



Winterer's Gathering & Arctic Film Festival

November 14-18, 2012

North House Folk School

888-387-9762 or 218-387-9762

* updated: 10/09/2012; some components subject to change

Please continue to visit northhouse.org for most up-to-date schedule

The **Winterer's Gathering & Arctic Film Festival** is a multi-day educational event that celebrates the crafts, customs, landscape, history and stories of winter travel and traditional life ways in the north. Winter travel enthusiasts and northern culture admirers merge on the North House campus for four days of winter travel seminars, courses and workshops complemented by multiple evenings of inspiring thought-provoking international films about arctic life.

The Winterers—or *Les Hivernants* as the early North American Voyageurs referred to them—were brave, experienced individuals who signed on after the summer's end to work at winter outposts scattered throughout the 'interior' of North America. In respect for the skills, traditions and spirit of this devoted group, the annual Winterer's Gathering happens each year at the North House Folk School campus on the shore of Lake Superior.

Schedule of Events - 2012

Wednesday, November 14

PM Harbor Side Winter Tent Camp Opens
**campers invited to register early

9 am Courses Underway

Thursday, November 15

9am Courses Underway

Friday, November 16

9am Courses Underway

9 am Arctic Film Festival: Ethno-Historic Screening
the tundra book: a tale of vukvukai, the little rock (105 min)

11am Arctic Film Festival: Northern Survival Screening
a year in the arctic wild (58 min)

noon Winter Skills Seminar
skin clothing throughout the ages/johnny rock

1:00 pm Arctic Film Festival: Environment Screening
wild scandinavia: finland (52 min)

2 pm Winter Skills Seminar
lonnie dupre: world on thin ice

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| 3 pm | Arctic Film Festival: Ethno-Historic Screening
arctic hip hop (47 min) |
| 4pm | Arctic Film Festival: Ethno-Historic Screening
smokin' fish (81 min) |
| 5:30pm | Open-Pit Fire Dinner on A Stick and Outdoor Film Screening
-40 (14 min) |
| 6pm | Sivertson's Fireside Chat: TBA |
| 7pm | Snowshoe Shuffle Community Contra Dance
with Over the Waterfall |
| 8:00pm | Arctic Film Festival: Environment Screening
people of a feather (90 min) |
| 9:30pm | Arctic Film Festival Late Night Expedition Screening
cold (19 min) |

Saturday, November 17

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| 9am | Courses Underway |
| 9am | Arctic Film Festival: Ethno-Historic Screening
the old whetstone (44 min) |
| 9:30am | Drop Off for Great Ski & Gear Swap |
| 10am | Winter Skills Seminar
chasing caribou/julie buckles |
| 10:30am | Great Ski & Gear Swap Begins |
| 11am | Winter Skills Seminar
winter camp tent tour/ Jackson Sneve & Kurt Buetow |
| 11am | Arctic Film Screening: Ethno-Historic Screening
last dogs of winter (97 min) |
| 1 pm | Winter Skills Seminar
tools for the winter walker/david cronewett |
| 2pm | Winter Skills Seminar
nadaam: the monogolian festival/jim dahn |
| 3pm | Arctic Film Screening: Expedition Screening
wild bill's run (60 min) |

- 4pm Arctic Film Festival Filmmaker Discussion/Q&A
mike schultz duluth, minnesota
- 6pm The Deep-Freeze Chili Feed (\$10 per person)
- 7:30 pm Featured Presentation: Seth Kantner
arctic homeboy stories
- 9:00 pm Arctic Film Festival – Featured Film Screening:
the happy people: a (94 min)

Sunday, November 18

- 9am Courses Underway (see schedule below)
- 9am Arctic Film Festival: Environment Screening
imaqualtilik: path of the arctic tern (60 min)
- 10am Winter Skills Seminar/Arctic Film Festival
TBA
- 11 am Arctic Film Festival: Expedition Screening
arctic shadows (52 min)

Harbor Side Winter Tent Camp

All Weekend

This component of the festival is an opportunity for winter campers to setup their shelter near campus, whether it be a canvas wall tent, an expedition or 4-season nylon-grade tent, or a traditional Mongolian yurt, and share information and ideas about winter camping in the elements of cold weather. Participants are recommended to be a part of the Winter Tent Tour scheduled on Saturday.

Costs - \$8/night (non-electric) \$15/night (electric)

(**registration required – call 888/387-9762)

Featured Programs

Open Fire Dinner On A Stick & Outdoor Film Screening

Friday, 5:30pm

Winterer's Gathering & the Arctic Film Festival officially kicks off as we gather around a bonfire out of doors and cook over an open fire as a community. Participants bring their own food (from sausages to vegi dogs), carve their own willow roasting stick and slow roast over the fire. We'll enjoy an outdoor film (a short!) and some good company.

(no registration required, byo dinner and beverages, we'll provide the heat)

Snowshoe Shuffle Traditional Community Contra Dance

Friday, 7pm

Don your winter wardrobe and warm up at this friendly community contra dance. Dances are called and instructed by the music ensemble, "Over The Waterfall." The dance takes place in the historic timbered woodshop. (no registration required, donations accepted for the band at the door)

The Great Gear & Ski Swap

Saturday, 10:30am – 11:30am

Bring your outdoor equipment to sell or get in on some great bargains & buy. Registration forms to sell your gear are ready. Backcountry skis to winter canvas tents. Ice skates to kites. Winter boots to down jackets. All are welcome. (registration for items in swap is required, registration forms available on-line and at the day of the event)

The Deep Freeze Chili Feed

Saturday, 6pm

Grab your bowl for this traditional winter favorite - chili & freshly baked wood-fired bread. Hot chili (vegetarian with meat as an option) is cooked up fresh in the kettle, served out of doors, and eaten in the warm banquet hall by the woodstove. A community feast for all to enjoy.

(\$10/person, paid at the door)

Featured Presentation: Arctic Homeboy Stories with Seth Kantner

Saturday, 7:30 pm

"My memory begins under snow," Seth Kantner writes in *Shopping for Porcupine*, his most recent collection of stories and photographs of his upbringing on the tundra, north of the Arctic circle in northern Alaska. Seth recalls his early and longstanding respect for the old Iñupiaq ways, cold nights on caribou hides, swimming in the ice floes for wounded waterfowl, and fur-clad trappers stopping with their dog teams for visits. As the years have passed, Seth has watched Alaska change. His a voice on the brink of the past and the present, expressing reverence for the old ways and the simple and stark realities of northern life, now made more complex by the advent of "modern convenience." Seth and will share stories and photos of growing up in a sod igloo, traveling by ski and dogsled and a life in the arctic frontier.

Seth Kantner is a commercial fisherman, wildlife photographer and author of *Shopping for Porcupine* and the national bestselling novel, *Ordinary Wolves*. He was born and raised in northern Alaska, schooled at home and living off the land, and later attended the University of Montana and received a BA in journalism. His writings and photographs have appeared in the *New York Times*, *Outside*, *Alaska*, *Reader's Digest* and other magazines and anthologies. He's a columnist for the Anchorage Daily News, the Arctic Sounder, and Bristol Bay Times, and a former dispatch writer on climate change for *Orion* magazine. He lives with his wife and daughter in northwest Alaska.

Featured Film: *The Happy People: A Year in the Taiga* (2011, Dmitry Vasyukov, Germany 94 min)

Saturday, 9:00 pm

Legendary producer Werner Herzog teams with director Dmitry Vasyukov for this observant look at life along the river Yenisei in northern Russia, where the industrious inhabitants of a rural village truly live off the land. With virtually no interference from the modern world — and no taxes or government to regulate their behavior — the happy residents of Bakhta preserve their increasingly rare society. The camera follows the protagonists in the village over a period of a year. The natives, whose daily routines have barely changed over the last centuries, keep living their lives according to their own cultural traditions. The expressive pictures are accompanied by original sound bites quoting the villagers.

Winter Skills Seminars

Events seminars are typically 45 minute demos and clinics that take place throughout the weekend. No registration required – free for North House members/non-members \$5 per seminar, paid at door.

Friday, noon: skin clothing throughout the ages/ johnny rock

Tanner and skin clothing artist Johnny Rock will speak on barktanning and braintanning history and techniques with a focus on clothing from northern climates.

Friday, 2 pm: world on thin ice – from greenland to the north pole to denali/lonnie dupre

Experience the adventure of polar travel and how climate change is affecting the globe firsthand with a dynamic multi-media presentation from explorer Lonnie Dupre. Lonnie will talk about his expeditions around Greenland, to the North Pole across 600 miles of shifting sea ice and a solo winter climb of Denali aka Mount McKinley, North America's highest peak. Join Lonnie as he shares life on the trail with special emphasis placed on global warming, setting and achieving goals, teamwork and overcoming obstacles. Breathtaking images along with video, Arctic gear and a variety of other props complement the power point presentation. Dupre, who lives in Grand Marais, Minnesota, has over 15,000 miles of Arctic expedition travel by dogsled, ski, on foot, and by kayak. While using non-motorized means of travel, he has lead several Arctic expeditions including treks across the Russian Far East, First west to east winter crossing of Canada's Northwest Passage, and the only circumnavigation of Greenland's 6500-mile coastline by kayak and dog team.

Saturday, 10am: chasing caribou/ julie buckles

In 2002 Julie Buckles and Charly Ray drove to the end of the road in northern Saskatchewan with their new team of nine sled dogs for a three week exploration of the Canadian Bush in winter. The objective: cross the watershed divide north from Wollaston Lake into the headwaters of the Kazan River. Following native caribou hunter trails packed by snowmobiles, the couple made it some 60 miles north of town before encountering unpacked snow deemed unpassable by the same natives on snowmobiles and so spent the next two weeks following the wide ranging trails made by hunters following the scattered herds of Barren Grounds Caribou which winter in the forests at the edge of treeline. Several encounters with hunters, kill sites, camps, and herds of caribou gave them a glimpse of the timeless connection here between people and animals and winter.

Saturday, 11am winter tent camp tour/ jackson sneve & kurt buetow

Step inside and meet the campers who find comfort in twenty-below temps and see why they love to winter camp. This tour includes a walk-through of the many winter shelters that show up during the gathering. From

canvas wall tents to expedition-grade nylon, circular yurts to lean-tos, you'll learn what works (and what doesn't!) from each camper.

Saturday, 1 pm tools for the winter walker/david cronenwett

This seminar will demonstrate the selection, powerful and safe use of the "trifecta" of bush tools, the knife, axe and saw. With these items, a woods-person can create a life in the wilderness. They aid in fire making, shelter building and a multitude of other tasks.

Saturday, 2 pm naadam: the mongolian festival/jim dahn

Instructor Jim Dahn spent the month of July 2011 in Mongolia at the traditional festival of Naadam. This ancient festival features three areas of Mongolian culture: horseracing, archery and wrestling. He'll share photos and stories of his high desert experiences.

Saturday, 4 pm wild bill's run: discussion with the director mike scholtz

Fascinated by this bit of Minnesota history, director Mike Scholtz dug deep in to the local history and tells the curious story of Bill Cooper in his film "Wild Bill's Run." A question & answer session follows the 3pm screening of the film.

Arctic Film Festival

Internationally recognized, award-winning films that draw on the culture, landscape and lifestyles across northern cultures and circumpolar Arctic region. Throughout the weekend. Free admission, popcorn for sale.

Northern Survival Screening

Friday, 9 am

The Tundra Book: A Tale of Vukvukai, the Little Rock* (2011, Aleksei Vakhrushev, Russia, 105 min)The Tundra Book: A Tale of Vukvukai, the Little Rock* presents a rare and stunning documentary about the lives of the Chukchi people who inhabit a remote Russian peninsula in the Arctic Circle, leaving them virtually isolated from modern life. The story centers on Vukvukai and his community. Vukvukai, the Little Rock, is Chukchi from eastern Russia and lives along the Bering Sea region. He has lived his lifetime as a reindeer herder and thus is known in his community as a true man of the tundra whose life is inseparable from the reindeer. The Chukchi herd more than 14,000 reindeer. Vukvukai lives in one of the harshest climate zones in the world, the Arctic Circle. His story and that of the Chukchi is one of a nonstop struggle for survival, but the people believe that following the practices of their ancient, nomadic, cultural traditions contributes to the perseverance of their survival in the unyielding, frozen tundra. The film presents a glimpse into a land, culture, and people that few have ever dared to capture, since it is so remote. For now, the nomadic Chukchi culture remains virtually intact away from the influx of modernity.

Expedition Screening

Friday, 10 am

***A Year in the Arctic Wild* (2010, Svante Lysén, Sweden, 57 min)**

The film "A Year In The Arctic Wild" is about two men who leaving civilization for over a year, to settle in the inner parts of the giant isolated Scoresbysunds fjorden in eastern Greenland. We follow them as they create their lives in the wilderness. We also take part in their fantastic experiences in the arctic nature, which includes impressive meetings with the wildlife during the four seasons.

Environment Screening

***Wild Scandinavia: Finland* (2011, Oliver Goetzl & Ivo Nörenber, Sweden, 52 min)**

Friday, 1 pm

It looks like a mosaic of water and woodland – Finland, the most eastern part of Scandinavia. Close to the Russian border, Finland is still home to rare animals: bears, wolves, lynx and wolverines roam the swampland, the Siberian Flying squirrel lives in old woodpecker nest holes. This film shows animal behavior from various species that has never been filmed before. Filmmakers Oliver Goetzl and Ivo Nörenberg got the first shots of a lynx in the Finnish wilderness; the crew (including Finnish cinematographer Jan Henriksson) captured brilliant highspeed shots of goldeneye chicks jumping out of their tree nest and filmed exciting encounters of bears and wolves. *Wild Scandinavia – Finland* gives us numerous insights to the life of wild forest reindeer, endangered saimaa seals, flying squirrels, brown bears, wolves, wolverines, lynx, red-throated divers, black woodpeckers, goldeneye ducks, ospreys, capercaillies, against the backdrop of the aurora borealis. Directed by Oliver Goetzl and Ivo.

Ethno-Historic Screening

Friday, 3 pm

***Arctic Hip Hop* (2007, Randy Kelly, Canada, 43 min)**

Capitalizing on the popularity of Hip Hop, Social Worker and longtime B-boy Stephen Leafloor has been bringing positive Hip Hop workshops to the north, this time to the remote Hamlet of Cambridge Bay, Nunavut. While dancing to the beat, kids are encouraged to blend their rich, ancient culture with a modern one. Between back spins and body-waves, they discuss bullying, body image and suicide. Five days later they emerge not only better dancers, but more confident kids, who have a clearer idea of how to balance their cultural identity with modern times.

Environment Screening

Friday, 4pm

***Smokin' Fish* (2011, Luke Griswold Tergis & Corey Mann, US, 81 min)**

Cory Mann is a quirky Tlingit businessman hustling to make a dollar in Juneau Alaska. He gets hungry for smoked salmon, nostalgic for his childhood, and decides to spend a summer smoking fish at his family's traditional fish camp. The unusual story of his life and the untold history of his people interweave with the process of preparing traditional food as he struggles to pay his bills, keep the IRS off his back, and keep his business afloat. By turns tragic, bizarre, or just plain ridiculous, *Smokin' Fish*, tells the story of one man's attempts to navigate the messy zone of collision between the modern world and an ancient culture.

Outdoor Film Screening

Friday, 5:30 pm

TBA

Environment Screening

Friday, 8:00 pm

***People of a Feather* (2011, Joel Heath & the Community of Sanikiluaq, Canada, 90 min)**

Featuring groundbreaking footage from seven winters in the Arctic, *People of a Feather* takes you through time into the world of Inuit on the Belcher Islands in Hudson Bay. Connecting past present and future is a unique cultural relationship with the eider duck. Eider down, the warmest feather in the world, allows both Inuit and bird to survive harsh Arctic winters. Recreations of traditional life are juxtaposed with modern life in Sanikiluaq, as both people and eiders face the challenges posed by changing sea ice and ocean currents disrupted by the massive hydroelectric dams powering eastern North America. The eyes of a remote subsistence culture challenge the world to find energy solutions that work with the seasons of our hydrological cycle.

Expedition Screening

Friday, 9:30 pm

***COLD* (2011, Anson Fogel, Colorado, 19 min) *language advisory**

Experience Gasherbrum II in the middle of a deep, dark winter, as seen from the raw, honest perspective of alpinist and photographer Cory Richards. The film deftly captures the interweaving of pain, doubt, and fear –

and reveals a harrowing descent that amplifies the isolation and exposure. “Best adventure film of the year”
Outside Magazine

Northern Survival Screening

Saturday, 9:00 am

***The Old Whetstone* (2003, Hjalmtyr Heiddal, Iceland, 44 min)**

Arne Arneshreppur is in the north part of Iceland. It has been an isolated area for centuries. Real roads were never built and modern means of transport failed to disrupt the rhythm of life which had prevailed almost unchanged for hundreds of years. The farmers lived off the land and from the sea: farming, fishing and utilizing driftwood to build their houses. One after another the farms were left at the mercy of the elements which in due time would destroy everything man had constructed over generations. This fate, however, did not befall all the farms - the north still has its power and there are still people who prefer to live in this rugged landscape. Peter Gudmundsson is doing what his forefathers did, collecting driftwood, selling eiderdown and hunting seals. The old whetstone is used by the fifth generation of settlers as Peter's son now helps out with the seal hunt.

Ethno-Historic Screening

Saturday, 11 am

***The Last Dogs of Winter* (2011, Costa Botes, US, 97 min)**

The Canadian Eskimo Dog, or *qimmiq*, is a disappearing breed: the rarest registered variety of dog in the world. They were once a critical part of Inuit life, but the introduction of the skidoo and other modern-day interventions reduced the population to less than a hundred. Churchill, Manitoba, in Canada's frozen north, famous for its polar bears, is home to the unconventional Brian Ladoon, founder of a sanctuary for these tough Arctic canines. A young New Zealand television star, Caleb Ross (*The Tribe*), volunteers to help out Brian. But what begins as a one-month trip turns into a three-year commitment. New Zealand director Costa Botes' honest and beautiful film captures Ladoon's determination in the face of adversity - community disapproval, debt, roaming polar bears and the difficult logistics of caring for canines in the brutal Canadian winter.

Northern Survival Screening

Saturday, 3 pm

***Will Bill's Run* (2012, Mike Scholtz, Minnesota, 60 min)**

This is the strange but true story of snowmobiling outlaw Wild Bill Cooper. After attempting to lead an expedition from Minnesota to Moscow across the polar ice, Cooper returned home and embarked upon an audacious life of crime. Part Arctic adventure and part crime caper, WILD BILL'S RUN is an unforgettable ride with a true American folk hero. Followed by a discussion with the film-maker.

Environment Screening

Sunday, 9 am

***Imiqutailaq: Path of the Arctic Tern* (2009, Geoff Green, Canada, 60 min)**

Imiqutailaq recently premiered at the International Polar Year Film Festival in November 2009. It chronicles the life-altering journey from one end of the Earth to the other, by two Inuit teens (Terry Noah and Jason Qaapiq) from Grise Fiord, Nunavut, Canada's northernmost Arctic community, to the bottom of the world, Antarctica. The journey was the dream of the late Dr. Fritz Koerner (1932-2008), the irreverent and legendary glaciologist whom the people of Grise Fiord named Imiqutailaq (Arctic Tern), after the little seabird that flies from the Arctic to the Antarctic and back each year. The documentary touches on Fritz's 50 years traveling Pole to Pole studying the ice, and how he wanted these Inuit youth to better understand the impacts of climate change, and inspire everyone to do something about protecting the Poles and the Planet.

Expedition Screening

Sunday, 11 am

***Arctic Shadows* (2009, Dr. David Gray, Canada, 52 min)**

Arctic Shadows is an exceptionally well-researched documentary film on the Arctic career of Dr. R.M. Anderson, former Chief Biologist of the National Museum of Canada and a world-renowned mammalogist.

Woven together by Anderson's own words taken from his extensive diaries and letters and read by a narrator, the film centres on Anderson's three Arctic expeditions: the Stefanson-Anderson Expedition of 1908-1912, the Canadian Arctic Expedition of 1913-1918, and the Eastern Arctic Patrol of 1928.

Event Courses - 2012

Invest your energy and get prepared for your next outdoor adventure. Hands-on coursework is offered all weekend long. For complete course descriptions, length in days and costs, visit www.northhouse.org (advanced registration required – complete course descriptions available at www.northhouse.org)

Nov 13-15	Hooker & Spooners: Working in Horn, Bone and Antler
Nov 14-15	Crooked Knife: Craft Your Own
Nov 15-16	Traveling By Pencil Writing Workshop
Nov 15-16	Footwear for the Camp: Moccasin Making
Nov 16	Bushcooker Trail Stove: Craft Your Own
Nov 16	Staying Alive in the Woods: Intro to Northern Wilderness Survival
Nov 16	Winter Camping at Thirty Below
Nov 16-17	Sew A Bag: Sailor's Ditty or Sailcloth
Nov 16-17	Carry Your Fuel: Craft a Steambent Firewood Carrier
Nov 16-18	Wooden Toboggan for Winter Travel: Make Your Own
Nov 16-18	Carving the Cree Hunter's Shovel
Nov 17	Photography Workshop with Seth Kantner
Nov 17-18	Carving Inuit Snow Goggles
Nov 18-19	Northern Bushcraft: In the Field

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