

Winterer's & arctic film festival

November 17-20, 2011

North House Folk School
on the harbor in grand marais, mn
www.northhouse.org • 218-387-9762

Welcome!

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 winter travel seminars, courses and workshops complemented by 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.



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Winterer's Gathering &
Arctic Film Festival

2011

weekend highlights

Harbor Side Winter Tent Camp / All Weekend

This component of the festival is an opportunity for winter campers to set up their shelter on campus and share information and ideas about winter camping. \$8/night (non-electric) \$15/night (electric). Reservations through the Grand Marais Rec Park 800-998-0959.

Open Fire Dinner On A Stick / Friday, 5:30pm

Gather around a bonfire out of doors and cook over an open fire as a community. Participants bring their own food (from sausages to veggie dogs) and slow roast over the fire. (no registration required)

Snowshoe Shuffle 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 timbered woodshop. (donations accepted for the band at the door)

The Great Gear & Ski Swap / Sat, 10:30am – 11:30am

Bring your outdoor equipment to sell or get in on some great bargains & buy. From 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 online and at the day of the event)

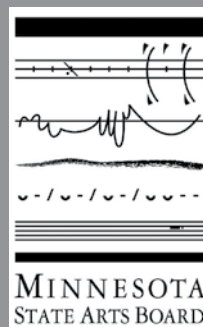
The Deep Freeze Chili Feed / Saturday, 6pm

Grab your bowl for this traditional winter favorite - chili & freshly baked cornbread. 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 & Film Screening: Rolf Peterson, Wildlife Biologist/George Desort, Filmmaker

Saturday, 7:30 pm

Many people dream of seeing just one in their lifetimes, but imagine spending nearly forty years in the intimate company of moose. Rolf Peterson has spent the better part of four decades overseeing the wolf and moose study in Isle Royale National Park—a veritable petri dish filled with these large ungulates and their predators. There, nature has been allowed to run wild as humans simply observe the outcome. The Isle Royale wolf and moose study is now the longest-running study of predatory-prey relationships in the world, and has provided important data for similar studies worldwide. Over time, as subtle ecological changes emerge, the significance of Rolf's work has only increased. During his talk Rolf will discuss the highlights of his many seasons on the island, and focus on the challenges facing wolves and moose now, as both populations reach all-time low levels.



This activity is funded, in part, by the Minnesota State Arts Board through the arts and cultural heritage fund as appropriated by the Minnesota State Legislature with money from the Legacy Amendment vote of the people of Minnesota on November 4, 2008

Lake Superior Trading Post is also an event sponsor

schedule of events

	seminar	film	program	course
fri am	11 am - Winter Skills Seminar: An Herbalist's Guide with <i>Gigi Stafne</i>	9 am - Northern Survival Screening: <i>Building a Kayak: The Netsilik Eskimo Series</i> (65 min) 10 am/Expedition Screening: <i>First Voyage: The Viking Discovery of America</i> (53 min) Noon/ <i>Palos Brudefærd (The Wedding of Palo)</i> (79 min)		Nov 16-18 / Working in Horn, Bone & Antler Nov 18-20 / Snowshoe Construction: Build Your Own Nov 18-20 / Prepare and Preserve Healthful Meats
	2 pm/ Winter Skills Seminar: Yurts: Round-Table Discussion on Living in the Round with <i>Matthew Brown</i> 4 pm/Winter Skills Seminar: Living Way Off the Grid w/ <i>Rob Kesselring</i>	1:30 pm/Ethno-Historic Screening: <i>Pegtymel</i> (2001, Andrei Golovnev, Russia, 32 min) 3 pm/Ethno-Historic Screening: <i>World of Skiing: The Development of the Modern Sport of Skiing</i> (51 min) 8 pm/Documentary Screening & Discussion w/ filmmaker: <i>The Polar Explorer</i> (Mark Terry, 2010, Canada)	5:30 pm/Dinner On A Stick 6 pm/"Bowl Turning" by Cooper Ternes at Sivertson Art Gallery 6-7 pm/Children's Book Reading <i>Winter is the Warmest Season</i> w/ Illustrator Lauren Stringer 7 pm/Snowshoe Shuffle Community Contra Dance	Nov 18 / Documentary in A Day: The Craft of Film-Making Nov 18 / In the Field with Garrett Conover Nov 18 / Making the Cree Hunter's Shovel
	10 am/Winter Skills Seminar: Fifty Lakes One Island: Behind the Scenes with <i>George Desort</i> 11 am/ Winter Camp Tent Tour with <i>Jackson Sneve & Kurt Buetow</i> Noon/Winter Skills Seminar: Softly Walk the Heroes with <i>Garrett Conover</i>	9 am/Northern Survival Screening: <i>Where the Homefires Died</i> (55 min) 1 pm/Arctic Film Screening: <i>The Last Explorer</i> (2007, Neil Diamond & Ernest Webb, Canada, 48 min) 8:30 pm/ Featured Film Screening: <i>Fortunate Wilderness</i> (2010, George Desort, USA, 56 min)	10:30 am/11:30 am Great Gear & Ski Swap 2-4 pm/ Family Program: Outdoor Survival! with North House Staff 6 pm/ The Deep-Freeze Chili Feed (\$10 per person) Fundraiser for Cook County Food Shelf 7:30 pm/ Featured Presentation: "Wolves & Moose on Isle Royale" with <i>Rolf Peterson</i>	Nov 19-20 / Sailor's Ditty Bag: Sewing a Sailcloth Bag Nov 19-20 / Carving Inuit-Style Snow Goggles Nov 19 / Cooking with the Seasons with <i>Chez Jude</i> Nov 19 / Winter Provisioning: Bannock and Beyond
sat am	2 pm/Winter Skills Seminar: Denali with <i>Lonnie Dupre</i> 3pm/Panel Discussion: Climate Change in the Arctic & at Home with <i>Mike Link, Kate Crowley, Paul Schurke & Lonnie Dupre</i>			Nov 19 / Snowwalker's Companion: Wilderness Travel Seminar Nov 19 / Wolves & Other Canids: Wildlife Biology with <i>Rolf</i>
sat pm				
sun am	10 am/Winter Skills Seminar: fresh fish with <i>Lindsay Lee</i>	9 am/ Northern Survival Screening: <i>Fishing at the Stone Weir: The Netsilik Eskimo Series</i> (57 min) 11 am/ Ethno-Historic Screening: <i>Through These Eyes</i> (55 min)		Nov 20-21 / In the Field: Overnight with <i>Garrett Conover</i>





winter skills seminars | descriptions & times

Events seminars are typically 45 minute demos, talks or clinics that take place throughout the weekend. No registration required – \$5 per seminar at the door, or get an event pass for \$25 (admission to all seminars) and become a North House member.

Winter Survival: An Herbalist's Guide

with Gigi Stafne / Friday, 11 am

Roots, barks, berries, herbs! Which winter medicine plants would you have in your traditional lavvo or sauna? Step inside from the cold for a bit & discover seven Nordic herbs used by winter wilder and North House instructor Gigi Stafne.

Yurts: A Round-Table Discussion on Living in the Round

Matthew Brown, et al / Friday, 2 pm

In April 2011, a group of instructors, students and builders of all kinds gathered at North House to spend several days discussing all things yurt: the history of yurts, the nitty gritty details of construction, the 200 things necessary in a home, and more. In this session, they will recount their key learnings, answer your questions about yurts, and ponder on the many ways this nomadic dwelling of the past suggests new possibilities for the future.

Living Way Off the Grid

Rob Kesselring / Friday, 4 pm

Have you ever dreamed of heading north into the Canadian Wilds, building a log cabin, wintering over and living like a pioneer? Rob Kesselring did this many years ago. As part of a 750-mile canoe trip in 2010, Kesselring visited his old cabin. He will talk about his experiences and share the stories of friends that are currently living their dream, far off the grid.

Fifty Lakes, One Island: Behind the Scenes

George Desort / Saturday, 10 am

Join George Desort as he discusses the mental and physical logistics along with the latest camera equipment used in the making of his most recent project, Fifty Lakes One Island. During the spring, summer, and fall of 2011 Desort explored, photographed, and videoed all of the named lakes that help create the amazing landscape of Isle Royale. He will have his equipment on hand, including backcountry solar panels, alternative batteries, and assorted camera equipment he used in the field.

Winter Camp Tent Tour

Jackson Sneve & Kurt Buetow / Saturday, 11 am

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.

Softly Walk the Heroes

Garrett Conover / Saturday, noon

As any traveler knows, in the wilderness, the journey is surely as intriguing as the destination. Through photos and reflection, featured instructor Garrett Conover will celebrate the spheres of influence that emerge, converge, and inform the joys and journeying of the wilderness trail. Accidents of history, writers, artists, misfits and

mentors all have a hand in the braiding of the trail and wherever we may personally be along it. Ordinary events become extraordinary when the full mix of characters dances together. The collective reveals the spark, tinder, kindling, and solid fuel of passion, inspiration and a love of the places and people that guide the way. We're all there somewhere, eager and optimistic; looking, learning; expecting something wonderful from our wayfaring. Join Garrett as he honors the deeply human experience of wandering into the woods.

Denali, Solo, January

Lonnie Dupre / Saturday, 2 pm

Denali, or Mount McKinley, is North America's highest mountain at 20,320 feet. In the winter winds often exceed 100 miles per hour, temperatures plummet below -50F, and there's an average of only six hours of sunlight. Only nine expeditions totaling 16 people have ever reached the summit of Denali in winter. In 2011, Lonnie Dupre made his first attempt to be the first person to solo climb Denali in January. He was thwarted by bad weather, only 8 hours travel shy of the summit. Dupre huddled in a snow cave for 7 days waiting for a window of stable weather to go to the summit. That day never came. He is going back for another try January 2012. Hear his stories and his plans in this inspiring talk.

Panel Discussion Climate Change: In the Arctic & at Home

Mike Link, Kate Crowley, Paul Schurke & Lonnie Dupre / Saturday, 3 pm

This panel brings together well-traveled and well-known Minnesotans Lonnie Dupre (see above) Mike Link, Kate Crowley (of the Full Circle Superior project) and Paul Schurke (of Wintergreen Dogsledding Lodge and the 1986 North to the Pole expedition) to discuss their experiences with climate change and its effects on the Arctic, Lake Superior and their Minnesotan home. The panel will discuss solutions, long term outlooks and preparations for changing planet.

Fresh Fish

Lindsay Lee / Sunday, 10 am

'Fishing is not the *only* reason I go camping in the winter, but almost!', says winter camping veteran Lindsay Lee. Listen in as he offers up a few ideas on how to go about putting some fresh fish on the menu of your next expedition. Walleye, pike, lake trout and stream trout are all available to the winter angler in and around the BWCAW. Lindsay will cover his favorite tactics along with locations, legalities and lures.

just for families!

Children's Book Reading: *Winter is the Warmest Season*

Author & Illustrator Lauren Stringer / Friday, 6 pm

Calling all young winterers! Join Author/Illustrator Lauren Stringer for a celebration of winter. Reading from her books, *Winter is the Warmest Season* and *Snow*, Stringer will share the warm coziness of winter as well as the gifts that snow brings for all of us who live in the North. After the reading, everyone who comes will have fun making a glittering snowflake ornament while sharing warm winter stories.

Winter Survival for the Whole Family / Saturday, 2-4 pm

Winter in the North is a time to get outside and play. Join North House staff as we celebrate our favorite season! We'll cover the basics of winter survival in the North. Come dressed to be outdoors and prepared to have fun! (\$10/adult/child pair; \$5 for each additional child. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Registration is necessary; northhouse.org; 218.387.9762)

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.

Featured Film: *Fortunate Wilderness*

Saturday, 8:30 pm / (2010, George Desort, USA, 56 min)
Anchored in the northwest depths of Lake Superior, Isle Royale is one of America's last remaining wild places. Fifty-six miles of inhospitable waters isolate the island from the Michigan mainland. Explore this wilderness island with wolf biologists Rolf Peterson and John Vucetich, as they attempt to make sense of the delicate balance between wolf, moose and climate. Filmmaker George Desort spent over 4 years with the researchers gathering material.

Northern Survival Screening:

Building a Kayak: The Netsilik Eskimo Series

Friday, 9 am / (1965, Dr. Alsen Balikci, Canada, 65 min)
These films reveal the live reality of traditional Eskimo life before the European acculturation. The Netsilik Eskimos of the Pelly Bay region in the Canadian Arctic had long depended entirely on the land and their own ingenuity to sustain life through the rigors of the Arctic year. Now it is July - summer. It is time to build a kayak, a task shared by two men. They gather materials: valuable scraps of wood, bone, seal skins and sinews. When it is complete the men launch and test their new kayak with evident pleasure in its able performance.

Expedition Screening:

First Voyage: The Viking Discovery of America

Friday, 10 am / (52 min)
Who were the mysterious Norsemen who traveled across the Atlantic to the shores of North America five hundred years before the fabled Christopher Columbus? This film traces the history of these early explorers providing detailed insights from Icelandic historians and archeologists as well as dramatic interpretations of these determined settlers.

Ethno-Historic Screening: *Palos Brudefærd (The Wedding of Palo)*

Friday, Noon / (1933, Friedrich Dalsheim, Knud Rassmussen, Greenland, 79 min)
"The Wedding of Palo" was filmed in 1933 by Knud Rassmussen, a Danish explorer and ethnographer. Unlike a conventional documentary describing the lives of Inuit before the arrival of Christianity in Greenland, Rassmussen creates a story line—a love triangle with an unmarried Inuit woman and two hunter/suitors—and uses the villagers as his "actors." This film is currently in the collection of the Museum of Modern Art in New York.

Ethno-historic Screening: *Pegtymel*

Friday, 1:30 pm / (2001, Andrei Golovnev, Russia, 32 min)
This film depicts Chukchi reindeer herders everyday life on the Pegtymel River, on the coast of the Chukchi Sea in the northeast part of Russia. Daily life and the autumn ritual are intersected with fly agaric mushroom stories told by old man Natalko and rock art images painted a thousand years ago on the Pegtymel cliffs. The camera traces the vivid dialogue of ancient and current traditions, beliefs and rituals, humans and nature; these are impressively abundant and picturesque in Chukchi traditional culture today.

Ethno-Historic Screening:

World of Skiing: The Development of the Modern Sport of Skiing

Friday, 3 pm / (1995, Norway, 55 min)
This documentary, produced by the Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation, traces the development of the modern sport of skiing from the time when the skilled skiers from Telemark, pioneers of slalom and ski jumping, journey to the Norwegian capitol to demonstrate their prowess. Soon, Norwegians trained by the Telemark experts were making their way to the USA and central Europe to give exhibitions. Since then, skiing has developed into a highly specialized activity for professionals and amateurs alike.

Documentary Screening & Discussion with the Film-maker:**

The Polar Explorer

Friday, 8:00 pm / (2010, Mark Terry, Canada, 50 min)
This new feature film reports on the latest climate change discoveries being made at both ends of the earth—the Arctic and Antarctica. *The Polar Explorer* is a one-hour HD documentary that explores Canada's Northwest Passage on a three-week scientific expedition. The film features the in-field research of some of the world's foremost polar scientists. The film and its findings were so significant, it was invited by the United Nations Environment Programme to present to delegates attending COP16, the Climate Change Conference in Cancun in December, 2010. Will this film influence policy-makers and result in a new resolution being adopted? This question is answered in the film's dramatic conclusion.

****Film-maker Mark Terry will give a short presentation before the film, and lead a discussion following the screening.**

Northern Survival Screening: *Where the Homefires Died*

Saturday, 9:00 am / (1994, Norway, 55 min)
On the west coast of Norway situated on ledges high above the beautiful Storfjord Geirangerfjord some 60 solitary farms are found. The farmers once inhabiting these farms led a frugal life in constant struggle with nature, living in almost total isolation. When help was needed for birth, illness or death, they fought snowstorms and avalanches and journeyed over awesome precipices. After 1945 most of the isolated farms were abandoned—the last one in the mid 1980's. Today, visiting tourists cannot understand how anyone could survive on the crags.

Documentary Screening: *Reinprinsessen (Reindeer Princess)*

Saturday, 11:30 am / (2009, Nils John Porsanger, Norway, 28 min)
Ena II is the fastest reindeer in the world. Anne Risten is the lone female in the male-dominated sport of competitive reindeer racing. As a team, they are determined to be unbeatable. But as the racing season ramps up, both are met with unexpected challenges along the way. This stirring documentary captures the exhilaration of reindeer racing, the competitive spirit of this unlikely duo and the amazing bond that exists between them.

Documentary Screening: *The Last Explorer*

Saturday, 1 pm / (2007, Neil Diamond & Ernest Webb, Canada, 48 min)
An old photograph poised on the mantle of his childhood home spurred Neil Diamond's quest to find out more about his great uncle, George Elson. The filmmaker takes us on his own journey to retrace the steps of his heroic relative from New York City to Ungava Bay. Along the way he weaves us through the adventures of the famous Hubbard expeditions that George guided over a hundred years ago, through rumors of lost diaries and lost loves, and to the communities in Northern Ontario and Labrador that still talk about his uncle today.

Northern Survival Screening: *Fishing at the Stone Weir: The Netsilik Eskimo Series*

Sunday, 9 am / (1965, Dr. Alsen Balikci, Canada, 57 min)
Full summer, and the tundra is bare; skin tents are up and it is time to attend to the fishing as the fish move upstream. The men fish with the three-pronged leisters, spearing the fish and stringing them on a thong. The woman works quickly, cleaning the fish, and then all enjoy bits of the fresh raw fish. The haul is large. Fish are stewed and eaten, and then the women return to cleaning fish and the men to building stone caches to store and protect the plentiful harvest for the leaner days to come.

Ethno-historic Screening: *Through These Eyes*

Sunday, Noon / (2003, Charles Laird, Canada, 55 min)
At the onset of the space race in the 1960s, the U.S. government feared its educational system was slipping behind the Soviet Union's. A controversial science initiative grew out of its response, Man: A Course of Study—a program with the ambitious goal of teaching American children what it was to be human. At the program's core was the Netsilik Eskimo series, capturing a year in the life of a small Inuit community. Two films from this series were shown earlier during the festival. Weaving together remarkable archival and contemporary footage, *Through These Eyes* revisits the politics and controversy of this unprecedented era in American educational reform and offers an historical perspective on the study of anthropology.