



SAMAC Highlites

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Our Director



Kerstin Lane



Swedish American Museum Center

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Hej!

You have just picked up a flyer that has information about a very exciting happening in Chicago- the Swedish American Museum is building for future generations! Starting this spring we hope to welcome all of you who visit our new space at 5211 N. Clark St.

When the Swedish American Museum board hired me about 2 years ago as their executive director it seemed like a new museum center was very far in the future- now we are here! Exciting!

Over the last two years the Andersonville area has become very special to me. The neighborhood is filled with friendly caring people who are very excited about having a large, museum and cultural center in their area.

Malmo, Sweden is the little town I came from quite a few years ago. It was while doing post graduate work at the University of Chicago that I met my Irish-American husband. After living in England, Belgium and California we returned to Chicago with our three children. With a Master's degree in social work from the University of Lund, my plans were to care for other people. The educational goals of the museum world involves caring for people. By reading, visiting other museums and becoming involved with other museum administrators, a fascinating world has opened up to me.

Our new center will be a place of learning, a place to relax, a place to read a book, listen to music and to just have fun. We started our Swedish classes last fall, and there are art exhibits being planned for this year. What could be nicer than a lovely Swedish afternoon piano recital at the new museum center? There will also be a variation of Swedish craft classes available continuously throughout the year.

If you want to be a part of these exciting happenings call us at the museum at 728-8111. We would love to hear from you!

If you would like to volunteer in some capacity, do let us hear from you. Working together on projects makes it all the more productive, not to mention fun! Come and join us in the excitement!

Kerstin B. Lane/ Executive Director



The Museum's Symbol

The symbol of the Swedish American Museum Center reflects the pride of two countries. The Swedish-American heritage is rich, strong, and lasting.

The Museum

The mission of the Swedish American Museum Center is to focus attention on the historical endeavors and contemporary achievements of Swedes and Swedish-Americans in the United States. Particular emphasis will be given to enhancing awareness of the Swedish cultural and industrial contribution to the Chicago area.

The Museum Center, located in Andersonville on Chicago's North Side, was the dream of Kurt Mathiasson, one of the leaders in the effort to preserve the Swedish-American heritage in the Chicago area community. In 1976, the Bicentennial Year of the United States, the Museum was officially opened by His Majesty Carl XVI Gustaf, King of Sweden, who visited Chicago during the national celebration.

The Museum Center is expanding to provide a significant role, not only for area economic development and the enhancement of community pride, but also for the educational opportunity to study the rich ethnic roots of the Chicago area.

Editor Barbro Pearson