

Lecturer of the Year Hanna Pylväinen



Beowulf Sheehan Photo credit

By Hilary-Joy Virtanen
Chair, Lecturer of the Year

Finlandia Foundation National is pleased to announce Hanna Pylväinen as the 2024 Lecturer of the Year.

Hanna is the author of *The End of Drum-Time*, a 2023 finalist for the National Book Award for fiction. About her story set in the 1851 world of Sámi reindeer herders, religion, beliefs, faith and love, Anthony Marra, *New York Times* bestselling author says, “Hanna Pylväinen’s novel of cultural collision in the far north is an extraordinary feat of research and imagination...”

Her acclaimed novel *We Sinners* (2012) follows the struggles within a large Finnish family raised in a strictly traditional church, as the children choose their individual paths in modern life.

Educated at Mount Holyoke College and the University of Michigan, Hanna has received several fellowships and residences. She lives in Philadelphia and serves on the faculty of the MFA Program for Writers at Warren Wilson College.

Hanna will offer several program options for FFN chapters related to her works and processes as a writer. For LOY appearances from January through December of 2024, FFN covers round-trip travel costs. Chapters provide an honorarium based on the selected program, as well as local hosting and logistics for the program.

For more information on this program or for booking inquiries, contact Lecturer of the Year Committee Chair Hilary-Joy Virtanen at hilary.virtanen@gmail.com, or go to FinlandiaFoundation.org.

For more about Hanna: hannapylvainen.com