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## **Knitters Descend Upon the Nordic Heritage Museum for the Seventh Nordic Knitting Conference**

*September 21, 2017 / Seattle, WA*—This October, Nordic Heritage Museum is excited to welcome a roster of world-class knitting instructors to the 2017 Nordic Knitting Conference, including conference headliners Arne & Carlos and keynote speaker Laura Ricketts. The conference will be held Friday–Sunday, October 6–8 at the Museum and will include fun, educational workshops that cover knitting, weaving, and more.

“We’re thrilled to welcome Arne & Carlos, Laura Ricketts, and the knitting community at large back to the Museum for the seventh Nordic Knitting Conference,” Nordic Heritage Museum CEO Eric Nelson said. “The Nordic influence on the knitting tradition weaves its way throughout the designs, techniques, and finished pieces that we celebrate both during the conference and year-round through the Museum’s collections.”

The conference headliners, Arne & Carlos, are wildly popular designers, textile artists, and authors. They are best known for their craft books and their original, visually striking designs. Part of Arne & Carlos’ work as teachers and ambassadors of their craft focuses on making knitting and crocheting accessible to a wider group of people. Their work is highly influenced by their Scandinavian background and their everyday life in rural Norway.

Laura Ricketts, this year’s keynote speaker, will give a speech Saturday evening. She is a knitter, knitwear designer, teacher, and author who combines her love for history, literature, and textiles in her handcraft teaching. Laura became intrigued by the crafts made by the Sami, Scandinavia’s indigenous peoples, after she spent time living and working among the nomadic peoples of Mongolia. She has written extensively about the Sami knitting tradition and will be teaching classes at the conference centered on traditional Sami mitten and sock techniques.

Other notable instructors at this year’s Nordic Knitting Conference include Beth Brown-Reinsel, Chris Bylsma, Evelyn Clark, and Carol Rhoades. Attendees will have the opportunity to try their hand at everything from Icelandic lace and beading to traditional Sami knitting to Norwegian, Finnish, and Latvian patterning. Class topics include country- and culture-specific variations on mittens, socks, shawls, and throws—and even birds and Christmas balls!

Registration for the 2017 Nordic Knitting Conference is open until September 29. Students can register at [nordicmuseum.org/knitting](http://nordicmuseum.org/knitting).

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### **About the Nordic Heritage Museum**

With more than 65,000 visitors annually, the Nordic Heritage Museum is a cultural treasure in the Pacific Northwest. It is the only museum in the United States that represents the rich heritage of all five Nordic countries: Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden. The Museum's mission is to share Nordic culture with people of all ages and backgrounds by exhibiting art and objects, preserving collections, providing educational and cultural experiences, and serving as a community gathering place. The Nordic Heritage Museum presents a wide range of vibrant programs including contemporary art exhibitions, outstanding concerts, lectures, and films, as well as a variety of special events throughout the year.

*Nordic Heritage Museum is currently located at 3014 NW 67th Street, Seattle, WA 98117.*

*Museum hours: Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Sunday noon to 4 p.m.; closed Monday*

*Admission: \$8 general; \$7 seniors & college students; \$6 children 5 and older;*

*FREE for children under 5 and Museum members; free on first Thursday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.*