



# KOSCIUSZKO FOUNDATION

THE AMERICAN CENTER OF POLISH CULTURE

## NEWSLETTER

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## WE ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE HONOREE FOR THE KF 2011 BALL: COACH K

Winning seasons, superb graduation rates for his players and a basketball team that is as close as family are all attributes that reflect on the man who is in his 31st year as the head coach of the Duke Blue Devils, Hall of Famer Mike Krzyzewski. Krzyzewski guided Duke to its fourth NCAA Championship in 2009-10, posting a



35-5 record for the program's 11th 30-win season along the way. Krzyzewski's record as Duke's all-time winningest coach offers evidence of his success: 11 Final Four berths in the last 25 years, including five straight appearances from 1988-92; 25 seasons with at least 20 wins in the past 27 years; 23 upper-division finishes in the ACC in the past 25 years; 11 seasons with 30 or more (most by any coach all-time); 12 regular season ACC crowns and 12 Atlantic Coast Conference Tournament titles, including nine of the last 12 years (a record five in succession from 1999-2003). But most impressive are the four national championships (1991, 1992, 2001, 2010) that make Coach K one of only four

coaches in NCAA history to earn three or more NCAA titles. In addition to Krzyzewski, only John Wooden (10) and Adolph Rupp (4) have accomplished that feat. Such accomplishments have not gone unnoticed. In all, Coach K has been named the National Coach of the Year 12 times in eight different seasons. On October 5,

2001, Coach K was presented by his college coach Bob Knight as one of three members of the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame class of 2001 (Krzyzewski joined Temple's John Chaney and former NBA star Moses Malone as 2001 inductees). Krzyzewski added to his already impressive list of accomplishments on Sept. 26, 2005, when he was named head coach of the USA Basketball Men's Senior National Team program for 2006-2008. With Krzyzewski at the helm, Team USA reclaimed the gold medal at the 2008 Beijing Summer Olympics with a 118-107 victory over Spain. This past summer, Coach K led the USA team to its first FIBA World Championship since 1994.



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ALEX STOROZYNSKI

# THE KOSCIUSZKO FOUNDATION CONTINUES TO FLOURISH

The Kosciuszko Foundation has survived the Great Depression, WWII, The Cold War, and the stock market crash of 2008. With the help of our Board of Trustees and members, we are weathering the storm, and marching ahead with many events and campaigns to empower Polonia through educational programs, and enlighten Americans about Polish culture and the role that Poland has played in world history.

Not every Polish organization has been so lucky, and with the dissolution of the National Polish Center, the Kosciuszko Foundation has been asked to breathe new life into the center at 2025 on O Street. It's a huge responsibility and we are working with other organizations to promote Polish culture in our nation's capital. With our friends at the Polish Library in Washington, D.C., we've been screening movies at 2025 O Street of such as *Katyn* and *Rewers* to expose Americans to Polish Cinema. The O Street building hosted a celebration of the 125th Anniversary of Witkacy's birth, and to honor the 200th anniversary of Chopin's birth, the Kosciuszko Foundation sponsored a concert by Regina Romanowska, who wowed the audience at Georgetown University's Gaston Hall playing Chopin mazurkas, waltzes and etudes.

In June, the Kosciuszko Foundation opened the doors on O Street to the American Council for Polish Culture, ACPC, which held several events as part of its important Youth Leadership Conference to educate and inspire young Polish Americans interested in learning more about the political process. We have also introduced Polish language classes at O Street, and we are hoping to start a program to begin classical music lessons, and cosponsor other events with Polish-American organizations there as well.

But all of these programs need funding, so on Oct. 16<sup>th</sup>, we held a fundraising dinner at the Polish Embassy in Washington D.C. which included a short recital by mezzo soprano Magdalena Wor, a performance by Kosciuszko and Thomas Jefferson re-enactors and a book signing by Rita Cosby, author of *Quiet Hero*. For that we thank Polish Ambassador Robert Kupiecki who has invited us to make this an annual event in Washington.

Perhaps the most talked about event that the Kosciuszko Foundation held in Washington was the Katyn conference in April at the Library of Congress. As this year marked the 70th anniversary of the Katyn murders, in February the Foundation



*Katyn exhibit at the  
Library of Congress*

began working to find a way to honor the 22,000 officers and members of Poland's intelligentsia that were murdered in the forests of Russia by the NKVD, Stalin's secret police.

With the help of Pennsylvania Congressman Paul Kanjorski, we secured the Coolidge Auditorium at the Jefferson Building of the Library of Congress for a panel discussion on the Katyn massacre,

and partnered with the Polish Embassy in Washington D.C., and historian Andrzej Przewoznik to show the exhibition he prepared for The Council to Preserve the Memory of Combat and Martyrdom. Because the cost of printing and mounting the exhibit was quite expensive, we applied for help from the Foundation for Polish Science to give this fascinating exhibit the proper exposure that it deserves.

And then on April 10, tragedy struck. The plane crash that killed Polish President Lech Kaczynski and nearly 100 of Poland's elite hit home. Andrzej Przewoznik was on that flight, as was First Lady Maria Kaczynska, who several months earlier had visited the Kosciuszko Foundation's headquarters in New York to view our art gallery. The President of the National Bank of Poland, Slawomir Skrzypek had also visited the Kosciuszko Foundation as our guest for a networking session with Polish American bankers on Wall Street. That meeting inspired the idea to raise money for scholarships to help Poles earn Masters of Business Administration degrees, MBAs, at top American universities. Several other passengers on that flight were also friends and guests of the Kosciuszko Foundation.

This terrible tragedy thrust the story of Katyn onto the front pages of newspapers around the world, spurring interest in this massacre that had been covered up for decades. It also increased interest in the Katyn conference that we had been

working on. Sen. Barbara Mikulski was able to convince the powers that be in the U.S. Senate to allow us to display the exhibit of photos and archival material about the Katyn Massacre in the Rotunda of the Russell Senate Office Building, ensuring that United States Senators had to walk past it on their way to work.

The conference was a huge success with help from the U.S. Helsinki Commission, The Cold War Studies Program at Harvard University and The Memorial Human Rights Protection Center in Moscow. The speakers included Senators Mikulski, Ben Cardin, Richard Lugar, House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer, Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur, President Bush's Ambassador to Poland Victor Ashe, Poland's Ambassador to the U.S., Robert Kupiecki, and several other distinguished dignitaries. Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski stole the show with a fantastic talk about his visit to the Katyn forest. Videos of the speeches at this historic conference can be watched on the web at: [www.thekf.org](http://www.thekf.org).

The Kosciuszko Foundation launched a new web site this year that allows us to reach members, the media, and scholarship applicants in a way that had not been possible before. In addition to viewing the videos from the Katyn Conference and the Waldorf Astoria Debutante Ball, our web site can be used to sign up new members, for donors to leave bequests, for students to apply for scholarships online, and to track our events and programs. The site also promotes the books of various Kosciuszko Foundation scholars and honorees.

For Polonia to stake its proper place in American society, it must learn to use the internet to promote Polish culture, raising money for scholarships and to keep younger Polish Americans interested in their heritage. The internet has surpassed television, radio and newspapers in occupying people's time in work and pleasure, and the foundation is promoting and preserving our culture for younger generations in the medium that they use. These days, competing with video games, cable TV and the internet makes it harder to keep Polish culture alive. But so far, more than 2,000 people have signed on as fans of the Kosciuszko Foundation's Facebook page, which will help the next generation of Polonia's leaders keep in touch.

In addition to the Washington and Internet developments, the Kosciuszko Foundation headquarters at 15 East 65th Street continues to be the center of cultural activity in New York. This being the 200th anniversary of Chopin's birth, we presented a concert by Edward Auer, a leading interpreter of the works of Chopin who held a special benefit concert supporting the Kosciuszko Foundation cultural Fund. Auer's stunning performance included Four Ballades, Polonaise Fantasy, Mazurkas and a few special surprises.

Violinists Ania and Piotr Filochowski gave a recital accompanied by Charity Wicks on the piano, in a program of works by Chopin, Brahms, Paganini and Wieniawski. And the Soprano Lauren Skuce performed at the KF, accompanied on the piano by Marija Stroke, while a separate concert featured Bela Horvath on violin, and Tatiana Goncharova on piano, in a program of music of Bach, Tartini, and Tchaikovsky.

These were but a few of the concerts at the Kosciuszko Foundation this year. We also screened several movies and hosted theatrical performances and art openings.

In July we unveiled the world premier of "Messenger from Hell," a 10-minute animated short film about Jan Karski, the man who tried to stop the Holocaust. Produced by Dr. Rafael Medoff in collaboration with ABC News and the Disney Corporation, the film is aimed at explaining Jan Karski's valiant mission to students in American schools. The Foundation also held the New York premier of "Karski" a play by Marc P. Smith, with six actors performing a spectacle about life in Poland during World War II. Jan Karski is a hero that all Poles, Jews and Americans should be proud of so we are trying to make him a household name in the United States.



*"Messenger from Hell" at the Kosciuszko Foundation, animated short film about Jan Karski, the man who tried to stop the Holocaust.*

Another special author's evening at the KF was held by Tomek Bogacki, who read excerpts from his children's book, "The Champion of Children," which tells the sad story of Janusz Korczak who ran an orphanage for Jewish children in Warsaw, Poland.

A new crop of Polish-American filmmakers is also emerging, and Piotr Uzarowicz presented a special screening of his new film, "The Officer's Wife," to a packed house at the foundation. The film was produced by Academy Award winner Jan A.P. Kaczmarek, and follows a son who makes a startling discovery. After the death of his father, a forgotten safe deposit box reveals his grandmother's autobiography, old photos of an army officer and a mysterious postcard that all link to a concealed crime: the Katyn Forest massacre. Weaving dramatic interviews with bold animation, *The Officers Wife* probes the collision of truth, justice and memory in a shrouded family tragedy.

The Kosciuszko Foundation was the only place in New York that you could have seen the fascinating documentary, "Copernicus Revealed: New Discoveries." In 1543, Nicolaus Copernicus, the world's greatest astronomer, was buried in an unmarked grave in Frombork, Poland. The exact location of his grave remained a mystery until recently, when a joint Polish/Swedish team of scientists announced that they had matched DNA from bones unearthed in Frombork with DNA from hair discovered in a book once owned by Copernicus. Dr. Wieslaw Bogdanowicz



(l. to r.) Witold S. Sulimirski, KF Trustee Emeritus; Alexander Koproski, KF Trustee; Patricia Koproski; Guest; Teresa Sulimirski; Maria Rasiej; Kazimierz Rasiej



Chairpersons Joseph E. Gore, Esq. and Eugenia F. Gore with grandson Alexander Joseph Cavaliere on the left and Filip Mierzwinski on the right



Medal of Recognition Awardee and Renowned Artist Rafal Olbinski with his wife Mariola



Maria Siemionow, Pioneering Plastic Surgeon, Medal of Recognition Awardee



Chapter Presidents of the Kosciuszko Foundation, Honorees of the Ball, were presented on stage.  
(l. to r.) Dr. Lidia Filus, Carolyn Czaja Topor, Dr. Teresa Wojcik, Mary Kay Pieski, Christopher Golinski, Dr. Waldemar Priebe



*(l. to r.) Dr. Paul Gallo; Anita Gallo; Bill Nareski, KF Vice Chairman; Agnieszka Rostek; Krzysztof Rostek, KF Trustee*



*Guests enjoying the traditional polonaise dance*



*Midshipmen from the Kings Point Merchant Marine Academy*



*Rita Cosby and Dr. Julian E. Kulski*



*(l. to r.) Christina Krupka; Wanda M. Senko, KF Vice-Chairman; John Senko*



*The Polish American Folk Dance Company*



*(l. to r.) Ms. Dawn Polewac, CHAIRWOMAN, DEBUTANTE COUNCIL, Mrs. Juliana Fazio, HONORARY CHAIRWOMAN, Mrs. Patricia Irene Rutkoske McCune, DEBUTANTE PATRONESS with this year's debutantes*

*The Kosciuszko Foundation salutes the Table Hosts for sponsoring a table of 10 or more guests to help make the Ball a success!*

## TABLE HOSTS

Joseph E. Gore, Esq. and Mrs. Eugenia F. Gore  
 Dr. Ronald and Mrs. Maria Hagadus  
 Mr. Alex and Mrs. Agnieszka Storozyński  
 Mr. Andrew and Mrs. Mary Kay Pieski  
 Mr. Matt and Mrs. Lucia Zachowski  
 Mr. Raymond and Mrs. Barbara Wyszynski, Sr.  
 The Ackerman/Tisci Family  
 Comm. John and Mrs. Wanda Senko  
 The Polewac Family Table  
 Mr. and Mrs. Zygmund Rolat  
 Thomas and Cynthia Rosicki, Esqs.  
 Mr. and Mrs. William Nareski  
 Mr. Jack Radgowski  
 Marian Kornilowicz, Esq.  
 Dr. Andrew and Mrs. Janina Boral  
 Polish National Alliance of Brooklyn  
 Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union  
 Lady Blanka Rosenstiel  
 Mr. William and  
     Mrs. Patricia Rutkoske McCune  
 Polish Army Veterans Association of America,  
     District 2  
 Ms. Carolyn Fazio and  
     Ms. Juliana Fazio  
 Mr. Krzysztof Rostek  
 Dr. Joseph and Mrs. Mariola Haggar

## DEBUTANTES INVITED!

The Kosciuszko Foundation is now accepting applications for debutantes to be presented to society at The Kosciuszko Foundation's 76 Annual Dinner and Ball at the Waldorf=Astoria in New York on April 30, 2011. Young ladies aged 16 to 23, with a background of scholastic achievement and community service, are invited to participate. The Debutante Cotillion is a highlight of the Ball and instills in young women a sense of traditional values, poise and conduct in sophisticated social settings. Accompanied by Midshipmen from the Kings Point Merchant Marine Academy, as well as their personal escorts and fathers, the debutantes are presented before an audience of members of the diplomatic corps, community leaders and other New York notables.

If you are interested in participating as a debutante or would like to propose a candidate, please contact the Development Office of the KF for an application and brochure or visit the KF website. Inquiries via email to [development@thekf.org](mailto:development@thekf.org).



*Miss Natasha Brooke Polewac, daughter of Ms. Dawn Polewac was presented by Mr. John J. Senko, Jr.*



*Miss Adria Wyszynski, daughter of Mr. Raymond and Mrs. Cynthia Wyszynski was presented by Mr. Raymond Wyszynski, Jr.*



*Miss Rachel Wyszynski, daughter of Mr. Raymond and Mrs. Cynthia Wyszynski was presented by Mr. Raymond Wyszynski, Sr.*



*Miss Mikhaela Ackerman, daughter of Mrs. Mary Lynn Ackerman was presented by Mr. Charles Robert Pizo*



*Miss Diana Marie Grutzmacher, daughter of Mr. David and Mrs. Patricia Grutzmacher was presented by Mr. David Grutzmacher.*



*Miss Alexandra Zachowski, daughter of Mr. Matt and Mrs. Lucia Zachowski was presented by Mr. Matt Zachowski.*

# TWENTY SUMMERS OF TEACHING

In response to the sudden need for Polish students to learn English quickly in post-communist Poland, the Polish Ministry of National Education and the Polish National Commission for UNESCO invited the Kosciuszko Foundation to cooperate in the creation and organization of a summer English language immersion program for high school students. The Foundation agreed to provide a pilot program for the summer of 1991 at a boarding school in Bydgoszcz. Ten American teachers recruited by the Western New York Chapter of the Kosciuszko Foundation volunteered to implement the



first Kosciuszko Foundation *Teaching English in Poland Program* UNESCO English Language Immersion Camp for 100 students from various regions in Poland.

At that time, it was presumed that the program would serve Polish high school students for only several years. As studying the English language became a popular option in Polish schools, the *TEIP* Program grew in demand and was also opened to upper elementary and junior high school students. It focused on assisting the students in refining their English language conversational skills, on motivating them to develop self-confidence while applying those skills and on preparing



them to compete in international endeavors. As in the past, the program continues to be conducted within an American cultural context by American teachers with the assistance of college/university students, all recruited nationwide by the Kosciuszko Foundation. As experienced educators and cultural representatives of the United States, members of the American teaching staff offer their cumulative professional expertise and collective personal commitment to the youth of Poland.

Since the pilot program's inauguration in 1991, the *Teaching English in Poland Program* grew in popularity and in the number of camps that featured it. The program's content of

Americana and the methodology used by American staffs enriched the knowledge and English conversational skills of Polish students. The number of camps increased rapidly. During the peak years of 1995 through 1997, the Kosciuszko Foundation organized nine camps each summer throughout Poland. As the English language became a popular foreign language in Polish schools, parents clamored to send their children to our camps. As funding from the Polish Ministry of National Education was reduced for economic reasons, the number of our camps dropped to four. In 2009, all funding from the Ministry was withdrawn. Summer foreign language camps organized by groups from other countries were eliminated but *TEIP* survived with two camps through the efforts of the two Polish administrators who immensely value our program. The *TEIP* Program is still viable thanks to the initiative of Mrs. Krystyna Mikita, administrator of the *Zalzcze Wielkie* camp, and Mr. Jerzy Cisewski, administrator of our camp in Tczew. They solicit funding from private and public sources in order to offer the *TEIP* Program each summer at their sites.



In its twentieth season, the *TEIP* Program was organized by the Foundation at: The Educational, Recreational and Environmental Center of the ZHP (Polish Scouting Organization) at "Nadwarcianski Grod", *Zalzcze Wielkie* and at the boarding school campus of the Ks. Stanislaw Janusz Pasierb School for

Economics in Tczew. Both camps hosted students from eleven through eighteen years of age but each camp offered a slightly different format: the Arts Enriched English Language Camp at *Zalzcze Wielkie* led by Mary Kay Pieski of Tallmadge, OH, featuring lessons and





# ENGLISH IN POLAND



activities revolving around music, drama, crafts and the fine arts and the English Language Immersion and American Life and Culture Camp in Tczew led by Janice Lyn Sherry of Las Vegas, NV presented numerous aspects of past and present-day life in the U.S.A. The NIDA Foundation of Poland (Nidzicka Fundacja Rozwoju) supported the program at both camps by enrolling sixty scholarship students.



The *TEIP* Program provides extraordinary opportunities for American educators and students. They participate in Polish cultural activities and events and go on field trips to places of historical importance. Those of Polish heritage immerse themselves in their ancestral culture, some encountering their roots and relatives on the other side of the Atlantic for the first time. Those of non-Polish heritage are pleasantly surprised by the sophistication of Polish culture, by the friendliness of the people, by the intelligence and motivation of the Polish students, and by the historical facts and insights that they acquire. Upon returning to the U.S.A., they engage in sharing their experiences with family, friends, colleagues and members of their communities.

To date, the Kosciuszko Foundation's Teaching English in Poland Program has been implemented in camps at Bydgoszcz, Lomza, Ustka, Krakow, Plock, Zakopane, Ilawa, Gdansk, Olsztyn, Goldap, Pulawy, Myslenice, Przytok (Zielona Gora), Tczew, Warszawa, Gorzow Wielkopolski, Limanowa and Zalecze Wielkie. The Foundation has organized American staffs of more than 1,700 teachers and assistants at 105 camps in Poland for approximately 10,500 Polish students from cities, villages and towns throughout Poland. The program is self-sustaining with funds from registration fees and donations from individuals and organizations such as the Polish American Teachers Association, Inc. and the Marie Sklodowska-Curie Professional Women's Association, Inc.

To view details about TEIP, please visit the Kosciuszko Foundation's website at [www.thekf.org](http://www.thekf.org) under "Summer Programs."

Christine B. Kuskowski,  
*Director, The Teaching English in Poland Program*

Washington, D.C.  
September 18, 2010

## AN EVENING OF CHOPIN

Concert presented by students and their chaperone from Frederic Chopin School of Music from Opole, Poland.

On September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2010 Kosciuszko Foundation in Washington D.C. hosted very special guests. As a result of cooperation between the Foundation and the Roanoke Valley Sister Cities International, we were proud to bring to Washington's community one of the finest, young artists – the future of Polish classical music. The concert was a part of the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of F. Chopin's Birth. Maria Strzelczyk (violin), Kamil Labusga (piano), Patryk Grzesiura (piano) and Mr. Wojciech Kopczak (piano) wowed the audience with their masterful performance of Chopin's famous polonaises, waltzes and ballades as well as the music pieces by other European composers.

The group was brought to the United States thanks to a great involvement of Mrs. Krystyna Slowikowski, a chairperson of Roanoke Valley Sister City Opole, Poland Group. The students turned out not only to be phenomenal musicians but also just great kids, fascinated with America and eager to come back next year to explore the land a little more.



*From the right : Wojciech Kopczak, Kamil Labusga, Maria Strzelczyk, Patryk Grzesiura*

# KOSCIUSZKO FOUNDATION HOSTS INTERNATIONAL CIVICS WORKSHOP IN KRAKOW

By Teresa G. Wojcik, Ph.D.

*“I know of no safe depository of the ultimate powers of the society but the people themselves; and if we think them not enlightened enough to exercise their control with wholesome discretion, the remedy is not to take it from them, but to inform their discretion by education.”*

Thomas Jefferson, 1820

For the second year in a row, the Kosciuszko Foundation participated in the education of Polish and American citizens by organizing and conducting the culminating Community Service Workshop of the 2010 U.S.-Poland Parliamentary Youth Exchange Leadership Program in Krakow, Poland from July 1 through 5. This initiative provided the Kosciuszko Foundation an opportunity to collaborate with the United States Department of State, Bureau for Educational and Cultural Affairs. During the workshop, the 30 Polish and American young people reflected on experiences in their host communities, attended structured workshop sessions, participated in field trips, and developed a joint community service project for implementation in the Polish host community.



Student participants and their teachers hailed from 6 cities, 3 each in the United States and Poland. The American participants traveled from Des Moines, Iowa; Kalona, Iowa; and Chicago, Illinois while the Polish participants represented Gdansk, Lodz, and Nowy Sacz. The Polish students had lived in their American host communities for four weeks in February, while the American students spent four weeks in their Polish host communities in June.

Christine Kuskowski and Teresa G. Wojcik, Ph.D. developed the curriculum for the workshop. A retired teacher and curriculum developer from New York State, Mrs. Kuskowski has long been involved in the educational initiatives of the Kosciuszko Foundation. A former Fulbright recipient for research in Poland, Dr. Teresa G. Wojcik is a faculty member in the Department of Education & Human Services at Villanova University and currently serves as President of the Philadelphia Chapter of the Kosciuszko Foundation. Ms. Agata Bieda, a staff member at the Kosciuszko Foundation's New York City office with a Masters Degree in Education, assisted Dr. Wojcik during workshop sessions. Mr. Joseph

Herter, the Warsaw Representative of the Kosciuszko Foundation, coordinated the program's field visits and meals outside of the hotel.

The Krakow workshop commenced with both small-group and whole-group reflections on the students' intercultural experiences. In subsequent workshop sessions, Dr. Wojcik guided students in their discussion of the rights and responsibilities of citizens in democratic societies, the role of civil society in a democracy, and the attributes of effective leadership. Since 2010 marked the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Polish diplomat and composer Ignacy Jan Paderewski, participants learned about Paderewski's leadership and listened to his famous Minuet in G Op. 14, No. 1.

The joint development of civic-centered community projects to benefit the Polish host communities constituted a major component of the Krakow workshop. Working in teams based on their exchange experiences (Des Moines-Gdansk; Kolona-Łód ; Chicago-Nowy Sacz), the students utilized their knowledge of the Polish community to identify an unmet

need in the local society. After deliberation and compromise among team members, each group selected one project and developed an extensive action plan for how the project would be realized. Students were expected to consider a variety of project components including budgeting, human resources, support staff, record-keeping, communication, and evaluation of the project's effectiveness.

Once the teams thoroughly developed their action plans, they shared the final products in two ways. First, each team composed a written narrative in the form of a letter in which they described all aspects of their project, including its goal and the population to be served. The letters were later submitted to the Kosciuszko Foundation Grant Committee, who will evaluate the proposals and determine the winners of a competitive grant. Monies awarded must be utilized to bring their proposal to fruition in the Polish community. Second, each team selected representatives to make an oral presentation to the entire group regarding their project. The students created Powerpoint slideshows and/or posters to accompany their presentations. After each talk, members of the audience

(i.e. other teams, teachers, KF staff) made suggestions and asked questions about the projects in a town-hall format. At the conclusion of the presentations, student and teacher participants voted via secret ballot for the project they believed addressed the most pressing need and was most realistic and well-developed.

Visits to historical and cultural sites in and near Krakow complemented the workshop sessions devoted to civic engagement. In addition to building rapport and strengthening bonds of friendship among the participants, field trips provided an opportunity to learn about Poland's history and culture. During their stay in Krakow, workshop participants toured the Collegium Maius museum of the Jagiellonian University, Wawel Castle, and the Wieliczka Salt Mine.

The visit to the Gothic Basilica of St. Mary's (Kościół Mariacki) included a talk by former Kosciuszko Foundation research grantee Agata Wolska, who works as Basilica Archivist. She shared the history of the Basilica's unique 15<sup>th</sup>-century wooden altarpiece carved by Wit Stwosz including its theft by the Nazis during World War II and its return to Poland with the cooperation of the U.S. Army. While visiting Wawel, workshop participants laid a wreath at the tomb of Thaddeus Kosciuszko.



Through participation in the Community Service Workshop hosted by the Kosciuszko Foundation, students engaged in a variety of learning experiences designed to enhance their civic knowledge, skills, and dispositions. Through small-group collaboration and oral presentations, participants reinforced civic competencies such as deliberation, consensus-building, communication (written and verbal), critical thinking, and leadership. The workshop also provided an opportunity to build the civic dispositions of respect for government and the rule of law, appreciation for civil society, and a desire to actively engage in one's community.

Students in both Poland and the United States engage in civic education courses in school, however, the Krakow workshop provided a distinctive form of student-centered and highly interactive civic learning. This workshop gave students the chance to discuss real-world community issues, design practical solutions, and practice authentic civic skills. ■

## KRYSTYNA BRZECHWA ART EXHIBIT AT THE KF

The Kosciuszko Foundation will host an exhibit of works by Krystyna Brzechwa between December 10th and January 14th at its headquarters on 15 East 65th Street in New York. The artist will be present during the exhibit opening and part of the proceeds from the sales of art will support the work of the Kosciuszko Foundation.



*Backyard / Podwórko, 1998*

Krystyna Brzechwa, Painter. Born in 1928. Studied at the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw, Poland, graduating in 1955. Selected one-man exhibitions: Warsaw (1957, 1961, 1971, 1976), Arnhem, Netherlands (1979), London, England (1977), Stockholm, Sweden (1980), Radom, Poland (1981). Important collective exhibitions: Warsaw (1955, 1957, 1971, 1974, 1976, 1978, 1981), Berlin and Leipzig, Germany (1956) London, England (1962), Monte Carlo (1962, 1971), Szczecin (1966, 1970, 1974), Radom (1978, 1979, 1980) Dusseldorf, Germany (1980). Recipient of many prestigious awards including Award of the Polish Ministry of Culture and Art in 1970. Resides in Warsaw.

## PAINTING RENOVATION



The renovation of Jerzy Kossak's painting, *The Retreat* which is a part of the Kosciuszko Foundation's Gallery exhibit, was done by Anna Leliwa who has graduated from Warsaw Academy of Fine Arts, Department of Antiques Conservation. Anna currently lives and works in Boston, where she has her own painting and conservation studio. The renovation was done thanks to the generosity of the Pro Arte League of the Kosciuszko Foundation.

## CHICAGO CHAPTER

During the period March-October 2010 the Chicago Chapter took part in numerous events. On invitation from *Fundacja Kulturalna Pulsu Polonii* in Australia, the Chapter President participated in K'Ozzie Fest that took place on March 19-22 at the Kosciuszko Mount in Australia. She presented there a letter to organizers and participants prepared for this occasion by Alex Storozynski.

This year's festival celebrated the 170th anniversary of the discovery and naming of Mt. Kosciuszko, as well as the 200th anniversary of the birth of Chopin. The organizers of the festival made sure that all important guests including aborigine elders received Alex Storozynski's book about Kosciuszko. The books were signed by the Polish Ambassador in Australia, Andrzej Jaroszynski.

The Chapter co-sponsored and participated in Opening of the exhibition of *Post No Bills: Contemporary Polish Posters* at the Polish Museum in Chicago, *Chopin 200 Grazyna Auguscik's World Sound* concert in Millennium Park in Chicago, and Polish-American Heritage celebration at Northeastern Illinois University.

Vice Rector of Medical College of Jagiellonian University, Prof. Piotr Laidler visited the Chapter in May. The Chapter President participated in a graduation ceremony of Jagiellonian University



*Chicago Chapter President Lidia Filius delivering a message at the top of Kosciuszko Mount after the inaugural Kosciuszko Run. With Mrs. Filius are Daniel Gromann, the Polish Consul General and Robert Korzeniowski from Poland, who won gold in the 50km walk in the Atlanta, Sydney and Athens Olympics and gold in the 20km walk in Sydney. Korzeniowski is the first athlete to ever win gold in both the long and short distance walks. He was the patron of this inaugural Kosciuszko Run.*



*K'Ozzie Fest at the Kosciuszko Mount in Australia. Chicago Chapter President Lidia Filius with Aboriginal dancers and their clapstick.*



*An afternoon of poetry and music*

Medical School program in English in June and the Chapter Vice President, Anna Kordylewska participated in an opening of academic year in September.

The Chapter's Annual Meeting took place in April at Polonia Bookstore in Chicago. Piano recital by Michael Pecak, finalist of the 57th KF Chopin Piano Competition and Fulbright Scholar followed the annual meeting. The meeting and the concert included a memorial to the victims of the April 10 airplane crash in Smolensk.

In October the Chapter held an afternoon of poetry of Ewa Chrusciel with musical interlude by flutist, Joanna Turska accompanied by pianist, Danuta Berger. Also in October *Kosciuszko Imieniny* were held at the Northeastern Illinois University in cooperation with NEIU Department of World Languages and Cultures.

*Lidia Filus,  
President, Chicago Chapter*

## NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER

### YEAR IN REVIEW! LOOKING BACK ON 2009/2010

The Kosciuszko Foundation New England Chapter held or co-sponsored a number of events throughout the year promoting and educating people on Polish culture, history, and the arts.

In September 2009, KF New England was a co-sponsor of the world premiere of *Modjeska's Voice: the Actress Returns to the Academy of Music*. Held in the historic Academy of Music in Northampton, MA, *Modjeska's Voice* is a two-person play

chronicling the world renown Shakespearean actress of the Polish and international stage, Helen Modjeska. Over 500 people attended the play that was written and performed by Ann Maggs, who was joined by local NPR voice Walter Carroll.

As October is Polish Heritage Month, KF New England was pleased to bring its annual Polish film festival (the 8<sup>th</sup> annual), which attracted packed houses for each of the four films. The series concluded with the advanced east coast film screening of the documentary *In*

*the Name of Their Mothers: The Story of Irena Sendler*.

The Chapter was also pleased to hold in November 2010 a presentation and book signing with Pulitzer-prize winning journalist and Kosciuszko Foundation President Alex Storozynski, also the author of the biography, *The Peasant Prince: Thaddeus Kosciuszko and the Age of Revolution*. A large crowd was on hand to hear him speak, followed by a lively Q&A session that included questions of Poland, past and present.

*continued on next page*

NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER *(continued from previous page)*

In March 2010, the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual KF New England Chapter Awards Luncheon and Concert was held on the campus of Mount Holyoke College. Over 140 attended the luncheon, which recognized KF scholarship and grant recipients, as well as the Distinguished Polish-American for 2010, Walter Wrzesien, a local businessman and generous donor to Polish causes. The event concluded with a concert that was open to the public and attended by over 200. Ko-Eun Lee, a student at the Juilliard School of Music and winner of the KF Chopin 2009 Piano Competition, was the performer.

The last event on the calendar took place in April 2010. The NE Chapter, in collaboration with Elms College and the Hatikvah Holocaust Center, presented the play *Karski*. Written and produced by Marc and Susan Smith of Blue Pumpkin Productions, it was a moving and dramatic piece on Jan Karski, a member of the Polish underground who tried to warn the Western powers of the Holocaust. Over 300 attended the performance.

## LOOKING TO 2010/2011

The KF New England Chapter looks forward to the new year and will be please to present the following events:

- The Ninth Annual Polish Film Festival in October
- 402 Years After – an art exhibit commemorating 402 years since the first Polish artisans and craftsmen arrived in Jamestown, VA, that will be held October 9 at the Nashawannuck Gallery in Easthampton, MA. Twelve local artists will present works on Polish themes.
- Kosciuszko's "Imieniny" (name day) celebration on October 28 at the Polish Center of Discover and Learning in Chicopee, MA.
- The 12th Annual KF New England Chapter Awards Luncheon and Concert on March 20, 2011.
- The Katyn exhibit, film, and lecture event to be held through the week of April 8-17.

*Carolyn Czaja Topor,  
President, New England Chapter*

## WESTERN NEW YORK CHAPTER

## FINE TRIBUTE TO POLISH COMPOSERS

During October, the Kosciuszko Foundation is celebrating the 200th birthday of Frederic Chopin (1810-1849). The Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra joined those festivities Saturday and Sunday, opening with the Polish National Anthem, followed by an all-Polish program featuring Canadianborn pianist Berenika in Chopin's Piano Concerto No. 2.

Concert Review: **From Poland With Love**

*Berenika Zakrzewski*

Buffalo Philharmonic conducted by JoAnn Falletta, featuring pianist Berenika. Saturday evening and Sunday afternoon.

Saturday night's concert also illustrated three eras of Polish music, beginning with the 1904 Concert Overture in E Major, Op. 12 by Karol Szymanowski (1882-1937), an example of turn-of-the-century late romanticism. For his first orchestral work, the music is quite

mature and sumptuous sounding, with a bright, flashing opening salvo and soaring lyric lines reminiscent of Richard Strauss. Its boldness stands out against contrasting interludes of lovely quiet reminiscence, all pointing forward to the lithe lyricism and exotic sonority of his later masterpieces, the First Violin Concerto, Third Symphony and "Stabat Mater." The BPO's strikingly full-throated performance left a vivid presence in the air.

The concert's highlight was the Concerto for Orchestra by Witold Lutoslawski (1913-1994), which displays full-blooded Polish modernism at its finest. The composer was a bit nervy writing this

piece in 1954, just 10 years after Bartok's like-named work took the music world by storm. But he met the challenge and produced a stunning masterpiece that is complementary to, not competitive with, Bartok's Concerto.

Everything in Lutoslawski's Concerto seems fresh, original and vital. From the opening trickily rhythmic Polish folk tune and the bold, wide-spaced angular motivic gestures that follow, down to the majestic closing brass-filled chorale, this is music in which the repeated unifying thematic references, exciting rhythmic intensity, brilliantly colorful orchestration and even the meaningful modern dissonances are truly audience-friendly.

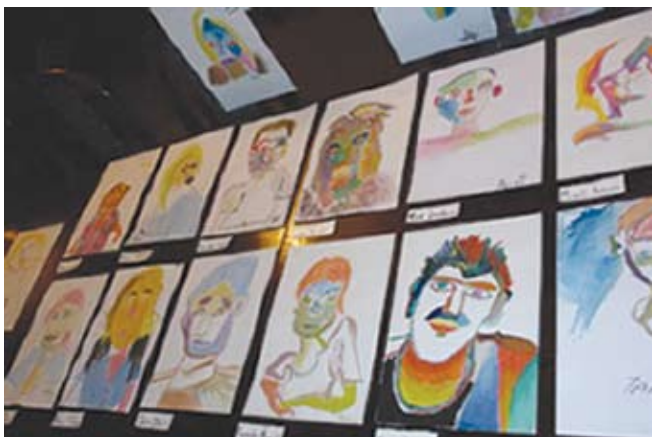
There is a frantic workout for gossamer strings in the second movement, which ends with a wonderful rolling riff on the side drums that needed more prominence. And in the finale a unique plucked Passacaglia rises mystically out of the basses, followed by a Toccata simply bursting with rhythmically complex, foot-stomping energy. I just could not sit still during this music, a dazzling, virtuoso orchestral display. The performance by the BPO and JoAnn Falletta was as brilliant as the music.

Chopin certainly was an exemplar of Romantic music, but Saturday's performance of his Piano Concerto No. 2 was a disappointment. Pianist Berenika gives visual evidence of reveling in the Concerto, and seems to understand the big picture. But what originally seemed like a smooth, flowing technique began to unravel, revealing a heavy-handedness, unclear articulation and erratic rhythmic control. It all climaxed in the final movement when she simply lost her place and briefly stopped. Reportedly, the artist redeemed herself fully in Sunday's performance.

*The Buffalo News, October 25, 2010*

## OHIO CHAPTER

In June, the members and friends of the Ohio Chapter enjoyed a concert by Kosciuszko Foundation scholarship recipient, Bogna Mc Garrigle, organist, in a concert featuring Polish composers as well as standard repertoire at the Shrine of Saint Stanislaus in Cleveland, Ohio. In July, the Chapter President and several friends of the chapter embarked on a volunteer cross-cultural teaching experience in Poland.



*Watercolor drawings from the Arts Enriched English Camp class taught by Ewe Wilczewski*

Over 100 Polish students from all regions of Poland attended the two and one half week session of the Kosciuszko Foundation Arts Enriched English Camp held for the second time at the Związek Harcerstwa Polskiego (ZHP) Scouting facility Nadwarciański Gród located near the city of Wielun in southwest Poland. Nine teachers and ten teaching assistants from the United States volunteered their time and talents to teach classes in the fine and performing arts, conversation and American sports to students ages 11-18.

This year we would like to thank especially The Kosciuszko Foundation of New York, Ms. Christine Kuskowski, Director, Anna Utecht, Assistant Director, ZHP Scouts, and the NIDA Foundation of Poland who sponsored the camp. We are also grateful for the continuing support of the program by UNESCO of Poland. Thank you to Delta Kappa Gamma Educational Foundation and Polish National Youth Baseball Foundation for equipment and supplies for this year's camp. The Ohio Chapter of the Kosciuszko Foundation covered all the shipping costs of this year's camp *Dziękuję!!*

The theme of this year's camp was "Celebrating the 200th Anniversary of Fryderyk Chopin's Birth." The Art Expo showcased the student's collage and watercolor pieces displayed in the classrooms. Parents and students viewed the works while listening to selections of Chopin performed on guitar, violin and piano. The musical portion of the Expo featured original works and repertoire learned in class. The students performed on dulcimer, guitar and Orff Instruments. Both age groups, 11-13 and 14-18 presented a play written by a former piano

teacher from Ohio, Mrs. Fary Anderson. Her play "The Silver Goblet" told about the life of Chopin. The students performed the play in English complete with period costumes and props made in class.

Several teachers and teaching assistants offered special classes to the 25 children from the flooded regions of Poland who came to the camp for a vacation. The American staff met with the Marshall of Łódź who visited the camp and the children affected by the flood in the southern regions of Poland.

Classes in guitar, painting, drawing, conversation and drama were attended by the older students ages 14-18. The younger students built and learned to play the Appalachian dulcimer thanks to a \$3000.00 grant from the Delta Kappa Gamma Educational Foundation, obtained by Mary Kay Pieski, President of the Ohio Chapter of the Kosciuszko Foundation. They also created their own pieces on Orff instruments purchased last year with grant monies from Delta Kappa Gamma Educational Foundation. Drama and art classes were also offered daily to this age group. All students benefitted from a gift of baseball equipment supplied by the National Polish Baseball Foundation. A special thank you to Kosciuszko Foundation Trustee, Mr. Al Koproski for securing the equipment. The campers learned how to play American baseball as well as football and other recreational sports. Special activities and events at the camp this year included: The Fourth of July Celebration and Election of the Polish President complete with a bonfire and s'mores donated by the American staff.



*Students of Jaque-Brown Williams perform on Dulcimers at the Arts Expo*

The students and staff enjoyed getting their face painted for the Halloween party. A big hit of the party was the haunted house and disco. The students and staff enjoyed having their faces painted.

The American staff enjoyed visiting many of the cultural and historical sites in Poland. Thank you to Director Krystyna Mikita, and the staff at Nadwarciański Gród. Thank you to all the volunteer teachers and teaching assistants from the United States and the Polish staff who made the camp a success.

*continued on next page*



*Thank You once again from the students and staff from the Kosciuszko Foundation Arts Enriched English Camp, Zalecze, Poland 2010*

Members of the American staff include: George Bachmann III, Emily Barger, Jacque Brown- Williams, Brandon Brown, Stanton Brzoska, David Hedges, Lauren Heuer, Stephanie Ingram, Teddy Kent, Michelle Lucscre, Jim Mathesz, Candace Rubin, Gwen

Spitz, Hunter Spitz, Pat Urban, Nancy Warlop, Sabina Wozniak, Ewe Wilczewski.

The Ohio Chapter of the Kosciuszko Foundation celebrated its third anniversary of its founding in August 2010.

September was a busy month for the Ohio Chapter. Sun-A Park, Kosciuszko Foundation Chopin Competition Winner 2010, performed two piano recitals for the Ohio Chapter at Kent State University Ludwig Recital Hall and Cleveland State University, Drinko Hall in celebration of the 200th Anniversary of Chopin's birth. New officers were elected at the September meeting. Congratulations to President: Mary Kay Pieski, Vice President, Carol Stafinski, Treasurer, Julian Boryczewski, and Secretary, Sylwia Thorne. Mary Kay Pieski, Ohio Chapter President has presented at Kent State University, Cleveland State University, the Philadelphia Chapter and Villanova University in the hopes of recruiting teachers and teaching assistants for the 2011 Arts Enriched English Camp. ■

*Mary Kay Pieski, President, Ohio Chapter*

## TRIBUTE TO PADEREWSKI AT THE KF IN WASHINGTON, DC

The Kosciuszko Foundation in Washington, DC commemorated Polish Independence Day this year with a special evening honoring life and work of Ignacy Jan Paderewski. One more time we were pleased to bring one of the most talented young artists in the United States. Piano concert was performed by children prodigy siblings Olivia Ly (age 14) and Jeffrey Ly (15) students of Dr. Bella E. Oster from the renowned European Academy of Music and Art in Maryland.



## FILMING AT THE KF



*Cynthia Nixon with Magdalena Mazurek-Nuovo, Director of Cultural Events.*



*William Hurt*

## CHOPIN FOR CHILDREN AT THE KF

Audiences enjoyed a play in four acts on the childhood of Chopin with the participation of the Polish scouts and the Polish American Folk Dance Company kids.



*Performers with organizer Mary Bielski (l. to r.) Olenka Sienkiewicz and Natalia Popko, Narrators; Lukasz Drapala, Teacher; Chopin, Nicholas Kaponyas; Jola Wadolowska, Chopin's mother; Mary Bielski.*



*Polish American Folk Dance Company Kids*

## PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER

The Philadelphia Chapter hosts a variety of educational and cultural events throughout the year which increase the visibility and prestige of the Kosciuszko Foundation in the Greater Philadelphia area. During the spring and summer 2010 seasons, the Philadelphia Chapter actively participated in the Kosciuszko Foundation Ball and hosted its Sixth Annual Summer Concert.

The elegance and sophistication of the Grand Ballroom of the Waldorf=Astoria in New York City provided a fitting venue for the presentation of six debutantes during the Annual Gala of the Kosciuszko Foundation. Twin Philadelphia area natives, **ADRIA and RACHEL WYSZYNSKI**, of Yardley, PA, were presented by their grandfather, **Raymond Wyszynski, Sr.**, and father, **Raymond Wyszynski, Jr.** during the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner and Ball on Saturday, April 24, 2010. Graduates of Neshaminy High School, Adria and Rachel Wyszynski currently attend Temple University and study finance and criminal justice, respectively. Their grandparents, Raymond and Barbara Wyszynski, are active members of the Polish-American community in Philadelphia. Mr. Raymond Wyszynski annually awards two Frances E. Wyszynski Memorial Scholarships in honor of his late mother - one for Summer Study at the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, Poland, and the other for a worthy student affiliated with the Polish Police Association of Philadelphia. This year, **Ms. Lauren Jenkins** of Philadelphia received the Frances E. Wyszynski Scholarship for Summer Study in Krakow.

In celebration of the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the birth of Fryderyk Chopin and the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the birth of Ignacy Jan Paderewski, the Philadelphia Chapter dedicated its **Sixth Annual Summer Concert** on Friday, August 13, 2010 to the performance of works by Polish composers including Chopin, Paderewski, Lutoslawki, Wieniawski, and Zarzycki. The Chapter was delighted to feature Polish-born violinist **Kinga Augustyn**

along with pianist **Anna Shelest**. Hailed in the Polish daily *Nowy Dziennik* as “a violinist for whom nothing seems too difficult,” Ms. Augustyn offered truly breathtaking interpretations of the compositions. Ms. Shelest, a pianist



*Kinga Augustyn along with pianist Anna Shelest.*

described as the “female incarnation of Liszt,” likewise thrilled the audience with her outstanding accompaniment. Before and after the concert, guests bid on Silent Auction items and enjoyed refreshments and Polish pastries.



*Philadelphia Chapter President at Krakow Workshop*

During the summer, Chapter President **Teresa G. Wojcik, Ph.D.** directed the Community Service Workshop of the US-Poland Parliamentary Youth Exchange Leadership Program in Krakow, Poland.

The Philadelphia Chapter looks forward to a busy fall and winter season,

which will include participation in the Philadelphia Pulaski Day Parade, Annual Polish Poetry Reading, Second Annual Kosciuszko Imieniny Celebration, a book event, and our Annual Polish Christmas Celebration.

*Teresa G. Wojcik, Ph.D.,  
President, Philadelphia Chapter*

### PHILADELPHIA DEBUTANTES AT KF BALL



*Adria Wyszynski with her father Raymond Wyszynski, Jr.*



*Rachel Wyszynski with her grandfather Raymond Wyszynski, Sr.*





## SOFIA W. DEMBIA & EDWARD DEMBIA

Sofia W. Dembia died on May 22, 2010 at the age of 93. She was the oldest of four children born to John and Stella Wojciechowski after they had emigrated from Poland to the US. Stella's maiden name was Marciniak.

Sofia grew up in a Polish-American neighborhood in Mahwah, NJ. Her father, John worked at the American Brakeshoe factory. This was foundry that cast metal products such as railroad brake shoes and manhole covers. The family lived in a "company neighborhood" among many Polish Americans who had a family member working at the foundry which was within walking distance from their home.

Sofia was predeceased by two of her siblings. Anne died in the 1970s and John died in 2006. She was survived by her ninety year old sister, Edna.

Sofia married Edward Dembia in 1945 who shared her Polish heritage. Ed was a purchasing agent for Maxwell House Coffee. He died in 1988. They built a modest home in Mahwah in the late 1940s. Sofia continued to live there until her death.

Sofia and Ed maintained ties with Poland through their parish church, Immaculate Heart of Mary RC Church in Mahwah. They were active parishioners who worked to keep the Polish traditions alive in the parish.

They traveled to Poland various times and kept in touch with Sofia's second cousins in Poland.

Over the years, Sofia and Ed hosted numerous of their Polish relatives for visits to the US. These trips included driving tours of many of America's National Parks and other landmarks. Sofia's brother John continued this tradition until shortly before his death in 2006.

During the years of the Communist rule, Sofia and her husband routinely sent packages to relatives in Poland containing hard to find goods. More recently, Sofia sent money when one or another relative had a special need.

Sofia valued hard work and frugality. She took pride in recounting that her initial salary as a legal secretary was \$5 per week. She had promptly opened a weekly Christmas club and tried to save \$1 per week for the 50 weeks of the club. Many years later, she was pleased to recall that in that first year, she'd "only" saved \$48.

Sofia worked as a legal secretary for many years. She obtained NJ real estate and insurance licenses and later owned and operated Ramsey Interstate Realty and Insurance for many years prior to retirement.

In her Last Will Sofia left bequests to 36 relatives and friends – including 18 relatives in Poland. More notably, she set aside more than half of her estate for charitable donations.

These included the creation of scholarship funds in significant amounts in memory of Edward and herself at Ramapo College, Felician College and Don Bosco High School. With each of these bequests was the request that a preference be given to Polish American students or those evidencing an interest in Polish culture.

Sofia in her Will also benefited the Kosciuszko Foundation and the American Center for Polish Culture, which is now part of the Kosciuszko Foundation. ■

## THE PULASKI DAY PARADE NEW YORK CITY OCTOBER 3, 2010



## MESSAGE FROM ALEX STOROZYNSKI

*(continued from page 3)*



*The Kosciuszko Foundation was the only place in New York that you could have seen the fascinating documentary, "Copernicus Revealed: New Discoveries."*

life-size portrait busts of notable Polish heroes and heroines such as Pope John Paul II, Chopin, Adam Mickiewicz, Madame Curie, Casimir Pulaski, Thaddeus Kosciuszko, Emily Plater, Ignacy Jan Paderewski, King Jan Sobieski and others.

After the Smolensk tragedy that killed President Lech Kaczynski, First Lady Maria Kaczynski and 96 of Poland's military, political and historical figures, the Kosciuszko Foundation beamed in a live satellite feed so that members of the Polish community could pay their respects and watch the funeral broadcast live at our headquarters on 65th Street.

The foundation has always been a bridge between Poland and the United States. During the Cold War, it hosted people such as Cardinal Karol Wojtyla, Czeslaw Milosz, and Jan Karski. In recent years, Wladyslaw Bartoszewski, Andrzej Wajda, Norman Davies, First Lady Maria Kaczynska and many others have come to visit our townhouse at 15 East 65th Street, the headquarters for Polonia's artists and intelligentsia.

In September, we hosted an exclusive, private screening with Newt Gingrich and his wife Callista of their film about Pope John Paul, "Nine Days that Changed the World." While many of our events are open to the public, many special events will only be open to active Kosciuszko Foundation members, so it makes sense to join now.

If you're already a member, thank you for your continued support of the Kosciuszko Foundation. We are working on many projects to promote and revitalize the Foundation as it approaches its centenary in just 15 years and I look forward to the opportunity of sharing them with you. The Kosciuszko Foundation is Polonia's most prestigious organization and has made me proud of my Polish heritage. I'm sure that you, too, are proud of your Polish roots.

By becoming a member and donating to the Kosciuszko Foundation, you are not only helping to promote Polish

gave a presentation about his groundbreaking research and the documentary by Michal Juszcakiewicz told the story of this scientific mystery.

Copernicus was but one of the Polish heroes chosen by master sculptor Tracy H. Sugg whose exhibit "The Spirit of Polonia" has been on display at our headquarters for the past year. Sugg, who has created several monuments in Mississippi, at West Point and numerous sculptures in private collections, unveiled a series of



*Private screening with Newt Gingrich and his wife Callista of their film about Pope John Paul, "Nine Days that Changed the World" at the Kosciuszko Foundation: l-r: Marek Skulimowski, Deputy Consul General; Przemyslaw Balcerzyk, Consul; Alex Storozyński, President and Executive Director; Newt Gingrich.*

culture, but you are helping to create the next generation of Polish leaders.

Over the years, the foundation has given scholarships to hundreds of Poles and Polish Americans who have made major contributions to Americans and Polish society. The Kosciuszko Foundation has changed the lives of many people, and we can all be proud of that.

To learn more about upcoming events, or how you can contribute to the Kosciuszko Foundation's mission of promoting Polish Culture and Scholarship, call (212) 734 2130, or visit our web site <http://www.thekf.org> Sign up for our e-mail list, join our Facebook page, and become active in Polonia's most prestigious organization. ■

### IN MEMORIAM

## RON MELNYK

Losing someone is one of the most difficult things we can go through, so much more if it is a friend. Ron Melnyk was such a friend, and a dedicated member of the KF.

In his early years he was a member of what was known as Contemporary Polonia of The Kosciuszko Foundation. Upon formation of the NAC, he was asked to represent the Metropolitan area and remained a member till his death.

He regularly attended the Annual Ball, Debutante Council Luncheons and often the PATA programs.

He was a quiet man and kept a low profile, attending the events.

Let's just be thankful for all the special moments that Mr. Melnyk has left us.

And with that, we hope that he will continue to live on within our hearts and minds.

The KF Staff

# GIVING TO THE KOSCIUSZKO FOUNDATION: HOW TO FULFILL YOUR WISHES THROUGH A CHARITABLE BEQUEST

Much of the financial strength of the Kosciuszko Foundation has come through the years from its members and friends who provided for the Foundation in their wills. It is easy to insert a charitable bequest into your will when it is written or as a revision. You may also add a bequest through a codicil - a separate document that provides an amendment to your existing will. Regardless of the size of your estate or of your bequest, the full value of your gift may be deductible for Federal estate tax purposes.



predecease you. For example, "If neither my husband nor any descendant of mine survive me, then I give, bequeath and devise all the rest, residue and remainder of the property, both real and personal, wherever situated, which I may own or be entitled to at my death, to The Kosciuszko Foundation, Inc."

Perhaps the most effective asset to bequeath is the **reminder of your retirement plans**, such as pension funds or IRAs. When left to someone other than your spouse, they can be subject to income and estate taxes – both of which combined could erode over 80% of the remaining benefits! If bequeathed to the Foundation, these funds would escape both income and estate taxes, and reduce your taxable estate.

## Here are ways you can support the Kosciuszko Foundation through your will:

A **specific bequest** is a gift of a specific dollar amount or a particular piece of property. For example, "I bequeath [dollar amount or description of property] to The Kosciuszko Foundation, Inc."

A **residuary bequest** is a gift of all or part of the property remaining in your estate after debts, expenses and specific bequests have been paid. For example, "I give, bequeath and devise [all, or \_\_\_% of] the rest, residue and remainder of the property, both real and personal, wherever situated, which I may own or be entitled to at my death, to The Kosciuszko Foundation, Inc." The Kosciuszko Foundation encourages gifts by residuary bequest. If your gift is stated as a percentage, this method automatically adjusts the size of your bequest according to your current financial position. This gives you flexibility and peace of mind that your bequest will not be larger or smaller than you had intended, in the event of unexpected changes in the size of your estate. Residuary bequests are also beneficial for the Foundation. People are often surprised by how much their assets can grow over time – and by how large an ultimate gift they are able to make to support the Foundation's mission.

A **contingent bequest** is a gift that takes effect only if the primary beneficiary or beneficiaries of the bequest should

## How will the Kosciuszko Foundation use my gift?

An **unrestricted bequest** is the simplest and most immediately beneficial kind of bequest to the Kosciuszko Foundation. The amount received through an unrestricted bequest can be used at the discretion of the Foundation's Trustees and administration for its most important needs, which may change from time to time. Your will may read, "I give, bequeath and devise [dollar amount, description of property or portion of residuary estate] to The Kosciuszko Foundation, Inc. for its general purposes."

A **restricted bequest** provides cash or property to be used by the Foundation for a specific Foundation program or named scholarship fund. If you are considering a restricted bequest, please call the Foundation's Development Office at 212-734-2130, ext. 222, and we will be happy to talk to you about your wishes and provide you with a personal outline of funding requirements and possibilities.

**Whichever method you choose, remember that your gifts may take many forms and serve many purposes, including honoring the memory of someone you love.**

CUT HERE AND RETURN IN ENVELOPE PROVIDED.



I would like more information on making a planned gift to the Kosciuszko Foundation.

Please contact me at my:

- address
- telephone number
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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### OPENING OF KRZYSTYNA BRZECHWA ART EXHIBIT

December 10

The artist will be present

Reservations required

### MIKOLAJ HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

December 11, 3 pm

\$20 Reservations required

### CMS CONCERT: CHAMBER PLAYERS INTERNATIONAL

December 12, 3 pm

\$25/\$15 KF Members

### SAMUEL BLASER + BOBBY AVEY JAZZ CONCERT

January 12, 7:30 pm

\$20/\$15 KF Members and Students

### CMS CONCERT: SLAVIC ARTS ENSEMBLE

January 16, 3 pm

\$20/\$15 KF Members and Students

### CMS CONCERT: NY STRING ORCHESTRA

January 23, 4 pm

\$20/\$15 KF Members and Students

### CMS CONCERT: LARA NIE WITH TRIO RESPIRO

February 13, 3 pm

\$20/\$15 KF Members and Students

### CMS CONCERT: CAMERATA NY

March 13, 3 pm

\$20/\$15 KF Members and Students

Events subject to change: Call the KF to confirm and get details:

212-734-2130 or email: [info@thekf.org](mailto:info@thekf.org)

All presentations at the KF House unless otherwise noted.

## THE KOSCIUSZKO FOUNDATION

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### Alex Storzynski

President and Executive Director

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