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– FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE –

**The Vikings Are Coming!
to the American Swedish Historical Museum
Saturday April 23rd, 2016 at 12pm - 4pm**

Philadelphia, PA- Beards aren't just for hipsters! Come and get to know the original bearded warriors as we travel through time to explore Norse culture. Join us for Viking Day on Saturday April 23rd from 12-4pm.

Visitors will encounter Vikings when re-enactors of Vinland Longships and The Longship Company Ltd. create a Viking encampment right on the museum's grounds! Talk to the crew of the Leif Ericson Viking Ship Inc. and view Philadelphia's own Viking Longship, *Norseman*, a 40-foot, half-size working model of Norway's *Gokstad* Ship.



Family activity stations encourage everyone to try their hand at learning the runic alphabet, dressing in Viking armor, and creating Viking inspired crafts. Everyone can get in on the fun by playing traditional games like *Hnefeltafle* (Viking chess), and *Kubb*, one of the earliest forms of lawn games.

Visitors can ponder what is known about this often misunderstood culture by attending talks throughout the day. Author of *Myths of the Rune Stone: Viking Martyrs and the Birthplace of America*, David Krueger, will take a deeper look at the historical influence and legacy of the Kensington Rune Stone. Scholar Annie Humphrey will provide insight on historical Norse women and the family. ASHM staff will also lead a gallery discussion in the new exhibit *Flowers & Monsters* highlighting the Viking design influences that can be found in the hand-carved furniture of Karl von Rydingsvärd.

Be sure to steer your boat in our direction on April 23rd for a fun filled day of Viking Exploration! Admission: \$7 for adult non-members- \$5 for members, \$5 for children (5-18) \$3 for members, and children under 5 are free. Pre-registration can be made online at www.americanswedish.org, or by calling 215-389-1776.

The American Swedish Historical Museum is located in scenic FDR Park at 1900 Pattison Avenue in South Philadelphia near the Sports Complex. Plenty of free parking is available. For those taking public transportation, the Broad Street Subway's AT&T/Pattison Avenue stop is within walking distance or SEPTA's Route 17 (Naval Base) can bring you right to the Museum.

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