

Sigurlína Tryggvadóttir

Sigurlína Tryggvadóttir grew up at Svartárvík in the Bárðardalur valley. She graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Geography from the University of Iceland in 2005. That same year she moved back to Svartárvík and started working for the Soil Conservation Service of Iceland as Assistant to the regional agent up until 2008. She now runs a farm at Svartárvík together with her sister Guðrún and their husbands and children. The farm has 360 sheep, 4 horses and 4 dogs. The sisters grew up learning to appreciate the wilderness and nature, fishing, hunting mink and working on the farm with their parents. From a young age they travelled the highlands and developed a great respect for the region. They are interested in folk tales, oral heritage and all sorts of stories from the area.

Sigurlína participated in the Northern Environmental Education Development project (NEED) founded by the Northern Periphery Programme (NPP) and through the years Sigurlína and Gudrun have managed a wide range of cultural projects in the area. For example, they organized the exhibition *Outlaws of Ódáðahraun*, produced a CD containing songs from the Bárðardalur valley and planned and organized multiple events such as concerts and festivals.

Since 2003 they have run a school camp for elementary-school children where the subjects are agriculture, handicrafts, cultural heritage, outlaws and stories. The main focus of the school camp is on Howard Gardner's multiple intelligence theory and learning by doing (John Dewey). For many years they have managed diverse courses in the community.

Sigurlína is currently in charge of the local women's charity organization, the local youth organization and a local cultural and educational fund for women.