



DANEWS



a publication of the danish american center

The Danish American Center supports and fosters Danish culture through education and the celebration of traditions, customs and history.

SANGAFTEN

Sunday, December 1: 7pm

Join us to sing many of our favorite Danish and English Christmas songs together with friends and family. The evening will be led by Lisa Jensen on our grand piano beside our beautiful Christmas tree in the atrium! We will sing for about an hour, followed by coffee and kringle. Hope to see you at this hyggelig holiday event!

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

Sunday, December 15: 3-6pm

Come and enjoy æbleskiver, make a Christmas ornament, sing Christmas carols and dance around the tree, followed by a light supper. We hope Santa will pay us a visit—help fill his bag with a SMALL gift addressed to your child. No reservations needed. Adults \$8, Children \$4.



DAC JULEFROKOST IS SOLD OUT, BUT VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!

We'd love your help to bring this year's Julefrokost to life. We are still looking for help on these dates:

- THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12
- FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13, and
- SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14!

Click [here](http://bit.ly/3ZldGKI) (or visit: <http://bit.ly/3ZldGKI>) for more information and to sign up to volunteer. På forhånd tak!

MEMBER SOCIAL GATHERINGS

FIRST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH IN THE TIVOLI LOUNGE

Friday, December 6: 4-6pm.

Join your member friends for an informal social gathering and enjoy soft drinks and non-alcoholic beer. No reservations needed; come join us!

DECEMBER 2024

- ♥ Heritage Exhibit Opens
- ♥ Virkelyst Julefrokost

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

It's getting colder outside, and as the holidays approach, I am reminded of the things for which I am grateful.



I am grateful for a thriving community here at the DAC. As I write this, I'm seeing the decorations for the holidays. The Heritage Room will be filled with lovely Christmas decor, some of which dates back over 100 years. The holiday season is always fun at the DAC. So many wonderful events, and lots of happy faces coming in to see friends and family. Our calendar will be overflowing with exciting events. Julefrokost, Children's Christmas party, and so many other fun events and activities.

I am grateful for the countless hours that our volunteers devote to the DAC every year. Our organization is built on the energetic, tireless commitments of our members, and I am forever amazed at their efforts and generosity. I am also grateful for our paid staff, who keep our organization and our building in operation. They are committed to the mission of the DAC, and I am grateful for their talent and hard work, and their efforts keep our organization on track, and delivering on our

mission of service in good will to our members.

I am grateful for an active group of board members. Every time we get together, I'm reminded of how capable everyone is, and how willing they are to step up and help with important projects and keep our organization focused on our tasks and mission at hand. From organizing our special events, our dinners, concerts, fundraising, managing the physical property on the river Parkway, and coordinating with our member volunteers, our board has been focused and strong. I am very honored to be a part of such a capable and motivated group.

Finally, and most importantly, I am grateful for all of our DAC members. Our organization has survived and thrived for 100 years. This has been made possible through our collective contributions to this wonderful organization. My family have been members of this organization for four generations, and I feel honored and humbled to be a steward of an organization that has roots dating back for a century. I am confident that we will continue to thrive for the next 100 years.

Pete Gantriis

MEMORIALS

Donations in memory of **Dorothy Andersen** from Diane Greve

Donations in memory of **Gary Joyner** from Sue Nielsen & Lis Jorgensen, Cathy Mahowald, and Ginny Leppart

Thank you to all who have made contributions to DAC. These generous gifts are much appreciated. All donations to DAC are tax deductible. Please contact the DAC Office for more information.

REGISTERING FOR EVENTS ONLINE

Here are step-by-step instructions on how to register for an event on the DAC website:

1. Go to danishamericancenter.org
2. Login to your account
3. Once you are logged in, click on Go to Event Calendar
4. Select the event for which you wish to register
5. A blue "Register Now!" button will appear toward the bottom of the page. Click on that button.
6. Fill in all the information and credit card number. (We do not accept American Express.)
7. A blue "Register!" button will appear. Click on that button.
8. You will receive an email confirmation of registration. Make sure to check your Junk and/or Spam folders.

Please note: Your DAC membership must be current to register for events. If you have any questions, contact the DAC office at 612-729-3800.

MEMBERSHIP CORNER

Welcome New Member:

Christian Lenhart • Andrew Maxfield • Frederick Beseler
Lori Ruge-Jones • Collette Cumella • Cynthia N Werner
Myrna Smith • Janet Jensen •

DAC Directory Information - For further contact information on new and current members, please visit the Members Only portion of the DAC website. Use the email you would have associated with the DAC and create your own password in this new system. If you have trouble, contact the DAC office at dainfo@dac.mn or phone 612-729-3800.

Please note that membership information may be used ONLY by members of DAC for personal, non-business networking purposes. **Use of this information for sales or business solicitations or the like, by or for commercial entities or interests is strictly prohibited.** The DAC Board reserves the right to telephone, mail or e-mail

Newsletter Deadline

Deadline for the January 2025
issue is December 10, 2024

Danish American Center

3030 West River Parkway South
Minneapolis MN 55406

612-729-3800

email: dainfo@dac.mn

Website: danishamericancenter.org

Office Hours: Wednesdays: 10am-2pm

Executive Board:

Peter Gantriis, President
EJ Gurley, Vice President
Anders Wolf, Treasurer
Susan Jacobsen, Secretary

Board of Directors:

Dana Bacon, Pippert Berg Madsen, Bill Holmquist,
Lisa Jensen, Ginny Kirkegaard Leppart, Susan Loschenkohl,
Ryan Maki, Tom Peterson, Bruce Simpson,
Scott Thomsen, Karma Walker, and Pernille Whited

DANews Committee:

Pippert Berg Madsen
Bill Holmquist
Betina Kohler
Susan Loschenkohl
Myra Madsen
Michelle Potter-Bacon

For submissions, advertising,
or any other inquiries, please
contact us at dainfo@dac.mn.

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS EXHIBIT OPENS DECEMBER 1

The Heritage Gallery has been transformed into a Christmas dining room as our founders celebrated in 1924.



Are you a fan of vintage Danish glass from Holmegaard or Royal Copenhagen porcelain? How about a traditional Christmas tree, more sparse than American trees, and lit with candles and early paper decorations as created by H. C. Andersen. See timeless Danish design and imagine the first residents of Danebo Home for the Aged as they would have celebrated in what is now the Danish American Center.

ATTENTION VIRKELYST MEMBERS- JULEFROKOST REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

Saturday, December 7: Social Hour 11am
Lunch 12pm

Mark your calendars and register now! This Christmas time multi-course luncheon is for DAC members and Virkelyst members only, but some guests will be admitted. Instructions for registering guests have been sent via email to Virkelyst members. We are delighted that Svea Ernst has agreed to cook for us again and Taylor Ann Grand will be singing. The cost is \$30 per person. Note: all registrations/payments due by December 4. No payment at the door. If you have questions about registration, please call Cathy Mahowald at 612-845-5562

Menu:

Assorted non-alcoholic beverages and mocktails for the social gathering

Curried herring

Pickled herring

Shrimp with eggs and tomatoes

Warm Liver Pate with asier

Frikadeller with red cabbage and beets

Cheese and fruit

Citronfromage- Lemonfluff

Mahjonger

Coffee and Tea

ONSDAGS FROKOST

We completed another very successful year of Wednesday Lunches, one of the most popular events held at the DAC. Beginning in January 2025, lunches will be twice a month on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday. We rely on volunteers to cook the meals and would love to have some new cooks added to our marvelous existing slate. Cooks come up with the menu, shop for ingredients and are completely reimbursed for their expenses. They prepare the meals in our wonderful DAC kitchen, which we will teach you to use. Please contact Cathy Mahowald at cmahowal@hutchtel.net or call her at 612-845-5562 to sign up or ask questions. We would love to have you share your favorite dishes with our members.

DANISH LANGUAGE FOR BEGINNERS

In person classes at DAC: Saturdays 9:30 -11am

January 4, 11, 25; February 1, 15; March 1, 8, 15; April 5, 12.

Zoom office hours: Saturdays 9:30-10am, January 25, February 8, February 22.

More information and registration available on the DAC website: <https://danishamericancenter.org/membership/event-calendar/#!event/2024/9/7/beginning-danish-language-class-9-30-11-am>

BEGINNER PLUS DANISH

In person monthly sessions at DAC designed for those with a little more experience and/or who have completed previous Beginning Danish courses at DAC.

Register for any or all sessions, held 11:15am-12:30pm Saturdays, January 11, February 15, March 15, April 12.

More information and registration available on the DAC website: <https://danishamericancenter.org/membership/event-calendar/#!event/2025/4/12/danish-plus>

NOTARY PUBLIC

If you need a Notary Public, the Danish American Center offers this service for members in the Twin Cities Metro Area. Please contact DAC member Ardis Wexler at judgeardis@aol.com to make arrangements to meet at a mutually agreed-upon time and location. Rates are \$10 per document, and all proceeds go to the Danish American Center. This service is a convenient way to get your documents notarized and support the Danish American Center at the same time.

LEAVES FROM THE LIBRARY

By Felicity Hanson

This month as we celebrate the holidays, we are grateful for our enjoyable work in the DAC's library and also for receiving many beautiful new books. If you are a book lover, you will know the delight of having a new book to read, but when you receive several, it's like Christmas!

In addition to Danish-language titles, we received or purchased English-language Danish and Scandi-related books. We're delighted to share with you a few titles. I hope you will stop by and check out one of these great books!

Novels

The Family Clause by Jonas Hassan Khemiri

In Danish, books by Tess Gerritsen (medical and crime thrillers), Barbara O'Neal - (romance), and Kelly Rimmer (contemporary women's fiction)

Nonfiction

Two Homelands: A Historian Considers His Life and Works by Odd S. Lovoll

Under the Open Skies: Finding Peace and Health in Nature by Markus Torgeby

In Danish, several books on knitting and crocheting

Children's Books

Soda Pop by Barbro Lindgren

The Stone Giant by Anna Hoglund

Per and Lotta's Adventure by Elsa Beskow

My Grandmother Asked Me by Fredrik Backman

Brown: My Alter Ego is a Super Hero by Håkon Øvreås

Lena, the Sea, and Me by Maria Parr

Fat Cat: A Danish Folktale by Margaret Read MacDonald

In Danish, several children's books

LIBRARY HOURS

Every Thursday, 9am-1pm

Every 4th Wednesday of the month, 10am-1pm

Every 1st Saturday of the month, 10am- 12pm

- And by appointment



UPCOMING WORKSHOPS IN NORTH COMMONS CLASSROOM WITH DAC LIBRARIAN FELICITY HANSON

Workshop Cost: \$15 for DAC members
\$25 for non-members

TEENY TINY BOOKS OR TEENY TINY BOOK EARRINGS

Sunday, December 8: 1-3:30pm

What's better than your favorite book? A teeny tiny sized version of it! These little books are super cute and quite amazing!



In this workshop, you will cut out the boards and covers for your book, make some tiny pages to glue inside, and put the whole thing together. This work does require a degree of skill, so the workshop is suitable for teens through adults.

Optional—make a pair of teeny tiny books and turn them into earrings. Fishhook earring findings an additional \$2.50 per pair. They are sterling silver and include latex backs.

*After registering, please email titles for 2-4 books that you love to daclibrarymn@gmail.com (by Wednesday, December 4 at noon), and I will endeavor to provide those covers at the workshop. I will also have a selection of English children's and adult's book covers, and Danish children's covers to choose from.

MAKE A BOOK SNAKE

Saturday, January 18: 1-3pm

Do you know readers who don't always want to hold their book open while reading? Solve the problem of the closing book and keep your books open with a Book Snake!



A book snake is a fabric tube that is weighted. You can spread the weight along the snake's body or slide it all down to one end, wherever it is needed to prevent a book from closing while it's being read.

You will hand-sew or machine sew the fabric tube to make the body, then fill and decorate it with button eyes and a V-tongue if you wish. I will have a variety of fabrics, felt, button eyes, and other decorative options. Basic sewing skills, such as backstitch, needed.

THE DANEBO READING CIRCLE PLANS AHEAD FOR 2025

With the DAC's reading group taking a brief winter break, members will be celebrating the holidays and stocking up on books for the coming year. They also wish happy holidays to everyone!

The Danebo Reading Circle usually meets on the third Sunday of eight months, taking June - August off. However, look for a possible summer event in 2025.

Thanks to the work of Mary Beth Lake with the help of the selection committee (Diane Greve, Suzanne Jebe, Carol Sime) and the votes of many members, the Reading Circle is pleased with its schedule of meetings and books for 2025, featuring many Danish authors:

January 19: *Borderliners* a Novel by Peter Hoeg (DK); 1993, 277 pp; translated by Barbara Haveland (NY: Farrar, Strau and Giroux, 1995).

February 16: *The Faces* a Novel by Tove Ditlevsen (DK); 1968, 130 pp; translated by Tiina Nunnally (NY: Picador, 2022).

March 16: *Anger Is My Middle Name: A Memoir* by Lisbeth Zornig (DK); 2011, 203 pp; translated by Mark Mussari (Seattle: Amazon Crossing, 2020).

April 13: *Heaven and Hell* a Novel by Jón Kalman Steffánsson (IS); 2008, 215 pp; translated by Philip Roughton (London: MacLehose, 2014).

May 18: *Prince* a Novel by Ib Michael (DK); 1997, 208 pp; translated by Barbara Haveland (NY: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1999).

September 21: *Out Stealing Horses* a Novel by Per Petterson (NO); 2003, 258 pp; translated by Anne Born (NY: Picador, 2005).

October 19: *The Old Man and His Sons* a Novel by Heðin Brú (Faroes); 1940, 166 pp; translated by John F. West (NY: Eriksson, 1970).

November 16: *Animal Life* a Novel by Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir (IS); 2020, 192 pp; translated by Brian FlitzGibbon (NY: Black Cat, 2022).

Bookmarks with the full schedule are available on the table outside the DAC Library.

In January, discussion leader Diane Greve will guide the group through a well-known Danish novel of

psychological suspense. *Borderliners* takes place in a sealed-off Danish boarding school in the 1970s. Three students discover that the school is using them in a government-sponsored experiment that, almost inevitably, has tragic consequences. The three "misfits" turn the tables by conducting an experiment of their own. Perfect reading for the dark days of winter.

Current, former, and new members are always welcome to meet with the group on the third floor of the DAC or via Zoom. Newcomers may attend the first meeting without commitment, but continuation requires DAC membership. More details about the group and 2025 are available by contacting suzannej41@me.com and in the January issue of DANews. Until then, Glædelig Jul og Godt Nytår!

MUSIC ON THE MISSISSIPPI

"Music on the Mississippi" continued at the DAC, October 20. A sold out crowd was treated to an incredible performance by Danish vocalist Sinne Eeg. It was an evening of world class jazz. The brilliant Josh Nelson from Los Angeles was on piano, along with one of the best bassists for the past 50 years, Billy Peterson.

Sinne is an extraordinary jazz singer with amazing range and tonality. Sinne performed many of her own compositions and some Danish songs. Over two years ago, she had a sold out concert at the DAC. It was so inspiring, it was the genesis of our "Music on the Mississippi" concert series. Nearly every show since has sold out. We were very fortunate to have this Danish singing sensation and can't wait to have her back.



JULEAFTEN GUDSJENESTE

Tuesday, December 24: 3:15pm at St. Peder's Church
Pastor Andres Albertsen will once again be leading a Danish language Christmas Eve service at St. Peder's Lutheran Church. All are welcome! We will sing many of our favorite Danish Christmas hymns in St. Peder's beautiful sanctuary with lighted Christmas trees at the altar. St. Peder's Church is located at 4600 East 42nd Street in South Minneapolis. Call St. Peder's Church office at 612-722-8000 or email office@stpeders.org with questions.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DECEMBER 2024

Monday at 9:30am: Watercolor Group
Wednesdays from 10am -2pm: DAC Office Hours
Wednesdays from 10am -3pm: Mah Jong
Thursdays from 9am-1pm: Library Hours (No Dec 26)

Sunday 01 Heritage Room Exhibit Opens
01 Julenisse Workshop 1pm
01 Sangaften 7pm
Monday 02 Singalong with Dan Chouinard 7pm
Friday 06 Member Social Gathering 4-6pm
06 Fyraften Julemiddag 6pm
06 Tøseften 7pm
Saturday 07 Library Open 10am-12pm
07 Genealogy Consultation 10am-1pm
07 Virkelyst Luncheon 12pm
Sunday 08 Teeny Tiny Book Workshop 1-3:30pm
Monday 09 Board Meeting 7pm
Friday 13 Tøseften Julefrokost 6pm
Saturday 14 Julefrokost 12pm
Sunday 15 Children's Christmas Party 3pm
Friday 27 Fyraften 6pm
Sunday 29 Dannebrog Dancers Danish Feast 6pm

JANUARY 2025

Mondays at 9:30am: Watercolor Group
Wednesdays from 10am -2pm: DAC Office Hours
Wednesdays from 10am -3pm: Mah Jong
Thursdays from 9am-1pm: Library Hours (No Jan 2)

Friday 03 Member Social Gathering 4-6pm
03 Tøseften 7pm
Saturday 04 Danish Language for Beginners 9:30-11am
04 Library Open 10am-12pm
Monday 06 Singalong with Dan Chouinard 7pm
Wednesday 08 Onsdags Frokost 11:30am
08 Virkelyst 7-9pm
Saturday 11 Danish Language for Beginners 9:30-11am
11 Beginners Plus Danish Class 11:15am-12:30pm
Monday 13 Executive Committee Meeting 7pm
Saturday 18 Make a Book Snake Workshop 1-3pm
Sunday 19 Æbleskive Breakfast 9am and 10:45am
19 Danebo Reading Circle 2-4pm
Wednesday 22 Library Open 10am-1pm
22 Onsdags Frokost 11:30am
Saturday 25 Danish Language for Beginners 9:30-11am
Sunday 26 Danish Dancing 6:30pm
Friday 31 Fyraften 6pm

December 2024