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THE

KOSCIUSZKO FOUNDATION

NEWSLETTER

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Norman Davies

Ewa Podles

Christine Baranski

to be honored at

The Kosciuszko Foundation

60 ♦ 70 ♦ 80
Anniversary

Annual Dinner & Ball

Saturday, April 30, 2005

at New York's Waldorf-Astoria

60th Anniversary in
The Foundation House

70th Anniversary of
the Dinner & Ball

80th Anniversary of
The Foundation



Christine Baranski



Ewa Podles



Norman Davies

60 ♦ 70 ♦ 80 Anniversary

The Kosciuszko Foundation Annual Dinner and Ball

celebrating our **60th** Anniversary in
The Foundation House

70th Anniversary of
the Dinner & Ball

80th Anniversary of
The Foundation

Excitement is growing about this year's Kosciuszko Foundation Dinner and Ball at New York's Waldorf=Astoria on April 30, 2005. The Ball is themed "Anniversary 60 ♦ 70 ♦ 80" as 2005 marks the 60th year of our residency in the Foundation House, the 70th year of the Foundation's Annual Ball, and the 80th anniversary of the Foundation's formation.

Bowfinger, Addams Family Values, 9½ Weeks, Mooseport and last year's Oscar-winning *Chicago*. Her recent popular television series include *Happy Family* and *Cybill*.

Ewa Podles is regarded as one of the world's leading contraltos, equally successful in the opera and concert music repertoires. Her voice possesses a uniquely rich, flexible quality, with an extremely wide range and mastery of many genres and styles. She has been widely praised for performances including the operas of Rossini and Verdi, the songs of Chopin, and a broad selection of Russian repertoire.

A native of Warsaw, Ewa Podles gained attention while a student and was engaged by the local company to sing Rosina in Rossini's *Barber of Seville*. Her career developed quickly, and international appearances began as early as 1982. The lighter quality that characterized her voice early on allowed for excellent performances of such roles as Rossini's *Cenerentola* and Bizet's *Carmen* as well as some lighter Russian roles. However, as her voice developed it took on a more characteristic dark quality that opened up a wider selection of parts, including Verdi's Eboli (*Don Carlos*) and Ulrica (*Un Ballo in Maschera*). Her signature performance has for some time been the title role in Rossini's *Tancredi*. She also sings *La Donna del Lago* and *L'italiana in Algeri*. She has a very effective recital program called "Rossini Arias for Contralto," which she has sung with the Moscow Chamber Orchestra in New York's Carnegie Hall. Her recordings include a disc of Chopin songs with pianist Garrick Ohlsson, *Melodies Russes* (Grand Prix de L'Academie Française du Disque), and *Tancredi* (nominated for a Grammy)

Norman Davies is revered for his sensitive historical studies and publications on Europe, UK and Poland, and he is highly praised for his recent book, *Rising '44 – The Battle for Warsaw*. He has taught at the London University School of Slavonic and Eastern European Studies and he is currently Supernumerary Fellow at Wolfson College, Oxford. He is a Fellow of the British Academy and the Royal Historical Society and he has received honorary PhD degrees from the University of Maria Curie-Sklodowska in Lublin and the University of Gdansk. In recognition of the value of his historical support for Poland he has been granted honorary citizenship in Lublin and Cracow.

We have a number of debutantes engaged for presentation at the cotillion during the Ball, and the Debutante Council of the Kosciuszko Foundation is still accepting applications. If you are interested in participating as a debutante or would like to propose a candidate, please call Mrs. Dawn Polewac, Chairwoman, The Debutante Council of the Kosciuszko Foundation at 516-931-4780 or Mrs. Wanda Senko at 516-481-7995.

Work is underway to make this year's Ball and debutante cotillion our most successful fund raising event in support of the Foundation's cultural and educational programs. Carolyn and Joseph Topor will serve as Chairpersons of the evening. Carolyn is the dynamic President of the New England Chapter of the Kosciuszko Foundation and the couple has done much to promote a positive understanding of Polish Culture throughout the north-eastern United States.

We are also excited to be honoring three stellar figures in the arts and culture at this glittering event: Polish American actress Christine Baranski, Polish contralto Ewa Podles and noted British historian Norman Davies.

Christine Baranski is one of the most beloved and admired actresses working on the stage and screen today, and a winner of *Emmy, Screen Actors Guild* and *Tony Awards*. Inspired by her Polish grandparents who were both actors, she began acting at a young age, studied acting at Juilliard and then began working on the New York stage. She earned a *Tony Award* and a number of other honors for her work in the Broadway productions of Tom Stoppard's *The Real Thing*, Neil Simon's *Rumors*, Terrance McNally's *Lips Together Teeth Apart* and Stephen Sondheim's *Sweeney Todd*. Since her film debut in 1982, Ms. Baranski's movie credits include *Jeffrey, The Birdcage, Cruel Intentions,*

Joseph and Carolyn Topor

"My husband Joseph and I are honored to be Chairmen of the 70th Annual Kosciuszko Foundation Ball. I have had close ties to the Foundation for many years ...

... I truly believe that the mission of the Kosciuszko Foundation is especially important now that Poland is playing an ever more significant role in this shrinking world."

Carolyn Topor



The "Anniversary 60 ♦70 ♦80" Ball will be a lavish evening of dining, dancing, debutantes and celebration. Make it your party, and help make it a great fund raising success. Be a Table Host, inviting your friends to fill a table of 10 or 12 people. Several table hosts have already signed up to fill a table in honor of a special couple. If you would like to share the cost of tickets among your guests, No problem! The Foundation Development Department will happily supply you with invitation packets for you to share with your invitees as either "paid-for" or "subscribing"

guests. Table Hosts will also receive a tax deductible contribution receipt for all Ball tickets they purchase for themselves and their guests. In addition to being honored during the Ball itself, and having your table specially listed in the Ball Journal, Table Hosts are listed as members of the Ball Committee and are the Foundation's guests at the special Debutante Reception held at the Kosciuszko Foundation House on the evening prior to the Ball. Please just call Chris Broadwell at 212-734-2130 x 217 to receive table host packets.

KOSCIUSZKO FOUNDATION NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL AND CHAPTER PRESIDENTS MEET

On October 16, members of the Kosciuszko Foundation National Advisory Council came together at the Foundation House for their semi-annual meeting. Chapter Presidents, who also serve on the National Advisory Council, met with Foundation officers and staff members that day as well.



Presidents of the Kosciuszko Foundation Chapters,
Back row, l-r: John Bartus, Pittsburgh, Joseph E. Gore, Esq., President and Executive Director, Prof. Waldemar Priebe, Texas, William Nowakowski, Western New York, Mark J. Peszko, National Advisory Council Chairman, and Edward Dzielenski, Chapter Treasurer representing New England.
Front row, l-r: Teresa Wojcik, Philadelphia, Joanna Rudnicka, Chicago

Representing the Foundation's regional centers in Chicago, New England, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Denver, Texas and Western New York, the volunteer Chapter Presidents met to compare views and news on their activities in relation to activities directed from the Foundation headquarters. The Chapters serve to advance the educational and cultural objectives of the Foundation across the country. They represent the Foundation in local communities by providing information about its programs, recruiting members and hosting cultural and fund-raising events in fulfillment of the mission of the Foundation. Foundation members are automatically enrolled as members of their local, regional Chapters.

The National Advisory Council is made up of Foundation members from across the country who are actively dedicated to the programs of the Foundation. Individually appointed by the Board of Trustees, the members of the Council serve in an advisory capacity to the Board and cooperate in facilitating the Foundation's programs and development.



National Advisory Council of the Kosciuszko Foundation.
Standing, l-r: Joseph E. Gore, Esq, Kosciuszko Foundation President and Executive Director, Philip W. Cadieux, NAC Secretary, New York, Alicja Danecka-Chwals, Ohio, Christine J. Kicinski, Esq., New York, Christine B. Kuskowski, New York, Teresa Wojcik, President, Philadelphia Chapter, Mark J. Peszko, Esq., NAC Chairman, Buffalo, New York, Chris Broadwell, Kosciuszko Foundation Director of Development, Dr. Witold Kawecki, Connecticut, Dawn Polewac, New York, Charles P. Pydych, Pennsylvania, Eugenia Gore, New Jersey, Ronald S. Melnyk, Esq., New York, Prof. Waldemar Priebe, Texas Chapter President, Andre Zlotnicki, NAC Vice Chairman, Pennsylvania, William Nowakowski, Western NY Chapter President.
Seated, l-r: Edward Dzielenski, Treasurer New England Chapter, Frances X. Gates, New York.



Joseph E. Gore, Esq.

KOSCIUSZKO FOUNDATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES HOLDS ANNUAL MEETING

♦ **New Members Elected**

♦ **Minister Of National Education Visits**

At the Annual Meeting of the Corporation and Board of Trustees of The Kosciuszko Foundation on November 19, 2004, two new members were elected. Joining the Board of Trustees for terms ending in November 2007 are Mr. Wojtek Uzdelewicz and Ms. Iwona Zdunczak. In addition to being elected to the Board, they have also been chosen to serve on various standing committees of the Board of Trustees.



Iwona Zdunczak



Wojtek Uzdelewicz

Mr. Wojtek Uzdelewicz is a Senior Managing Director at Bear Stearns, covering the telecommunications/data networking equipment industry. Over the course of his career he has been ranked by both the *Wall Street Journal All-Star Analysts Survey* and by *The Reuters Survey*. He was ranked No. 2 for telecom equipment/wireless in the 2004, 2003, 2002, and 2001 *Institutional Investor* polls and was named runner-up for telecom equipment/wireline in the 2002 and 2004 polls. Prior to joining Bear Stearns, Mr. Uzdelewicz spent six years as a senior telecom equipment analyst with SG Cowen, focusing on the wireless telecommunications equipment space. He was born in Poland and holds a BS degree in economics from the University of Maine.

Ms. Iwona Zdunczak is the Director of Cargo, North America for Lot Polish Airlines. Prior to this she served as Marketing and Sales Manager, North America for Lot Airlines. She holds a Master's Degree in Law from the University of Warsaw. During the last twenty years Ms. Zdunczak has been active in her support of various cultural and governmental institutions in the United States and Poland, including the following charitable institutions: Friends of Litewska Children's Hospital, the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, Today's Children's Hope for the Future Foundation, the Polish Children's Heartline, the Semantics, the Cardiac Surgery Associates of Northeast Pennsylvania and the Solidarity Generation Foundation, Inc.

At this same meeting the Honorable Ann T. Mikoll, a long-time member of



Ann T. Mikoll,

The Kosciuszko Foundation Board of Trustees, was elected Trustee Emeritus. Judge Mikoll has served on the Board and its various committees for fifteen years. She was instrumental in helping to establish the Western New York Chapter of The Kosciuszko

Foundation and in bringing many interesting programs on Polish culture, scholarship and music, including the staging of two Polish operas, Szymanowski's *King Roger* and Moniuszko's *Straszny Dwor*, to the Buffalo,



Minister of National Education Sawicki (left) addressed issues of Polish higher education at the Annual Meeting of the Board of Trustees. With him are KF Chairman Witold Sulimirski and Prof. Andrzej Rabczenko of the Polish Embassy.

New York area. This Fall Judge Mikoll received the prestigious Red Jacket Award from the Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society. The award is presented annually to distinguished citizens of Western New York to honor their devotion to civic progress. Judge Mikoll was particularly honored for her unwavering commitment to Polish heritage.

In addition to matters of regular business, the Board listened to a presentation on the state of higher education in Poland by the Honorable Miroslaw Sawicki, Minister of National Education and Sport of the Republic of Poland. Professor Andrzej



Edward T. Mohylowski

UNRESTRICTED FUNDING:

Lifeline of the Foundation

In the last issue of this newsletter, Witold Sulimirski, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, discussed the importance of financial support from members and friends. I would like to echo those sentiments. When Stephen Mizwa established the Kosciuszko Foundation 79 years ago, he recognized that its members would be the backbone of the organization, providing the energy, direction, and financial support needed to get the Foundation's work done.

Today, active members remain the lifeblood of the Foundation, and their continued generosity has never been more important to its well-being. In fact, the recent downturn in the stock market coupled with rising operating costs reinforce the need for a solid and expanding membership base as well as generous individual support.

The Kosciuszko Foundation is held in the highest regard among cultural institutions for the value and volume of its scholarships, cultural grants, and educational programs. We should all be justly proud of its long history and impressive record of achievement, made possible by the generosity of legions of individuals dating back to the Foundation's birth. Their support for scholarships has

grown, over the years, into a healthy endowment, which continues to fund scholarship grants and their administration annually. However, because the bulk of the endowment is restricted, the revenue it generates provides little support for day-to-day operations. Consequently, the Foundation must look elsewhere for a steady stream of unrestricted operating dollars to administer its programs, to sustain its role as an American Center for Polish Culture, and to continue to prosper.

In spite of weakened market conditions, the Foundation has successfully maintained its educational and granting programs at an admirable level. There have been cutbacks, to be sure, and the staff has been adept at keeping operating expenses to the minimum through an aggressive program of cost control. The Board and staff have done their part to make the Foundation a lean operation, but they still rely on the generosity of its members and friends to provide the funds necessary to operate on a daily basis.

Just what do unrestricted contributions, including membership dues, support? The short answer is everything. And this is very true. For example, the Foundation relies on unrestricted support to compensate its small, professional staff who are experienced in efficiently running the Foundation's scholarship programs, producing and promoting its artistic events and coordinating membership, chapter and fundraising activities. In truth, salaries are modest, but the funds to support them must be raised annually from scratch.

Unrestricted donations help to maintain the Foundation's impressive headquarters building in New York City. This building not only serves as the national administrative center for the Foundation, it is also the home for a vast collection of Polish art

and the venue for a wide array of concerts and literary programs. The upkeep of the 87-year old landmark house is an ongoing challenge, as is maintaining equipment and supplies necessary to run the administrative offices.

The generous support of its friends, members, and supporters allows the Foundation to maintain a significant program of communications and outreach. The Kosciuszko Foundation speaks to the world through this newsletter; its website, www.thekf.org; its monthly E-News issues; its annual report; its membership brochure; and numerous special topic publications as well as advertising and publicizing its programs. Unrestricted operating funds provide the support that allows the Foundation to produce these materials.

How can you support the Foundation's unrestricted operating needs?

There are many possibilities.

MEMBERSHIP: The most important way is by maintaining your membership in the Foundation. Your membership is the most direct way to contribute to the Foundation's annual pool of unrestricted funds. Please renew promptly and consider increasing your membership level and adding an additional contribution. Bring friends to Kosciuszko Foundation events and urge them to join. Consider giving friends and relatives a gift of membership. If you would like information about the Foundation to share with friends and prospective members, please contact the Foundation's Development staff; they will be more than happy to send you some material.

ANNUAL BALL: The Foundation's major fundraising event is an important source of operating funds and an elegant way to celebrate and promote the work of the Foundation with friends, family, and colleagues. This year the event celebrates our 60th year in the Foundation House, our 70th annual Ball, and the 80th year of our existence

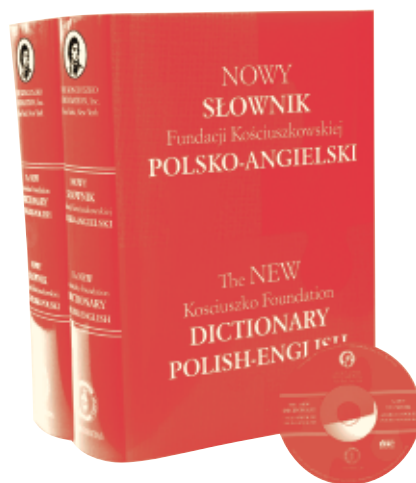
DICTIONARY PRESENTATION TO PRESIDENT OF POLAND



Delivering on an earlier promise, Kosciuszko Foundation President and Executive Director Joseph E. Gore and Editor-in-Chief Professor Jacek Fisiak of Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan presented the *New Kosciuszko Foundation Polish/English, English/Polish Dictionary* to President of Poland, Aleksander Kwasniewski, during a private visit last Fall. In a meeting some years earlier President Kwasniewski had praised the multi-faceted work of The Kosciuszko Foundation and related the fact that he has made frequent use of the Foundation's original two-volume dictionary. After many years of effort, Mr. Gore was pleased to present the President with this new publication.

KOSCIUSZKO FOUNDATION DICTIONARY RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS AWARD

At the beginning of every academic year the Minister of National Education and Sports awards prizes to Polish scholars for outstanding achievements in the area of research for monographs, dissertations, dictionaries and innovative academic textbooks published during the previous year. This year, on October 1, 2004, in Poznan the Deputy Minister of National Education and Sport, Dr. M. Olejniczak bestowed this award on the team of editors and lexicographers of the *New Kosciuszko Foundation Polish/English, English/Polish Dictionary*. The team of scholars from Adam Mickiewicz University included Professor Jacek Fisiak, editor-in-chief; Mr. Michal Jankowski, deputy editor-in-chief; Professor Arleta Adamska-Salaciak, editor of the English-Polish volume; and Professor Piotr Gasiorowski, Dr. Marcin Feder, Dr. Maciej Machniewski and Mr. Mariusz Idzikowski, editors of the Polish-English volume. The award was one of forty bestowed in the humanities and the only one for a dictionary.



LIFELINE OF THE FOUNDATION continued from page 5

as an organization. Please plan to attend and bring your friends to this festive, gala event on April 30, 2005 in the Grand Ballroom of the Waldorf=Astoria in New York. Sign up to be a table host and recruit guests to your own table of 10 or 12. Take an ad in the annual Ball Journal. Help secure underwriting for some aspect of the Ball, for example the table centerpieces, the wine, or the orchestra's fees. For information and reservation packets for your invited guests, please call the Foundation's Development Office at 212-734-2130 x 217.

SPECIAL APPEALS: From time-to-time the Foundation will invite you to help with specific needs, especially at the end of the year, either by mail or through announcements in this newsletter. Please respond generously.

MEMORIAL GIFTS: Making a donation in honor of a loved one's achievements (significant birthday or anniversary or professional achievement) or passing is an appropriate way to show support for the Foundation's vital programs. Gifts given in honor or memory of family members or friends appear in the newsletter and the Foundation staff will notify the honoree or family of the deceased of your thoughtful kindness.

All contributions are tax deductible and they immediately support the work of the Foundation, which touches so many lives. Of course, the Trustees and staff of the Foundation understand and appreciate the personal support of members and friends, and are happy to recognize all contributions over \$100 in the Annual Report. Please join us in our efforts. If you would like to make a contribution, please call the Director of Development, Christopher Broadwell, at 212-734-2130 x 217, and he will be happy to accommodate your wishes.

Edward T. Mohylowski
*Chairman, Development Committee
Board of Trustees*

FROM THE PRESIDENT continued from page 4

Rabczenko, Minister Counselor, Scientific and Technology Affairs of the Embassy of the Republic of Poland to the United States accompanied Minister Sawicki. The Minister spoke about the impending, necessary changes to the Polish higher education system which has experienced a tremendous explosion in the number of institutions of learning and students in the last fifteen years. For instance, the number of students has grown from 400,000 to 1.8 million in this time. Such growth demands changes to the accreditation procedures and to the evaluation of quality standards, among other policy changes. Minister Rabczenko informed the Board that a primary goal of his mission in the United States will be to develop Polish Studies programs at American universities, a goal closely in line with

CULTURAL EVENTS REVIEW



Thomas J. Pniewski

MEMBERS DAY

Norman Davies, and Two Chopins Begin 2004-2005 Season

Members and their families filled the Foundation House on Sunday, October 17, for our annual Members Day. In his welcoming remarks, Joseph E. Gore, Esq., President and Executive Director, reviewed some of the achievements of the past year; he noted that the stock market's recovery has boosted our endowment, in turn strengthening our programs. He also gave an overview of our scholarship, grant, and exchange programs.



Witold Sulimirski, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, welcomes the large audience.



Scholarship and grant recipients were honored at Members Day 2004.



The "Chopin All-Stars," four recent winners of the Chopin Piano Competition: Igor Lovchinsky, 2003; Amy Yang, 2002, Stephen Beus, 2004, Esther Park, 2001.



(l-r) Joseph E. Gore, Anna Frajlich, Alla Makeeva, Erin Gilbert, Erol Tamerlan, and Thomas Pniewski.

Next were performances by our "Chopin All-Stars," four laureates of recent Chopin Piano Competitions (Esther Park, 2001; Amy Yang, 2002; Igor Lovchinsky, 2003, and Stephen Beus, 2004); and an Award Ceremony honoring scholarship recipients and grantees. Socializing continued at the reception that followed.

The next day, Monday, October 18, Professor Norman Davies, one of the most highly regarded historians writing about Poland, came to the Foundation for a luncheon celebrating his latest book, *Rising '44*, the first major publication devoted to the tragic Warsaw Uprising (*Powstanie*). Speaking at the meeting hosted by the Polish and British Consulates, he outlined the actions of the Russian, German, American and British governments that led to the slaughter of thousands and the destruction of Warsaw. Davies, a Professor at Oxford University, was candid in his remarks, calling the actions of the Russians and British "shameless," and accused Roosevelt of misinforming the Polish community in America during an election year. It was a most informative session, attended by many dignitaries and journalists.

Later that week, young Fryderyk Chopin and his mother visited the Foundation for a children's program. On Saturday, October 23, 10-year-old Robert Brunchard took the role of Chopin, both acting and playing the piano in the play written and directed by Maria Bielska, who became Chopin's mother for the afternoon. The Polish American Folk Dance Company Kids, in elaborate costumes, danced to his playing, entrancing a capacity audience; at the end, young members of the audience were invited to join in the Polonaise. The event was produced in cooperation with the Polish American Teachers Association, who provided refreshments at the end.

The music of a teenage Chopin was featured in the October 31 Chamber Concert by the Paderewski Trio. His youthful *Trio in G minor*, composed at the age of 18, was the main work; the program also included trios by contemporary Armenian composer Arno Babajanian and Dmitri Shostakovich. The concert was hosted by WQXR's Candice Agree, and recorded for broadcast the following Sunday.

This year, broadcasts of the Chamber Music Series have been made possible by generous support from Thomas and Cynthia Rosicki, of Rosicki, Rosicki & Associates, P.C, Attorneys at Law.

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TEACHING ENGLISH IN POLAND PROGRAM

An **Epic** Summer Experience 2004

For the past fourteen years, the Kosciuszko Foundation has organized the Teaching English in Poland Summer Program in conjunction with The Polish National Commission for UNESCO and the Polish Ministry of National Education and Sport from its headquarters in New York City. To date, approximately 1,400 Americans have volunteered their services at 84 Kosciuszko Foundation-UNESCO English Language Immersion Camps benefiting more than 8,400 Polish students.

Mr. Ferenczi offered to share his experiences as a TEIP '04 participant with the membership of the Kosciuszko Foundation.

I was one of forty American teachers selected from a nationwide pool of applicants to participate in the Kosciuszko Foundation's Teaching English in Poland Program - Summer 2004. The program took place this past July at four UNESCO language immersion "camps" located in Tczew, Zielona Gora, Cracow, and Limanowa.

I was assigned to a staff of twenty Americans: ten teachers and ten teaching assistants (university students between the ages of 18 and 24). Our English language immersion camp was located at a boarding school in Tczew near the Baltic city of Gdansk.

Our mission was to provide 105 Polish students representing all regions of Poland with interactive English language experiences based on American life and culture. We were to refine and expand their conversational skills in English and their knowledge of the United States. Equally as important, the program provided our American staff members with cross-cultural experiences as we became immersed in various aspects of Polish life and culture.

In preparation for this unique experience, we were provided with a copy of "News You Can Use" (helpful items of do's and don'ts and what to bring), and the *Teaching English in Poland - 2004 Program and Curriculum Guidelines* that presented the form and structure of the Foundation's language immersion program. This is a very well thought-out program. We brought our own teaching materials and gifts for the students and Polish staff.

The program's academic portion took place from July 2nd through July 23rd. My responsibilities included conducting a homeroom period and teaching three fifty-

minute classroom periods per day Monday through Friday, as well as supervising extracurricular activities and field day events. I also participated in field trips organized by the Polish Director of the Tczew camp and attended staff meetings and several special events.

Some of my lessons consisted of: reading and discussing articles from *The Wall Street Journal* about business in the United States and Poland and group activities using travel information about Michigan, a step-by-step approach on "Secrets to Success", and activities using American idiomatic expressions. My students were intelligent, very polite, motivated, and eager to participate. I showed "home movies" of a parade in Detroit featuring 100 years of cars, a helicopter ride over Detroit, the graduation of a Army boot camp in Fort Sill, Oklahoma, downhill skiing in Aspen, Colorado, fishing 70 miles offshore in the Gulf of Mexico, and visiting the NASA facility at Cape Kennedy and the Animal Kingdom in Florida.

One teaching assistant was assigned to each teacher. The assistants worked cooperatively in tandem with the teachers in assessing student achievement levels, in motivating and helping the students, and serving as role models in and outside the classroom setting. They were also involved in planning extracurricular activities and special events.

During most afternoons, students could choose activities such as volleyball, soccer, softball, working on the camp newspaper, internet time, theater club, viewing an American movie, crafts, and learning specialized dance routines. Other fun activities included playing Bingo, an auction, open-air rock concerts, Halloween and Valentines Dances, softball, American Field Day events, and evening karaoke of English and Polish songs.

Perhaps the most enjoyable events were field trips that were organized for the staff

Mr. Ronald Ferenczi, a chemistry and math teacher at Bishop Borgess High School in Redford, MI, learned about the program while on a Fulbright Scholarship in Japan from American colleague Janice Lynn Sherry of Las Vegas, NV, a veteran TEIP participant and Staff Leader.

Mr. Ferenczi is a dedicated and enthusiastic teacher whose credentials include scholarships for study at the Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, MD and at Princeton to study Physical Oceanography. Ron's students at Bishop Borgess H.S. were selected by NASA to have their experiments on radiation sent into space.

and students. These excursions were arranged by the Polish staff and were often led by the Polish Director (Principal), Mrs. Eleonora Lewandowska. On our first tour, we went to Torun, renowned for being the birthplace of Nicholas Copernicus (1473-1543, famed Polish astronomer, who worked out in detail the heliocentric system of the solar system) and its honey cakes and gingerbread. We observed four-foot thick walls that surrounded the city since the middle ages.

Our next excursion was a tour of Gdansk, an exceptionally lovely city on the Baltic Sea coast. This is the city noted for being the birthplace of the Solidarity movement, which precipitated the downfall of Communism. We also went to Sopot and Gdynia, two neighboring Baltic seaside cities. We walked on a long pier, viewed a pirate ship, strolled on the beach, and observed some of the "crazy" American staff swimming in the freezing waters of the Baltic Sea.

After this adventure, we visited the historic monument at Westerplatte, which is a memorial to those Poles who died defending the harbor of Gdansk at the start of World War II. The last place we visited was Stocznia Gdanska (the shipyards) where Lech Walesa started the "political war" which eventually led to the fall of Communism.

One Saturday was spent traveling and viewing the Kaszuby region of Poland. Our first stop was at the Neclow pottery factory owned by the same family for over ten generations. The potters showed us how to make bowls and candle stick holders from clay thrown on a wheel and some of the students got the chance to create their very own pottery.

We also visited a Kaszuby Museum where we learned of the ways, culture and unique language of these lake and farm villagers. The evening ended with traditional dancing and songs performed by a group of local folk entertainers in regional costumes.

The entire camp also enjoyed a trip to Malbork Castle, said to be the second largest brick structure in the world, right after that of the Kremlin in Moscow.

Teutonic knights and monks lived there since the thirteenth century. They were renowned for making their own beer and built an additional small brewery to serve as a backup in case an enemy captured the main brewery.

The most emotional experiences emerged when the whole camp went to visit a concentration camp at Stutthof, which was established in 1939 by the German Nazis

conditions as well as executions by shooting, hanging, and torture, and during their evacuation by the German Nazis.

In appreciation for our volunteer service, the Polish Ministry of National Education and Sport and the Polish Director arranged a special tour of Poland during the last week of the program. After our three weeks with the students, the Polish staff joined us for our special luxury bus tour of Poland. We headed south towards Cracow, Poland's old capital.

Our first stop was to the Auschwitz-Birkenau Concentration Camps, the largest camps established by the Nazis in occupied Poland. As with Stutthof, while the stories were similar, the scope and size of these camps were immense. Here we saw rooms of men's, women's and children's clothes, suitcases, eye glasses, human hair, and human jaws with their gold fillings removed. Here we also heard of medical experiments performed by the Nazis on children. We went into the gas chambers where hundreds of thousands of prisoners were killed. We experienced deep feelings of sadness and sorrow and all left shaken.

Using Cracow as a home base, we visited the Pope's childhood home in Wadowice, the newly built Sanctuary of Our Lord's Divine Mercy in Lagiewniki, and the Monastery at Jasna Gora, Czestochowa where we viewed the famous Black Madonna painting. We also visited the mountain resort town of Zakopane for a river rafting journey down the Dunajec River and a very enjoyable evening of listening to folk music at a ski lodge at Zakopane.

In Cracow, we had a guided tour of the city and its old town square. People drank coffee and/or beer under very large covered umbrellas near the "Sukiennice" or Cloth Hall. Vendors sold flowers and tourist items to the vast number of people walking by their stalls. We visited the famous Wieliczka Salt Mines. In the 300-foot deep caverns of the mine, we discovered many life-sized statues carved out of salt including those of the Pope and Nicolaus Copernicus. We were also treated to a band that played for us at the deepest portion of the mine.

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Teacher Ron Ferenczi of Dearborn, MI introduces students to his home state.



Teaching Assistant Wojciech "John" Kapalczynski of Louisville, KY leads Polish students in a discussion.

near the village of Sztutowo. Poles were arrested and imprisoned there from a list that was compiled by the Germans as early as 1936. By June 1944, it was transformed into a camp of mass extermination. One hundred and ten thousand people were interned in this camp: men, women, and children from 25 different countries. Here they were exposed to slave-like labor, malnutrition, lack of sanitation, disease, and mental and physical torture. Sixty-five thousand people died as a result of unsanitary living



Among the extracurricular events during the summer sessions was a trip to Zakopane and the beautiful Tatra Mountains.

Language, Travel...

The Kosciuszko Foundation's summer language programs have a deep, meaningful and long lasting influence on students who take part in our programs. It doesn't matter whether the student is of Polish descent or not, nor does it matter whether the student takes part in a three or six week course. As students tell it, the effects of being in Poland in a university setting range from direct and concrete results such as acquiring a better understanding of the Polish language to the more profound effects of making subtle discoveries about themselves. All of this and more is sure to have long term effects on their future. Needless to say, Poland's medieval cities exert their own special flavor on their memories and their understanding of Poland and Polish culture. We share with you just a few recollections and photos of the past summer in Poland.

We expect to host a new group of students in Poland this coming summer and invite you to join us in Poland in Summer 2005! Information for the upcoming Summer Study Abroad programs will post to our web-site shortly. We welcome all interested to visit our web-site, download information and applications. We are located on the web at the following addresses: www.thekf.org and www.kosciuszkofoundation.org. If you do not have access to the Internet please call us at (212) 734-2130 ext 209 and 210 or write to us (address on the back cover of this Newsletter). We'll be happy to put information in the mail to you.

ADDY TYMCZYSZYN
Summer Study Abroad Coordinator



"My desire coming into the program was to experience a part of my country that I have not been exposed to: a university setting. The academic and cultural experiences I've walked away with have quite literally changed my life. It changed me as a person. From the grueling schedule of going to class from 8-12 every morning, visiting and touring as much of Cracow as possible during the afternoon, making it back for class at 5:00pm, and then catching some dinner and getting ready for another crazy night on the town, I can only say I never realized I had it in me to do as much as I did in such a short amount of time. Only now in retrospect I realize how demanding that time was, and yet I feel only complete satisfaction and fulfillment. I am pleased that the academic program was as rigorous as it was... [because] now, back at my home university, I feel I am better able to cope with the challenges facing me here, and I feel I have gained a more mature outlook on life's situations."

KATARZYNA BRZESKI, SESSION A, 4 WEEK LANGUAGE PROGRAM

"If I describe my trip to Poland through the lens of Polish authors and their styles, I think I can at least give a small glimpse of the immense importance and depth of my trip. The satirical master Slawomir Mrozek was one of my favorites. He wrote very cleverly – clearly criticizing a system of government he did not agree with, yet he could not be punished for it, because it was all so metaphorical in nature. Reading Mrozek taught me a lot about the Polish soul. I truly believe that such a thing exists, and it encompasses the iron will of Polish people to struggle and persevere and, while doing so, retain their charm and sense of humor. I have never been in contact with a culture quite like the Polish one. Polish people hold on tightly to the symbols of their past, they do not forget where they came from, and in fact they are not afraid to be who they are. In Poland, especially during the summer language program where I was surrounded by people from all over the globe, I was truly inspired to embrace myself and show everyone I met who I truly was."

TIFFANY GROBLEWSKI, SESSION C, 3 WEEK LANGUAGE PROGRAM

"This program is by far the best language program in which I have participated. I have a much better understanding of Polish relations toward Europe."

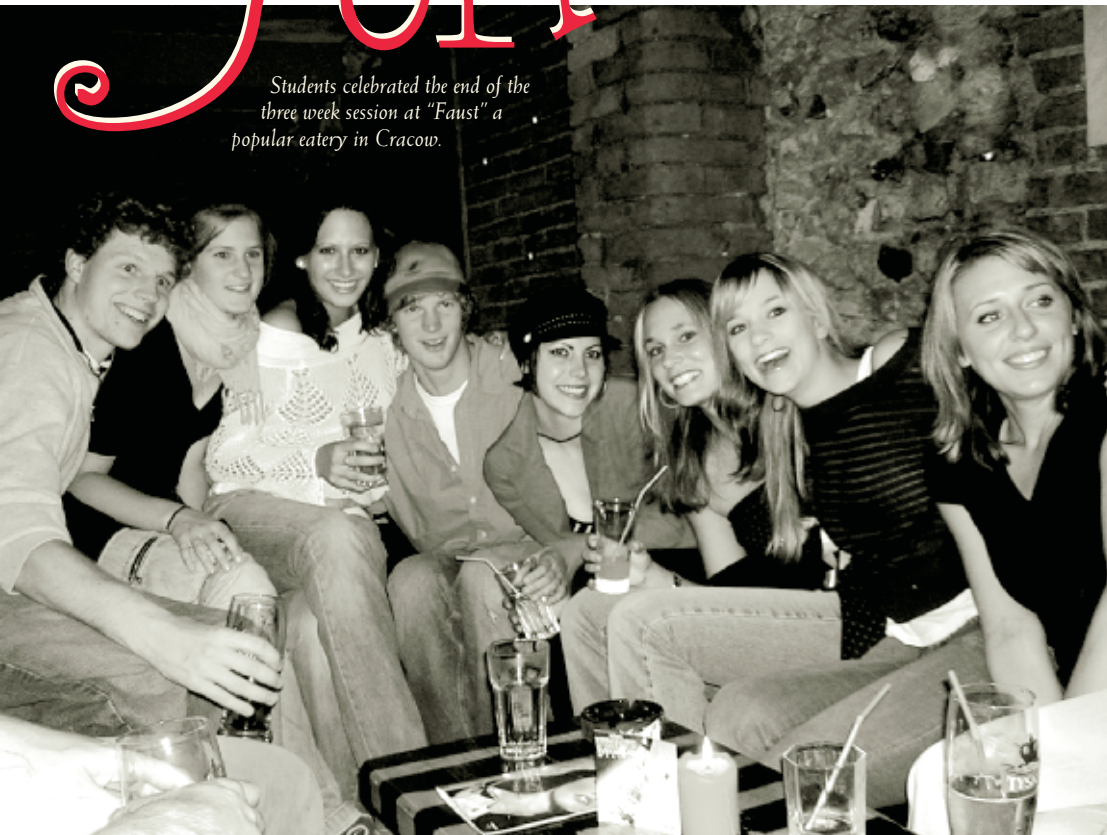
LYDIA ANDREWS, SESSION A, FOUR WEEK LANGUAGE PROGRAM



Students from the Six Week Course pose before the student dormitory, Dom "Piast"

... & fun!

Students celebrated the end of the three week session at "Faust" a popular eatery in Cracow.



"I had the ability and pleasure to meet people from all over the world, including Japan, China, Croatia, Bosnia, Hungary, Germany, and France, among others. I was enthralled by the fact that many knew Polish, even if it was just simple phrases."

CHRIS SKORSKI, SESSION B, 6 WEEK PROGRAM



The Summer Sessions courses provide an unique opportunity to meet students from many different parts of the world.

"The classes were wonderfully helpful in improving my language skills."

MAREK REWERS, SESSION A, 4 WEEK LANGUAGE PROGRAM

"The day trips the students were taken on included a tour of Stare Miasto where we saw the trumpeter of Kosciel Mariacki, and the legend was explained. I found the story of the two brothers who built the church towers quite interesting too. The art gallery at the Collegium Maius was impressive as was Wieliczka Salt Mine, but Wawel Castle took my breath away."

TANYA KOKOSZYN, ART SESSION, 4 WEEK PROGRAM

KOSCIUSZKO FOUNDATION CHAPTERS

CHICAGO

The Chicago Chapter has had a busy and productive year. The following are highlights of the chapter's events and special projects.

Foundation members actively participated in the presentation of a book about the relatives of Katyn victims "Kiedy jestescie, mniej boli..." a work written by Teresa Kaczorowski, a Kosciuszko Foundation grant recipient. The book was presented at the Polish Museum of America.

The Chicago Chapter, together with the Polish Consulate, co-sponsored and co-organized showings of a series of Polish avant-garde films from 1930-1945. The five films, showed over several evenings, included works by the writer and painter pair Franciszka and Stefan Themerson.

The events took place at the University of Chicago and the University of Illinois in Chicago, as well as at Northeastern Illinois University. In addition, the films were presented at the Eagles Club, where Malgorzata Koscielak provided an in-depth introduction to them.



The Chapter supported a benefit concert by pianist Adam Golka and composer Jaroslaw Golembiowski at the Chicago Chopin Society.



Adam Golka



Jaroslaw Golembiowski

Together with the International Women Associates Polish Language Group, the Chicago Chapter organized "Stealing Beauty: Spoils of World War II in Poland," a slide presentation about works of art lost in Poland between 1939 and 1945. Dorota Chudzicka, art historian from the Art Institute of Chicago led the presentation.

The Chapter participated in the Polish American Breast Cancer Awareness Program to promote medical education and awareness in the Polish community.

The Annual meeting of the Chapter is planned for November 21, 2004, to take place at the Polish Consulate RP in Chicago. The meeting will follow a concert by a past winner of the Chopin Piano Competition.



Sharing Stories:
Polish Life in Our Valley

NEW ENGLAND

In October at the Annual Dinner celebrating Polish Heritage Month at Elms College the Chapter presented Dean Anthony J. Bajdek of Northeastern University and President of the Eastern Chapter of the PAC with the 2nd Distinguished Polish American Award. The dinner is presented by the Polish Center of Discovery and Learning at Elms College.

The Chapter has organized a bus trip to New York City in November to see a performance of the Polish dance group *Slask*.



The annual Awards luncheon and concert honoring the Kosciuszko Foundation scholarship and grantees at Mount Holyoke College is being planned for the Spring. Anna Kijanowska, pianist and Kosciuszko Foundation recipient will present a concert at that time.

The biggest news of the New England Chapter is that at the National PBS Development Conference in Orlando, Florida, **WGBY** and **Sharing Our Stories – The Polish Heritage Project** won the overall award for excellence in the special achievement category among all PBS stations in the country. **Sharing Our Stories** also won an award for special achievement within its market size. The New England Chapter was instrumental at all levels in creating the documentary.



The award honored WGBY for executing one of the most ambitious community projects in its history. WGBY broadcast nine hours of programming, created a comprehensive web site, partnered with community leaders, Polish scholars and business owners through an advisory board, and produced the first comprehensive documentary on the local Polish community. Funding came from diverse sources including major foundations, universities, a credit union and medical supply company, all in an effort to highlight one of the most important and least recognized immigrant groups in western New England – those of Polish ancestry. While the PBS Development Awards honored stations in

four market sizes in 11 different categories, WGBY was selected as the overall 2004 Award for Excellence winner in Special Achievement.

WGBY had broadcast its successful day of special Polish programming in May, which culminated in the premiere of the station's new local documentary, **Sharing Stories: Polish Life in Our Valley**. During breaks in the programming the station featured live Polish music, fashion, and cooking. An extensive web site was created in conjunction with the programming to provide the local community with information, links and resources.



For the second time, the Chapter participated in the Philadelphia Pulaski Day Parade, expanding its participation with the addition of a Chapter banner, flags, and a Kosciuszko impersonator. The Chapter's parade contingent also showcased young scholars of Polish descent. Tomaszewicz-Florio scholar, Christopher Skorski, and Frances E. Wyszynski scholarship recipient Karolina Zagajewska rode in a black convertible, which was donated by Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Wyszynski. Polish Student Societies from Drexel, Villanova, and the University of Pennsylvania also joined the Chapter's contingent. The authentic, hand-made colonial uniform worn by our "Kosciuszko" attracted dozens of people who approached the General to get a photo taken with him.



The Chapter has initiated a new Polish poster project. The poster, entitled "Men and Women of Poland," will feature portraits of Poles who have made internationally significant contributions to science, culture, and world peace, such as Lech Walesa, Maria Skłodowska Curie, and Fryderyk Chopin, including short biographies of each of the individuals on the poster. Once

published, the Chapter will distribute the posters to libraries, museums, schools, and private individuals in an effort to increase awareness of the important contributions to American society made by scientists, statesmen, and revolutionaries from Poland.

On Friday, October 29, at the Polish American Cultural Center, the Philadelphia Chapter sponsored the Overbrook Poets Society's evening of Polish Poetry, presenting excerpts from the works of Adam Mickiewicz in their original Polish as well as English translation.

Preparations are underway for the Chapter's annual Christmas Concert, which will take place on Sunday, December 19, 2004. The Chapter has had many fine prints grace the programs for our Christmas concert, but our 11th annual concert program will feature original artwork by Krzysztof Szymanski, a talented young architect and doctoral candidate at Warsaw University.



ROCKY MOUNTAIN The Rocky Mountain Chapter sponsored two events associated with the Denver International Film Festival that took place in October 2004.



In the first the Chapter observed the 60th Anniversary of the Warsaw Uprising by including Andrzej Wajda's classic film "Kanal" in the festival program and presenting a special photo exhibit prepared by the Consulate General of the Republic of Poland in Los Angeles. The screening of "Kanal" was followed by a reception, a presentation of a short history of the Uprising and a very interesting personal presentation by Mr. Pawel Depta, a participant of the Warsaw Uprising.

The Chapter also brought from Poland two documentaries (that were included in the Festival program and actually shown twice) directed by Grzegorz Linkowski. The documentaries were entitled "Cross Inscribed in the Star of David" and "March of the Living". The second screening of these films was followed by a panel discussion. Grzegorz Linkowski, who was invited by our chapter to participate, was present. Ms. Krystyna Tokarska-Biernacik, Consul General of the Republic of Poland in LA also participated in both events which were extremely successful.

Looking toward the future, the Rocky Mountain Chapter is exploring the possibility of holding regular concerts of Polish music in conjunction with the Lamont School of Music of the University of Denver. It is anticipated that Chopin Piano Competition winner Stephen Beus will perform there in the Spring.

WESTERN NEW YORK Two new members have been elected to fill vacancies on the Western New York Chapter Board. David Pfaff, who has been elected secretary, is a former Executive Director of the Erie County Democratic Party, president of the Polish Community Center, and Financial Officer of the Adam Plewacki Federal Credit Union, among numerous other titles. Elissa Morganti Banas has also been elected to the Chapter board. She has run for public office, is active in many local groups and has been to Poland where she met President Kwasniewski. Elissa is a lawyer who returned to college after years of practice and obtained her teaching certificate. Her husband has also returned to college and is a current Kosciuszko Foundation scholarship recipient.

The Western New York Chapter, along with the State University of New York at Buffalo and the Polish Arts Club of Buffalo, co-sponsored a performance by the Warsaw Village Band at the State University of New York at Buffalo's Center for the Arts on September 14, 2004. The group, from Poland, performed ancient Polish music on vintage instruments.

On September 29th directors Robert Ciesielski, Mark Peszko and Chapter President William E. Nowakowski met with the Polish Club of Canisius College, the Director of the Library, and the head of the Polish studies to give an overview of the Chapter and the Foundation and their purposes to the 30 or so students in attendance. Thereafter, several books, including the new Kosciuszko Foundation dictionary and *A Question of Honor* were presented to the College's Library.

Thank you

The following contributions were received by the Foundation between August 1, 2004 and November 15, 2004 in honor of:

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Betsy and Jim Dziedzic

**Wanda and John Senko's
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TEACHING ENGLISH IN POLAND

continued from page 9

Finally, the group spent two days in Warsaw, where we had a walking tour of Old Town, saw the residence of the President of Poland, toured the Royal Castle with its gilded ceilings and breathtaking paintings, and viewed the Chopin statue in Lazienki park (complete with wild peacocks).

This was truly an epic experience that I will never forget. Poland is such a beautiful country and the people were so wonderful and friendly. I would especially like to thank the Kosciuszko Foundation for giving American educators this unique opportunity.

by Ronald Ferenczi

For further information about the Teaching English in Poland Program, please visit the Foundation's website at www.thekf.org or contact the program's Director at: cbkuskowski@thekf.org.

CULTURAL EVENTS REVIEW

continued from page 7

Two modern Polish writers had their achievements celebrated this fall. Witold Gombrowicz, born 100 years ago, was commemorated on Thursday, October 21, with an evening of films and readings. Poet and writer Alastair Reid read from a newly-published edition of *Bacacay*, a collection of short stories written when Gombrowicz first arrived in Argentina; witty and surreal, the stories anticipate the mature style which made Gombrowicz one of the most original writers of the twentieth century. A documentary on Gombrowicz by Andrzej Wolski, who adapted the writer's *Pornografia* for the screen was also shown. The evening was presented in collaboration with Archipelago Books.

Czeslaw Milosz, the great Polish poet and Nobel Laureate who died in August, was an Honorary Trustee of the Kosciuszko Foundation and visited here several times. His life and works were celebrated here on Thursday, November 4; his granddaughter was guest of honor at the program. There were readings by Anna Frajlich, Columbia University, and actor Erol Tamerlan; documentary films; and an "open mike" during which members of the audience also read. Particularly striking was John Gmerek's reading of the short Milosz poem inscribed on the Solidarity monument in Gdansk: "Do not feel safe; the poet remembers. You kill one, another is born." These potent words were written in 1950, in secret, when Milosz was a cultural attache in Washington. The memorable and moving evening was

organized by Anna Frajlich Zajac and Alla Makeeva (Brooklyn Public Library).

During October and November, 2 x *Skowron* has been on display in the Rotunda, an exhibition of paintings by father and son Janusz and Arthur Skowron. Both were born in Poland, and currently live and work in New York.

Cultural programs at the Foundation are supported by the Kosciuszko Foundation Cultural Endowment Fund, in memory of Dr. James Hagadus, established in 1999 with a generous donation from his parents, Dr. Ronald J. Hagadus and Kosciuszko Foundation Trustee Maria J. Hagadus. The Foundation is grateful to them and to all members and friends for their support.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January

16

EAKEN PIANO TRIO
Chamber Music Series
(WQXR Broadcast Sunday, January 23)

February

20

REBEL BAROQUE ENSEMBLE
Chamber Music Series
(WQXR Broadcast Sunday, February 27)

March

4

SILESIA STRING QUARTET
Chamber Music Series
Weill Recital Hall
(WQXR Broadcast Sunday, March 13)

12

NOSTROMO AT 100
Conrad Conference

April

1-2

CHOPIN PIANO COMPETITION

17

AZURE ENSEMBLE
Chamber Music Series
(WQXR Broadcast Sunday, April 24)

25-26

WIENIAWSKI VIOLIN COMPETITION

30

KOSCIUSZKO FOUNDATION
70TH ANNUAL DINNER AND BALL

MAY

19

THADDEUS BRYNS, CELLO

22

CONNECTICUT VIRTUOSI CHAMBER ORCHESTRA
Chamber Music Series
(WQXR Broadcast Sunday, May 29)

All events take place at the Foundation House unless otherwise noted.

Visit the Kosciuszko Foundation website at
<http://www.thekf.org>

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