

# WINTERER'S GATHERING & arctic film festival



NOVEMBER 18 - 20, 2016



photo by Nate Ptacek

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.



**NORTH HOUSE FOLK SCHOOL**  
on the Harbor in Grand Marais, MN  
[www.northhouse.org](http://www.northhouse.org) | 888-387-9762

# Arctic Film Fest

## titles & screening times

film screenings are all in the Blue Building except where noted

FREE!

Fri  
9am

### The Great Alone

(2015, USA, Greg Kohs, 80 minutes. **Language advisory**) The remarkable story of the Alaskan dogsledder Lance Mackey, from his battle with cancer to becoming one of the most successful racers in history.

Fri  
10:30  
am

### Arctic Superstar

Sunday, 12:30pm (2016, Norway, Simen Braathen, 70 minutes. **Language advisory**)

Indigenous Sámi rapper SlinCraze is trying to make a living as a professional musician, but it's not easy when only twenty thousand speak his language. An extraordinary story of the blending of traditional and modern worlds, Arctic Superstar was heralded by Vice Magazine as "one of the best music docs of 2016."

Fri  
1pm

### The Great White Silence

(1924, Great Britain, Herbert Ponting, 108 minutes) Originally released in 1924, this documentary features extraordinary footage from Scott's ill-fated 1910-1913 expedition to the South Pole. The film was restored and re-released by the British Film Institute in 2011.

Fri  
3pm

### Attempting the Northwest Passage

*Introduction and discussion to follow with film maker and NHFS student Taff Roberts (2015, Canada, Hywel Taff Roberts, 36 minutes)* In 2014 Taff Roberts and his shipmates attempted to sail from Baffin Island to Nome, Alaska via the Northwest Passage. They documented their journey, from heavy seas to ice to polar bears.

Fri  
5:30  
pm

### Outdoor Film Screening: Surfing Shorts:

The Other North Shore (2016, US, Justin Housman/Grant Ellis, 7min) Superior Surf (2016, US, Prana Lens, 4min)

Waves along Lake Superior's frozen northern coast can be just as good as any found in the ocean. Just don't expect surfing them to be easy.

Fri  
10pm

### In Search of Livingstone

(2013, Iceland, Vera Solvadotter, 17 minutes. **Language advisory**) When a strike shuts down Iceland's shipping industry and creates a tobacco shortage, two friends set out on a journey across the country in a desperate search for cigarettes.

Sat  
9am

### Rams (Hrútar)

(2015, Iceland, Grimur Hakonarson, 92 minutes) When two neighboring brothers who have not spoken in years learn that their flocks of sheep need to be exterminated, they must find a way to reconcile in this dark Icelandic comedy.

Sat  
12pm

### The Hand of Franklin

(2015, Canada, Frank Wolf, 52 minutes) Four men set out to row through the Northwest Passage, in the process showing us stunning landscapes that are undergoing dramatic shifts resulting from climate change.

Sat  
3pm

### Sherpa

(2015, Nepal, Jennifer Peedom, 96 minutes) A documentary about the Sherpas who work as guides on Mt. Everest, exploring their relationships with the clients, their work, and the mountain itself. While the documentary was being filmed, an avalanche on Everest killed 16 Sherpas, leading to a reexamination of their role in Everest expeditions.

Sat  
9pm

### The Gold Rush

(1925, USA, Charlie Chaplin, 95 minutes) **Location: Red Building** One of Charlie Chaplin's most beloved silent films, this comedy follows the Tramp as he sets out for the gold fields of Alaska to seek his fortune. A perfect family film, not to mention a classic in the history of wintry cinema.

FREE!

# Arctic Film Fest

titles & screening times

Sun  
9am

## Thule/Tuvalu

(2014, *Greenland/Tuvalu*, Mathias von Gunten, 96 minutes) Qaanaaq, Greenland and the island nation of Tuvalu in the South Pacific are thousands of miles apart, but their fates are closely linked as ice melts in Greenland and oceans rise around Tuvalu. Thule/Tuvalu profiles both communities, recording the local impacts of global changes.

Sun  
1pm

## Meru

(2015, *India*, Jimmy Chin, Elizabeth Chai Vasarhelyi, 90 minutes. **Language advisory**) A breathtaking and suspenseful account of three climbers and their attempt to summit Meru Peak via the "Shark's Fin" route - one of the most difficult climbs in the world.

photo by Nate Ptacek

EVENT  
PASS HOLDER  
BENEFIT!

## Featured speakers

explorers Dave & Amy Freeman

Sat  
7:30  
pm

Featured Film & Presentation: Bearing Witness: A Year in the Wilderness with Dave & Amy Freeman  
Location: Red Building

**Free with Event Pass, \$5 for individuals, \$10 for families**

On September 23, 2015, Dave and Amy embarked on a year-long adventure in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. That's 365 days of camping and traveling under their own power in the 1.1 million acre wilderness area. The Freemans traveled roughly 3,000 miles by canoe and ski with sled dogs, visiting about 500 lakes, rivers and streams throughout the year. They documented it all by photograph, video, text and even water quality measurements.

Diverging from the typical expedition approach of traveling from point A to point B, the Freemans entered the wilderness with the intent to bear witness to all the seasons in the biggest wilderness area east of the Rockies and north of the Everglades. They learned to slow down and closely observe what was going on around them— from metamorphosing of dragonflies to the wanderings of a wolf pack. They were out there as ice formed on the lakes and then melted again. They saw the forest awaken and birds return. Whether you're curious about what they witnessed, how their relationship fared, lessons they learned, or practical tips for doing an expedition of your own, this presentation and short film are a must-see. Their short film, *Bearing Witness*, will be viewed following the presentation.

EVENT  
PASS HOLDER  
BENEFIT!

## Get the Member Pass!

Easy to get, simple to use at all three major events for the year: Wooden Boat Show, Unplugged and Winterer's Gathering. Sign up for a pass

AND automatically become a NH member! Cost: Individual Pass: \$25, Family Pass: \$50. Watch for the event pass icon throughout the program!

	FEATURED PROGRAMS	FILMS
fri nov 18 AM		9am   The Great Alone (80 min)  10:30am   Arctic Superstar (70 min)
fri nov 18 PM	4:30 pm   All Things Arctic Trivia Game hosted by WTIP's Small Change  5:30 pm   Dinner On A Stick  7 pm   Snowshoe Shuffle Community Contra Dance  8 pm   Coldsnap Poetry Slam	1pm   The Great White Silence (108 min)  3pm   Attempting the Northwest Passage (36 min)  5:30pm   The Other North Shore (7 min) & Superior Surf (4 min)  10pm   In Search of Livingstone (17 min)
sat nov 19 AM	10:30 am   Great Gear & Ski Swap	9am   Rams (Hrútar) (92 min)    12pm   The Hand of Franklin (52 min)
sat nov 19 PM	6 pm   The Deep-Freeze Chili Feed (\$10 per person)  7:30 pm (Doors open at 7 pm)   <b>Featured Presentation:</b> Bearing Witness: A Year in the BWCAW with Dave & Amy Freeman	3pm   Sherpa (96 min)   9pm   <b>Featured Film:</b> The Gold Rush (95 min)
sun nov 20		9am   Thule/Tuvalu (96 min)    1pm   Meru (90 min)



# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

## SEMINARS

## COURSES

12pm | Journey 4 Renewal - Intentional Modern Exploring for a Cause - Tessa Larson & Chelsea Froemke

Nov 17 – 18 | Saami-Inspired Embroidery for Embellishment

Nov 17 – 18 | Everyday Slöjd for the Kitchen

Nov 17 – 19 | Wanigan: The Traveling Box

Nov 17 – 20 | Snowshoe Construction: Build Your Own

Nov 18 | Birch Bark Cozy for Containers

Nov 18 – 19 | Hand-Sewing for Sailors: Ditty Bags and Canvas Buckets

Nov 18 – 19 | Carving Christmas Figures: a Tomte or Sankta Lucia

Nov 19 | Ethnic Pastries: A European Tour

Nov 19 – 20 | Everyday Slöjd for the Bed and Bath

Nov 19 – 20 | Hand-Sewn Leather Slippers

Nov 20 | Camp Cooking and Menu Planning

Nov 20 | Small Breads: Pretzel Rolls, English Muffins, Bagels & Pull-Aparts

Nov 20 | Gear for a Year

11am | Winter Survival: From Mammals to Amphibians and Beyond: A Discussion - Chel Anderson

1pm | What the Heck is "Hygge" and Can I Have Some Too? - Amanda Hand

2pm | Winter Tent Camp Tour - hosted by Kurt Buetow & Jackson Sneve

2pm | Surfing Lake Superior - Jake Boyce

### Drop-In Skill Share Demos

Free to Event Pass Holders or \$5 for individual sessions

#### Saturday, November 19

- 2pm : Introduction to Relief Carving w/ Brendan Grant
- 3pm : Ski Waxing 101
- 4pm : Ice Cream by Hand w/ Becky Fitzpatrick

#### Sunday, November 20

- 9am : Are Your Campfires too Big? Building a Firepot w/ Mark Hansen
- 10am : Make Your Mark: Carving, Molding & Stamping Leather with Sam Gathje
- 11am : Ladle-making with Elizabeth Belz

11am | What's an Hivernant? Meet the Original Winterers - Karl Koster

12pm | Vertical Nepal - Lonnie Dupre



# Winter Skill Seminars

All are located in the Blue Building



Event Seminars are 45 minute presentations and demos that take place throughout the weekend. **Free with the Member's Event Pass/ \$5 per seminar, paid at the door.**

Held in the Blue Building.

Fri  
12  
pm

Journey 4 Renewal - Intentional Modern Exploring for a Cause **Tessa Larson & Chelsea Froemke**

Follow in the footsteps of original fur trade routes and contemporary explorers like Eric Severeid by examining the planning and execution of a 1,265 mile canoe trip to Hudson Bay in our modern society. Grand Marais resident Tessa Larson and three additional women collaborated intentionally to form a unique dynamic by creating artwork, reaching out to local communities, and engaging donors to fundraise for Wilderness Canoe Base, located up the Gunflint Trail, all while empowering others to pursue their own adventure.

Sat  
11am

Winter Survival: From Mammals to Amphibians and Beyond: A Discussion **led by Chel Anderson**

Winter is coming and humans aren't the only ones preparing. When it comes to wintering, what do we have in common with our critter neighbors and where do we part company? Join ecologist Chel Anderson for a discussion of winter survival strategies and adaptations in boreal creatures of all kinds. Bring your observations, stories, and questions about how our neighborhood fauna prepare for winter. Come ready to participate, learn and be amazed at all the ways our winter season is weathered.

Sat  
1pm

What The Heck is "Hygge" and Can I Have Some Too? **Amanda Hand**

While the word "hygge" first appeared in Danish writing in the 19th century, it is a concept that only recently has exploded into the mainstream media. Danes, credited for being some of the happiest people on earth, have long been enjoying "hygge" with friends and family. But does the oft used translation of "cozy" really do hygge justice? Is hygge the sole property of Danes or might it be more universal? Are there practical implications for the practice of hygge for others of us living in cold, dark places and finally, what would a cynic have to say about it? Amanda Hand, an American who once lived in Denmark and serves as interim dean of the Concordia Language Villages Danish camp, "Skovsøen," will lead this light-hearted talk.

Sat  
2pm

Winter Tent Camp Tour

**Hosted by Kurt Buetow and Jackson Sneve**

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 for the Gathering.

Sat  
2pm

Surfing Lake Superior **Jake Boyce**

Surfing Lake Superior is both a science and an art: watching the forecast, learning the patterns of lake waves, and knowing the handful of breaks and the gear needed to stay alive in icy waters on stormy days. No wonder the regional community of surfers is small and tight-knit. Meet one of these avid athletes: Jake Boyce grew up on Lake Superior, owns and guides for Day Tripper of Duluth, and surfs in his free time. Join him for a presentation of this niche North Shore sport.

Sun  
11am

What's an Hivernant? Meet the Original Winterers **Karl Koster**

Winterers or Hivernants made up a major part of the Voyageur brigades that traveled through this part of the world during the 18th and early 19th centuries. Grand Portage National Monument interpreter and resident expert will discuss who these men were, where they came from, why they took this historic role during the Fur Trade of North America. Just what separates a main-line voyageur from the true hivernant? Come listen to Karl, as he tells the true history and detaches the lies, myth and lore of these iconic figures in his well known fun and educational way!



Sun  
12  
pm

## Vertical Nepal **Lonnie Dupre**

Experience the adventure of polar travel and learn how climate change is affecting the globe at a presentation by explorer and mountaineer Lonnie Dupre. His talk will feature highlights from his many expeditions, including reaching the North Pole, the first and only circumnavigation of Greenland, and a solo summit of Denali (Mt. McKinley) in winter. It will also provide a preview of a coming expedition to Nepal, where Lonnie and his team will volunteer for the Rose International Fund for Children, collect glaciology data, and attempt a first summit of Langju (20,885 ft.) A ten minute question and answer period will follow the program.



EVENT  
PASS HOLDER  
BENEFIT!

## Skill Share Demonstrations

Meet in the Blacksmith Shop

These short intensive sessions focus on particularly handy skills. Dress for a partially heated environment.

**FREE to event pass holders, \$5 for individual sessions**

### Saturday, November 19

2pm : Introduction to Relief Carving *Brendan Grant*

3pm : Ski Waxing 101

4pm : Ice Cream by Hand *Becky Fitzpatrick*

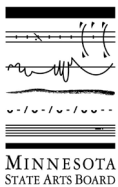
### Sunday, November 20

9am : Are Your Campfires too Big? Building a Firepot *Mark Hansen*

10am : Make Your Mark: Carving, Molding & Stamping Leather *Sam Gathje*

11am : Ladle-making *Elizabeth Belz*

## Event Sponsors



This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a Minnesota State Arts Board Operating Support grant, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

**Lutsen Resort**  
*on Lake Superior*

Lutsen Resort



Aspen Lodge / Buck's Hardware Hank / Edwin E. Thoreson, Inc / Grand Marais Municipal Liquor Store / Harbor Inn / Hedstrom Lumber / Java Moose Espresso / Joynes Ben Franklin / Lake Superior Trading Post / MacArthur B & B / Mountain Inn / North Shore Federal Credit Union / The Inn at Terrace Point / Thrivent Financial / Shoreline Inn / Sawbill Outfitters / Sivertson Gallery / WTIP North Shore Community Radio

# Weekend Highlights

## Harborside Winter Tent Camp

all  
week  
-end

An opportunity for winter campers to set up 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 at 2pm.

*Costs - \$8/night (non-electric) \$15/night (electric) (registration required – call the Grand Marais Rec Park at 800-998-0959 to reserve a site)*

Fri  
5:30  
pm

## Open Fire Dinner on a Stick & Outdoor Film Screening

Gather around a bonfire and cook over an open fire as a community. Participants bring their own food. We'll also enjoy a short outdoor film screening (free).

Fri  
7pm

## Snowshoe Shuffle Traditional Community Contra Dance / 7pm family dance, 8pm community dance

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, free w/ member event pass, \$5-10 all else*



Fri  
4:30  
pm

## All Things Arctic Trivia Game

### ***Hosted by WTIP's Small Change***

Always looking for the perfect opportunity to show off your extensive knowledge of historical arctic expeditions? Are you the life of every dinner party with your fun facts about frostbite? Get ready to show off your skills-- fun will be had by participants and spectators alike!

Fri  
8pm

## Cold Snap Poetry Slam

Come one come all to the first literary event of its kind at Winters Gathering. Cold Snap Poetry Slam is a friendly celebration of the spoken word and the glories of the frozen north. Come join in the fun by reading one of your own works or any selected seasonal poetry of your choosing. By sharing your favorite hibernal verse, presenters will receive wide recognition as cultural icons, as well as a free bottomless bag of popcorn for the weekend! Audience members will not only hear some great poetry but will also bear witness to the birth of a literary revolution. Register in advance [here](#).

Sat  
10:30  
-11:30  
am

## 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 online and at the day of the event*

Sat  
6pm

## The Deep Freeze Chili Feed

Grab your bowl for this traditional winter favorite: chili & freshly baked cornbread. Hot chili (your choice: vegetarian or meat) is cooked up in the kettle and eaten in the warm banquet hall by the woodstove. (\$10/person paid at the door)

Sat  
7:30  
pm

## Featured Presentation: Bearing Witness: A Year in the Wilderness with Dave & Amy Freeman

