

SCANDINAVIAN FOLK ARTS AND CULTURAL TRADITIONS IN THE UPPER MIDWEST

FELLOWSHIPS 2017/18

ANDERSON, Justin, from Duluth, MN

Apprentice Justin Anderson and master shipwright John Finkle will travel to the Viking Ship Museum in Roskilde, Denmark, to study traditional hand-crafted, Scandinavian-style, lapstrake, clinker-built wooden boats. The project will feature monthly community workshops in Duluth before and after the research trip to communicate about and perpetuate the learning of traditional skills.

BLOOMQUIST, Pieper, from Grand Forks, ND

Master artist Pieper Bloomquist and her apprentice Molly McLain will study canvas painting and traditional decorative painting on furniture, folk traditions from Dalarna, Sweden. Upon their return, they will perpetuate these traditions through events in eastern North Dakota and northwestern Minnesota.

CHRYSLER, Joshua, from Fort Collins, CO

Mr. Chrysler will conduct a survey of Scandinavian traditional arts and folklife in South Dakota, focusing on the southeastern corner of the state. His project will result in 20-25 ethnographic interviews and documentation (audio recordings, photo documentation, field notes), that will assist the South Dakota Arts Council Traditional Arts Program to better serve the community with its Traditional Arts Apprenticeship Program, as well as its Arts for Life artists-in-residence program.

HERKERT, Andrea, from Belleville, WI

Ms. Herkert will travel in Norway to boost her knowledge of rural artists, culture and history, while further developing her artistic skills to enhance her teaching and her painting. Her project includes working with master Rosemaling artists Turid Helle Fatland and Tove Ness.

HIRSCH, Jess, from Minneapolis, MN

Ms. Hirsch will study with master woodworker Beth Moen at the Sätergläntan Folk School to learn how to make hand carved bowls and also how to teach bowl carving. She will return home to share her new knowledge at Women's Woodshop, a studio space that trains women in woodworking skills.

LARSEN, Robert, from Brainerd, MN

Master Hardanger Fiddle Luthier Robert (Bud) Larsen and his two apprentices, Aaran Joneson and Craig Bjorland, will travel to Telemark, Norway, to study Hardanger fiddle building traditions by visiting collections in museums and private collections. They will also attend fiddling and dance competitions, while working with local fiddle builders. This project will strengthen the apprentices' knowledge of the culture and traditions of the Hardanger fiddle and help establish a connection between American and Norwegian luthiers.

MUSSER, Bill, from Decorah, IA

Otter Dreaming, a professional musician, piano instructor, composer, and conductor, will transcribe into standard notation the tune-books of Johan Arndt Mostad (1833-1909), a Norwegian immigrant who came from the community of Frosta in Trøndelag to Winneshiek County, Iowa, in 1869. The local traditional dance band Foot-Notes will then perform and record the previously lost music of Johan Arndt.

REBHOLZ, Karen, from Madison, WI

Ms. Rebholz will study sound adjustments done during the construction of Hardanger fiddles with Sigvald Rorlien, the director of the Hardanger fiddle building workshop at Ole Bull Akademiet in Voss, Norway. She will learn the intricacies of adjustments to the bass bar, bridge and rigging—skills not commonly understood by current US luthiers.

RENNAN, Arna, from Duluth, MN

Ms. Rennan will attend three major folk music gatherings in Scandinavia to interview young artists for her Nordic Roots Radio program. She will produce 20 new programs from these interviews, focusing on the trends among younger folk musicians and the spectrum between traditional folk and contemporary fusion.

SHAW, Amy, from St. Paul, MN

Ms. Shaw will prepare for publication an edition of a rare 1890s tunebook by Norwegian fiddler Ole Hendricks (1851-1935), who settled in western Minnesota. The 97-page manuscript is an important primary source for the study of traditional music and dance in the Scandinavian-American communities. The publication will include tune transcriptions and annotations; an introduction providing both biographical and historical context; illustrations; and a companion CD of a selection of the tunes, featuring master artists Vidor Skrede and Beth Rotto.

2017/2018 Award total: 10 Awards

2018/19

AUNE, Alison, from Duluth, MN

Ms. Aune will research and study contemporary Swedish folk art painting in order to create a more informed and expanded body of work. After this study she will promote the appreciation and preservation of Swedish folk painting through community exhibitions, presentations, and workshops for all ages.

BENDER, Carol and **RUCINSKI, Pamela** from Wisconsin Rapids and Oshkosh, WI

Ms. Bender and Ms. Rucinski will travel to Sweden to broaden their painting skills by studying traditional materials and methods used for Dalmålning and Rattvik painting. They will also study the traditional folk-art paintings of Helsingland and bonadasmålning in southern Sweden.

EDGIN, Eric, from Duluth, MN

Mr. Edgin will visit the Vesterheim Museum in Decorah, Iowa, to examine their collections of coopered vessels. Using measurements and photos, he will make both the specialized tools needed for Scandinavian work methods and the vessels inspired by those that he handled. Edgin will then document the process and display the new vessels to inspire others to participate in this craft.

KEENAN, Karen, from Duluth, MN

Ms. Keenan's project involves reviving in the Midwest the once well-known Swedish traditional folk

art of jewelry known as 'hairwork.' As an apprentice to Joanna Svensson, she will make traditional Swedish folk art table-constructed hairwork jewelry and bring this skill back to the Duluth region by teaching classes at Duluth's Nordic Center and other arts venues.

LAFLEUR, Robbie, from Minneapolis, MN

Ms. LaFleur will travel to Norway to focus on Norwegian billedvev (tapestry) to enhance her weaving practice and enrich her teaching. During a 19-day residency at Frida Hansens Hus in Stavanger, Norway, she will study the work of renowned weaver Frida Hansen. Upon her return, LaFleur plans to lecture at the Weavers Guild of Minnesota and Vesterheim, publish an article in the Norwegian Textile Letter, and add her newly learned techniques to specialty workshops for weavers, textile enthusiasts, and people interested in Norwegian cultural history.

LAHTI, Duane, from Iron River, WI

Mr. Lahti and his apprentice, will restore the John Aho farmstead house, a 1890s pioneer house and example of Finnish-American vernacular architecture, recently moved to the Oulu Cultural and Heritage Center (OCHC). The apprentice will learn log building and historic structure renovation skills and thus perpetuate this traditional art form.

LUSK, Becky, from Coon Valley, WI

Ms. Lusk will travel to Skreia, Norway to participate in the study of Acanthus & Dragon Style Drawing and Design with master woodcarver, Arve Mosand. While there she will deepen her knowledge of the design elements of Acanthus and Dragon Style forms of relief carving.

NORMAN, Natalie, from Minneapolis, MN

Ms. Norman will participate in a two five-day embroidery course on yllebroderi and pasom at Saterglantan. Norman will also study embroidery samples at the Dalarnas Museum in Falun, Ottelia Adleborg Museum in Gagnef, and the Nordiska Museum in Stockholm to enhance her skills in traditional Swedish hand embroidery techniques. Upon her return, she will conduct workshops to encourage the perpetuation of traditional embroidery skills.

OLSON, Peter, from Chassell, MI

Mr. Olson will pass on the skills and knowledge of a lifetime working in the woods to apprentices Marjorie Miller, Matthew Durocher, and Arne Pelto. The apprentices will learn how to harvest wood and supplies and then to carve birds with wings and tail out of one piece of wood, as well as other crafts such as rocking man, weather stick, spoons, sauna ladle, whistle, sun symbols, baskets, and hay rakes.

PAJUNEN, Sara, from Gilbert, MN

Ms. Pajunen, an accomplished classical violinist and traditional fiddler, will study along-side Benedicte Maurseth and Knut Hamre, two of Norway's most celebrated fiddlers, immersing herself in Hardanger fiddle tradition. She will study the history of the tradition, the mechanics and style of the instrument and bow, and the various tune types.

PETERSON, William, from Canton, SD

Mr. Peterson will create a live television recording and webcast performing tunes from the repertoire of renowned Danish-American fiddler and button accordion player Dwight Lamb. The program will take place on Thursday, June 14, 2019, in the South Dakota Public Broadcasting studio in Sioux Falls, SD. The program will include fiddler Kristian Bugge, accordionist Mette Jensen Staerk and guitarist Morten Alfred Hoirup, as well as members of the Omaha Scandinavian dancers who will dance to these polkas, waltzes and schottisches.

PRYOR, Anne, from Madison, WI

Ms. Pryor will conduct ethnographic fieldwork documenting Scandinavian-American cultural practices in foodways and agriculture in Wisconsin. The research will be used by the Wisconsin Teachers of Local Culture (WTLC) to create resource materials for K-14 school teachers, librarians, and museum educators in 2020, helping to heighten the visibility of and perpetuate traditional practices.

RORVIG, Donald, from Stoughton, WI

Mr. Rorvig and his apprentice Rodger Hanson will create a historically accurate reproduction of the Oseberg Wagon, the original of which was excavated by archaeologists and is now found in the Viking Ship Museum in Oslo, Norway. Rorvig's project will perpetuate the Oseberg Style (typical of Viking or Nordic art in the Ninth Century) in the United States. The Wagon will be available for viewing by the public at various times during its construction and upon completion will be part of public presentations on the history of the Oseberg Wagon and on the Oseberg Art Style at multiple locations around the Midwest

SAWYER, Michael, from Saint Paul, MN

Mr. Sawyer will study, learn, transcribe, teach and archive the collections of Minnesota master fiddler Hilary Stoltman and his father, Walter Stoltman. The Upper Midwest Folk Fiddlers will then present the Stoltmans' work to the public through concerts, workshops, and websites.

SUTTER, Ross, from Minneapolis, MN

Mr. Sutter will study with master Swedish traditional singer Anders Larsson, focusing on unaccompanied song, particularly the Swedish form of lilting dance tunes called trall. Sutter will study in Sweden for 20 days in July 2019. Following his study, in September, he and Larsson will present songs at the American Swedish Institute in Minneapolis.

ZURAW, Clare, from Houghton, MI

Ms. Zuraw will deepen her skills in performing and teaching the jouhikko (the traditional Finnish bowed lyre) by traveling to Finland to participate in a series of private lessons with Helsinki-based master jouhikko player Ilkka Heinonen as well as other masters. She will return to Michigan to engage the community as a stronger teacher and more refined performer and broaden awareness of this ancient folk instrument in the United States.

2018/2019 Award total: 16 Awards