

FLAGGAN

To preserve, teach and celebrate Swedish heritage.

Spring 2018



Erika Råberg's photography is in the Raoul Wallenberg Gallery until Thursday, March 29th, see page 3.

Tantalizing 2018 Treasures

Saturday, April 7, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Sunday, April 8, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

See page 13 for more details!



Chicago-Sweden cousins story is on page 7.

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SWEDISH
AMERICAN
MUSEUM

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,

As we reflect on 2017 and the accomplishments of getting the Water Tower back to our building and Andersonville's skyline, the purchase of 5217 N. Clark St. along with a full schedule of events and programs we feel very lucky to be part of these steps in the Swedish American Museum's life.

Already in 2018 we have added some major new achievements – the kitchen is completed and we have our retail food license, the gallery floor is now a beautiful hardwood floor, and a brand new boiler is keeping the Museum warm. Some of you were able to enjoy our Smlor that we served on Fattisdagen on Feb. 13. It was the first official use of our kitchen, and we hope that it is the first of many opportunities to serve Swedish food at the Museum.

As we look forward to the rest of 2018 we have some exciting exhibits in both the gallery and Wallenberg room. There will be many programs and events to be enjoyed by everyone, and our Movie night is back. All of the details are available in our Program section starting on page 9.

Many of you have expressed interest in progress toward connecting our two buildings. Although the plans are in the early stages I want to pass along some information:

The first floor retail store at 5217 is now an empty space. The second floor and garage will be empty at end of April and the Andersonville Chamber of Commerce is our new neighbor on the 3rd floor.

Our first order of business is to address the building issues that were known and planned for at time of the purchase. Working with our contractor, architect, and facilities committee we are in the process of applying for the permit to do the work. It is not a quick process and when working with the city patience is essential. Once the permits are achieved it will take about a month to do the work. This will

probably coincide with having full access to the building since the 2nd floor apartment lease ends in April and the apartment will be painted and readied for use for by special visitors to the Museum, including interns, artists, performers, and others. The backyard will be cleaned up and the garage will be removed and replaced by a wall towards the alley.

Then what? This is where your wonderful interest is needed. The Board and Trustees have had some discussions relating to placement of Kerstin Andersson Museum Store in 5217, expansion of "Dream of America" exhibit, conference room location, connection of the two buildings, and the list goes on. We invite all of you to come to our Celebration of the Museum and Annual Meeting on Sunday, April 15, at 5 p.m., to hear more, participate in discussions, adding your ideas, questions, and thoughts. Where we go next is all dependent on you and your input.

We also hope that you will come to the Volunteer Appreciation on Tuesday, April 10, at 6 p.m., to honor and celebrate our volunteers who daily make our Museum work smoothly.

Yes, this year we are splitting the Volunteer Appreciation and the Annual Meeting to give more time for these two very important topics, the accomplishments of 2017, and the new building ideas and the appreciation of our volunteers – we hope to see you at both events.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Museum and together we will make 2018 another exciting year.

Mvh,



Karin Moen Abercrombie
Executive Director

Värmland at the Museum

Värmland is a province in the west of middle Sweden. It is a beautiful part of Sweden with farmlands, deep troll forests and a rocky island archipelago. There are songs written about its beauty and it has been the inspiration of famous Swedes such as author Selma Lagerlöf and inventor and mechanical engineer John Ericsson. For a few months this year we have brought part of Värmland into the Museum's two gallery spaces.

In the main gallery, we have paintings by Swedish artist Hans Öhman. Hans' exhibit is a presentation of two different styles of art. One is decorative and based on an older traditional way of painting furniture and walls. Hans' grandfather restored paintings in churches and built furniture that was decorated in a regional style. This has inspired Hans to create a style that is more contemporary and free. For all of you who had an opportunity to visit our exhibit on Bonader that is on display at the Museum every December, you will be able to see the type of traditional paintings where Hans has derived some of his inspiration.

The other style of paintings that Hans is displaying is philosophical. These are based on the kind of haiku poetry that expresses the span between micro and macro cosmos. These are all watercolor



paintings. It is a relatively fast technique and the challenge is to catch the right moment when to add the next step in the painting process.

Hans Öhman is an artist living in Värmland, Sweden. He and his wife

are working to establish an art garden/art center at Norra Mon, Charlottenberg. This will be a place where people can come to relax and enjoy the garden and café during the summer months or join a course or program. Hans wants to create a place where people can come in search of inner peace and creativity.

In the Wallenberg room, we have a photography exhibit.

Erika Råberg is a Swedish-American artist working with both still and moving images to explore the intricate relationship between language, image, and sound. At the Swedish American Museum, Råberg is sharing work made over the course of many years on the farm in rural Värmland, that has been in the family since the early 1600s.

In one short film, her father and eleven-year-old cousin play variations on a Swedish folk tune as they move about the farmhouse, a call and response between past and present. A newer companion piece explores the fleeting feeling of fall during harvest time. Themes of intimacy and distance, sense of place, and sense of home emerge, with

archival material woven into present-day footage.

Hans' paintings will be on display until March 18. Erika's photography will be on display until March 29.

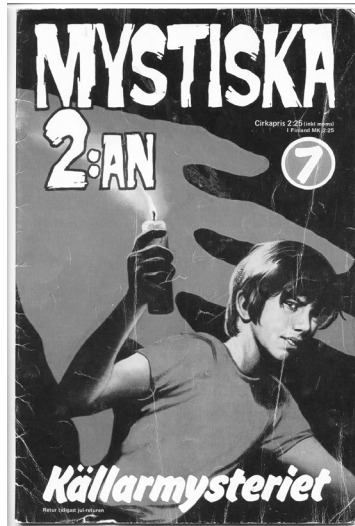
by Angelica Farzaneh-Far

Curator's Corner: Outside the Lines

This spring, the Swedish American Museum will feature an exhibit on Swedish comics and their influence on Swedish culture, entitled, “Outside the Lines: Comics from Sweden to Chicago.” The exhibit will celebrate the colorful history of Swedish sequential art, cartooning, and graphic novels – while highlighting the power of that medium as a cultural communication tool, as well as its shared intercultural influence between Sweden and the United States.

Similar to the United States, Sweden has a healthy appreciation for comics and graphic novels. However, Scandinavia as a whole differs in that it is home to multiple academic and not-for-profit organizations dedicated to studying the narrative medium’s influence on popular culture and social and political movements. One example is the Scandinavian Journal of Comic Art, a peer-reviewed academic journal about comics and sequential art. Featured articles analyze and discuss a gamut of topics, including the importance of humor in getting across controversial messages or how historic Swedish rulers, wars and religious beliefs are factually depicted in the beloved “Fantomen” comics (“The Phantom” in the United States).

Another example is the Swedish Comics Association, founded in 1968 and dedicated to studying the effect that comics have on



Swedish culture. It is also the publisher of the world’s oldest magazine dedicated to the comic medium, “Bild & Bubbla,” which translates to “picture and bubble,” particularly fitting for a magazine dedicated to comics!

Several prestigious Scandinavian museums have sections dedicated to comics, graphic

novels and illustrations. There are also entire museums dedicated to the art form. The Åbergs Museum, outside of Stockholm, has an extensive collection of comic-influenced art, original comic drawings and one of the world’s best collections of Disney artwork (this museum graciously provided several images for our “Kalle Anka” exhibit).

The Borås Art Museum in Borås, Sweden, opened the first large-scale exhibition at an art museum dedicated to Wilson McCoy, the American artist behind Sweden’s immensely popular “Fantomen” for 19 years. McCoy drew and wrote strips from his home in Barrington, Ill. Images and content from the Borås exhibit will be prominently featured in the Swedish American Museum’s comic exhibit as well.

With the goal of extending the understanding of what an art museum can be, the Gothenburg Museum of Art exhibits and acquires a broad range of visual expressions that include art, children’s book illustrations and comics.

The Museum of Danish Cartoon Art collection, housed in Denmark’s Royal Library since 1998, features more than 150,000 original Danish cartoons.

All of this is to say, the appreciation for this art form, both as a type of personal expression and mode for providing political and social commentary, thrives in Sweden. There, comics are considered a respected, sophisticated narrative technique that transcends the pop culture stigma the art form has struggled against in the United States.

The Museum exhibit will highlight the cross-pollination of artistic expression in both countries as well, including shared characters, magazines and movements, ranging from *Mad Magazine* and underground comics, to Kalle Anka (Donald Duck) and the Fantomen (The Phantom). A special point of interest will be a section on McCoy, the American artist who drew and wrote for “The Phantom” in the 1950s and early 1960s and his artistic influence on Swedish pop art. McCoy grew up and drew his comics in Barrington, Ill. Complementing this history will be strips from American artists speaking to a variety of social issues, from LGBTQ and feminist causes to immigration stories, showcasing the medium’s ability to reach diverse audiences and to provide a platform for marginalized voices. A variety of programming related to narrative art, comics and graphic novels will round out the experience throughout the exhibit’s run.

“Outside the Lines: From Sweden to Chicago” will be featured in the Museum’s main gallery and opens on March 25 and closes June 24.

by Keith Ulrich

Make Volunteering your New Year's Resolution!

The secret to a good new year's resolution, one that is easy to keep, is to do something fun or something that makes you feel good about yourself. Too many resolutions focus on negative things and become easy to break. This year why not pick a new year's resolution that will be easy to keep – volunteer at the Swedish American Museum.

The Museum is always looking for more volunteers to add to the amazing people who are already here. 2017 was yet another year during which we were so impressed by our volunteers; they are loyal, hardworking, and the kindest people you can imagine that make our work more fun.

Casting an eye upon 2018, we are looking forward to what can be achieved within memberships, volunteers, and community engagement! An important goal is to nurture the Museum's pool of wonderful volunteers. We are also always working on discovering new ways to get the word out that the Museum is a great opportunity for people considering adding volunteering to their lives! A major aim of ours is to improve volunteer recruitment.

Joanne Kiewicz, who volunteers at our admissions desk, shared that she enjoys all the interaction with people when she is here. She also feels that



this is a great outlet for her interest in history, learning how our museum operates, and strengthens the bond with her heritage.

Prospective volunteers often ask what kinds of opportunities the Museum has for them. Typically the answer is that we have volunteer jobs in the Museum Store, Collections, Admissions, Children's Museum, Marketing, and individual Special Events to name a few. The addendum is that our needs will vary throughout the year. Currently, our greatest needs are in the Museum Store, Admissions, and being available for Special Events such as when the Museum hosts a concert or family event.

It takes a large number of volunteers to help us here at the Museum! Our staff really appreciates and welcomes volunteers because they are genuinely a huge support. This Museum is a community that

truly enjoys meeting new faces and all working together to make this a place that everyone enjoys; whether they are a regular or first time visitor, a Museum member, or a volunteer! Together we have fun making this Museum a fantastic resource for Swedish-American history and culture. Not only that, we are happy to be doing our part in keeping that heritage alive in our neighborhood of Andersonville and beyond! Are you, or someone you know, in need of a new year's resolution? How about contacting the Swedish American Museum and asking to volunteer?! We would love to speak with you further about what you can do as a volunteer here!

Volunteer applications can be found on our website. You may also email cgerbauletvanasse@samac.org or call the Museum and ask for Caroline.

by Caroline Gerbaulet-Vanasse

Brunk Children's Museum of Immigration

From Violins to Drums: Kids Love Music!

At 11 a.m. on the third Friday of the month from September to June, children and their caregivers bustle into the classroom across from the elevator on the third floor. They settle in for our story and craft time, called Hejsan. For children, stories and crafts provide an escape. Their minds are opened to new places and their hands are busy making a creative piece of art. For adults, this is a time to celebrate learning. The children they love are exploring something new and maybe taking away a new skill or interest. Hejsan is a time for all of these things and more. In Hejsan, both children and adults are also learning about Swedish culture, tradition and sometimes history while enjoying time together.

This year, we are focusing on Swedish music during Hejsan. We have already learned about Swedish folk music, ABBA, Sami music and holiday music. For the remainder of the year, we are focusing on Swedish artists, both classical and contemporary. While we can't dive too deeply into the subject matter, since our audience is usually between 1- 6 years old, guests usually leave with some fun facts and exposure to, for many, a new genre or artist.

Sweden is recognized as being one of the largest export of musical performers in the world. From jazz and classical to pop and rock, Sweden takes its music seriously. Music education is a big deal in Sweden. In fact, municipal music schools are very popular in Sweden. Children have the chance to try out a variety of instruments. If physical instruments are not their thing, Swedes aren't entirely out of luck. One instrument

that they always have with them is their voice! Roughly 600,000 Swedes sing in choirs.

The Eurovision Song Contest is another big influence on the positive attitude toward music in Sweden. Eurovision, which originated in 1956, is a song competition among members of the European Broadcasting Union. Leading up to Eurovision each country has to pick a song to represent them. In Sweden, this is done through Svenska Melodifestivalen. People and groups from all over the country apply and those who qualify compete against each other in a televised event. The winner then gets to represent Sweden at the Eurovision Song Contest. After a series of semifinals, each country will perform a live song on TV and radio. Then it is time for voting. After all performances have concluded, viewers in the participating countries can vote via phone or app for their favorite performance. However, they may not vote for their own country's song. This year, you can catch Eurovision song contest starting May 8. The finale will take place on May 12.

We invite you to come join us for Hejsan! For the remainder of the year we will be talking about some awesome artists. We rocked into February by learning all about the pop star, Robyn. We crash into March by exploring the music of drummer Anders Johansson. We will jazz things up in May when we talk about jazz pianist Esbjorn Svensson. We boogie into April with some alternative dance music by Avicii. Finally, in June we will take a classical spin with the Father of Swedish Classical Music, Johan Helmich Roman. It might not be quiet and peaceful, but it is fun, creative and energizing! Take some time this year to enjoy some Swedish music. You might find something new that you didn't know you loved!

Earth Day



In celebration of Earth Day, the Brunk Children's Museum of Immigration is

bringing you two wonderful events. Just a few days after Earth Day, on April 28, the Swedish American Museum will have Mulle Day. Families can come on a nature walk with Mulle. Mulle or Skogsmulle is a Swedish children's character who loves to play, sing and tell children all about nature. He was created in 1957 and has been used to teach children how to respect nature ever since. Weather permitting we will go for a city nature walk followed by crafts and much more. This event is \$5 and starts at 3:30 p.m. Reservations can be made at the Museum or on the Museum website.

A little bit later, at 5 p.m., Kidsworks touring theater company will perform "Endangered Animals! What's a Kid to Do?" Poaching, pollution, predators, plastic... what's a polar bear, sea turtle, penguin, monkey, elephant and gray whale to do? Join Kidsworks in a mock TV News show, as we travel around the world, visiting threatened animal habitats and learning positive ways children can save them. This program is loaded with educational information and audience participation... and is guaranteed to bring out the animal activist in us all! This event is free of charge but reservations are encouraged and can be made at the Museum or on the Museum website.

by Stacey Nyman

Bridging the Chicago-Sweden Cousin Gap



In the last issue of *Flaggan* (Fall/Winter 2017), I wrote about a Benson/Olson reunion in Vasa Park, South Elgin, Ill. It was such an amazing event that a cousin luncheon in Sweden followed in the fall.

Having alerted the cousins that I would be visiting from Chicago, we planned the gathering and sent out invitations. Lucky for me most Swedes speak English so language was not an issue. Cousin Svenne knew of a farmhouse that was available for rent AND was large enough to comfortably accommodate 30 cousins for lunch. So in September the Bengtsson (the name was Americanized to Benson when the family moved to the U.S.) cousins from Småland gathered at the charming 400-year old farm Ormakullagården in Älmhult, Sweden. Älmhult is especially close to my heart since this is my father's resting place.

With yellow and blue table linen and local red flowers, a feast was set up in the center of the main dining room. The weather was outstanding and adding to the atmosphere were

100-year old photos of Älmhult throughout the facility. A delicious IKEA lunch was served followed by a special cake ordered for the occasion. Everyone pitched in to help make this an amazing event.

On this trip, I also got a chance to visit some of my mother's side of the family in Höganäs, southwest Sweden. Höganäs is a beautiful town known for its ceramics (and therefore tourists), mining and fishing. My grandmother left here over 100 years ago, but her brother and two sisters stayed behind. The families remained in contact so I have had the chance to know my cousins. We met at a fish restaurant overlooking the harbor and its sailboats. The buffet was not only delicious but it also meant that no one had to cook or clean up.

After lunch, we headed over to cousin Gunnel and Jan Ola's home overlooking the sea (Kattegat). Historic Helsingor, Denmark, with the 15th-century Kronoborg Castle is a short ride across the water. The cake and coffee was accompanied by hours of

photos from both Chicago and Höganäs. We clarified and corrected some of the family stories passed down over the years. I scanned some photos and documents to bring home with me.

During the reunion in Vasa Park we started collecting photos to put on a Google drive for all the cousins to share. I was able to add more pictures during my visit to Sweden. In addition, more DNA was gathered for analysis in the U.S. This will be added to the Benson/Olson Swedish ancestors DNA chart.

It was another lovely cousin reunion and more priceless information added to the family genealogy. If you have not already organized your own cousin reunion I strongly urge that you do so. In order to preserve your family history and bridge the Chicago-Sweden gap, meet on either side of the Atlantic Ocean. I guarantee you will thoroughly enjoy putting together your genealogy and meeting all the second and third cousins.

by Julie Benson

American Daughters of Sweden

The American Daughters of Sweden, organized in 1926 by a group of women of Swedish heritage to foster and encourage an interest in Sweden and Swedish culture, has continued to fulfill that purpose for over 90 years. Open to any woman of Swedish descent, the organization today has endowed scholarships at the University of Chicago, North Park University, and Augustana College. It also provides

opportunities for young girls to attend summer camp at Sjölundén, part of the Language Villages of Concordia University in Minnesota. In addition to its educational ventures, the organization provides financial support to the Swedish American Museum and several other Swedish organizations. We have also created a cookbook of tested Swedish recipes that is sold in various venues throughout the country.

Regular meetings are held from September through May, often at the Swedish American Museum, with luncheons and interesting programs on varied topics, usually with a Swedish connection. For further information, visit our website: www.americandaughtersofsweden.com. A membership application can be found there. New members are always welcome!

Newspapers Kept Swedish Immigrants Informed

Newspapers were as much a part of early Swedish culture in Illinois as religion and politics. In fact, many Swedish-language periodicals were founded by and supported through religious and political interests.

A Swedish American Genealogical Society program on this subject will be presented in the Museum at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 24. "Old Swedish-American Newspapers - New Treasure Trove for Online Research," will be discussed by Bengt Sjögren, chair of the Museum's Board of Trustees.

Between 1850 and 1940, an estimated 1,500 Swedish-American newspapers existed in this country. The Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center at Augustana College lists microfilms of three dozen that circulated out of Chicago, plus a few others in Galesburg, Galva, Moline, Paxton and Rockford.

Immigrants avidly read Swedish-

American newspapers and other publications from Sweden in clubs and coffee shops. Among them, between 1913 and the Depression years, were Chicago's two Cafés Idrott, one on West Belmont Avenue and another on North Clark Street in Andersonville.

Several Swedish-language newspapers circulated in Chicago's various "Swedetowns" during the peak immigration years from 1850 to 1930. Some prospered, some failed. A few strengthened publishing futures by combining with others that had been erstwhile competitors.

One such example is Svenska Tribunen, the Swedish Tribune, which was founded in 1869. In May 1905, owner J. E. Norling sold the Tribunen and another periodical, Fosterlandet (Fatherland), to Charles F. Erickson. Within a year, Erickson acquired the competitive Svenska Nyheter and merged the two as the Tribunen-

Nyheter.

Thirty years later, another merger involved the Svenska Amerikanaren, which had been established in 1866. Beginning in 1936, the combined newspaper was known as the Amerikanaren-Tribunen. Unlike many small papers that failed in the 1930s and 1940s, it continued to publish during and after World War II.

Still in print since its founding in 1872 is the venerable bi-weekly Nordstjernen (North Star). Edited by Ulf Barslund Martensson, it is distributed coast to coast from centers in Chicago, New York City and San Francisco.

Nordstjernen adequately fills the void left by discontinued parochial newspapers, and it also disseminates up-to-date online versions that regular subscribers can access electronically at nordstjernen.com/digital_issues.

by Stephen Anderson

Spring 2018 Programs and Events

— EXHIBITS —

Main Gallery

INSPIRED: CONTEMPORARY SWEDISH FOLK PAINTINGS AND HAIKU PAINTINGS

BY HANS ÖHMAN

Exhibit Closing, Sunday, March 18, 4 p.m.

OUTSIDE THE LINES: COMICS FROM SWEDEN TO CHICAGO

Exhibit Opening, Sunday, March 25, 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Start with Art, Friday, April 27, 9 a.m. - noon

Family Night, Friday, April 27, 4 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Exhibit Closing, Sunday, June 24, 4 p.m.

More information about this exhibit can be found on page 4.

Raoul Wallenberg Gallery

AVAILABLE LIGHT

BY ERIKA RÅBERG

Exhibit Closing, Thursday, March 29, 4 p.m.

ASTRID LINDGREN: TO PLAY IS TO LIVE

Exhibit Opening, Saturday, March 31

Exhibit Closing, Sunday, April 22, 4 p.m.

Come and learn all about Sweden's beloved children's author, Astrid Lindgren. She is the creator of characters such as Pippi Longstockings and Emil. Generations of Swedes, at home and abroad, have grown up reading her books, listening to them on tape and watching the movies. It is as much a natural part of childhood in Sweden as riding a bike. In this exhibit you will learn about Astrid herself, her life and what inspired her to write her stories.

DREAMS OF A SWEDISH SUMMER

BY LAMANDA JOY

Exhibit Opening, Friday, April 27, 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Exhibit Closing, Sunday, July 29

— RECURRING EVENTS —

BULLERBYN

Sunday, 10 a.m. - 11 a.m.

March 18, April 8 and 22, May 6 and 20

Taking place on alternative Sundays in tandem with Svenska Skolan, Bullerbyn is a time for singing cherished children's songs, reading humorous tales and having lots of fun in Swedish. Children aged 6 months to 5 years are welcome to attend with parents. Only Swedish is spoken in Bullerbyn, so Swedish should be spoken regularly at home too! We meet in the gallery space or the Children's Museum. Kids are welcome to stay and play in the Brunk Children's Museum after the program. Classes are free for members, non-members are asked to make a \$5 per child/class donation; payment can be made at the Museum. Reservations are recommended and can be made by emailing museum@samac.org.

MOON MONDAY

Monday, 3 p.m.

April 2 and May 7

The Buzz Aldrin Education Cart is available for exploration the first Monday of each month. Moon Mondays allow guests at the Swedish American Museum and the Brunk Children's Museum of Immigration to enrich the experience of the Buzz Aldrin: Space Visionary exhibit. This tech-equipped mobile exhibit is used on a regular basis as part of our educational programming as well as during select school tours. This complement to our Buzz Aldrin: Space Visionary exhibit was made possible through a grant from the Swedish Council of America.

SCANDINAVIAN JAM

Sunday, 1 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

March 11, April 8, and May 13

It is music at the Museum - wake up your ears, exercise your fingers and play along with us! Musicians and instructors Mary Allsopp and Paul Tyler co-host a Scandinavian Jam at the Swedish American Museum the second Sunday of every month. Join us for an afternoon of traditional roots music starting with instruction in the call and response "aural" tradition. The afternoon continues with a brief snack, and the jam session kicks off at 2 p.m. Build a repertoire with the unique tones and unusual rhythms of Scandinavia. Recording devices are encouraged. Bring your instruments, request your favorites, share a tune and play along on what you can, sit back and listen when you want a break. Contact Scandi.Fiddler@yahoo.com or PTyler@ameritech.net with any questions.

HEJSAN - STORY & CRAFT HOUR

Friday, 11 a.m. (September through June)

March 16 - Anders Johansson (drums/ percussion)

April 20 - Avicii (alternative dance music)

May 18 - Esbjörn Svensson (piano/jazz)

Join us at 11 a.m. at the Brunk Children's Museum of Immigration for a story and craft hour on the third Friday of each month. The theme for the school year 2017-2018 is music. Come explore the rich music culture of Sweden. All ages are welcome to attend with a caregiver for this free (with admission) program. While there is no additional cost to attend, reservations are appreciated and can be made via email to snyman@samac.org.

continues on the next page

SWEDISH AMERICAN MUSEUM HOURS

GENERAL MUSEUM AND STORE HOURS:

Monday - Friday: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday: 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Store open to 6 p.m. on Fridays

CHILDREN'S MUSEUM HOURS:

Monday - Thursday: 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Friday : 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday: 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Spring 2018 Programs and Events Continued

**THE DREAM OF AMERICA EXHIBIT
GUIDED TOUR****Saturday, March 17, 11 a.m.****Saturday, April 21, 11 a.m.****Saturday, May 19, 11 a.m.**

Dive into the history of Swedish immigration to Chicago with a guided tour of the Swedish American Museum's permanent exhibit, "The Dream of America." Uncover the stories of real immigrants like Karl Karlsson, who left Sweden with his family in 1893, or Elin and Birgitta Hedman, who made the journey in 1924. Learn about what awaited the millions who came to America via Ellis Island and what life was like in Swedish neighborhoods such as Andersonville in Chicago then and now. The tour is free with admissions, and members are free. Reservations are recommended and can be made via email to museum@samac.org.

MOVIE NIGHTS**Thursday, April 5, 6 p.m.****Thursday, May 3, 6 p.m.**

Swedish movies have been prominent internationally since the early 1900's largely due to Greta Garbo. Since then the industry has produced many great names including Ingmar Bergman, Britt Ekland, the Skarsgård family, Peter Stormare and Noomi Rapace. Every year a couple of Swedish films make it to the cinemas in the US, but there are so many great ones that don't make it across the Atlantic. Now you will have the opportunity to watch some of these here at the Museum. Swedish movie nights are back on the first Thursday of the month at 6 p.m. Sandwiches will be available for purchase.

— MARCH 2018 —

THE MUSEUM WILL BE CLOSED FOR
GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 30

**SCANDINAVIAN DANCES
WITH LINDA AND PAUL****Three remaining Friday sessions:****March 9, 16 and 23, 7:30 - 10 p.m.**

Always wanted to learn how to dance or take your dancing to the next level? If you can walk, you can learn to dance! Emphasis is on basic dance techniques one step at the time. Beginners will learn to recognize music, connect with your partner, lead and follow. For those with advanced dance abilities, classes build a strong foundation to develop additional dance skills and improve technique. Attendance at each class is not required but highly recommended. No partner needed and any experience level welcome. Cost per class: \$10 members, \$15 non-members; save 20% by paying for all 4 classes (\$32 members, \$48 non-members). Reservations can be made at the Museum or on the Museum website.

GENEALOGY SESSION**Saturday, March 24, 10 a.m. - noon**

"Old Swedish American Newspapers - New Treasure Trove for Online Research" by Bengt Sjögren. As Swedes arrived to the US in large numbers, hundreds of Swedish-language newspapers were published from 1850 onwards. Recently 28 such newspapers were digitized and they are now searchable - providing a great source of information.

Cost is free for Swedish American Genealogical Society members; \$10 for non-members to participate. Reservations appreciated and can be made via email to genealogy@samac.org or by calling the Museum at 773.728.8111.

VÅFFELDAGEN**Sunday, March 25, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.**

Våffeldagen is celebrated on March 25, the fest of Marie Bebådelsedagen or Annunciation Day. This was the day the Archangel Gabriel announced to the Virgin Mary that she had been chosen to be the mother of Jesus. Swedes have found a great way to celebrate this day - eating waffles! Come and get your Swedish waffles at the Museum. Cost is \$5 plus admission.

SPRING CRAFTS**Monday, March 26 - Thursday, March 29,**

Join us for Easter-themed activities all week long at the Swedish American Museum. We will have fun learning about all the Swedish Easter traditions from creating Easter trees with feathers to dressing up as witches!

EASTER CRAFTS FOR ADULTS**Tuesday, March 27, 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.**

Get ready for Easter at the Swedish American Museum's craft evening. Learn some Swedish traditions and create some beautiful decorations. This event is for adults and children 12 and over. Cost is \$10. Reservations can be made at the Museum or Museum website.



Lena Granefelt / imagebank.sweden.se

Spring 2018 Programs and Events Continued

— APRIL 2018 —

THE MUSEUM WILL BE CLOSED FOR EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 1

FIRST FRIDAY

Friday, April 6, 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

The Museum is taking part in Andersonville's First Friday. Shops stay open late on the first Friday of every month.



Tantalizing 2018 Treasures



TANTALIZING TREASURES SALE

Saturday, April 7, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Sunday, April 8, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

The Museum is once again hosting a Tantalizing Treasure sale. Come and find your gem among items old and new during our weekend long sale. If you have items you would like to donate please make sure to have bring them to the Museum before the end of March. For furniture donations please contact the Museum beforehand. All donations are tax deductible.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

Tuesday, April 10, 6 p.m.

All are welcome to help us celebrate all the wonderful volunteers that make the Swedish American Museum such an inviting place to visit. Our volunteers can be found all over the Museum, at the front desk, in the store, behind a computer or in the collection. All an important part of the running of this Museum. Dinner and cake will be served. Cost is \$20 for members and non-members. Volunteers are our guests. Prepaid tickets are not refundable within 5 days of the event.

MUSEUM CELEBRATION & ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, April 15, 5 p.m.

All are welcome—members and non-members—to attend this celebration of the Museum's achievements and activities from the past year. Sandwiches will be served. This event is free thanks to the generous donation by Ken Norgan. Reservations can be made at the Museum or by emailing museum@samac.org.

MIDSUMMER NIGHTS DREAM

Wednesday, April 25

At the Joffrey Ballet at the Auditorium

This is not Shakespeare's midsummer. Swedish trailblazer Alexander Ekman astounds with this ode to the longest day of the year. Delight in joyful abandon and romance under the Scandinavian sun as dancers celebrate and let their imaginations run wild. A tour de force that took Stockholm by storm. Alexander Ekman will be in Chicago for the performance on April 25.

MIKE CENTENO

Thursday, April 26, 7 p.m.

Mike Centeno was born in Venezuela and has been living in the USA since 2010. Since then he's been working on self publishing his series futile comics and working within the comics community in Chicago. He is very interested in politics but more importantly in people, and that is the main drive for his storytelling. As an immigrant and someone who's always in between groups he finds pleasure in trying to understand everyone's point of view and that is what keeps him making stories.

GENEALOGY SESSION

Saturday, April 28, 10 a.m. - noon

"Diggin up Funeral Records" by Janet Nelson

Funeral homes can be a good source of information for genealogists, but what happens when your neighborhood funeral home sells his/her business or worse yet sells the property and the business no longer exists? Come and hear a few strategies to help you overcome some hurdles.

Cost is free for Swedish American Genealogical Society members; \$10 for non-members to participate. Reservations appreciated and can be made via email to genealogy@samac.org or by calling the Museum at 773.728.8111.

MULLE

Saturday, April 28, 3:30 p.m.

Mulle or Skogsmulle is a Swedish children's character who loves to play, sing and tell children all about nature. Mulle was created in 1957 and has been used to teach children how to respect nature ever since. Just a few days after Earth Day the Swedish American Museum will have Mulle Day. Weather permitting we will go for a city nature walk followed by crafts and much more. The event is open to all ages and cost is \$5 for anyone over 24 months of age.

KIDSWORKS

Saturday, April 28, 5 p.m.

"Endangered Animals! What's a Kid to Do?" Poaching, pollution, predators, plastic... what's a polar bear, sea turtle, penguin, monkey, elephant and gray whale to do? Join Kidsworks in a mock TV News show, as we travel around the world, visiting threatened animal habitats and learning positive ways children can save them. This program is loaded with educational information and audience participation... and is guaranteed to bring out the animal activist in us all! This event is free of charge but reservations are encouraged and can be made at the Museum or on the Museum website.

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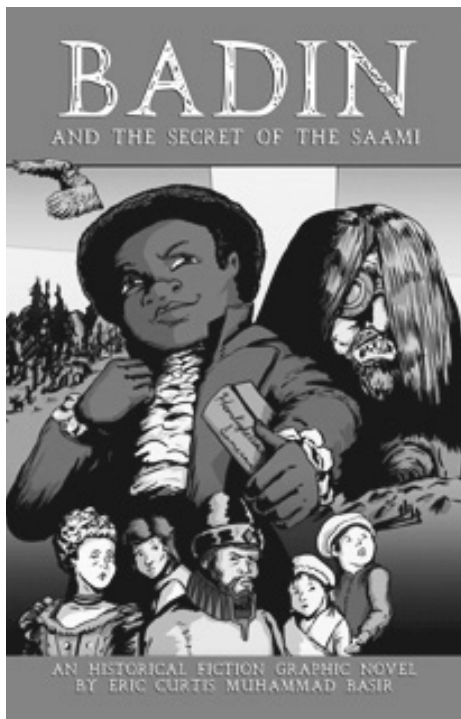
Spring 2018 Programs and Events Continued

— MAY SNEAK PEAK —

FIRST FRIDAY

Friday, May 4, 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

The Museum is taking part in Andersonville's First Friday. Shops stay open late on the first Friday of every month.



ERIC BASIR BOOK SIGNING

Saturday, May 5

Book signing and talk by author Eric Basir. His comic book "Badin and the secret of the Saami" is a fictional story based on real characters. Delve into the history of African slaves in Sweden and learn more about the native population of the Nordic region.

CHICAGO SWEDISH MIXED CHORUS CONCERT

Sunday, May 6, 3 p.m.

Join the Chicago Swedish Mixed Chorus as it celebrates its 80th anniversary. The program features old favorites and new, sung in Swedish and English, celebrating spring, love, and heritage. Refreshments to follow. Admission is \$10 at the door. Contact Blaine Boogert for details (773)317-0764 or bboogert@gmail.com

If you are interested in joining the chorus, they rehearse on Monday evenings at the Museum from 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m. New singers-of all

skill levels-are always welcome. No previous knowledge of the Swedish language required. Please contact Blaine if you are interested.

SWEDISH PASSPORT

Tuesday, May 8 - Thursday May 10

Need to renew your Swedish passport? Take advantage of the mobile passport station at the Swedish Consulate for three days only. To book an appointment please contact the Consulate via phone 312.781.6262 or email chicago@consulateofsweden.org

GENEALOGY SESSION

Saturday, May 12, 10 a.m. - noon

"Bishop Hill's Company D - Swedish Union Guard mobilized during the Civil War" by Todd DeDecker (Bishop Hill Heritage Association Administrator). Combined meeting with American Daughters of Sweden.

SMED THE MINI-MUSICAL

Saturday, May 19

Smed tells the musical story of a family that chose to move north within Sweden instead of west to North America. A journey just as uncertain and difficult. Starting in the early 1800's we follow four generations in a story that blends fact with fiction.

BOOK RELEASE WITH ULF NORDWALL

Monday, May 21

WORLD CHICAGO & INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Thursday, May 24, 10:30 a.m.

Join the Swedish American Museum at the Union League Club of Chicago for the International Women's Day Fair and luncheon.

VICO ALVAREZ

Thursday, May 31, 6:30 p.m.

Artist and activist Vico Alvarez, the author of "Rosita gets scared", will give a talk at the Museum. Rosita gets scared is a comic and activity book that help immigrant children talk about fear. Vico will talk about Rosita and how comics can be used as an activism and education tool for young people.

— SAVE THE DATE —

MIDSOMMARFEST

Friday, June 8 - Sunday, June 10

Midsommarfest is Andersonville's annual summer street festival, now entering its 53rd year. Each year, nearly 50,000 people flock to Clark Street from Foster to Catalpa for two days of music, dancing, kids' entertainment and delicious food. Vendors from around the region sell their wares to passers-by, while ethnic dance troupes and cutting-edge bands keep the party going. Use #MSFAville to share your photos on social media!

There is a \$5 suggested donation to enter the street festival on Friday; \$10 on Saturday and Sunday (kids under 12 and seniors over 65 are free). Admission to the Swedish American Museum June 9-10 is free. *The Museum is open regular hours during Midsommarfest unless stated otherwise.*

More information coming soon.



PIONEER THE WORLD SUMMER CAMP

Session I: July 23 - 27, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Session II: August 13 - 17, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Explore food, dance, and folk art from a different country each day. The week ends with a World's Fair where campers showcase their creations from camp for parents and special guests to enjoy.

Camp is recommended for children who have completed Kindergarten to age 11. Cost is \$200 for members and \$250 for non-members. Extended care is available for 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. for an extra charge of \$75 per child for the week. Registration and payment can be made via the Museum's website: SwedishAmericanMuseum.org or call 773.728.8111.

Get Ready: TANTALIZING TREASURES SALE

There are two upcoming dates that we all need to plan for:

April 17: taxes due.

April 7-8: the 2018

Swedish American Museum's Tantalizing Treasures Sale

As we get our financial papers ready for April 17, we need to gather our no-longer-needed items ready for the Tantalizing Treasures sale on April 7. This way they can be put to a good cause as well as earn you a tax write off for charitable contribution.

The Museum is once again accepting donations starting now through the end of March. Everyone benefits from this event. Besides passing along no longer needed items and realizing a tax break, donors and customers are thrilled to discover perfect treasures and the Museum benefits as revenue from the sale is used to fund programs.

Check your closet, basement, dresser, attic and shelves for jewelry, household items, Swedish collectibles, linen, silver, crystal, paintings, posters, or other items you no longer need. Furniture is also accepted. Please call for information on donation of furniture

Be part of this exciting event as a donor, volunteer, or customer.



Kerstin Andersson Museum Store

2018 will bring many new opportunities for the Kerstin Andersson Museum Store. Things are evolving at the Museum in general, and the Store is no exception. A good ending to 2017 has given us the opportunity to plan for many new things coming into the Store this year. We can sense a change in consuming behavior among our customers. The concepts of minimalism and functionality have grown more popular, ideas similar to the concept of the Swedish word lagom, not too much or too little, but just enough. We in the Store hope that we this year can meet these new trends by offering products that bring Scandinavian design and inventions in its recognizable fashion, while at the same time give a sense of styled functionality. In the spirit of minimalism we are now offering the highly praised book, *The Gentle Art of Swedish Death Cleaning* by Margareta Magnusson, and the book, *The Lagom Life* by Elisabeth Carlsson, both discussing these growing concepts and philosophies of living.

In addition, an example of functional Scandinavian design is the Burk series by Kosta Boda. They have created a series of glass that shows

that their timeless design does not have to cost a fortune and that their products can be used for a multitude of things. Right now, the Store has both their carafe and candle votives,



favorites is the high quality canvas bag with their lagom design, perfect in a time where reusable bags are growing more and more popular for their multi-functionality.

Another thing happening perhaps not in the Store, but for the Store, is development of the Online Museum Store. It is hard to deny that the world of retail is changing, and it would be naïve to think our Museum Store is an exception. The Store has many products in high demand but the truth is much of retail

development and customer traffic today is happening online. Therefore, it is important that the Store embraces this change and sees it as an opportunity to reach a larger range of people interested in Scandinavian designs and ideas. As a result, you will see more products available throughout the year and find a better shopping experience when looking for the things you need. We hope that you will want to partake in this exciting time for the Museum and the Store. For members,



which can also be used as bowls, in several colors. Furthermore, the Swedish brand Love STHLM has expanded their products and the Store is now carrying their stylish, hand printed designs. One of our

we will also put much effort into making a membership with the Museum more beneficial in the Store, with even more special offers and sales. Come join us!

by Frida Idesten



Lost Larson Bakery Coming This Spring!

Celebrated pastry chef Bobby Schaffer is bringing his neighborhood bakery, Lost Larson, to Andersonville this spring. With both Swedish and Danish heritage, Schaffer is looking forward to discovering and celebrating classic and updated pastries, artisan breads and all things baked. Look for princess cake, hearth baked limpa and kardemummabullar. An eat-in café with 20 seats and a large outdoor patio will offer plenty of room to indulge in sweet treats. Located at 5318 N. Clark, look for Lost Larson to open May 2018.

Add to your family history

Museum exhibits provide a visual way of appreciating the immigrant experience. For personal stories and background,

Join the Swedish-American Historical Society

Four issues a year of the *Swedish-American Historical Quarterly*, plus dividend books.

The Society's latest book is *Norwegians and Swedes in the United States: Friends and Neighbors*.

For more information, write

Swedish-American Historical Society
3225 W. Foster, Box 48
Chicago IL, 60625

or see www.swedishamericanhist.org

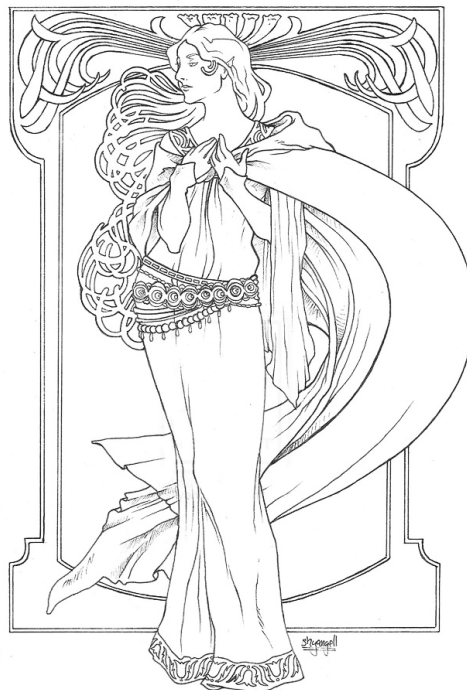
Mention the Museum when you join or order books



Learn Elfdalian – The Lost Forest Language of Sweden

Elfdalian or “Älvdalska” is an endangered Nordic language that has only two to three thousand speakers residing in Dalarna County, Sweden. Björn Rehnström of Ulum Dalska in Älvdalen works to preserve the Elfdalian language through providing education, advocacy and tools for learning Elfdalian. There is an opportunity to participate in a weekly free online class with Björn to learn the Elfdalian way of speaking. We are looking into travel to Älvdalen, Sweden, for cultural learning and language practice. The Midsummer Celebration of 2018 is an ideal time for travel.

For more information or to register please email shimmeringacacia@gmail.com



An Andersonville Original



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Phone: (312) 781-6262
Fax: (312) 781-1816

Email: chicago@consulateofsweden.org

Visiting Hours:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Tuesday and Thursday
2 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Other times by appointment.
Please call to pre-register
prior to your visit.

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from the museum.

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EST. 1934

**Kerstin Andersson
Museum Store**

*20% off
one item
for Museum
Members.*

Bring in this coupon with
proof of membership.
Cannot be combined
with other offers.
Certain restrictions apply.

Museum Store Hours:
Monday - Thursday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Friday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Expires 12/31/2018

SWEA®

Swedish Women's Educational Association
International, Inc. • Chicago •

*SWEA Chicago utgörs av ett hundratal
kvinnor; en härlig blandning medlemmar
som bott här i över 30 år, några som
precis flyttat hit och allt däremellan.*

Vi har ett trettiotal träffar under året där vi firar
svenska högtider, pysslar, gör studiebesök eller
går på föredrag, även spelkvällar och utomhus-
aktiviteter ingår i vårt varierande program.

Vi välkomnar varmt nya ansikten, speciellt på
vårt förmiddagsfika som är en lugn och social
stund att bara träffas och prata svenska.

Läs mer om oss på www.chicago.swea.org eller skicka epost till chicago@swea.org

Du hittar oss även på facebook under
"SWEA Chicago med vänner"

Promotion of Swedish
Culture and Tradition



Join the
Swedish Business Community
www.sacc-chicago.org



Business Networking
Social Events
Trade Missions
J-1 Visa Service for Swedish Trainees
Young Professionals
Mentor Program

Swedish American Chamber of Commerce, Chicago
233 N. Michigan Avenue, Suite 3050 Chicago, IL 60601
Phone: 312 / 257-3022 E-mail: sacc@sacc-chicago.org

Please visit our homepage at www.sacc-chicago.org
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Reservations

If you would like to make reservations for one or more of our events please fill out the information below and return this form to us with payment or email us at museum@samac.org.

Event _____

Time & Date _____

Price \$ _____ x _____ # of people attending = \$ _____

Event _____

Time & Date _____

Price \$ _____ x _____ # of people attending = \$ _____

Event _____

Time & Date _____

Price \$ _____ x _____ # of people attending = \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Museum Member Yes No

Grand Total: \$ _____

Payment:

Check enclosed, payable to Swedish American Museum

Credit Card Visa MasterCard

Account # _____

Expiration Date _____

Name on Card _____

Signature _____

Join the Swedish American Museum!

I want to: Join Renew my membership

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

I want to give a gift membership to:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

My membership: \$ _____

Gift membership: \$ _____

Donation to Museum: \$ _____ Total: \$ _____

Please make checks payable to the Swedish American Museum

Please charge the following card: Visa Mastercard

Account No. _____ Exp. Date _____

Name on Card _____

Signature _____

Basic Memberships: Patron Memberships:

Corporate: \$250 *

Non-Profit Organization: \$75 *

Family: \$50 *

Individual: \$35 *

Student/Senior Couple: \$25 *

Student/Senior: \$15 *

Three Crowns: \$1000 + ###

521 Club: \$521 - \$999 ##

Linnaeus Society: \$250 - \$520 †

Sandburg Society: \$100 - \$249 ††

Sustaining: \$75 *

Memberships Include:

* Free Admission

* Discounts in the Museum Store

* Discounts on Classes & Programs

* Invitations to Openings and Special Events

* Subscription to *Flaggan* Newsletter

†† All of the Above & One Annual Free Gift Membership for a Friend

† All of the Above & Special One-time Discount in the Museum Store

Invitation to a Special Event

Special Recognition

Mail to: **Swedish American Museum**

5211 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois 60640-2101

Call: 773.728.8111

Go Online: SwedishAmericanMuseum.org



Sponsored by:



The MacArthur
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Moving? Remember to send us your change of address! Don't miss one issue of *Flaggan*!

Spring 2018 Programs and Events at a Glance

— EXHIBITS —

Main Gallery

**INSPIRED: CONTEMPORARY
SWEDISH FOLK PAINTINGS AND
HAIKU PAINTINGS**

BY HANS ÖHMAN
Closing, Sunday, March 18, 4 p.m.

**OUTSIDE THE LINES: COMICS
FROM SWEDEN TO CHICAGO**

Exhibit Opening, Sunday, March 25,
2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Start with Art, Friday, April 27,
9 a.m. - noon
Family Night, Friday, April 27,
4 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Exhibit Closing, Sunday, June 24,
4 p.m.

Raoul Wallenberg Gallery

AVAILABLE LIGHT

BY ERIKA RÅBERG
Exhibit Closing, Thursday,
March 29, 4 p.m.

**ASTRID LINDGREN: TO PLAY IS
TO LIVE**

Exhibit Opening, Saturday, March 31
Exhibit Closing, Sunday, April 22,
4 p.m.

DREAMS OF A SWEDISH SUMMER

BY LAMANDA JOY
Exhibit Opening, Friday, April 27,
6 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Exhibit Closing, Sunday, July 29

— RECURRING EVENTS —

BULLERBYN

Sunday, 10 a.m. - 11 a.m.
March 18, April 8 and 22,
May 6 and 20

MOON MONDAY

Monday, 3 p.m., April 2 and May 7

SCANDINAVIAN JAM

Sunday, 1 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
March 11, April 8 and May 13

HEJSAN - STORY & CRAFT HOUR

Friday, 11 a.m. (September through
June)
March 16 - Anders Johansson
(drums/percussion)
April 20 - Avicii (alternative dance
music)
May 18 - Esbjörn Svensson (piano/
jazz)

**THE DREAM OF AMERICA EXHIBIT
GUIDED TOUR**

Saturday, March 17, April 21, and
May 19, 11 a.m.

MOVIE NIGHTS

Thursday, April 5 and May 3, 6 p.m.

— MARCH 2018 —

THE MUSEUM WILL BE CLOSED FOR
GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 30.

**SCANDINAVIAN DANCES
WITH LINDA AND PAUL**

Three remaining Friday sessions:
March 9, 16 and 23,
7:30 - 10 p.m.

GENEALOGY SESSION

Saturday, March 24, 10 a.m. - noon

VÅFFELDAGEN

Sunday, March 25, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

SPRING CRAFTS

Monday, March 26 - Thursday,
March 29

EASTER CRAFTS FOR ADULTS

Tuesday, March 27, 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

— APRIL 2018 —

THE MUSEUM WILL BE CLOSED FOR
EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 1

FIRST FRIDAY

Friday, April 6, 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

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Saturday, April 7, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.
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MULLE

Saturday, April 28, 3:30 p.m.

KIDSWORKS

Saturday, April 28, 5 p.m.

Please see page 12 for the
Museum's May events.