

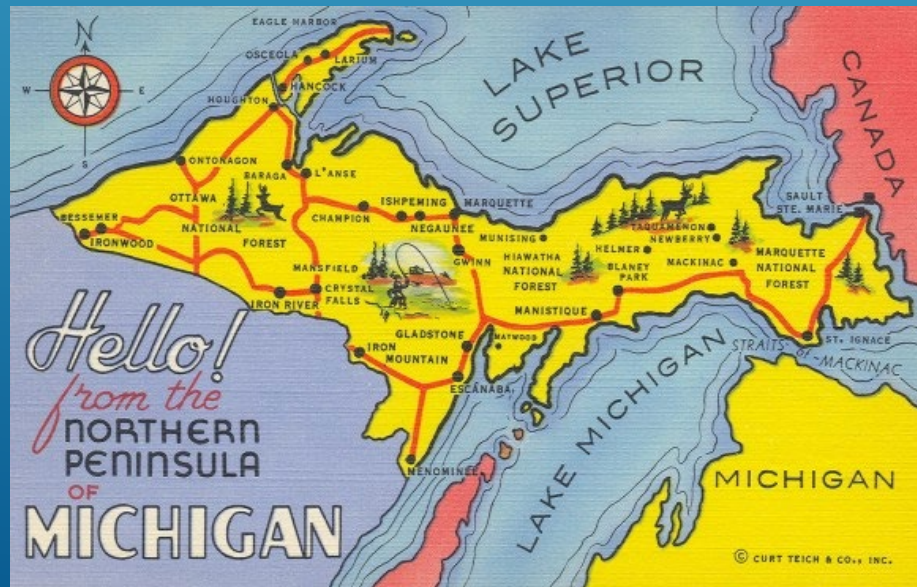
FINLANDIA UNIVERSITY



ABOUT US



- ▶ Located in the northernmost point of land in Michigan
- ▶ Average snowfall 250 – 300 inches (or 6 – 8 meters)
- ▶ Easy access to Lake Superior – the largest body of fresh water in the world!



- ▶ Founded in 1896 by immigrants from Finland
- ▶ Cultural home to the Finnish American Heritage Center
- ▶ Around 500 students from 25 states and six countries
- ▶ Average class size is 11 students
- ▶ Four academic colleges
 - ▶ Suomi College of Arts and Sciences
 - ▶ International School of Art and Design
 - ▶ International School of Business
 - ▶ College of Health Sciences
- ▶ 30 majors (concentrations) to choose from



- ▶ The Finnish American Heritage Center hosts cultural events, an art gallery and North American's most renowned archive and collections meant to preserve and promote Finnish-American identity and history

FINNISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER



- ▶ Assistant Professor, Finnish & Nordic Studies
- ▶ Ethnologist specializing in Nordic and Upper Midwestern (USA) cultural practices, including festivals, traditional arts, oral genres, music, folk dance, ethnic and national dress, and heritage language maintenance

DR. HILARY-JOY VIRTANEN



- ▶ Builds an understanding of Nordic history, culture, and society with a special focus on Finland
- ▶ Encompasses aspects of the social sciences, history, arts and literature, and language
- ▶ Interdisciplinary area studies program that can complement and augment any major field of study offered at Finlandia University



FINNISH & NORDIC STUDIES

- ▶ Piloted in 2012, Hei Suomi! is a collaborative project between South Range Elementary School, Finlandia University, the University of Lapland, and the Finnish American Heritage Center
- ▶ Hei Suomi brings two Finnish education students from the University of Lapland to teach the third graders at the South Range Elementary School about Finnish culture, geography, history, nature, language, traditions, and Finnish children's everyday lives



HEI SUOMI! PROGRAM