

## National report to the International Development in Europe Committee, IDEC

### **FinRA (Finnish Reading Association)**

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<http://www.parnet.fi/~finra/index.htm>

**FinRA (Finnish Reading Association) is on Facebook**



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### **Report in JANUARY 2012**

The Finnish Reading Association FinRA was chartered as a national affiliate of the International Reading Association in 1971. The association was founded in 1968, and the name FinRA was registered in 1981. FinRA has approximately 300 members, most of whom are teachers working to promote language and literacy development in children. During four decades FinRA has played an important role for educators who have benefited from the quarterly journal *Kielikukko*, the publications, instructional material, and the professional activities.

The General assembly has elected a new FinRA Board: President Aija Lund (2012), board members 2012–2013: Carita Kiili (Anne Jyrkiäinen), Heidi Perho (Pehr-Olof Rönholm) and Ann-Sofie Selin (Krista Halonen-Kaihovirta) and board members 2011–2012: Lena Hannus-Suksi (Pirkko Tiuraniemi), Annika Kinnari and Leena Tirkkonen (Kirsi-Liisa Koskinen-Sinisalo).

Aija Lund has initiated collaboration between the non-profit organisation Luki-tuki Centre at the Turku Christian Institute and FinRA. All FinRA members and joining members have been presented with books with material for readers of different age and competence. Luki-tuki Centre produces both material and activities in support of literacy. The collaboration spreads information about its activities and FinRA's members get professional gifts as a token of appreciation. Luki-Tuki Centre was rewarded with the FinRA Rooster Award for its work for adult learners in 1994.

FinRA has actively been engaged in promoting IRA membership in the Recruit-A-Member Program.

The peer reviewed refereed net publication based on articles from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Baltic Sea Conference–15<sup>th</sup> Nordic Reading Conference together with conference presentations and the Book of Abstracts can be found on <http://www.parnet.fi/~finra/?page=1>. The editorial board, Dr. Vuokko Kaartinen, chair, Carita Kiili and Dr. Marita Mäkelä, wish to acknowledge IDEC, IRA and FinRA scholars who reviewed submissions and provided help with language.

The Nordic Reading Associations have the tradition to arrange Nordic Reading Conferences, the first in Copenhagen in 1949. The 16<sup>th</sup> Conference hosted by Íslenska lestrarfélagið is in Reykjavik, Iceland 13–14 June, 2012. FinRA is happy to assist in promoting the conference.