



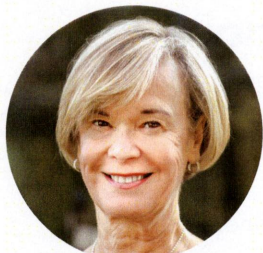
Aerial view of the City of Hancock, the Portage Canal, and the Portage Lake Lift Bridge in the distance.

CELEBRATION HIGHLIGHTS

The official festival schedule will be published at hancockfinnougric.com as events are confirmed. This multi-day program is jam-packed with fun including:

- Local / Regional Tours
- Exhibits / Lectures
- Panels / Presentations
- Folk Demonstrations
- Tori (Ethnically Inspired Markets)
- Live Music / Entertainment
- Nordic Walking
- Dances / Live Music / Concerts
- Midsummer Pole Raising
- Games and Competitions
- Juhannus Kokko / Dance
- Special Religious Services

Plus much more!



Leena-Kaisa Mikkola



Kristjan Prikk

SPECIAL GUESTS

Ambassadors Leena-Kaisa Mikkola (Finland) and Kristjan Prikk (Estonia) have confirmed their intent to attend. Invitations have been extended to local, regional, state and U.S. federal officials as well.

WHILE YOU'RE HERE

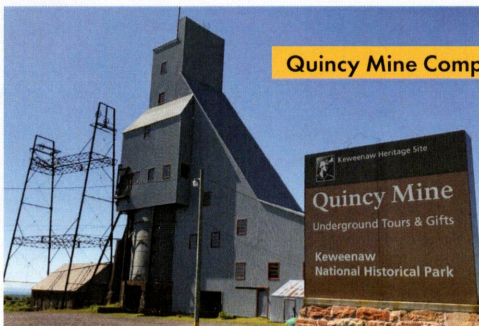
- **Finnish Heritage** Hancock and nearby communities proudly preserve Finnish culture, earning the region its Capital of Culture title and attracting thousands of visitors each year. Expect bilingual street signs, Finnish flags, and Finnish surnames on local businesses and mailboxes.
- **Spirit of Sisu** Locals embody sisu—the Finnish ideal of determination and perseverance.
- **Getting Here** The area is served by Houghton County Memorial Airport (CMX) with 2–3 daily flights, and by Indian Trails Bus Service.
- **Lodging & Dining** A wide range of hotels, motels, and rentals are available. Local restaurants often feature Finnish-inspired dishes.

For more information, please visit these websites

- www.hancockfinnougric.com
- www.cityofhancock.com
- www.finlandiafoundation.org
- www.visitkeweenaw.com



Hanka Homestead



Quincy Mine Complex



CELEBRATE HANCOCK

2026 FINNO-UGRIC CAPITAL OF CULTURE

IN THE HEART OF FINNISH AMERICA

JUNE 18-21, 2026



WHY HANCOCK?

With the moniker Amerikan suomalaisten pesäpaikka (the Finnish American nesting place), folks recognize Hancock as the capital of Finnish American history and culture.

Hancock has a population of 4,500 people and is located in Houghton County, Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

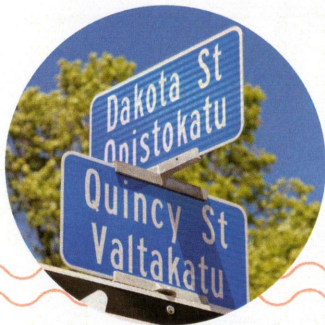
Home to:

- Finnish American Heritage Center
- Finnish American Folk School
- The Finnish American Reporter newspaper
- Copper Country Finns & Friends (a Finlandia Foundation National chapter)

Serves as the regional hub of Finnish American identity for six UP counties — the only U.S. counties where Finns are the largest ethnic group. About one in three local residents has Finnish heritage.



(Clockwise from top) Preparing for the raising of the Midsummer Pole, Wife Carrying Contest, and bilingual street signs in Hancock



(From left) Juhannus Summer Solstice Celebration bonfire (kokko) and spiral dance around the Midsummer Pole on Quincy Green



(From top) Finnish and American flags wave over Quincy Street and the Hankookin Heikki honorees for 2025.



2026 FINNO-UGRIC EVENTS

- Heikinpäivä (January)
- Juhannus / Midsummer Solstice Celebration (June)
- Parade of Nations (September)
- Finland's Independence Day has been celebrated in this community since Finland's earliest days of independence, which was won in 1917.

The 2026 Capital of Culture Designation was made by a five-member independent jury and was announced during Midsummer event in 2025.

- Expanded Programming: Traditional events will feature broader Finno-Ugric (Finnish, Estonian, Hungarian) elements.
- Heikinpäivä (January): Estonian & Hungarian treats added to ethnic fair.
- Juhannus / Midsummer Solstice Celebration (June): Traditional Juhannus celebrations continue.
- Parade of Nations (September) and Finnish Independence Day Finale (December).
- And numerous other events.

KEYSTONE EVENT

Juhannus Suurjuhlat – June 18–21, 2026

Organized by the City of Hancock, Copper Country Finns & Friends, Finlandia Foundation National, and Visit Keweenaw.

Features lectures, panels, demos, ethnic market, music, games, pole raising, and traditional Juhannus kokko bonfire.

JOIN THE CELEBRATION!

Open call for musicians, crafters, folk artists, lecturers, and vendors with Finno-Ugric roots.

Opportunities to showcase music, art, heritage, and stories throughout 2026.

Apply online: www.hancockfinnougric.com

Click here for a list of all the fun you'll have

