Swedish Three Crowns
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN
Brief History of Sjölunden

Sjölunden, Concordia’s Swedish Language Village, was founded in the summer of 1975. Since then, hundreds of villagers from all over the country have participated in this one-of-a-kind program centered on Swedish language and cultural immersion in the North Woods of Minnesota. Only at Sjölunden can you decorate a midsommar pole and sing Santa Lucia songs in the same week or learn about the Swedish traditions that immigrants brought with them to the New World and the wave of Swedish innovation changing global technology use today. In 2007, we launched the capital campaign to build an culturally authentic Swedish village on Turtle River Lake just north of Bemidji and have since added a vävstuga (weaving studio), bibliotek (library), båthus (boat house), leadership staff cabin, and three villager stugor (cabins). During the summer of 2019, Sjölunden celebrates its 45th anniversary and outlines exciting next steps to grow the Village.
Summer Programs

Since 1975, Sjölunden’s summer immersion sessions have encouraged thousands of villagers to (re)discover their Swedish roots and interests. Today the summer program offers day camp, one-week exploration, two-week immersion, and four-week high school credit sessions to villagers 6-18 years old. Our program, with the support of an amazing team of staff, has bridged the traditions of 45 summers at Sjölunden with modern day Swedish activities, songs, and games to bring the Village to life!

Family Programs

Family sessions were introduced at Sjölunden in 2006. In these programs, families are able to experience Swedish language and culture together in a safe, supportive environment. Young children love to see their parents learning something new and older children enjoy the chance to venture outside of their comfort zone with family members, including grandparents, aunts, uncles and others. There are long weekends in the spring and week-long programs during the summer.

Adult Programs

Swedish adult sessions were launched in 1988 to allow adult learners to pursue their Swedish interests at the Villages. They combine a rich array of Nordic cuisine, authentic music, and ethnic arts & crafts, alongside language learning. These programs offer the opportunity for lifelong Swedish learning at Sjölunden.
Total Campaign Goal: $450,000

Capital Goal: $150,000
What was once a dream of a culturally authentic Swedish site on Turtle River Lake is now within reach! The dining hall is the largest and last missing piece of the Village and will be the crowning achievement of the Sjölunden Three Crowns capital campaign.

Scholarship Goal: $150,000
Over the past 45 years, thousands of villagers have made their mark at Sjölunden. Let’s continue the proud tradition of supporting villagers by placing a down payment on the future. The creation of the Sjölunden Three Crowns Endowed Fund will support villagers wishing to learn Swedish for generations to come!

Staff Development Goal: $150,000
A program can only be as good as the staff members who make it come to life. Creating an endowment to support staff development and travel will ensure that Sjölunden can continue to attract the most qualified and talented counselors from all over the globe.

Name(s) contributing the gift: ______________________________ 
Mailing Address: ________________________________________
City: _______________ State: _____ Zip: _________________
Email: _____________________________
Phone Number: _______________________

Payment Options:
☐ Check enclosed Please make out to the Swedish Village Vision Fund.
☐ Credit Card
Card #: ________________________ CCV#: ________________________
Exp. Date: ___________ Signature: _______________________________
Gift Amount:
☐ $500 ☐ $1000 ☐ $5000 ☐ $10,000
☐ Other: ________________________________

Return to:
Concordia Language Villages
901 8th St. S.
Moorhead, MN 56601
Three Crowns Campaign Overview

Sjölunden is, at its heart, the same community that you remember. We still welcome young people who are courageous enough to change their names, take on a new identity and learn new things. We still live in small cabins and write songs about the lifelong friends we make. There are still tears on closing day as villagers promise to stay in touch, though now they can connect immediately on social media and stay connected all year long.

What is changing is our vision for the future. Our enrollment numbers have increased, and we are thrilled to see the growing interest in Sweden and Swedish culture. The challenge today is that we don’t have the space, the staff, or the scholarship funds to support this surge of interest in Swedish language and culture.

You can help us extend the opportunity to attend Sjölunden to everyone. We are asking you, our large Sjölunden family, for your help to complete the Three Crowns Capital Campaign.

1. Finish the dream of a complete Swedish village on Turtle River Lake with the addition of the matsal (dining hall).
2. Create an endowed scholarship fund for future generations of Swedish villagers.
3. Support efforts to attract amazing and talented staff to the program with professional development opportunities and travel grants.
Campaign donors to-date:

We want to send a special tack så mycket to those incredible friends who have helped make the dream of an authentic Swedish Village on Turtle River Lake come to life with three villager cabins, a leadership staff cabin, a boat house, a weaving studio, and a library! Your investments in our site have meant the world (but mostly Sweden) to us!

Scholarship donors to-date:

We would also like to send a heartfelt tack så mycket to all those who have donated to villager scholarships to-date. It is a true gift to watch a villager experience a new language and culture. Your gifts have made that possible for so many at Sjölunden these past 45 summers!