

Heritage NordicMuseum

Share the Nordic Spirit!

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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VIKING DAYS FESTIVAL AT NORDIC HERITAGE MUSEUM JULY 16 - 17

What: VIKING DAYS 2011

Where: Nordic Heritage Museum, 3014 NW 67th Street, Seattle

When: Saturday and Sunday, July 16 & 17, 10 am-5 pm

Seattle—On Saturday, July 16 and Sunday, July 17, the Nordic Heritage Museum will be hosting a family favorite for all ages: the annual *Viking Days* festival.

The Nordic Heritage Museum's *Viking Days* celebration features Scandinavian food, entertainment, music, craft vendors, Viking re-enactments, craft demonstrations, and crafts for kids. The traditional Swedish Pancake Breakfast will be served Saturday and Sunday from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. New this year is a dinner concert on Saturday evening from 5:00 to 7:00 pm, featuring *Giske Blandakor*, a Norwegian choir of 44 singers and eight dancers who are traveling to Seattle to perform at *Viking Days* all the way from the Giske area on the Western Coast of Norway.

Musical offerings range from folk dancers to small and large instrumental groups and vocal music. The *Norwegian Male Chorus*, *Finnish Choral Society*, *Duo Scandinavica*, *Barneleikarringen*, *Mäd Fiddlu*, *Tinnfelen*, and *Katrilli Finnish Folkdancers* are among the acts that will be performing. The Viking Encampment will be open all weekend. Vikings clad in authentic costumes will demonstrate aspects of Viking life such as weaving, spinning, woodcarving, and fire-pit cooking, and visitors will be able to view live re-enactments of Viking battles.

Admission to *Viking Days* and Museum exhibits is free. Pancake breakfast tickets are \$8 for Museum members, \$10 for non-members, and \$6 for kids. Dinner concert tickets are \$13 for Museum members, \$16 for non-members, and \$10 for kids. Tickets for the pancake breakfasts and dinner concert may be purchased in advance by contacting Katy Ahrens at the Museum, at 206.789.5707 ext. 33 or by email to katya@nordicmuseum.org.

Raffle tickets will be sold at *Viking Days*, and are now on sale for \$2 each in the Museum's gift shop and at the Admissions Desk. The proceeds go towards the Museum's general operations. Raffle prizes include:

- Two roundtrip tickets to anywhere in Scandinavia aboard Icelandair (restrictions and fees apply)
- 2012 Mostly Nordic Concert Series tickets for two (5 concerts plus smörgåsbord)
- A Family Fun Pack (\$250 value)
- A Nordic Gift Basket
- Three one-year Family Memberships to the Nordic Heritage Museum

Sponsors for this year's *Viking Days* Festival include Icelandair, Pacific Fishermen, Scan Design Foundation by Inger and Jens Bruun, Sons of Norway Foundation and Viking Bank. In-kind sponsors

include Bellevue Arts Museum, Bastille Café and Bar, Burke Museum, Carlsberg, emmer&rye, Frye Museum, Icelandic Glacial, Icicle Seafoods, Inc., Ivar's Seafood, Odin Brewing Company, Pacific Science Center, Seattle Aquarium, Trident Seafoods, and Woodland Park Zoo.

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For more information, visit www.nordicmuseum.org or phone (206) 789-5707.

Museum hours: Tues-Sat 10 am to 4 pm; Sun 12 noon to 4 pm; Mon closed

Admission: \$6 general; \$5 seniors & college students; \$4 children over 5 years;

FREE for children under 5 and Museum members

The Museum is located at 3014 NW 67th Street, Seattle, WA 9811

About the Nordic Heritage Museum

With over 55,000 visitors annually, the Nordic Heritage Museum is a cultural treasure in the Pacific Northwest. It is the only museum in the United States that represents the cultural heritage of all five Nordic countries: Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden. The Museum's mission is to share Nordic culture with people of all ages and backgrounds by exhibiting art and objects, preserving collections, providing educational and cultural experiences and serving as a community gathering place. The Nordic Heritage Museum presents a wide range of vibrant programs including contemporary art exhibitions, outstanding concerts, lectures and films and a variety of special events throughout the year.