

UPCOMING EVENTS



Kalevala Marathon

Don't miss the *Third Multilingual Kalevala Marathon* at Columbia University!

Wednesday, February 28, 2007, Kalevala Day, from 4 PM to 9 PM. Deutsches Haus, Columbia University, 420 West 116th Street.

Join us for KALEVALA-talkoot - a multilingual event with audience participation, interspersed with musical and theatrical performances by such artists as Taina Elg, Ulla Suokko, Tuomas Hiltunen, Kaiku, and others. You are invited to join us for a short while or the whole evening. SIGN UP to read or recite or sing (approx. five minutes) in the language of your choice and to a make reservation to attend and hear others, contact Program in Finnish Studies: af15@columbia.edu or tel. 212 854 7859.

Finlandia Foundation Gala



The Finlandia Foundation New York Metropolitan Chapter, Inc. cordially invites you to the **48th Annual Awards Dinner Dance** to benefit Cultural and Grant Funds. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Hannale Turja-Sansbury at (914) 645-7542 or e-mail her at hanna14@verizon.net. Please note: the last date to RSVP is Tuesday, February 27, 2007.

Honoring SIBELIUS ACADEMY, Helsinki, Finland Celebrating their 125th Anniversary

Saturday, March 3rd, 2007

Cocktail Reception at six o'clock
Dinner, Dancing and Entertainment at seven o'clock

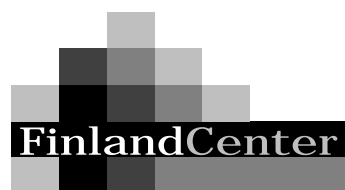
Entertainment
Tapani Kanso

Raffle

Dance Music by Alex Donner Entertainment

The Union League Club
38 East 37th St.
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Black Tie



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FinlandCenter

FINLAND CENTER FOUNDATION Winter 2007

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A NEW PERSON ON OUR TEAM!

We extend our warm welcome to **Joseph J. Townsend**, who will be our Project Manager in New York. Joseph has been a Senior Financial/Operations Executive with extensive experience in the international resort/leisure industry. He has a broad organizational background and accomplishments. From 1984 to 1997 he was successively Treasurer, Secretary Treasurer and Senior Vice President for Club Med Inc. (NYSE).

Previous to that, he was from 1972 to 1984 at first Controller and then Senior Vice President and CFO for Club Med Sales. He has had various additional professional experience at the Kenton Corporation, International Telephone and Telegraph and Holt Rinehart and Winston.

From 1998 until the present, Joseph has been a consultant and investor to various Latin American land and sea -based destination/resort -products.

Joseph's experience will be a valuable asset to our operations here in New York. Please feel free to contact him at joseph.townsend@finlandcenter.org.

Rami Puskala continues to lead the Finnish side of our operations as Project Manager/Finland. You can contact him at rami.puskala@finlandcenter.org.

Dear Members & Friends of Finland Center Foundation,

I am very pleased and honored to be appointed Project Manager U.S. of the Finland Center Foundation (FCF). Currently, I am working on building a dynamic and rewarding membership program which will be made available to our current supporters and future new members of the FCF. As a member of FCF, it will provide you with access to a variety of new benefits and activities, including travel and more.

Please continue to check our website at www.finlandcenter.org for the timing and additional details of these programs. You may also call me at (917) 304-0783 or email me at joseph.townsend@finlandcenter.org.

Thank you and I am looking forward to speaking with you again soon!

Joseph Townsend

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Dear Friends,

We have enclosed a very important **survey** with this newsletter. By completing and **returning it to us by March 5, 2007**, you will be playing a valuable role in shaping and planning the future Finland Center building. We genuinely want this building to serve all the varied needs of the Finnish community in the New York Metropolitan area, as well as our visitors from other parts of the U.S., Finland and beyond.

Please take a moment to complete the survey and make your voice heard during this very exciting planning stage. For those of you who already completed a survey in December, please note that it has been updated to include additional questions. It would be extremely helpful if you would take the time to complete this **updated survey**. Or, if you prefer, **you may also go to our website at www.finlandcenter.org and click on the survey link**. To thank you for your efforts, your name will be entered in a raffle to win a surprise travel award or basket of Finnish specialty products!

Please note: The raffle will take place on March 9th and we will call or email the winners, so don't forget to give us your contact information! We will also enter the names from December, even if you choose not to complete another survey.

Thank you!

Eva Kelly

Development Coordinator
Finland Center Foundation



CHARITIES DEPEND ON YOU

Thanks to the unprecedented donation of approximately \$37 billion that Warren Buffet pledged to the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and other causes, discussion around charitable giving intensified in 2006. Last year, you probably heard and read about celebrities donating their time and money more than you ever did before. Philanthropy is contagious. Good examples like Mr. Buffet, or U2's lead singer Bono, who donate their time and other resources to deserving causes such as finding cures for AIDS or helping the environment, provide inspiration for all of us.

Although we may not have the influence or the vast resources that these celebrities have, we still can make a difference. Charitable giving is not just for the ultra wealthy. Roughly 80% of money raised in this country for different charities comes from individual donors like you.

In my work as a financial advisor, my clients almost always list giving to charity or volunteering as one of their top ambitions. Everyone feels it's important and wants to donate their time or resources to good causes. Sure, you get tax benefits from donating to charities. However, the bigger and more meaningful benefit of giving is how it makes you feel. Knowing that you are supporting a cause or organization that has impacted your life or shaped who you are gives you a sense of connection to the community. Giving is an essential part of our being.

There are thousands of worthy causes all around you, some in organized forms (charitable foundations) and some not in organized forms (i.e. helping a neighbor in need). As one of the charitable organizations in this country, **Finland Center Foundation** needs you. We need your time, your donations, and your moral support. Your donations make Finland Center a reality, and ensure that Finnish values, culture and language have a foothold here for generations to come.

Please take a moment to review the enclosed *Estate Planning brochure* to learn more about how you can participate in planned giving. We thank you for your efforts in 2006 and look forward to a great 2007 together!

Katriina Paavola, CFP®, MBA
Vice-President, Finland Center Foundation
Financial Advisor with DeFrate & Paavola LLC

1) BBB Wise Giving Alliance

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