

SWEA BOSTON CHAPTER

25 Years



SWEA Boston Chapter was founded in 1985 and celebrates its 25th anniversary in 2010.

Since 1985, SWEA Boston has hosted **Swedish Yuletide** to celebrate the holiday season.

Swedish Yuletide strives to share the Swedish culture and traditions while raising funds for SWEA Boston's charitable activities.

Since 1988 SWEA Boston has awarded **annual scholarships** to young women from New England universities for studies in Sweden. SWEA Boston also supports Scandinavian organizations and programs through **donations**.

SWEA Boston's funds for scholarships and donations are raised through Swedish Yuletide. Some of the supported causes over the years are presented here.

Thank you for joining us at Swedish Yuletide and for supporting SWEA Boston!





SWEA in brief

SWEA[®]

SWEA, Swedish Women's Educational Association Inc., is a global non-profit organization for Swedish speaking women abroad. We gather to enjoy our Swedish language, background and culture. SWEA is both a meeting point and a safety net with links all over the world, making life abroad easier, providing support when arriving in a new place or when returning to the home land.

SWEA's objective

is to protect the Swedish language, support and inform about our culture and traditions. SWEA also acts as an intermediary in supplying personal and professional contacts and establish a network for its members throughout the world.

SWEA supports

education through scholarships and various projects with a Swedish connection.

SWEA has approximately 8,000 members in 73 local chapters in 35 countries on five continents. Princess Christina, Mrs. Magnuson, is Honorary President.





SWEA Boston Scholarships

Sweden – home of some of the oldest and newest universities in Europe

SWEA Boston Chapter offers an annual scholarship of \$6,000.

The scholarship is awarded to one or two well-merited female undergraduate or graduate students at a New England University who wish to pursue studies, or a work/study program, in Sweden for at least one semester. Also, special research projects in Sweden are encouraged.

The proposed program in Sweden has to relate to Swedish culture and society in the broadest terms.

The Scholarship is made possible through SWEA Boston's annual fund raiser, Swedish Yuletide.





SWEA Boston Scholarships 1988-2000

Since 1988 SWEA Boston has awarded 28 scholarships for studies in Sweden to the following undergraduate and graduate students in New England:

Year	Name	University	Pursued studies in Sweden:
1988	Vicky Leung	Harvard University	Swedish language studies at Uppsala University
1989	Sarah Patrick	Northeastern University	Work/study internship at Karolinska Institute in Stockholm
1990	Laura Nelson	Harvard University	Social Welfare studies at Stockholm University Graduate School (IGS)
1991	Meg Sibley	Smith College	Swedish Folk Music studies at Skinnskattebergs Folkhögskola
1992	Beth Stevens	Northeastern University	Work/study internship at Sahlgrenska Hospital in Göteborg
1993	Allen LeVines	Musical Director, Stämbandet	Swedish Folk Music studies in Dalarna
1994	Hayley Goodson	Brown University	Gender Equality studies at the Swedish Program at Stockholm University
1995	Maria Ivanova	Mt. Holyoke College	Research in Swedish Environmental Policy regarding the Baltic Sea at Umeå University
1996	Isabel Gill	Harvard University	Swedish language & Swedish Literature studies at Uppsala University
1997	Jessica Meir	Brown University	Science studies at the Swedish Program at Stockholm University
1998	Miwa Kozuki	Mt. Holyoke College	Research in Swedish Immigration Policy at Lund University
1999	Lisa Gambone	Brown University	Master's Degree Program at Stockholm University International Graduate Program (IGP)
2000	Elizabeth Chiappa	Harvard University	Swedish Culture & Society studies at Uppsala University
2000	Anna Testa	Smith College	Master's student in Swedish Social Studies at the International Graduate Program at Stockholm University



SWEA Boston Scholarships

2001-2010

Year	Name	University	Pursued studies in Sweden:
2001	Kate Gubata	Brown University	Health Care in Sweden at the Swedish Program at Stockholm University
2002	Katie Heikkinen	Harvard University	Research in Swedish Public Health at Lund University
2003	Lilly Husbands	Brown University	Research assistant at Stockholm University in Swedish Film and TV Culture
2003	Elizabeth Peterson	Brown University	International Law & International Relations at Uppsala Programme in International Studies (UPIS)
2004	Marienne Murch	Harvard University	Public Policy, the Swedish Model and EU at the Swedish Program at Stockholm University
2005	Angela Sherwin	Brown University	Swedish Health Care Policy at the Swedish Program at Stockholm University
2006	Caitlin Flanagan	Brown University	Student in Registered Nursing Program at Lund University for future work with "Doctors Without Borders"
2007	Michelle Prairie	Univ. of Connecticut	Government & Welfare Policy in Sweden at Uppsala University
2007	Amanda Nelson	Lesley University	Antique Bookbinding at the Carolina Rediviva Library at Uppsala University
2008	Anna Martignetti	Suffolk University	Master's Program in Human Rights Law at Raoul Wallenberg Institute at Lund University
2009	Amy Hernandez	Colby College	Comparative studies in Policies at Federal Bank in US and Sveriges Riksbank in Sweden, Stockholm University
2010	Sarah Garlington	Boston University	Doctoral studies in Sociology and Welfare Policy at Uppsala University specifically involved in a research project called IMPACT
2010	Hanna Freedlund	Tufts University	Childcare and Daycare, the Swedish Model, at the Swedish Program at Stockholm University
2010	Ellen Wright	Univ. of Massachusetts	Advanced Swedish languages studies at Uppsala University



Dear SWEA Boston:

Life and Law in Lund

My first year in Sweden was coming to an end and I was preparing to bid farewell to my Swedish corridor and travel back to the United States for the summer. The prominence of Lund University must not be understated, as I found my time at the Faculty of Law to be challenging, enriching and full of opportunity. The Master of Laws Programme in International Human Rights Law was an intensive curriculum, featuring key scholars and guest lecturers from not only Scandinavia but throughout the world, and connecting me to colleagues in law (and now, personal friends) from every continent.

The rich student life in Lund sustained me in the colder and darker months in Sweden while simultaneously quenching my thirst for intellectual and educational pursuits. I became involved in the student based non-governmental international human rights organization, Jus Humanis, serving as both the vice chairperson and chairperson of the board during my time in Lund. Jus Humanis promoted human rights through education, holding country lectures, seminars, and large-scale educational forums.

Lund, as a university town, has an energetic and non-stop social scene for students. From parties and dinners at student 'nations' and corridors to the many cafes and bars and continuous train trips to nearby Malmo and Copenhagen, there is always warm friends waiting for you to come in from the cold cobble-stoned streets. Some of my most memorable evenings were spent sipping warm söderblandning tea and talking and laughing with my Swedish corridor mates, exchanging childhood memories and discussing life in the United States and Sweden, respectively. During the holidays, my corridor mates and I baked lussekatt, constructed ginger bread houses, drank glögg and went caroling in honor of Saint Lucy, a Swedish tradition. My program colleagues, a group of diverse attorneys from around the world, would often gather at Ariman café, listening to music and discussing human rights issues over a cocktail or a fika.

Uppsala for the Summer

As I crossed through Customs at Logan International, I began to cry. So many emotions finally caught up with me. The hours upon hours of meticulous planning, the stress of perfecting each detail, printing maps, making arrangements, double- and triple-checking my packing lists, and looking at my tickets and passport just one more time to make sure they didn't magically disappear from my carry-on. I took a moment to gather myself as I retied my shoes, and then I turned off my American mobile phone. Taking a deep breath, I boarded my plane.

As far back as I can remember, I've been entranced by the beautiful North and have felt an inexplicable pull to its mountains and Midnight Sun. I have wanted and needed to explore this wondrous terra incognita and experience the magic for myself, and I was determined that one day, I would travel to Sweden to fulfill my desire. I began to study Sweden and all its aspects wholeheartedly - I bought every travel book in sight, I listened to Swedish music, I began to learn the language. I was captivated. When it came time to choose a major for my university studies, there was never any other option. I enrolled at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst as the first (and so far, only) Scandinavian Studies major. It was thrilling to take classes in something I reveled in, and I soaked in as much knowledge as possible. I thrived, but I needed more. This past summer, I had the good fortune to attend Uppsala International Summer Session (<http://uiss.org/>) to further my Swedish language skills. Even though I had been to Sweden before to visit friends and travel, I had never been to Uppsala or been a student in Sweden, and I was very excited. I spent a total of eight weeks of intensive, full-time Swedish classes learning not only the language itself, but also grammar drilling, literature, history, film, and various other intriguing elective tracks. Days were long and intense - it was hard work, but it was never boring.

Uppsala is a stunningly beautiful city, and it's the fourth largest city in Sweden. It wasn't the esthetics of the castle or cathedral that captivated me; it was the little

The program itself first drew me to Sweden. A two year curriculum, the selective program accepts only about twenty five to thirty students globally each year. The program followed the typical Swedish system which offers one course at a time for a period of four to five weeks at an intense level, allowing for a comprehensive grasp of the material.

My graduation from the program was as bitter sweet as salmiak. I had spent six months preparing a master thesis, researching and writing on the topic of fair trials for terror suspects in the United States. A week before graduation, I was asked to give the traditional student speech at the ceremony. I was humbled by the experience and spoke about that common thread that my colleagues and I shared as human rights lawyers, a title we earned at Lund. The evening before I left Sweden, I shared a cocktail with some friends at a small café across from the train station, feeling melancholy but also certain that I would someday return to Lund. But I have never truly left Lund behind either. Currently, I am an associate at Cervizzi & Associates, a boutique family law firm concentrating on divorce, with three locations in North Reading, Boston, and Beverly, Massachusetts.

I must thank SWEA, the Swedish Women's Educational Association, Inc., of Boston, for their generous scholarship and constant support which allowed me to take advantage of the opportunity I was given to join the eminent ranks of alumni of Lund University, a long-standing and reputable university. My education and experience in Lund was in alignment with the mission and goals of SWEA and I can only hope that I have served them with the respect and honor befitting the organization during my time in Sweden. I hold Lund, Sweden, and SWEA with the highest esteem--and warmly in my heart.

In sincere gratitude,

Anna Maria Martignetti, Esq.

things that only a friend would know. The fresh fruit stands which sold strawberries, raspberries, and cherries every couple of blocks throughout the city. The Fyris river with its beautiful bridges and overflowing flower boxes. The rune stones which stood so unassumingly in parks and along railroad tracks. The way the architecture looked in the dusky light of 23:00 was magical. Uppsala had an intimate feel, and I soon knew my way around without a map, like I had been there forever.

At the end of my time in Uppsala, the goodbyes were heart-wrenching. Leaving behind a place I fell so deeply in love with hurt in ways I never imagined possible. I had made close friends from all over the world, and from all different countries. I'm now facebook friends with nearly everyone I met, and their statuses to this day all express a longing for the friendships and experiences left behind. I now consider Uppsala my other hometown, a place that will forever live fondly in my memories. On the train to the airport, I watched the twin spires of the cathedral distance themselves from me, drawing back into the hot summer haze until they were all but invisible. I felt numb to watch my life for the past eight weeks speeding away from me. My only solace was that I would be going home, where I would file the paperwork necessary to complete my degree as the first major candidate in the Scandinavian Studies program.

As we made our final descent to Logan International, I looked intently for landmarks I could recognize, things that would prove I was really home. Barely a few minutes before we touched down, I saw one thing, one landmark that told me in no uncertain terms where I was. When I saw it, I smiled. It was like a sign from fate itself, a reminder that my passion for Sweden would never be far from my life or my heart.

It was an IKEA. I was home again, in more ways than one.

Ellen Wright



SWEA Donations

SWEA BOSTON is proud to have supported:

Scandinavian Living Center, Newton.

SLC is an Assisted Living Community catering to the whole community, not just Scandinavians. The Center's Nordic Hall is a popular venue for many Scandinavian organizations including SWEA.

The SWEA Visiting Group.

Members of SWEA Boston pay a visit to Scandinavian Living Center once a month to socialize and residents' landmark birthdays are celebrated with flowers and a birthday cake.

The Swedish School.

SWEA Boston has annually supported Svenska Skolan for two decades. With additional SWEA donations the Swedish School e.g. recently was able to completely computerize and update the school's library.

Swedish American Council of Boston.

Past host of cultural programs and the annual Christmas dinner for Swedish students and the Swedish American community.

Stämbandet ("– The Scandinavian Vocal Ensemble").

Stämbandet has a reputation for excellence both as an a cappella ensemble and a World Music vocal group singing in six languages. Musical director is Allen LeVines, holder of SWEA Boston Scholarship in 1993.

Thai Swedish Foundation. – Barnhem Muang Mai, Phuket, Thailand.

Barnhem is Swedish for "Home for Children". The home was established in direct response to the devastation caused by the powerful tsunami that hit the region on December 26, 2004.

scandinavian living center



Stämbandet



SWEA Donations

SWEA BOSTON is proud to have supported cont.):

New England String Orchestra.

SWEA co-sponsored a reception following the concert “Nordic Lights” held at Jordan Hall. The concert featured pieces by composers from all the Nordic countries.

“The Swedish Nightingale” - Jenny Lind Concerts

SWEA Boston and the Swedish consulate have hosted concerts with outstanding young Swedish sopranos and pianists and holders of awards from The Swedish Royal Academy of Music.

Jenny Lind (1820-1887), “The Swedish Nightingale”, had almost incomprehensible success worldwide. She married in Boston, near Louisburg Square. Satisfying her admirers, that could not gain access to her sold-out performances, she gave a free concert from a hotel tower on Beacon Hill. The Jenny Lind Tower now stands in Truro on Cape Cod.

The National Museum, Stockholm.

SWEA chapters worldwide celebrated SWEA International’s 30th anniversary 2009 by donating to Sweden’s oldest cultural institution, Nationalmuseum in Stockholm. The donation was earmarked for a film about the museum’s collections and to raise awareness of Sweden’s history, arts and culture.

Swedish film in Boston.

SWEA sponsored a reception following the US premiere of “Four weeks in June” and a discussion with the Swedish director, Henry Meyer. The sold-out event was part of The Boston Jewish Film Festival.

