



Polish Heritage

Published Triannually by the American Council for Polish Culture

Summer 2015

Vol. 66 No. 2



Marcella Kochańska Sembrich Vocal Competition Winner

Katarzyna Sądej (photo above) will perform in concert during the 67th Annual ACPC Convention on Friday, Aug. 7 at 8 p.m. in the Embassy Suites Hotel, Rosemont, IL. She will showcase the art songs of Polish composers: Chopin, Moniuszko, Karłowicz, Paderewski, and Szymanowski. Her accompanist is Dr. Sławomir Dobrzański.

Ms. Katarzyna Sądej, 31, is a Polish-born mezzo soprano, and has two Master's degrees, in Vocal Arts from Bard College, and in Opera Performance from the University of Toronto. Katarzyna teaches voice in San Diego, and is an avid recitalist, having performed in the US, Canada, France, Ukraine, Croatia, Serbia, Montenegro, and Colombia. In addition to singing many operatic roles while in college, she sang in world premieres of two operas, one of them at New York's Carnegie Hall.

Katarzyna is fluent in Polish as well as French, Spanish, and Italian, making her an ideal ambassador to promote the music of Polish composers internationally. The award from the Sembrich Competition will assist in her career goal, which is to audition for European opera companies, and, like Marcella Sembrich, become an international Polish opera star.

This is the first Sembrich competition to be judged entirely by professional vocalists, active in the world of opera. Edyta Kulczak, frequent performer with the Metropolitan Opera wrote of Katarzyna's audition: "I absolutely love her singing! Beautiful, rich voice! Great technique and sensibility in singing."

Katarzyna (Kasia) Sądej website:
www.katarzynasadej.com

In 1939, the Polish Second Republic was ready to celebrate its twentieth anniversary. It wanted to present itself at the 1939 New York World's Fair as a country with a long history, striving toward modernity and a people who had a place within the fraternity of nations. Chosen as Commissioner General to manage the pavilion exhibit was Stephen de Ropp, who already had extensive experience from his directorship of the annual Poznan Trade Fair.



FORGOTTEN TREASURES OF THE LOST PAVILION

by Peter Obst

The pavilion, built at the World's Fair site at Flushing Meadows was a very fine example of early twentieth century modern architecture. There was also a separate building housing a Polish cuisine restaurant where waitresses in folk costume served customers. In front of the Polish Pavilion, was a spectacular 50 meter (142 foot) lattice tower covered with shield-like crests, suggesting a medieval fortress. This imposing facade served as a backdrop to an equestrian statue of Poland's warrior-king Władysław Jagiello. (photo above right). The fact that under Jagiello's leadership, Polish and Lithuanian forces dealt a decisive blow to the encroaching power of the Teutonic Knights in 1410 was not lost on the German visitors to the fair.

continued in the Cultural Section, page 9



Sharing Polish Perspectives

The ACPC presentation Polish Perspectives was a great hit at the 2014 National Council for Social Studies Annual Conference (NCSS). Project co-chair Ray Glembocki (far right) shares materials with young educators visiting the ACPC booth in Boston. Full coverage begins on page 2.





From the President



Mary Ellen Tyszka

Dear Members and Friends.

Summer is here and it is time for the American Council for Polish Culture Annual Convention, the 67th! The convention is being hosted by our new Affiliate, The Chicago Chopin Society from August 5th through the 8th, at the Embassy Suites O'Hare-Rosemont hotel. Detailed information and registration forms are on the ACPC website (www.polishcultureacpc.org)

Why is it important to attend?

The convention is the final decision maker of the Council, and provides direction to the Board. This year, we will be electing all the Officers and half of the Directors. There are also proposed changes to the Constitution to be approved. It is an opportunity to meet new people and to renew old friendships, get new ideas and share your successes. We take time for some fun, we work hard and then we play.

The members of the ACPC Board have been busy this spring. The Scholarship committees awarded the following: the Pulaski Committee awarded five postgraduate students \$5,000 each; the Skalny committee awarded \$3,000 each to two college students who had included some Polish classes in their program; and ACPC awarded scholarships of \$2,000 each to two students as part of the Summer Studies in Poland.

The Competition committees have also been busy. The Sembrich Music Committee selected an outstanding soprano, who will perform at the Convention. And the Wachtel-Torres Literary Competition supported the Polish Heritage Society of Rochester's writing competition.

If your local Affiliate has scholarship programs or competitions, please share them in the *HERITAGE*.

The Spring Board Meeting was held in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan and included a special mass at the Orchard Lake Schools Shrine Chapel. The Board members were very grateful to Chancellor Msgr. Thomas Machalski for his hospitality. We were able to see the recently acquired relic of St. John Paul II, in its beautiful reliquary. A tour of the campus by the Polish Mission staff, led by Director Marcin Chumiecki, included the newly organized Polish Archives, the genealogy center, where Cecile Jensen discussed all that is available to anyone pursuing his or her Polish heritage. The Galeria was open and part of Orchard Lake Schools' treasured art collection was displayed while we were entertained with a special concert by Jaroslaw Golembioski in honor of St. John Paul II.

It was a productive weekend and the business meeting was particularly productive. I sincerely thank all who attended.

Wishing you all a healthy happy summer! I look forward to seeing you at the Convention!!

Sincerely,
Mary Ellen Tyszka
President

Boston National Conference for the Social Studies

For the 16th year, the American Council for Polish Culture brought the *Polish Perspectives* exhibit to the National Council for Social Studies Annual Conference (NCSS) in Boston, Mass. Cecilia and Raymond Glembocki were exhibit chairpersons at the Hynes Convention Center. For two full days, 4,367 educators attended this conference with more than 11 aisles and 200 exhibitors.

Attendance this year set a record. There were five people representing ACPC at the Polish Perspectives exhibit: Honorary Polish Consul from the Philadelphia area Debbie Majka, Dr. Andrzej Pronczuk from the ACPC Boston Affiliate and Jason Franzen of the *Kurier Polski* of Minnesota. We featured notable Poles such as St. John Paul II and his canonization, Jan Karski, Matt Urban, Irena Sandler and the Polish settlers in Jamestown Virginia.

Terry Tegnazian, president of Aquila Polonica publishing, sent a number of books: *The Mermaid and the Messerschmitt*, *The Ice Road*, *303 Squadron*, *The Auschwitz Volunteer-Captain Pilecki* and *The Color of Courage*. Educators who were interested in these books thought they received the best gift ever in the entire convention. More than 275 CD's featuring historical facts and lesson plans were distributed. The CD was updated to include all of our posters, banners and some craft ideas for elementary school teachers. Catholic schools were given the DVDs of *Nine Days that Changed the World* along with book marks.

As Jan Karski was one of the featured Poles in this year's booth, books and CD's were supplied by the Jan Karski Institute of Tolerance and Dialogue. This included 50 graphic novel-comic books that were beautifully illustrated. These were distributed to grateful teachers.

The teachers loved the Jamestown exhibit as they all teach about Jamestown in their American History classes. They were pleasantly surprised to learn of the Poles' industrious skills to keep the British colony alive in America. They also learned about the first labor strike

continued on page 7



AFFILIATE GRANT APPLICATION DEADLINE SEPTEMBER 30

Seven ACPC Affiliates have benefited from the Council's Affiliate Grants program since its inception in 2010.

They are:

- **Polish Arts Club of Trenton** for their program "World War II Behind Closed Doors;"
- **Polish Arts Club of Youngstown** for a Youth Art Competition on Tadeusz Kosciuszko;
- **Polish American Arts Association of Washington, DC**, for a Chopin Concert featuring 2012 Kochanska Sembrich Awardee Andrzej Stec;
- **Chopin Fine Arts Association, South Bend**, for a two-day professionally judged Youth Chopin Competition, performance and award ceremony;
- **Friends of Polish Art, Detroit**, to help defray the costs of their annual Kraków Szopka Competition;
- **Polish Heritage Club of Syracuse** to help initiate an archiving project, "Preserve Syracuse's Polish History";
- **American Institute of Polish Culture, Tampa Bay**, for ongoing multi-media exhibits, films, concerts, workshops and seminars entitled "The Wall Speaks."

WILL YOUR AFFILIATE BE NEXT?

The ACPC Affiliate Grants Committee invites your applications, which must be in our hands no later than September 30 of any given year. All pertinent information, including complete grant criteria and the Application Form are contained on the ACPC web site at www.polishcultureacpc.org and you may access them at any time. The Application Form and any supporting material may be returned by either e-mail or U. S. Postal mail to the addresses on the Form.

Members of the Affiliate Grants Committee are Marcia Lewandowski, Chair, Florence Langridge, Debbie Majka and Mary Ellen Tyska. We are looking forward to hearing from *you!*

PACT Polonaise Ball



The Polish Arts Club of Trenton (PACT) honored world renowned sculptor Andrzej Pityński and presented \$1500 scholarships to eleven high school seniors of Polish descent at its 69th Annual Polonaise Ball and Scholarship Awards Dinner held at the Trenton Country Club. PACT also presented the 2015 Casimir Pulaski Scholarship on behalf of the ACPC to Aleksander Kubiak of the Drexel University College of Medicine.

Mr. Pityński is a devoted advocate for Poland's quest for justice and democracy and his works are wonderful lessons in Polish history. While growing up in Ulanów, Poland, he and his family personally experienced persecution by the Communists. Some of his U.S. sculptures include "The Partisans" initially residing in the Boston Common; "Katyń 1940" in Jersey City, NJ; "The Avenger" at American Częstochowa in Doylestown, PA. His sculptures in Poland include a large monument in Grunwald Square in Warsaw honoring Haller's Polish Army of 1918 and "Pope John Paul" in Ulanów.

PACT scholarships were awarded to Adrian Strama & Katarzyna Prorok (Steinert High), Wiktoria Anna Gocal & Amy Lynn Blazejewski (Pennsbury High), Melanie Ann Reeves (Holy Cross High), Krzysztof Mus, Bryce Molony, Magdalena Karolina



Top photo: Polish Arts Club of Trenton 2015 High School Students Scholarship Awardees with Scholarship Committee Co-Chairs, Christine Muszynski and Linda Everett and President William Muszynski.

Bottom photo: PACT 2015 Honoree Andrzej Pitynski, wife Claire, and son Michael after accepting award from President William Muszynski and Vice President Henryk Nalepa at the 69th Annual Polonaise Ball and Scholarship Award Dinner on April 26, 2015.

Widlicka, Joanna Ida Wirkijowski and Maciej Leleniewski (Lawrence High), and Michael Slaza (Hopewell Valley High). The scholarships assist the students in their pursuit of higher education. PACT members, friends and guest danced to the music of the Dennis Ostowicz Orchestra and were entertained by the Philadelphia PKM dancers, who also led the members in the Polonaise.

For more information about PACT, Mr. Pityński and to view additional photos visit www.trentonpolisharts.org



FRIENDS OF POLISH ART

At the May General Membership meeting, Friends of Polish Art proudly awarded \$15,000 in scholarships to 10 students in the metropolitan Detroit area. Once again, the students displayed exceptional scholastic achievements in addition to their involvement in various Polish activities and organizations. The awards were presented by the Scholarship Committee Chair, Elzbieta Mscichowska, and President Carol J. Surma. Two Chester and Lillian Mitchell Fine Arts Scholarships were given to students Melissa Houghton and Katrina Wioncek (featured on the left of the photo at bottom right.). The Mitchell Fine Arts scholarships are awarded to students pursuing studies in painting, sculpture, music, drama, theater, dance and other forms of creative expression as well as history, literature, religion, philosophy and Polish Studies.

As shown in the photo at top right, eight Frank Filipek Scholarships were also awarded to: David Cooper, Hannah Gove, Nicholas Houghton, Kristen Karwan, Alexandra Konopka and Sharon Denniston. (Not pictured are Tylenda and Nichole Winters.) The Filipek scholarships were established due to a generous donation by Frank Filipek. They are awarded annually for academic studies in such areas as law, medicine,



architecture, engineering, sciences and the liberal arts with the exception of the fine arts. Each scholarship is awarded in memory of an individual including Lt. Colonel Matt Urban.

continued on page 11

Polish Film Classics in **PITTSBURGH**



Polish Cultural Council co-sponsors Martin Scorsese Presents: Masterpieces of Polish Cinema

For the past many years, the Polish Cultural Council (PCC) of Pittsburgh has developed a strong working relationship with Pittsburgh Filmmakers, one of the oldest and largest independent media arts centers in the United States. This includes a yearly Polish Film Festival showcasing the latest of new Polish films as well as hosting the PCC's yearly *Ostatki* at the Pittsburgh Center for the Arts, an impressive cultural facility which is part of the Filmmakers organization.

Another result of this unique collaboration between the two cultural organizations is the recent *Masterpieces of Polish Cinema Series* which was co-presented by the two cultural organizations at the Harris Theatre in Pittsburgh's Cultural District. Organized and curated by Martin Scorsese, one of the best known and respected filmmakers in the world, the series is the largest presen-

tation of restored Polish cinema to date.

The screenings took place from March 12, 2015 until the end of May with twelve films from the list of twenty one of some of Poland's most accomplished and lauded filmmakers including Oscar winning director Andrzej Wajda, Krzysztof Zanussi, Jerzy Kawalerowicz, Krzysztof Kieslowski and others. The films spanned the period from 1957-1987, and were screened twice every week.

The series premiered in 2014 in New York City at the Film Society of Lincoln Center. Each film has been digitally re-mastered and restored into newly subtitled DCPs (Digital Cinema Package).

The collaborative efforts between the PCC and the Filmmakers has proven to be an excellent way to promote contemporary Polish culture to the people of the greater Pittsburgh region and the *Masterpieces of Polish Cinema Series* presented a very rare opportunity for those interested in foreign cinema, and in Polish films in particular, to be able to see such great films.



Polish Heritage Society of Philadelphia

On Sunday, March 1, 2015, the annual Chopin Concert of the Polish Heritage Society of Philadelphia was held at Holy Family University's Technology and Education Center in north-eastern Philadelphia. It was a fitting tribute that this concert took place on the actual anniversary of Fryderyk Chopin's birthday in 1810.

Despite the fact it was a snowy and icy Sunday, many people assembled in the concert hall to hear Katarzyna Musiał. It was a delight when she appeared and began to play; the troublesome weather was forgotten.

The Polish-Canadian pianist is regarded as "a major talent, blessed with an astounding technique and interpretive panache" by the *Chicago Classical Review*. She has performed as a concerto soloist, recitalist and chamber musician throughout North America, Europe and Asia.

She played with much gesture and deep feeling, interpreting music by Witold Lutosławski, Zygmunt Stojowski, Henryk Mikołaj Górecki, and of course, Fryderyk Chopin. She has a CD, *Come Dance With Me*, in which the pianist's hands pay tribute to the dancer's feet.

It was a successful concert, and the audience was gratified to have made the acquaintance of such a talented artist of Polish background.

On May 3, after a special mass at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Częstochowa in Doylestown, PA, Wanda Mohr Ph.D., chair of the Polish Heritage Society of Philadelphia (PHSP) scholarship committee, awarded \$1,000 scholarships and small mementos to six area students.

Barbara Brudnicki from Philadelphia, is a student at Temple University, working toward a Bachelor of Arts in Speech, Language and Hearing.

Monica Klimek of Cherry Hill, NJ is currently a enrolled at Duquesne University studying secondary math education, she aspires to teach math and science on the middle school level.

Patrycja Kolczynska of Philadelphia, is a senior at the prestigious Central High School. She will attend Temple



Top photo: At the March 1 Chopin Concert are PHSP Board, (l. to r.) Richard Janaszek (Membership Secretary), Debbie M. Majka (Treasurer), Walter Wojcik, Teresa N. Wojcik (Recording Secretary), Katarzyna Musiał (pianist), Jean Joka (Publicity Director), Marie Hejnosz (President), Krystyna Cimoch, Peter J. Obst, and Joseph Zazyczny.

Bottom photo: Scholarship Recipients: (l. to r.) Patrycja Kolczynska, Barbara Brudnicki, Eric Misthal, Monica Klimek, Scholarship Committee Chair Wanda Mohr Ph.D., Nolan Musman and PHSP President Marie Hejnosz (missing Anna Petruczynik).

University in the fall, and plans to become a neuroscientist or a psychologist.

Eric Misthal from Marlton, NJ, attends Temple University, College of Public Health, studying for a Bachelor of Science Degree in Kinesiology on the pre-med track.

Nolan Musman from Devon, PA, is a Senior at St. Joseph Prep. who will be starting at the University of Kansas later this year.

Anna Petruczynik from Hoboken, NJ, came to the area from Gdańsk. She attends Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken NJ. Her goal is a Bachelor of Engineering degree in Electrical Engineering. She is this year's Frank Piasecki engineering scholar.

Friends of John Paul II Foundation



On April 22, 2015 at the Dominican House of Studies The Pontifical Faculty of the Immaculate Conception (PFIC) and the Washington, D.C., Chapter of the Friends of John Paul II Foundation co-sponsored the Inaugural Pope Saint John Paul II lecture. The speaker was Archbishop J. Augustine DiNoia, O.P., a member of the Dominican Order, who is a noted theologian and prominent member of the Roman Curia. On September 21, 2013, Pope Francis appointed him Assistant (Adjunct) Secretary of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. His previous position in the Curia was Vice President of the Pontifical Commission Ecclesia Dei.

Archbishop DiNoia considers Saint John Paul II to be the Pope who "will undoubtedly come to be regarded as one of

the most important Popes in the history of Christendom" and who "has permanently altered the agenda for the dialogue between the Catholic faith and modern culture."

The lecture attracted a broad audience of 275 persons, which included seminarians, university students, professors, and lay professionals. Special guests among the audience were Archbishop Carlo Maria Vigano, Apostolic Nuncio to the United States, and John Garvey, President of The Catholic University of America. The gathering provided insight into the wisdom and teaching of Pope Saint John Paul II and promoted his legacy.

A reception followed in honor of the birthday of Pope Saint John Paul II (May 18) and the first anniversary of his canonization (April 27). Attendees had ample opportunity to meet Archbishop DiNoia and to ask additional questions about the work of this Great Pope. Also, this was an occasion for everyone to meet and talk with others who share in the admiration of Pope Saint John Paul II.

The Friends of John Paul II Foundation, Washington, DC Chapter, is affiliated with the John Paul II Foundation in Rome, Italy, that was established by Papal Decree on October 1981 as a religious, educational, charitable and non-profit organization. Please note that the previous Cultural Center and the current Saint John Paul II National Shrine in Washington, DC is a separate organization operated by the Knights of Columbus.

American Institute of Polish Culture



The American Institute of Polish Culture is celebrating its 43rd year of promoting Polish-American contributions in the US. Founded by Lady Blanka Rosenstiel in 1972, the Institute has presented thousands of events encompassing all artistic endeavors, including concerts, lectures, radio and television programs, films, art exhibitions, as well as publishing scholarly works and an annual membership magazine.

The 2014-2015 season was no exception - it has been filled with cultural and educational activities. Florida International University in Miami and the University of Virginia in Charlottesville have very successful Blanka Rosenstiel Lecture Series, as well as the Kościuszko Chair of Polish Studies housed at The Institute of World Politics in Washington, DC.

We hosted receptions for two new Polish films during the Miami International Film Festival - *Life Feels Good* and *Warsaw 44* that were sold out during three different showings. We also saw our name in lights on the jumbo screens at the American Airlines Arena at "Polish Nights" in two separate games when the Miami Heat battled the Washington Wiz-

ards. Our members and friends proudly wore the Polish colors of white and red in solidarity for the Wizards center, Marcin Gortat, a Polish national and superstar. During the holiday seasons, we organized a Christmas party and an Easter Spring get together at our newly refurbished offices.

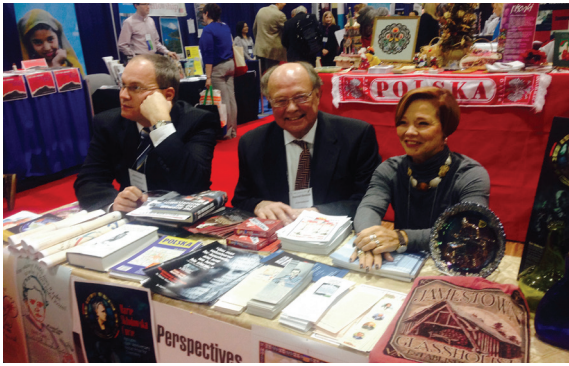
AIPC's Harriet Irsay Scholarship Fund awards worthy university students, preferably of Polish heritage, every year. This past season, 15 students received the \$1,000 award. Then there was our biggest fundraiser in February, the annual International Polonaise Ball with this year's theme being "Poland Fascinated with Brazil" and over 300 guests joined us to celebrate in Miami. The Gold Medal recipient was Andrzej Bukowski from Brazil, the renowned King of Commercials; David Ensor, a foreign correspondent during the Solidarity era, received the Lech Walesa Media Award; journalist Dr. Alma Kadragic received the *Amicus Poloniae* award from the Ambassador of Poland; and Monika Jablonska, Adriana Sabino, Manuel Rosa and Albert Slugocki each received a Special Recognition Award. Lady Blanka also presented Dr. Jan Kulczyk with a specially made Entrepreneurial Spirit Award.

And last but not least, we created and published our annual magazine, *Good News*, which is circulated to approximately 3,500 people worldwide.

We have been very blessed and fortunate that, for over four decades, AIPC has touched the lives of thousands of people through the educational and cultural programs we present in America.

Please visit us at www.ampolinstitute.org and consider becoming one of our most valuable assets - a member!

Photo Caption: Ball 2015, Miami, FL - Lady Blanka Rosenstiel, Mr. Jan Karaszewski, Mrs. Dorota Schmeopf, Ambassador Ryszard Schmeopf.



*Photo captions:
Left: Jason Franzen, Ray Glembocki and Debbie Majka greet Conference attendees. Right: Jason Franzen provides educator Chris Olszewski with materials on Poland.*

For other photos, please visit the ACPC web site at www.polishcultureacpc.org

in America. More than 800 bookmarks concerning Jamestown were distributed to educators. These were donated by Dr. Pronczuk, an engineer by training and head of the local ACPC affiliate in Boston. He was a knowledgeable and friendly addition to the public face of ACPC for the NCSS conference.

Teachers were thrilled to receive a copy of the educational board game *The Battle of Monte Cassino*. Jason Franzen was instrumental in doing historical research and consulting work with the Polish National Archives to produce these games. This is the fourth educational game on which he consulted. Mr. Franzen is a history teacher, and a writer for the *Kurier Polski* newspaper. He has broad and deep knowledge of Polish, Polish-American history that was of interest to the educators. In addition, about 100 articles written by Mr. Franzen concerning the role of Captain Pilecki "The Auschwitz Volunteer" were also distributed.

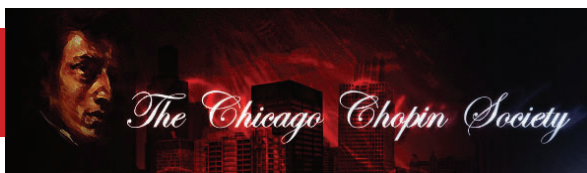
Contact was made with Jen Seewagen of Scholastic Magazine. Since we of the Exhibit Committee were in the process of seeking permission to reprint the children's book titled *Poland-(Fiesta!)*, it was a timely encounter. This series of books is now out of print we would like to design our own book based upon this popular children's publication. The idea of a reprint of this popular edition fascinated the Foreign Ministry of the Republic of Poland and they have

Cecilia and Raymond Glembocki present their report on the NCSS program at the Fall ACPC Board meeting.



strongly suggested that we apply for a grant to reprint 1,000 copies of this children's book that deals with culture, religion, customs, holidays and the country's geographic facts. Research is being conducted to track the copyright laws and possibility of reprinting it.

It was an exhilarating experience for all of us to be there at this conference. We were able to share knowledge and enlighten educators with some basic facts and reveal more unknown information. This made a significant impact upon our audience. The expert knowledge of Polish history was evident in our historical staffers at the booth. Educators were thrilled to receive books, articles, various educational materials as well as lesson plans on CD, plus inspiring DVD's, and graphic novels.



THE CHICAGO CHOPIN SOCIETY TO HOST 2015 ACPC ANNUAL CONVENTION

The 67th Annual Convention of the American Council for Polish Culture will be held in Chicago from August 5 to 8, 2015. Hosts for the convention will be the Chicago Chopin Society. The theme for this year's Convention is: *Polish Emigrant Composers and Musicians*. Through this theme, the Chopin Society will recognize forgotten and honor living artists who, through their individual paths promoted Polish culture abroad. These special events will offer attendees the experience of the rebirth of Polish composers and musicians through the experience of Polish music.

If you are not familiar with the fine work and history of the Chicago Chopin Society, you may wish to visit the ACPC web site and read an article about the Society's history written by Ewa Niklinski. It is posted at:

www.polishcultureacpc.org/Conv_2015/Chicago_Chopin_Society.pdf

If you have any questions about the Convention or the Chopin Society, please contact Dr. Jaroslaw Golembiowski ccs@chicagochopinsociety.com, call home: 773-262-9699 or cell: 773-988-3663.



Jaroslaw Golembiowski (right) of the Chicago Chopin Society with composer Marek Wilczynski and at the Galeria in Orchard Lake during the ACPC spring Board meeting.



CULTURAL SECTION

The Adam Styka Art Competition and Sale

The 2015 Adam Styka Art Competition and Sale will be conducted by the Polish Heritage Society of Philadelphia (PHSP) in cooperation with the Pauline Fathers of the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown, PA. The exhibition dates are September 5, 6, 7 (Labor Day) and 12, 13. Adam Styka, for whom this competition and exhibition is named, was a prodigiously creative painter, Some of the paintings of the Styka family hang in the museum at the Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa which is open during this exhibition. Adam Styka rests in a place of honor at the Shrine cemetery, in the Avenue of Heroes (Aleja Zaslužonych).

The 2015 Adam Styka Art Competition and Sale will be conducted by the Polish Heritage Society of Philadelphia (PHSP) in cooperation with the Pauline Fathers of the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown, PA. The exhibition dates are September 5, 6, 7 (Labor Day) and 12, 13. Adam Styka, for whom this competition and exhibition is named, was a prodigiously creative painter, Some of the paintings of the Styka family hang in the museum at the Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa which is open during this exhibition. Adam Styka rests in a place of honor at the Shrine cemetery, in the Avenue of Heroes (Aleja Zaslužonych).

Rules

- Artists working in any medium are eligible.
- All works must be for sale.
- Deadline for submitting entry forms: 7/31/15,
- The PHSP retains a commission of 25% on any works sold during the show.
- Works must be delivered to the Shrine 8/22/15 (12 noon to 3 pm)
- For additional information see: www.polishcultureacpc.org under "Competitions"

Wachtel Literary Competition Presents Matching Award



Peter Schroen, (photo right) a 2015 graduate from McQuaid Jesuit High School, Rochester, NY is a recipient of a \$500 matching award for his first place essay sponsored by the Polish Heritage Society of Rochester, NY. High school students were asked to discuss the Factors which influenced Polish emigration to America. To read Peter's winning essay and information regarding the Wachtel Literary Competition, please go to www.polishcultureacpc.org and click on "competitions."

US Premiere of *The Trap*

Review by
Wanda O'Brien-Trefil, Ph.D.



"The Trap" by Tadeusz Różewicz was a monumental undertaking by Ambassador Theater and its founder and Artistic Director, Hanna Bondarewska. Born and trained in Poland, Hanna's passion is to promote the plays of Polish playwrights to American audiences. "The Trap" premiered in Washington DC, May 28 - June 21, 2015, in partnership with The Embassy of the Republic of Poland and George Washington University.

Polish playwright Tadeusz Różewicz (1921-2014) wrote "I write my plays so as to make difficulties for the directors that stage them, not to make life easy." Producer-Director Hanna Bondarewska took up this challenge, admitting that directing "The Trap" was the most ambitious project of her career. Based on the biographical writings of Franz Kafka (1883-1924), the play, in a series of intense vignettes, portrays a young man who is "trapped" and unable to cope with a variety of social settings. Kafka is presented as a neurotic anorexic, arrested in emotional and social development, babied by his mother, and pronounced "unmanly" by his father. Yet, his writing influenced Jean-Paul Sartre, Albert Camus, and Tadeusz Różewicz.

Bondarewska effectively stages Różewicz's dramatic techniques. Upon entering the building, the audience is immediately struck by the expressionless presence of the Executioners, in black leather trench coats and dark glasses. These Executioners make the many scenery changes with choreographed, military precision. The acting is often stylized as Bondarewska directs the over-talkative girlfriend or over-bearing father with such dramatic hyperbole that the audience breaks into empathetic smiles.

In addition to being "trapped" by his sickly body, Kafka was "trapped" by the position of Jews in Prague and the events of WWI. In his own lifetime, Różewicz was "trapped" by the persecution of the Jews, WWII, and the Holocaust. A dramatic technique used by Różewicz involves fluid simultaneity of time and space, in which the early events of Kafka's time period co-exist with later events of Różewicz's time. For example, Bondarewska directs a bright girly conversation between Franz's three vivacious sisters, while upstage in the shadows, Executioners wait to pack them into railroad cars headed for the death camps.

Bondarewska's collaboration with George Washington University Theater Department produced an excellent partnership, particularly in the technical aspects of the production. The synthesized music was commissioned and composed specifically for this production by Polish film and theater composer, Jerzy Satanowski. Producer Director Hanna Bondarewska assembled a creative team, who premiered a vivid glimpse of Polish avant-garde theater in the United States through a production that was both mesmerizing and unforgettable.

Polish Pavilion

by Peter Obst *continued from page 1*



Facade and old color post card of 1939 Polish Pavilion



Within, the latest and brightest of Poland's technological achievements were displayed to reflect the Fair's *World of Tomorrow* theme. No effort was spared in providing the best examples among Poland's industrial products and inventions. Notable among these were two scale models of steam locomotives that reflected contemporary Polish production. They were meticulously crafted and each was a tour-de-force of the model-maker's art with every rivet, valve and gear faithfully rendered.

An article in the *New York Times* from May 19, 1939 waxed poetic in describing some of the industrial, cultural and historical displays of the pavilion. The reporter described some of the exhibits: synthetic rubber tires made from potatoes, a light bulb that worked without a vacuum, and an electric samovar.

The participation of Kosciuszko and Pulaski in the American Revolutionary War was mentioned, as well as the statistic that some 5 million Americans were of Polish background.

Chief among the historically themed exhibits in the Hall of Honor within the pavilion were seven paintings that portrayed pivotal scenes from Polish history. These were 120 by 200 cm tempera paintings on wood, executed in a pre-Raphaelite style reminiscent of medieval painting. This was a group project commissioned by the Polish government from the Brotherhood of St. Luke, a group of artists assembled by Tadeusz Pruszkowski in Kazimierz on the Vistula. The subject matter portrayed were:

- Boleslaw the Brave Greeting Holy Roman Emperor Otto III on his Pilgrimage to the Shrine of St. Adalbert at Gniezno (1000) (*photo top right*);
- The Baptism of Lithuania (1386);
- Granting of the Charter of Jedlina (1430);
- The Act of Union at Lublin, (1569);
- The Warsaw Confederation (1573);
- The Relief of Vienna, (1683) (*photo bottom right*);
- The May 3rd Constitution (1791).

The Pavilion opened on May 3 of 1939. In September of that year Poland was invaded by German and Russian armies. Under these circumstances Commissioner de Ropp was cut off from his funding but managed to keep the exhibit going using income from the restaurant, donations and good will. To meet expenses, he sold some of the fixtures, objects

d'art, and furnishings. Many were placed at the Polish Museum of America in Chicago, others at Polish-American institutions and diplomatic outposts. The Kosciuszko Foundation has an exquisite wall hanging and at Philadelphia's Polish Cultural Center one can admire several of the exhibit tables that used beautifully carved Polish eagles for legs. Thanks to Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia, the statue of King Jagiello was relocated to New York's Central Park (photo on page one), while Pulaski's statue was placed in Wyandotte, Michigan. A finely cast bell, decorated with figures of Polish saints and heroes, found a home in the steeple of Holy Name Church in Stamford, Connecticut. The Pilsudski Institute in New York acquired the bronze figure of its namesake.

The World's Fair closed in 1940 and the pavilion was demolished. Finding himself unemployed, de Ropp accepted a position as lecturer at Le Moyne College, a Jesuit institution located in Syracuse, NY. He would later donate the seven paintings to the college, where in 1981, then college president Fr. Frank Haig SJ, placed them on display in the newly completed library. They remain there to this day and are available for public viewing.

There is a lot of interest in contemporary Poland in the society and cultural scene of the Second Republic and Polish Television recently filmed a documentary about the Brotherhood of St. Luke painters. A well illustrated, bi-lingual, award-winning book has been published about Poland's participation in the 1939 World's Fair *Pawilion Polski na Nowojorskiej Wystawie Światowej (1939-1940) i jego dalsze dzieje* [*The Polish pavilion at the New York World's Fair (1939-1940) and its subsequent fate*] by Krystyna Nowakowska (Ted Mirecki produced the English language text).

PULASKI SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

by Marion V. Winters, Chairman



Aleksander Kubiak



Nicole Kuruszko



Dariusz Ocetek



Ava Socik



Pawel P. Wierzbicki

Five winners of the 15th Annual Pulaski Scholarships for Advanced Studies, administered by the American Council for Polish Culture (ACPC), were announced recently by Marion V. Winters, Committee Chairman. Serving with him on the Committee are Alicia L. Dutka; Deborah M. Majka; Stephen E. Medvec; and Carolyn L. Meleski. The Committee awarded \$5,000 to each of the following Polish American students:

Aleksander Kubiak is a medical student at Drexel University College of Medicine in Philadelphia, PA. A U.S. citizen born in Poland, Mr. Kubiak graduated Magna Cum Laude from St. Joseph High School in Metuchen, NJ. In 2013, he graduated Magna Cum Laude from Drew University and began his journey of becoming a physician. Two letters from M.D. professors at Drexel University praise Mr. Kubiak very highly and view “the constellation of his fine qualities as a student attest not only to his intelligence and scholarly diligence, but also to his upbringing, his maturity, and his strong cultural and social values” and predict “he will prove to be a fine physician who remains actively committed to his cultural roots.”

Nicole Kuruszko is presently a Master’s candidate in International Affairs at The New School in New York, NY, having graduated Summa cum Laude with a BA in Political Science and German Studies at Drew University – Madison, NJ in 2013. Ms. Kuruszko’s overall career goal is to join the Foreign Service and become a Public Diplomacy Officer on behalf of the U.S. State Dept. She has been serving as an Intern with the U.S. Mission to the United Nations at the U. S. State Dept. in New York City since Jan. 2015, and is scheduled for an internship this summer at the U.S. Embassy in Vilnius, Lithuania. She had the good fortune to have won the ACPC’s Summer Studies in Poland award last year and took language courses at St. John Paul II Catholic University in Lublin.

Dariusz Ocetek, an accomplished singer and bass baritone, is presently a student working on his doctorate of musical arts program at the Benjamin T. Rome School of Music at The Catholic University of America. Mr. Ocetek’s university studies began in Poland where he earned a degree in Music Performance-Voice at the Vocal and Ballet College in 1991. Five years later he obtained a Bachelor of Music in Performance-Voice at the Brooklyn College Conservatory of Music, NYC. A Master’s degree in the same field followed in 2013 at Valdosta State University in Valdosta, GA. He has performed in Operatic Concerts with orchestra, with piano and also in collabora-

tion with singers and pianists in Germany, Italy, Poland, and the U.S.A. Mr. Ocetek has served as Artistic Director for the Polish American Culture Club and for the Polish American Music Stage, both in New York City and as Assistant Director of the Polish Singers Alliance of America for a number of years

Ava Socik – having earned a BA in Psychology at Yale University where she served as a Sweitzer Fellow and Student Mentor, Ms. Socik is currently in her third year at Rush Medical Center for a Doctor of Medicine degree. A Professor MD at Rush Medical Center describes Socik as “one of the most competent, hard-working, and enthusiastic students” with whom he has worked over the past 46 years. Ms. Socik was selected by senior students to be a leader in the University’s Community Health Clinic where she and four classmates recruit, train and schedule volunteers to provide service to the community. A very busy young lady, aside from her university studies, Ava is serving as Project Manager for Arbor Falls Foundation; Community Outreach Intern; Technology Representative at Rush Medical Center, and a Steering

Committee member in the largest free health clinic in the nation where she organized and coordinated Rush’s involvement in the Chicago Community Health Clinic.

Pawel P. Wierzbicki, a U.S. citizen born in Poland, is a graduate student enrolled in the L.L.M. (Legum Magister – Master of Laws) Comparative Law Studies Program at the University of Florida Levin College of Law. He had earned a Juris Doctor (equivalent to a American professional degree) at the University of Warsaw in Spring 2014. He was a finalist for the best legal essay “Legalization of Concubinage in Poland.” A University of Florida professor’s letter of recommendation credits him with receiving the top grade in his Torts class and earning the prized book award. The professor also commented that “his achievements, including out-performing our U.S. students, are remarkable.” In one of three additional letters of recommendation it was also reported that “Pawel’s active engagement included presentations to other students not only on Polish legal concepts and traditions, but also on cultural values. “He is the best representative of Polish ancestry and heritage in the American community you can only imagine.”

PULASKI BIRTHDAY OBSERVANCE IN SAVANNAH

This year's commemoration of Casimir Pulaski's birthday took place in Savannah's Monterey Square at 11:00 a.m. on March 7, 2015. The gathered crowd was greeted by Glenn Ball, Chair of the Savannah General Pulaski Committee. A processional led the march into the square where General Pulaski is memorialized with a tall marble monument and tomb. This procession consisted of the Knights of Columbus Color Guard, the Coastal Heritage Society Fife and Drum Corps, members of the Daytona Beach, FL; Jacksonville, FL Polish-American clubs and the Polonia Society of Korona, FL

After the playing of the national anthems of Poland and the United States by the Benedictine Military School band, two Revolutionary War "soldiers," Brian Carney and Aaron Bradford, re-enactors from the Georgia Coastal Society, fired a musket salute in honor of Pulaski. United States Congressman "Buddy" Carter made a few topical remarks. Deborah M. Majka, Honorary Consul of the Republic of Poland, spoke on behalf of the Polish government. Fr. Frank Ziemkiewicz offered a prayer and wreaths were placed on Pulaski's grave by representatives of the three Polish societies who came from Florida to take part in the observance, by the American Council for Polish Culture, and by the Savannah General Pulaski Committee.

Among those present at the observance was Polish-American historian Edward Pinkowski, and his son Jack (President of the Poles in America Foundation) with wife Monica. Later, the group retired to the Plantation Club at The Landings for a very tasty Polish style banquet. There the 98 year old Mr. Pinkowski, who has spent most of his life researching Pulaski's history, was honored with a rendition of the traditional Polish song *Sto Lat!* [May he live 100 years] for which occasion the one-hundred was raised to two-hundred.

Also at the very sociable banquet were resident Savannah writers Joan Wilson and Mel Gordon who are researching a future book about Pulaski. During the event Mr. David Duckworth, a concert pianist, played selections from Chopin and other classical composers. Thanks go to the organizing committee: Chairman Glenn Ball and his wife Janina, Vice-chairman Joseph Warezak, Secretary Edward Krolikowski, Treasurer Andrew Boguszewski, and Publicity Chair Ray Piechocki.

This and other topics are subjects for discussion about the "Hero of Two Nations" at the International Casimir Pulaski Conference scheduled by the Kazimierz Pulaski University of Technology and Humanities in Radom and the Pulaski Museum in Warka, Poland, for October 6-7, 2015. Scholars, students, and presenters are invited to attend. Interested individuals may obtain information through the website: www.poles.org/Pulaski/Conference.html



Photo captions:
(clockwise from top left)
- Soldier re-enactors on the scene.
- The Knights of Columbus Honor Guard and attendees.
- Honorary Consul for the Republic of Poland Deborah M. Majka; Congressman "Buddy" Carter, "KraKowianka" Janina and Glenn Ball.
- Writers: Joan Wilson, Edward Pinkowski and Mel Gordon.

FRIENDS OF POLISH ART

continued from page 4

The winners of the annual Dr. Estelle-Wachtel Torres, MD Literary Competition were also announced at the membership meeting and prizes were awarded. Janet Ann Hedin, Chair of the Literary Competition Committee, had the honor of presenting the prizes to this year's winners. They are: First Prize went to Walerian Domanski for his short story "Wladislaw Bronski." Second Prize was awarded to Anthony Stachurski for his poem "Beloved Poem." Third Prize was given to Arlene Shubert for her essay "Act of Renewal." Honorable Mention was awarded to Anne Tyszka for her poem "The Life of the Button of the Belly." In addition, two additional prizes were given for the Best Polish Theme. Best Polish Theme was awarded to Brian Kudron for his essay "The Curious Case of Colonel Ryszard Kuklinski" and Honorable Mention was given to Katrina Wioncek for her essay "Children of the Holocaust."

Friends of Polish Art is also very excited to announce that due to a generous donation by member, Raymond Okonski, plans are underway to establish a new literary competition for Polish American youth which will be called the Suzanne Marie Sloat Literary Competition in honor of his late wife. More details to follow.



Business Office
805 N Hickory Ridge Road,
Highland, MI 48357-4126

NONPROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE
PAID
PITTSBURGH, PA
PERMIT NO. 5605

Polish Heritage is the official publication of the American Council for Polish Culture, a confederation of affiliated Polish American organizations and individuals in the continental United States, propagating the knowledge and appreciation of the culture and civilization of Poland, and the contributions of Americans of Polish descent to the history and culture of the United States of America. The Council conceived and helped fund the establishment of the American Center of Polish Culture in Washington, D. C.

Contributing photographers for this issue of Polish Heritage include Jackie Kolowski and Peter Obst.

Reprints are permitted providing that credit is given to ACPC *Polish Heritage* and copy to the editor.

Annual Subscription to Polish Heritage:

U.S. - 1 yr. \$10 2 yrs. \$18 Canada/Foreign - 1 yr.\$15

Individual Membership in ACPC including Subscription:

U.S. - 1 yr. \$10 2 yrs. \$18 Canada/Foreign - 1 yr.\$15

Attention Affiliate and Supporting Members:

Please email all submissions to djm713@yahoo.com.

Photos should be submitted in jpeg format, 300 DPI. Mailed photos will not be returned. Please submit all articles as a Word document or imbedded in an email and send to djm713@yahoo.com.

The editorial staff are not responsible for transcription errors for handwritten or typewritten submissions.

Editorial Office: David Motak, 3205 Kennebec Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15241.

Business Office: 805 N Hickory Ridge Road, Highland, MI 48357-4126

Address Service Requested

POLISH AMERICAN JOURNAL

DEDICATED TO THE PROMOTION AND
CONTINUANCE OF POLISH AMERICAN
CULTURE • EST. 1911

**Polish American News in English
Published Monthly**

CULTURE • NEWS FROM POLAND
RELIGION • RECIPES • SPORTS
HISTORY • YOUTH • FOLKLORE

*A great way to introduce colleagues,
students, family and friends to
Poland and Polonia's treasures!*

ACPC Member Prices

(Members Save \$4.00 per year)

1-year \$18.00 (Reg. \$22.00)

2-year: \$33.00 (Reg. \$41.00)

3-year: \$45.00 (Reg. \$57.00)

CALL TODAY (800) 422-1275
(716) 312-8088

P.O. Box 198

Bowmansville, NY 14026-0198

www.polamjournal.com
info@polamjournal.com