

Nina Clark, American Swedish Institute

**The American Swedish Institute and Wellstone International High School
Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA**

Title: Sharing Stories, Past and Present

For Bridging Ages Conference, Tukums, Latvia, October 2007

Presentation Abstract

Through partnering with other community based institutions the American Swedish Institute (ASI) in Minneapolis teaches local and immigration history in engaging interpersonal ways, to highlight the importance to people of all backgrounds of preserving culture and traditions. In Spring 2007, ASI designed with Wellstone International High School a “Story Swap Luncheon” to incorporate oral histories, primary documents, and education about a different culture. This luncheon was preceded by a classroom visit by an artist presenting a historic character portrayal of Sigrid Kronblad, a real Swedish immigrant woman from Sweden who arrived in Minneapolis 100 years ago to face challenges comparable to those new immigrants face today.

**Sigurborg Hilmarsdottir, Reykjavik City Museum
Reykjavík 871±2 The settlement of Iceland**

What do we know and what don't we?

How do we know?

In 2001 a ruin of a longhouse from 10th century was discovered right in the center of Reykjavík. The turf of the ruin has been conserved with a method never used before and it is now a part of an exhibition on life in the settlement period. In the exhibition and its educational program 1100 years archaeological findings, 800 years old written sources, 10 years old pupils, and brand new multimedia interact to seek the answers of the questions above.

In my presentation I'll mostly use pictures and video clips to tell you what it is all about

Lilian Pettersson-Smeds and Eva-Marie Backnäs, The Österbotten Antiquarian Society

International heritage, local knowledge

The Österbotten Antiquarian Society has initiated a school project, aimed at teaching children about local heritage through historical environment education. Set against the backdrop of the recent inscription of the Kvarken archipelago to the list of World Heritage sites, we want children to explore how human society interacts with a dynamic environment. We will introduce the Kvarken archipelago through a visual tour of the ever changing landscape. We will also let the audience take part in some of the methods used when presenting cultural heritage to school children.

Britt-Marie Borgström, Jämtlands läns museum

Timetravel and disabled children and youngsters- is it possible?

Timetravell has since more than 20 years been on of the main program that Jämtli museum offers to preeschoolaged children. The timetravells has always been open for ALL children. During the last 1.5 year we have had the possibility to develop suitable programs for disabled children with different kinds of disablement as deafen, impaired hering, neuropsychiatric disablements. A close collaboration between the childrens remedial teachers has led to a succesfull work.

At the presentation props and items will be used as exampels of educational facilities. Facilities that can strengthen our senses!

Lars-Åke andersson and Maria Wagenius, Frödinge school

Frödinge school (Sweden) will present a film about a time-travel with children between 6-9 years old. The title is "**A day in the 1950s**" and describes the time when their grandmother and grandfather were young. We think the children will get a better understanding about how it was to live and grow up in those days. The presentation are held by Lars-Åke Andersson and Maria Wagenius maybe dressed in time-typical cloth....

Lars-Åke Andersson
Frödinge School
Sweden

Leen Joesoo, Tallinn University

My presentation consists of the conclusions I have made with my masters thesis. The title is **"A Thrill as a Learning Opportunity"**.

Thrill or emotional experience (*upplevelse*) is closely connected to innovative and creative methods that value emotional part of learning. With my presentation I would like to define thrill and the connections between learning and thrill. As thrill can be both conducive as well as hindering to learning we as teachers must know how to teach when the thrill is experienced.

Probably my presentation is not so *fun* or *upplevelse* but more something to think about when we use emotions in our time travels, how to support learning and make it better.

With best
Leen

Ps I will take time in the weekend to work with the Bridging Ages paper you send.

Mervyn Gouvais, Louis Marais Wolseley school and Brenda Matsau, Iingizanga Zethu school

The title of our presentation will be: **"Finding common ground and building the nation through living history"**

Our creative method entails using actual postcard-sized pictures of different aspects of the different cultures and customs of our people. A basket will represent South Africa. We will shuffle the cards and each person(or a sample) in the audience will be allowed to remove e.g. 6 cards. They have to study the pictures and divide the pictures into those they either like or are comfortable with and those they dislike or find too sensitive or unacceptable. The pictures they dislike are then considered to be the things about South African Life they will have to tolerate. The things they like or accept become the common ground on which all South Africans will have to work in order to build the nation.

Toomas Abiline/ Risto Paju, Tallinn City Museum

Title: City museum on countryside, - time-travels to medieval Livonia.

Our aim had been this year to visit small schools outside of capital and acquaint them with their own native place history and with connections to Reval/Tallinn as a capital. As our equipment belongs to middle-age, usually we made travels to 16. century. Yes, we can share our experiences with those small schools in countrysides, they are always very happy about the guests. I think, we need for presentation not more than 15 min, title of the presentation can be: Speaker will be me or Risto Paju.

Key note speakers:

Lena Fritzén, Växjö University

Timetravelling as an arena for schools and museums.

With our experience from a timetravel at the ancient fort Eketorp we discuss in what way timetraveling can be a meaningcreating activity in the interface between school and museum.

Jon Hunner, New Mexico State University
Ebbe Westergren, Kalmar läns museum
Agrita Ozola, Tukums museum