization is important for museums: preservation and access.

**Preservation** - Producing digital copies of original items can prevent loss or deterioration of unique and fragile collections. This is both because a digital copy helps reduce physical handling of the original item, and because a digital copy provides a “snapshot” of what an item looked like at a particular point in time. The digital image can then be used to see what the original looked like before damage or deterioration.

**Access** - Digitization is a useful way for museums to reach wider audiences. Digital versions of items give people who may not be able to visit the Museum in person a chance to learn about our extensive collections. With the use of digitization, we can better aid researchers, educators and online visitors from across the world.

At the Swedish American Museum, we have identified four main reasons for digitizing our collections:

- To prepare our collections for future online access.
- To enhance preservation of records by reducing wear and tear of originals.
- To provide access to materials that can or should no longer be accessed in their original format due to extensive deterioration.
- To improve accessibility and meet museum visitors' and researchers' needs and expectations in a digital age.

## *How do we decide what to digitize?*

One of the most common questions people have for museums is: “Why don't you just digitize everything?” However, there are many reasons why digitization may be challenging.

Digitization is a time-consuming and costly process. It requires the right equipment and knowledge. Furthermore, simply scanning items is not enough. Descriptive information, known as metadata, needs to be added to digitized materials to prevent loss of context. These large, digital files also need to be stored safely. Changes in or lack of technology, financing, maintenance, access and expertise are all constant challenges. Because of this, the decision to digitize or not digitize a collection is not taken lightly.

While desirable, it is simply not feasible to digitize an entire museum. Some items may be too fragile to digitize without risking irreparable damage, while other items may be in a format that the current equipment does not support.

At the Museum, we follow a set of guidelines for prioritizing material to be digitized. These guidelines are based on preservation, access, and functional needs.

Material prioritized for digitization may fall into one or more of these categories:

- The material is at risk of loss or extensive deterioration. For these items, digitization is a way to capture an item before it deteriorates further.



- The material is unique and not available elsewhere (for example: at a local library) or in other formats.
- The material is of importance for internal efforts to complete essential tasks (for example: it would help staff and volunteers better aid visitors or researchers).
- The material is frequently requested or of interest to our community (for example: Andersonville and the Swedish-American community).
- The resources are available to digitize the material.

### *How and what do we digitize?*

The Museum uses an Epson Scanner to capture high resolution images of our paper-based and photographic collections. Some of the items we digitize are family photographs, immigration documents, letters, postcards, and pamphlets and documents from local Swedish clubs or businesses.

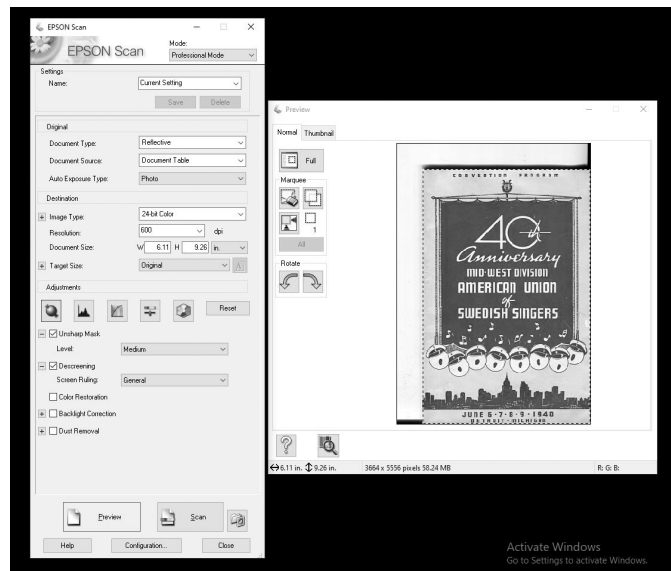
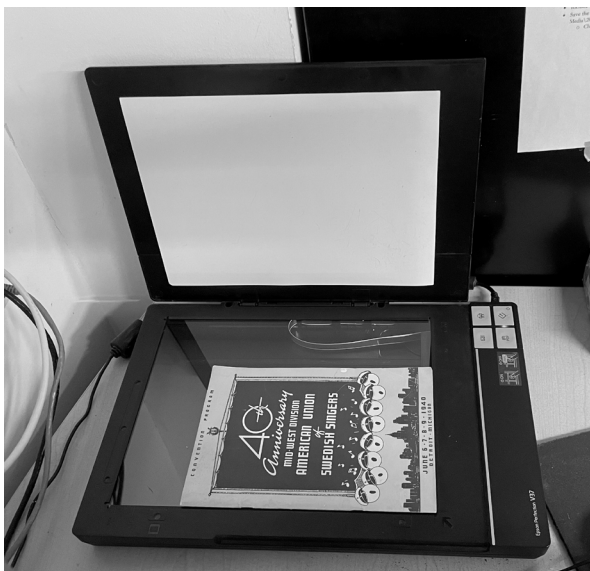
We do not currently have in-house equipment to digitize moving images, audio, film, negatives, or oversized records. This type of material requires specialized equipment.

Digitizing an item involves multiple steps:

1. First, cleaning of the scanning equipment and material that is being digitized is done. Dust and other debris is removed using brushes and microfiber cloths.
2. Then, the material is placed on the scanner using proper care. Extra equipment such as book weights may be used, if necessary. Gloves may be used for certain materials, such as photographs, to avoid smudging.
3. Before the scan can be done, the correct scanner settings need to be inserted. This will ensure legibility and quality of each digital image. The settings will vary depending on the format, size, and color of the item.
4. The item is then scanned and saved. Metadata is applied to each image using standardized vocabularies. This information provides useful context and background.

### *What happens to the digitized material?*

Once an item is digitized, the material is uploaded to our museum collections database, PastPerfect, and our internal server where it can be accessed by staff, volunteers and interns. The digital items are not just a way to preserve a record. With much of our collection digitized, we will be able to send digital files upon request and better service people who are unable to come to the Museum in-person. Items too fragile to be exhibited can be shown as a high-resolution reproductions. Digital images can be used to show our collections on social media, on our website and in other promotional material. Digitization is important as many of our archives are fragile and their risk of deteriorating is high. These archives have a high research and exhibit value, and by digitizing them we are able to expand their lifespan. Eventually, we are hoping to publish these digital images online through an online portal, allowing anyone to browse and research our collections from anywhere in the world.



# Museum Store on the Road

By *Angelica Farzaneh-Far*

During the summer Kerstin Andersson Museum Store goes on the road visiting Swedish-American events in the area. The first stop of the summer is literally out the door at Andersonville Midsommarfest. During the second week of June the Museum Store and Children's Museum share a tent on Clark Street. Here you can find some fun crafts for kids and additions that you don't normally see in the Store. This year, in preparation for our upcoming special exhibit "Tattoo: Identity through Ink," you will be able to get long-lasting temporary tattoos in Midsommar florals, Viking, and Dala horse designs in our pop-up parlor. We will of course also sell our popular Midsommarfest t-shirts and faux flower crowns (a must have for all who celebrate midsummer) .

On Saturday, June 17, you will find the Museum Store in Rockford, Ill. The Swedish Historical Society of Rockford hosts a Midsommarfest that includes a full day of programming, fun for kids and vendors. Don't miss the Swedish Pancake eating contest. The opening event is at 10 a.m. and it closes at 3 p.m. The Museum tent will hold a mixture of Swedish foods and other items.

Saturday, June 24, and Sunday, June 25, is spent in Geneva, Ill. Swedish Days is a five-day festival that dates back to 1949. In 2023 it will be held June 21-25. Geneva Swedish Days celebrates the heritage of Swedish immigrants who settled in the area. Craft beer tent, a carnival, a Kids' Day, nightly entertainment and a parade are part of the festivities. Merchants host special sales and in-store events, as well as sponsoring main festival programs and donating in-kind services. Food stands throughout the downtown area tempt visitors with Swedish and American menus. The Museum Store will be there for the weekend's festivities.

The summer travels end with Scandinavian Day in Vasa Park. Sunday, Sept. 10, will be the 43rd Scandinavian Day. Many years have passed and the festival has evolved but it remains loyal to its roots; the heritage of the five Nordic countries. It achieved its mission to bring the Scandinavian community together last year, when 300 people visited the Festival despite a very rainy and muddy day. The Festival planning team is working to select the entertainment including the ever popular Dancing Queen; an ABBA Salute. In addition to music and other performances there will be vendors selling delicious Scandinavian foods and an assortment of Scandinavian goods. The festival is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

In addition the Museum Store will make a two appearances at the Andersonville farmers market. You can find us there on Wednesday, June 28, and Wednesday, Aug. 30.

Have a great summer and hope to see you on the road.



*Scandinavian Day 2022*

# Brunk Children's Museum of Immigration

By *Jacqueline Victor*

The changing season brings new excitement to our family programming as we look forward to Midsommarfest, summer camp, and Family Fun Fest. We will have two new summer camps this year to get kids active and creative while learning about Swedish culture. From June 20-23, we will host our first ever Midsummer Camp. Taking place right at Midsummer, this camp will encourage kids to have fun the Swedish Midsummer way by exploring the natural world, learning Swedish songs and folk dancing, creating art, making flower crowns and a Midsummer pole, and tasting Swedish foods. Then, from August 7-11, we will host a Swedish Camp with a new theme every day, from Vikings to folk art to inventions! Both camps are hands-on experiences that will include outdoor activities, and both are for ages 6-12. For more information, please visit [www.swedishamericanmuseum.org/summer-camp](http://www.swedishamericanmuseum.org/summer-camp).

Another new season has also begun at the Swedish American Museum with the temporary closing of our Dream of America exhibit. This change has provided an opportunity to adapt our K-12 educational programming in creative ways. Previously, school tours from second grade and up would visit our main exhibit in addition to our Children's Museum. There, we would use the artifacts to tell a story about the Swedish immigrant experience and how it connects with the larger context of immigration and the city of Chicago. Recently, I worked with our Curator, Phoebe Yates, and an intern, Meg Hamilton, to create a smaller version of the main exhibit open to museum visitors and school tours alike. In addition, our school tours now offer the option of new activities that tie into immigration and the museum-going experience, and we are creating K-12 tours around our rotating gallery exhibits. By the time the new We Are America exhibit opens, we will have updated our tours to reflect the new content and its more interactive and inclusive approach. If you or someone you know might be interested in a school tour or in connecting your school with our museum, please reach out! We will have new opportunities to connect with teachers and students this fall.

And finally, before we get too far ahead of ourselves thinking of summer and fall, we are having fun at the Children's Museum right now, every week and every month! We have weekly crafts available Tuesday-Friday in our classroom (recent crafts include paper weaving and making a mini Viking shield) and we have restarted our monthly Hejsan! story and craft time, which is at 2 p.m. on the last Thursday of the month.



# Programs & Events

## RECURRING EVENTS

### SCANDINAVIAN JAM ONLINE - FREE

Sunday, 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

July 2

Aug. 6

Scandinavian Jam, where we practice what we teach.

Join Mary Allsopp and Paul Tyler online on the first and third Sunday of every month.

Enjoy an afternoon of traditional roots music. We teach by ear, review and share tunes. We are happy to take suggestions and love meeting new people. It's a friendly group and we have folks joining in from across the country.

### HEJSAN! STORY AND CRAFT - FREE

Thursday, 2 p.m.

June 29

July 27

Aug. 31

Join us in the Brunk Children's Museum of Immigration for a story and craft on the last Thursday of each month. All ages are welcome to attend with a caregiver for this free (with admission) program.

### BOOK CLUB ONLINE - FREE

Saturday, 1 p.m.

June 24, The true deceiver by Tove Jansson

July 29, A System So Magnificent It Is Blinding  
by Amanda Svensson

Aug. 26, For the Love of Cod by Eric Dregni

The Museum book club reads a wide range of books from the Nordic countries. This is a free event and the books can be bought in the Museum Store.

### ANDERSONVILLE WALKING TOUR

Thursday, June 29, 1 p.m.

Thursday, July 27, 1 p.m.

Friday, Aug. 4, 1 p.m.

Thursday, Aug. 31, 1 p.m.

Learn about the Swedish heritage in Andersonville with a guided tour led by the Swedish American Museum.

## JUNE

Closed on Mondays

### MIDSOMMARFEST

Friday, June 9 - Sunday, June 11

For three nights and two days, this vibrant and diverse community will bring together over 75,000 people to celebrate a proud Swedish summer tradition with eclectic music, great vendors, food and free kids' activities. Midsommarfest kicks off Friday, June 9, 5 p.m. -10 p.m. from Catalpa to Foster and continues Saturday, June 10 and Sunday, June 11 from noon -10 p.m. To see the program on the Swedish stage or find out more about what the Museum has to offer please visit our website at [www.SwedishAmericanMuseum.org/midsommarfest](http://www.SwedishAmericanMuseum.org/midsommarfest).

## SWEDISH LANGUAGE CLASSES

Starts the week of Monday, June 12

Ends the week of Monday, Aug. 14

The Swedish American Museum is offering evening Swedish Classes this semester with four levels: Beginners I, Beginners II, Intermediate, and Conversation/Advanced. All courses will run for 10 weeks with classes running 90 minutes.

The instructor is Jack Rogalla. Tuition is \$150 for Museum members, \$180 for non-Museum members. Books are not included in tuition. There will be a maximum of 15 students and minimum of 4 students per class. If there are more registrations, we will open up a new class on a different day.

### ROCKFORD

Saturday, June 17, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Join the Swedish American Museum for Midsommarfest at the Erlander Home Museum (404 S. Third St., Rockford, Ill.) you can find a market, crafts, exhibits, music, dancing, food and more at this annual summer celebration organized by the Swedish Historical Society. Please direct your questions about this event to the Swedish Historical Society at [www.swedishhistorical.org](http://www.swedishhistorical.org).

### JENNY LIND CONCERT - FREE

Sunday, June 18, 5 p.m.

Join the Swedish American Museum for our annual Jenny Lind concert. The Royal Swedish Academy of Music has selected the 2023 "Jenny Lind" winner to perform in Sweden and the United States. This year's program features Josefine Mindus accompanied by pianist Rebecca Elsgard. The 60 minute repertoire of music including pieces by Edvard Grieg, Björn Ulvaeus and Benny Andersson.

### MIDSOMMAR CAMP

Tuesday, June 20 – Friday, June 23, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

A hands-on camp celebrating Midsummer! Kids ages 6-12 will explore the natural world, make their own flower crowns and midsummer crafts, construct a Maypole, learn songs and dances, make and eat Swedish foods, and play games outside during the longest days of the year!

### EXHIBIT OPENING - FREE

Friday, June 23, 6 p.m.

Meet artist Kurt Seaberg for the opening of his exhibit. More information can be found on the back cover.

### SWEDISH DAYS IN GENEVA

Saturday, June 24 & Sunday, June 25

Swedish Days in Geneva June 21-25. The whole family will enjoy fabulous food, carnival rides, live music and entertainment nightly. The Museum's Kerstin Andersson Store will participate in Swedish Days on Saturday, June 24 and Sunday, June 25 with a tent that is everything Swedish.

### FARMERS MARKET

Wednesday, June 28, 3 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Find the Museum Store at the Andersonville Farmers Market from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. A great way to support local business as well as shopping Swedish items after hours.

## JULY

Closed on Mondays and Tuesday, July 4.

### POP-UP CAFÉ

Sunday, July 9, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Stop by the Museum for a fika in our pop-up café. Try a Swedish Cinnamon Roll, Sandwich or other baked goods in the Museum's pop-up café in the main gallery while enjoying our temporary exhibit on display.

### FAMILY EVENT

Saturday, July 15, 2 p.m.

Families are welcome to this amazing opportunity to interact with our special exhibit "Letters from Home." The event starts with a tour of the exhibit with our Curator, Phoebe, and artist, Aram Han Sifuentes! Letters From Home is all about immigration, how people are accepted into new places, and staying connected with loved ones. At this event, you will have the opportunity to create a collaborative art piece, write your own letters, and learn more about the art in the exhibit. The event is free for Museum members (reservation required) and \$5 for non-members.

### LETTER WRITING WORKSHOP

Saturday, July 22, 2 p.m.

While certainly not as immediate as sending a text, a handwritten letter or note will always be an enduring, thoughtful method of communication to share news, tidbits, aspirations and personal stories with the people in your life. As part of the exhibit, "Letters From Home" the Swedish American Museum will host a Letter Writing workshop. Letter writing enthusiast Bonnie Tawse will share tips on getting started, some tools to keep you going after the workshop and provide all of the supplies needed to write and send a letter or two, including vintage papers, envelopes and a plethora of beautiful stamps.

Bonnie Tawse is a writer, educator and organizer of public programs, exploring the connections between community, culture, nature and art. She is a long time resident of Chicago, where she lives with her husband and two sons.

The workshop is \$10 per person and includes all the materials you will need.

### TANTALIZING TREASURES SALE

Friday, July 28 - Sunday, July 30

Andersonville Sidewalk Sale has participating businesses spanning from 4800 to 5800 N. Clark Street and the adjacent side streets will feature summer sales, bargain antiques, one-of-a-kind merchandise, fashion apparel, and local treasures. The Museum will take this opportunity to host a Tantalizing Treasures Sale. Come find your treasures old and new.

## AUGUST

Closed on Mondays

### SWEDISH SOMMARLÄGER

Monday, Aug. 7 - Friday, Aug. 11, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

A hands-on camp with a different theme every day! Kids ages 6-12 will play Viking games, do traditional arts and crafts, dance, tell stories, become inventors, and explore the outdoors!

### POP-UP CAFÉ

Sunday, Aug. 13, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Stop by the Museum for a fika in our pop-up café. Try a Swedish Cinnamon Roll, Sandwich or other baked goods in the Museum's pop-up café in the main gallery while enjoying our temporary exhibit on display.

### DALAHORSE DECORATION

Thursday, Aug. 17, 6 p.m.

You may have heard of the Dala Horse, but did you know that there are also Dala Pigs and Dala Roosters? These are not as famous as the horse but still commonly found in homes around Sweden. You have this unique opportunity to paint your own rooster, pig or horse at the Museum this summer.

### EXHIBIT OPENING - FREE

Friday, Aug. 18, 6 p.m.

Join us for the opening of "Tattoo; Identity through Ink." More information can be found on the back cover.

### SCANDINAVIAN DANCE EVENING

Saturday, Aug. 19, 7:30 p.m. - 11 p.m.

This year we will ease back into dancing at a dance workshop. All experience levels are welcome to this free evening of Scandinavian Dance held by Linda and Paul. No partner needed. Cost is \$10.

### FAMILY FUN FEST - FREE

Saturday, Aug. 26, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Join us in the Museum parking lot, located on the corner of Foster and Ashland (location will be moved indoors if the weather does not cooperate), for a day of family fun. Festivities include games, crafts and more. Most things at the festival will be free; however a few items will come with a fee.

### FARMERS MARKET

Wednesday, Aug. 30, 3 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Find the Museum Store at the Andersonville Farmers Market from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. A great way to support local business as well as shopping Swedish items after hours.

## Svenska Skolan

### SIGN UP FOR THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR!

Svenska skolan is for children of school age (Kindergarten – High School) who speak Swedish. The children learn about Swedish history, geography and culture in a school setting. It is a great way for children to practice their Swedish with children their own age as well as learning more about their heritage.

Make sure you sign up to start in September.



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## Special Exhibits

### Tilling the Past

#### Photography by Hilma Ljung

Exhibit Closes on Sunday, June 18

Between the years 1908 and the mid 1930's armed with her 4x5 glass plate view camera, Hilma Ljung photographed the lives and land that surrounded her and her family in the small village of Svalöv. In an era where photography was largely presided over by men, Ljung shows us a mostly unseen perspective of rural Swedish life from the female's point of view. Let us walk out of the darkroom and into the light to view Ljung's pioneering photographs.

### Letters from Home

#### Luis Sahagan, Areej Almansory, Nisrine Boukhari & Aram Han Sifuentes

Exhibit Closes on Sunday, Aug. 13

This exhibit is a collaborative contemporary art exhibit that brings together artists in Sweden and Chicago who have created original works interpreting a collection of early 20th century letters to Chicago immigrant Emil Olsson from his family in Sweden. This international exchange produced new contemporary artwork interpreting themes present in the Olsson letters that relate to the early Swedish American immigrant experience and the artists own experiences with immigration.

### The Spirit of Place: Earth is Home

#### Lithography by Kurt Seaberg

Exhibit Opening, Friday, June. 23, 6 p.m.

Exhibit Closes on Sunday, Oct. 15

Kurt Seaberg is a Sami-American artist currently residing in Minnesota. He was born in Chicago, IL, and studied intaglio and lithography at the University of Minnesota. Nature has always been a theme and source of inspiration in his work and the particular spiritual qualities he finds there. He believes one of the tasks of an artist is to remind us where our strength and power lies – in beauty, community, and sense of place. Seaberg uses his art to connect with his Sami heritage and his father, who was an artist as well. This exhibit showcases Seaberg's lithographs which connect you to natural, beautiful landscapes.

### Tattoo: Identity Through Ink

Exhibit Opening, Friday, Aug. 18, 6 p.m.

Exhibit Closes on Sunday, Nov. 26

From the Vesterheim Museum, this exhibit tells the story of why people have adorned their bodies with tattoos. It explores the global history of tattooing, from Otzi the Iceman to Indigenous tattoo rituals still in practice today. This global perspective then moves to Scandinavia, home to the world's oldest continually operating tattoo shop and explores the rise of Neo-Nordic tattoos.