



April 2012

E-News from The Danish Immigrant Museum

Victor Borge Legacy Awards Given to High School Piano Students



The Danish Immigrant Museum in Elk Horn, Iowa, is honored to announce the first winners of the Victor Borge Legacy Award. Named in honor of the beloved comedian and musician, the Victor Borge Legacy Award is designed to encourage young pianists in the Omaha and Southwest Iowa regions. Four talented piano students have earned cash prizes of \$1000 and \$500 dollars and will perform in public recitals at The Danish Immigrant Museum this spring. This is the first year of the Victor Borge Legacy Award, a program organized by the museum and funded by R. James and Janet Borge Crowle of Saint Michaels, Maryland.

The first-place winners, each receiving a \$1000 cash prize, are Harry Simmons of Omaha and Michelle Sargent of Glenwood, Iowa. Second-place winners, each receiving a \$500 cash prize, are Mallory Huggins of Council Bluffs, Iowa, and Justine Petersen of Omaha.

The winners were selected in piano competitions organized by the Southwest Iowa Music Teachers Association and the Omaha Music Teachers Association. Each competitor performed multiple piano solo works in front of a judge, and winners have also prepared a written essay about the legacy of Victor Borge.

All four winners will perform at The Danish Immigrant Museum in recitals; two on April 22 and two on June 3. The public is invited to enjoy these talented musicians as they perform on Victor Borge's own piano, part of the museum's collection. Each recital will begin at 2:00 pm and be followed by a reception.

Competition information for the 2013 Victor Borge Legacy Awards will be available by September 2012 on the museum's website, www.danishmuseum.org, or by calling 712-764-7001.

An Invitation For You

"The Danish Immigrant Museum celebrates Danish roots and American dreams." Celebrate with us as we pursue our dreams by becoming a member of the museum. Your membership support makes possible the museum's many activities. Visit our [website](http://www.danishmuseum.org) to learn more about membership [benefits](#).

Meet the Artist! Enjoy the Colors, Textures and Flavors of Spring!

On Saturday, April 21, join us at the museum for an Artist Gallery Talk with Mia Furlong and a Spring Open House in the museum shop! “Pop the Balloon” for special discounts on Open House purchases, and enjoy a new selection of Danish and Scandinavian designs for the home.

At 2pm, Mia Furlong will be in the Danish-American Artist gallery to discuss her paintings currently on exhibit. Explore how her Danish roots inspire the role of art in her everyday life.

The museum will be open from 10am to 5pm; refreshments will be served from 11am to 4pm.



Brown Bag Lunch Series

This year’s Brown Bag Lunch Series features a special focus on Jens Jensen, the native landscape, and landscape architecture. All programs begin at 12 noon and are FREE to the public! Bring your own lunch – we’ll provide the coffee!

On **March 15**, enjoy some of the stories behind artifacts in the museum’s collection. Collections assistant Anna Mullen will present “Can You Dig It? Museum Artifacts from the Land and the Landscape.”



2005.016.001a Reed desk crafted by Peder Jorgensen



Detail of desk

Coming soon in the Brown Bag Lunch Series:

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| May 17 | Robert Grese, “Jens Jensen and His Contemporaries in Design” |
| June 14 | William Tishler, “From Denmark to America: The Landscape Legacy of Jens Jensen” |
| July 19 | Cynthia McKeen, “A Designer’s Perspective on Jens Jensen” |
| August 9 | Rich Patterson, “What Early Danish Settlers Found in Iowa” |

Did You Know?

In terms of social media, the Danes are among the world’s top users such as in Facebook.

The Danish Pioneer – a Newspaper, a Proud History, and Now a Traveling Exhibit!



The Danish Immigrant Museum is working with the Danish American Archive & Library in Blair, Nebraska, to develop a traveling exhibit about The Danish Pioneer (*Den Danske Pioneer*), the longest-running Danish-American newspaper

in the country. The exhibit will be on view throughout the Midwest this spring and summer, and can be available to travel to any part of the country; contact Tova Brandt, curator of exhibitions, to inquire about availability at dkur@metc.net. This project is supported by a grant from the Nebraska Humanities Council.

Enjoy the first opportunities to see The Danish Pioneer traveling exhibit:

- April 16-24 Danish American Archive & Library, Blair, Nebraska
- April 25-29 Rebuild National Park Society annual meeting, Chicago
- May 21-28 The Danish Immigrant Museum, Elk Horn, Iowa



Family History & Genealogy Center: Danish Roots, American Branches

The Census is Here, the Census is Here!

Seventy-two years and one day after it was taken, the long-awaited 1940 population census was released on April 2. Now genealogists and others can research family members who went through the Great Depression and would soon experience World War II. In 1940 the US population stood at 132 million (less than half our present population) and the unemployment rate was 15%. Census questions included place of residence in 1935, whether individuals participated in government-sponsored work programs such as the Civilian Conservation Corps and Works Progress Administration, and for the first time, their income in the previous year. Volunteers nationwide will be indexing the census as quickly as possible, but until name indexes are available the census can be browsed by geographical location. Census records may be viewed at www.archives.gov/research/census/1940/. For tips on how to find localities and further information see www.1940census.archives.gov/index.asp or contact the Family History & Genealogy Center.



Last Call for Long-term Lovers!

I love you little "Mussie"
among women in the
thousands
The lovely rose of summer
here at home away from
Fragras hall.

I love your sunlit eyes
and the smile on your mouth
Your love is as
a spring deep without bottom

I love you now and forever
that love can never die
For down her life
is a breadth only from
the depth of love.
Bosse
1907

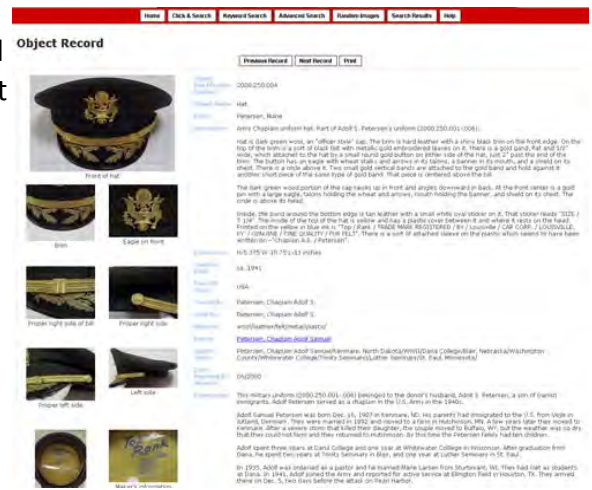
A photograph of a handwritten letter in Danish. The handwriting is cursive and appears to be from the early 20th century. The text is written on a piece of aged paper.

May 1 is the deadline for accepting photographs and information on Danish immigrants who were married for 50 years or longer or their descendants married for over 60 years for the FHGC summer photo exhibit. Along with marriage and anniversary photographs we are interested in stories about how they met and their lives together. Background information and narratives should accompany the photographs, which may be sent as .jpg files or print copies. A submission form may be found at Library & Genealogy>Photo Gallery or be obtained by emailing Michele at librarian@danishmuseum.org.

Online Artifact Records and Viewable Images Grow

For several years now, many Museum members have enjoyed “View Our Collection,” the online access to the database that The Danish Immigrant Museum uses to catalog its artifact collections. Viewers can see such information as artifact descriptions and measurements, who made the pieces and how they were used, and the personal stories connected to each artifact’s history. Also included in the system are thousands of photographs of those artifacts.

“View Our Collection” consistently features new records and images as more information about existing artifacts is added and the latest acquisitions are cataloged. Next week (second week in April), viewers will have a new set of records available for their enjoyment. If you want to know how you, too, might enjoy “View Our Collection,” please visit our website at www.danishmuseum.org or contact Deb Christensen Larsen at development@danishmuseum.org. Log on and explore!



Copenhagen Food Tours



Going to Denmark this spring and want something unusual? Former museum intern Maria Beisheim (center, wearing brown coat) is offering a guided 4-hour food tasting and cultural walking tour of Copenhagen during April and May. See www.cphfoodtours.dk for more information.

Most Popular Item in Museum Shop is Back

They're Here!
The most common item requested:
Denmark road maps!
Foldable road maps that help you explore Denmark!



\$10.95 each



Envirosax®

Designer Reusable Bags

- Many styles to choose from
- Super strong, holds 44 lbs
- Fully washable – won't fade
- Bag is approximately 17 x 18 inches and expands to 9 ½ inches
- Collapses to a 4 x 2 inch snapping pouch



\$6.00



For information on these and all of our unique gifts visit
The Museum Shop or online at www.danishmuseum.org/shop.cfm

Museum Calendar, April - June

- April 8 Museum closed for Easter
- April 12 Brown Bag Lunch: Anna Mullen, Collections Assistant, "Can You Dig It? Museum Artifacts from the Land and the Landscape"
- April 21 Artist Reception and Gallery Talk with Mia Furlong
Spring Open House in the Museum Shop
- April 22 Piano Recital by winners of the Victor Borge Legacy Award
- May 17 Brown Bag Lunch: Robert Grese, "Jens Jensen and His Contemporaries in Design"
- May 17 Public presentation by Robert Grese, "Jens Jensen and his Contemporaries in Design".
Reiman Gardens in Ames, Iowa at 7:00 pm.
- May 18 Public presentation by Robert Grese, "Jens Jensen and his Contemporaries in Design".
Lauritzen Gardens in Omaha at 7:00 pm.
- May 26-27 Tivoli Fest
- June 3 Piano Recital by winners of the Victor Borge Legacy Award
- June 13 Public presentation by William Tishler, "Shaping American Landscapes: Jens Jensen and the Prairie Spirit." Reiman Gardens in Ames, Iowa at 7:00 pm.
- June 14 Brown Bag Lunch: William Tishler, "From Denmark to America: The Landscape Legacy of Jens Jensen."
- June 15 Public presentation by William Tishler, "Shaping American Landscapes: Jens Jensen and the Prairie Spirit." Salisbury House and Gardens in Des Moines, Iowa at 7:00 pm.
- June 16 Public presentation by William Tishler at Indian Creek Nature Center, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.
Topic and time tba.
- June 20 Sankt Hans Aften (Midsummer celebration)

You Can Follow Us From Anywhere!



The Danish Immigrant Museum



Like us on
Facebook



DanishMuseum's channel

Other Danish-American and Danish Events Coming Soon:

- April 25-28 Rebild Society Annual Meeting in Chicago, IL
<http://www.rebildchicago.org/>
- May 24-27 Danish Canadian National Conference
Contact Ostergaard@rogers.com
- June 22-24 Danish Cultural Conference, Corbett, OR
<http://www.northwestdanishfoundation.org/about-our-foundation/programs/danish-cultural-conference>
- June 24-30 Himmelbjerget Danish Camp, Menucha Retreat Center in Corbett, Oregon
<http://www.nwdanishcamp.com/>
- July 3 The Danish Emigration Archives 80th Anniversary, Aalborg, Denmark
Contact emiarch@emiarch.dk
- July 4 The Rebild Festival, Rebild Hills, Denmark
<http://www.rebildfesten.dk>
- June 24-30
July 8-14
August 5-11 Summer Family Camps at Danebod, Tyler, MN
<http://www.danebod.org>
- August 15-19 Danebod Folk Meeting, Tyler, MN
Contact r.bly@mchsi.com or call 507-247-3000