TADEUSZ KOSCIUSZKO, A MAN OF MULTICULTURALISM & ENLIGHTENMENT

by Alex Storozynski, Chairman of the Board of Trustees

It’s fitting that the namesake of an educational foundation was a champion of education for all. While Kosciuszko is known as a military hero and humanitarian, he also wrote: “Always remember that by nature, we are all equals, that wealth and education constitute the only difference.” For nearly a century, the Kosciuszko Foundation has been raising money to award educational grants to Poles and Polish-Americans. We lobbied UNESCO to declare 2017 The Year of Kosciuszko on the 200th anniversary of his death. And today, there are more statues of Thaddeus Kosciuszko in America than any historical figure except George Washington. Every day, millions of New York TV and radio listeners hear about traffic jams on the Kosciuszko Bridge. With the new bridge, hopefully some of that traffic will be relieved, just as Kosciuszko tried to relieve the struggles of the common man. Kosciuszko gave his salary from the American Revolution to Thomas Jefferson and told him to buy African slaves – and free them. Kosciuszko fought for the rights of European serfs, slaves, Jews, Native-Americans and women.

A military strategist, Kosciuszko’s plan won the Battle of Saratoga – the turning point of the war. He also built Fortress West Point, which Benedict Arnold tried to sell to the British in the most infamous act of treason in American history. When Kosciuszko spoke up for Native Americans, Chief Little Turtle of the Miami tribe gave him a peace pipe/tomahawk as a sign of appreciation.

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT
MAREK SKULIMOWSKI

Kosciuszko Foundation - A Living Memorial to Tadeusz Kosciuszko

It has been nearly nine months since I assumed the honorable position of President and Executive Director of the Kosciuszko Foundation. My transition from the business to non-profit world would not have gone so smoothly without the tremendous support of the Board of Trustees, our very capable staff and my friends in the United States and Poland. Being part of such a reputable and significant organization is not only an honor, but also an utmost responsibility.

This year we celebrate the bicentennial of General Tadeusz Kosciuszko’s passing. UNESCO and the Polish Parliament declared 2017 to be the “Kosciuszko Year.” The Foundation has been focused on preserving Kosciuszko’s presence in the American landscape. In cooperation with the NY DOT we secured that the new Kosciuszko Bridge would keep the same name and that the old plaques would be visibly displayed. The plaques were restored thanks to support of the Foundation’s long-time friend Mr. Dariusz Knapik and his construction company. When the fate of the T. Kosciuszko National Memorial (“Kosciuszko House”) in Philadelphia was at risk, the Kosciuszko Foundation immediately stepped in and started a petition against the federal budget cuts. The petition was signed by over 2,500 supporters and friends. The memorial is kept open for visitors on weekends and a few of the Kosciuszko Foundation – Philadelphia Chapter members became volunteer rangers.

But it seems that the name “Kosciuszko” is mostly associated with a difficult pronunciation and geographical locations from coast to coast. It is imperative that we work persistently on forming better and broader understanding of Tadeusz Kosciuszko’s legacy. Let me quote our Chairman Alex Storozynski’s words from an article in New York Daily: “… to really honor this international hero is to add Kosciuszko’s life mission of teaching tolerance to the state’s education curriculum …”

The 82nd Annual Dinner & Ball is behind us. This year we honored heroes of our time, who similarly to Kosciuszko, have always had courage to defend freedom and to promote timeless values among generations of Americans and Poles. The Kosciuszko Foundation Medal of Recognition was awarded to Former Ambassador and Lt. General Edward L. Rowny. The Kosciuszko Foundation Pioneer Award recipients were World War II Heroes: Wanda P. Wos-Lorenc, Wincenty Knapczyk, Zbigniew A. Kruszewski, Ph.D., and Mieczyslaw Madejski. The lives and achievements of our Honorees will always be a source of inspiration for generations to come. This year’s Ball chairman was Dr. Dorota Andraka, who is highly valued for her community activism and fostering the teaching of Polish language, history and culture in the U.S.

The Kosciuszko Foundation annually allocates over a million dollars to scholarships, fellowships and grants as well as serves to promote Polish history and culture by supporting Polish Studies programs in the U.S. and visiting professorships to Poland. In the academic year 2016-17, the Foundation offered 42 fellowships and grants for 42 scholars from Poland, ranging from $9,000 to $25,000. Another 102 applicants were recommended for domestic scholarships totaling over $320,000. The recipients are U.S. citizens and permanent residents of Polish descent who are in graduate studies in various fields at colleges and universities in the United States. The Kosciuszko Foundation also supports numerous artists, professionals and institutions promoting Polish language, culture and heritage.

In 2017 we also mark the centennial at the Kosciuszko Foundation’s house, also known as the Van Alen Mansion. Completed in 1917, the building was supposed to be a near copy of a Regency period mansion on St. James Square in London. Stephen Mizwa purchased the building from Mrs. Margaret Patterson in 1945, which not only gave the foundation a headquarters in the most affluent part of New York City, but also won the Polish-American community’s trust.

As you may see it has been quite an intensely active time at the Kosciuszko Foundation. We would not function and fulfill our mission without the help of generous sponsors. Anyone may support the Foundation by becoming a member, major contributor or by establishing an educational fund. We do hope to be able to increase our scholarship programs and cultural activities, so please support the Kosciuszko Foundation’s 92 year-old mission. Together we strengthen Polonia’s future and make everyone proud of their Polish heritage.

So join the Kosciuszko Foundation!
Meet Our New Trustees

We are pleased to welcome our three new Trustees who bring a wide range of unique experience, skills, and diverse geographical representation to the Board of the Kosciuszko Foundation. The Board of Trustees plays a critical role in the growth and success of the Foundation. It works to connect the Foundation with community partners, build interest and support, and obtain resources needed to launch new initiatives and programs.

Miroslaw Brys, M.D., Ph.D. is a neurologist and neuroscientist. He is an associate Medical Director at Biogen (Research and Early Clinical Development), and adjunct Associate Professor of Neurology at New York University School of Medicine, where he is also a teaching faculty. He received his M.D. and Ph.D. degrees from Jagiellonian University Medical College in Krakow, Poland, and completed residency training in neurology and fellowship in movement disorders at New York University Langone Medical Center. He is a member of the American Academy of Neurology and Movement Disorders Society, and an author of several peer-reviewed articles and book chapters.

Marek Maria Pienkowski, M.D., Ph.D. is a medical researcher and clinician focused on broad aspects of immunological diagnosis and treatment. Before founding his medical practice in East Tennessee, he honed his research and clinical interests in distinguished institutions such as The Wistar Institute at the University of Pennsylvania, Henry Ford Hospital, and the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. He is also recognized as a cultural ambassador for the artistic, scientific, and business dialogue between the U.S. and Poland and has been appointed by the government of Poland and accredited by the U.S. State Department as an Honorary Consul. Dr. Pienkowski is a member of the KF Collegium of Eminent Scientists.

Arthur Szymanski is a Head of Derivatives and Trading Compliance at J.P. Morgan Private Bank. He joined J.P. Morgan in 2013 with a responsibility to implement and maintain compliance programs for the Dodd-Frank swap regulations and the Volcker rule. Prior to that he spent 15 years at Goldman Sachs, Inc. as a Head of Trading and Capital Markets Compliance for GS Wealth Management. He studied engineering at Politechnika Gdanska and graduated from Baruch College with a BBA degree in Accounting.

Dr. Julian E. Kulski, KF Trustee was awarded by the President of Poland, Andrzej Duda, with the Commander’s Cross with Star of the Order of Polonia Restituta for outstanding contributions for freedom and independence of Poland and for cultivating Polish national traditions. During World War II, Dr. Kulski had fought in the Polish Resistance and with the Polish Home Army, he was a participant of the 1944 Warsaw Uprising, and was jailed by the Gestapo. He escaped the German prisoner-of-war camp and came to England. Today, he is a renowned architect and the author of multiple books.

Ambassador Lee Feinstein, KF Trustee, dean of the Indiana University School of Global and International Studies, was appointed by the President Barack Obama to the United States Holocaust Memorial Council, which serves as the governing board of trustees for the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum. Ambassador Feinstein has served in high-level positions in foreign affairs and diplomacy over two decades, including as principal deputy director of policy planning at the Department of State and as U.S. Ambassador to Poland. Before his appointment as ambassador, he was a senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations, specializing in American foreign policy, global governance and national security affairs.

Professor Piotr Wilczek, KF Representative in Warsaw, Poland, and President of the Kosciuszko Foundation Poland was nominated Ambassador to the United States by the President of Poland in October, 2016. Until his diplomatic appointment in the US, Professor Wilczek was a prolific literary scholar, intellectual historian, writer, and translator; he authored and edited 22 published monographs and more than 100 journal articles which appeared in Poland, the UK, and the United States,

Congratulations!
It is not an easy feat to write about someone about whom so much has been written, and so much has been said. From biographical notes to countless awards and accolades, General Rowny's story is known to most of us and his is a household name on both sides of the Atlantic.

It would be futile for me to list the General's accomplishments and outline his impressive and lengthy resume for that information is within everyone's reach. Instead, I wanted to narrate some of my experiences and inspirations that I have been privileged to enjoy during my acquaintance and relationship with the General.

I have met General Rowny close to a decade ago when I first became involved with the American Polish Advisory Council (APAC), an organization that has been founded due to efforts of individuals such as General Rowny who saw a need for Polish Americans to have a louder political voice in Washington and to effectively shape relations between the United States and Poland. Since that time, I have worked closely with the General in various capacities including as APAC's board member, secretary and executive director. Our mutual engagement in projects we pursued allowed us to build a partnership that involved daily contact to strategize, plan and execute. In fact, it was the execution part that quickly developed into our daily modus operandi. For you see, the General is a superb strategist and a brilliant thinker. But above all, he is an impeccable executor.

Some may attribute this rigor to his military experience. I personally attributed it to his personality. But his ability to execute has and continues to be a lesson learned I live by every day. There are so many people that are willing to point out shortcomings. There are even more who offer their own solutions. But few are those who can execute the solutions they devise to the shortcomings they identify. General Rowny is one of those few.

It is short of miraculous that a person all of a hundred years young can have so much aptitude and drive to carry on the work they have done their entire adult life. General Rowny, at that very age, "lives and breathes" Polish and US politics and more specifically – understands where and how the politics of these two nations align. His commentary is relevant and his concerns are sincere. Limited by his inability to see as well as his immobility and doctor's orders to scale back, General Rowny is at the forefront of issues that shape Polish and US relations and Polonia. From President Trump's recent visit to Poland to the proposed judicial reforms by the Polish government, the General not only has a profound understanding of these affairs, but the aptitude to understand them in a larger context. And if wisdom comes with age and experience, his is unmatched on the Polish American arena.

They say that feeling needed is the key to longevity. Engage with the General. Reach out to him to discuss current affairs. Interview him, share his views and learn from him. So many of our Polish American heroes are no longer with us and so many are not being replaced.

I want to personally thank the Kosciuszko Foundation for recognizing General Rowny at 2017 KF Annual Dinner and Ball. His life's work will always be an inspiration and an example, to ours and future generations. But today we still have an amazing opportunity to hear the General's story directly from him and to work with him on issues that so many of us care about. Let's be sure to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity while we can.

Darek Barcikowski is a cofounder and publisher of White Eagle Media LLC, which publishes biweekly Polish-language newspapers covering several states, Honorary Consul of the Republic of Poland in Connecticut, and Executive Director of the American Polish Advisory Council in Washington, D.C.
MAGDALENA ABAKANOWICZ
(1930 - 2017)

"Art needs somebody to listen to its message, somebody to desire it, somebody to drink it, to use it like wine - otherwise it makes no sense."
- Magdalena Abakanowicz (New York, 2005)

Dr. Magdalena Abakanowicz, Kosciuszko Foundation honorary trustee and scholarship recipient and one of Poland’s most acclaimed artists, passed away April 21, 2017. After receiving her degree from the Warsaw Academy of Fine Arts in 1954, she experimented with various media, including large gouaches on paper and canvas. But she became most known for her “Abakans,” monumental three-dimensional forms made of woven material, and huge cycles of figurative and non-figurative sculptures frequently arranged in natural surroundings. She constantly explored new techniques and developed new forms.

Abakanowicz’s works can be found in prominent art institutions around the world including Musée d’Art Moderne in Paris, Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC, Marlborough Gallery in New York and the Zacheta National Gallery of Art in Warsaw. In Poland the largest collection of her art can be found in the collection of the National Museum in Wrocław.


ZBIGNIEW BRZEZINSKI
(1928 - 2017)

Zbigniew Brzezinski, Kosciuszko Foundation honorary trustee, great Polish-American U.S. foreign policy advisor and public intellectual passed away May 26, 2017. Brzezinski played an important advisory role to a number of U.S. presidents and politicians, including John F. Kennedy, Lyndon Johnson and became foreign policy advisor to vice president, Hubert Humphrey. He was famous for his role as National Security Advisor for President Jimmy Carter during which time he brokered the Camp David Accords.

Brzezinski was born in Warsaw, Poland, on March 28, 1928. His father, Tadeusz Brzezinski, was a high-ranking Polish diplomat who was posted to Germany from 1931 to 1935 and to the Soviet Union from 1936 to 1938. Consequently, Zbigniew’s coming of age took place in the tumultuous years of the Nazi’s rise to power and Stalin’s Great Purge. Tadeusz Brzezinski subsequently became a consul general in Montreal, and thus the Brzezinski family escaped Europe before the onset of the Second World War and watched in horror from across the globe as crises unfolded in their home country. This period of his life no doubt formed Zbigniew Brzezinski’s worldview and interest in politics and led him down the path to becoming one of the most influential figures in U.S. foreign policy.

Brzezinski had a long and illustrious academic career. He received his BA and MA from McGill University where he specialized in the Soviet Union. He received his Ph.D from Harvard University and moved on to become a professor at Harvard University and then at Columbia University during which time he authored Soviet Bloc: Unity and Conflict, a history of Eastern Europe since the beginning of the Cold War and mentored many students, including future Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright. He was Senior Research Professor of International Relations at the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University in Washington, D.C. He wrote numerous critically acclaimed books about global affairs, the Soviet Union and his personal experiences in politics including Power and Principle: Memoirs of the National Security Adviser. He was a member of the Council on Foreign Relations the International Honorary Council and the Bilderberg Group.

Brzezinski is known for his strong and oftentimes controversial opinions, especially regarding foreign policy as it related to the Soviet sphere, and the United States’ intervention in foreign affairs. Even after leaving his position of National Security Advisor he remained active in political affairs often appearing in interviews in the mass media. Throughout his career he stayed devoted to Polish affairs. He was a staunch opponent of martial law and a supporter of the Solidarity movement and advised numerous U.S. presidents regarding Polish issues.

Among those that delivered eulogies at his funeral were former President Carter and former Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright. In attendance were current National Security Advisor, H.R. McMaster, General Edward Rowny and many illustrious diplomats, politicians and journalists. At age 94, former National Security Advisor, Henry Kissinger, was not well enough to attend but sent a note which was read out loud at the funeral: “The world is an emptier place without Zbig pushing the limits of his insights.”
IN MEMORIAM

ANDRZEJ WAJDA, by Annette Insdorf, Ph.D.
(1928 - 2017)

Remembering Andrzej Wajda is acknowledging one of the greatest filmmakers of the past seventy years. I teach his work—especially Ashes and Diamonds—annually in my classes at Columbia University, and not only in “Polish Cinema” seminars: his stylistically as well as historically rich movies are essential viewing for American students. Motion pictures like The Promised Land and Korczak have questioned system and psyche, communicating vital new images to both his compatriots and Western audiences. By the time his Man of Iron won the Golden Palm at the 1981 Cannes Film Festival, Wajda was recognized as one of the most visually, politically and morally vigorous filmmakers in the world. I have shared the stage with American directors such as Francis Coppola and Martin Scorsese, who not only expressed admiration, but acknowledged Wajda’s profound inspiration.

I met him for the first time at Yale University in 1974; he was directing The Possessed at the Yale Rep, starring the brilliant Elzbieta Czyzewska (as well as an unknown Yale Drama School student named Meryl Streep). I told him I wanted to teach his work some day. He replied that I should teach American film instead: “I learned from John Ford and Orson Welles,” he said.

In 1983, we met again, this time in the mountains of Colorado. As the Moderator of the Telluride Film Festival—which was honoring Wajda with a tribute—I became his translator as well, interpreting his always precise and evocative Polish into English. I last saw him in 2014, visiting his lovely Warsaw home with our mutual friend Hanna Hartowicz. By this point in time, Wajda had made dozens of impressive films, staged innumerable theater pieces, and played a significant political role in Poland after the fall of Communism. While we miss Andrzej Wajda, his was a life fully lived.

Annette Insdorf, Film Professor at Columbia University, is the author of books including Double Lives, Second Chances: The Cinema of Krzysztof Kieslowski and the just-published Intimations: The Cinema of Wojciech Has.

HARRIET L. “JADZIA” BARWICK
(1934 - 2016)

Jadzia has served as an inspiration to all those who knew her. She was a long-time, enthusiastic member of the Kosciuszko Foundation, one of the founding members of the KF National Advisory Council, Debutante, Patroness, Ball Chair, and a member of the Pro Arte League where she served as the President, Officer and Luncheon Chair.

Jadzia was also an active member of the Polish University Club of New Jersey, and served on the Board of the Passaic County Historical Society where she chaired successful fundraising events. She was the President of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Polish University Club of New Jersey, member of the Polish Children’s Heartline, The Polish Cultural Foundation, and the Polish Republican Caucus, Inc.

Jadzia graduated from Mt. St. Mary’s Academy HS in Watchung, NJ and from Montclair State College with a BS, MS and Doctoral Equivalency. She was a lifelong educator. Her career in education included teaching at Paterson Eastside High School, The Sage School, Tomrock College, Sherwood Secretarial School, and numerous adult schools.

Harriet was passionate about the theater, arts and music. She was always the life of the party and will be remembered and sorely missed by her many friends and relatives.

JULIAN STANCZAK, by Tomasz Magierski
(1928 - 2017)

It is extremely rare that an entire art genre is named after a single artist’s exhibition. OP ART was founded in 1964 after the exhibition titled Julian Stanczak – OPTICAL PAINTINGS at Martha Jackson Gallery in New York.

When Julian, born in a small village near Przemysł, Poland was eleven years old he was sent, along with his parents, to the Siberian gulag in 1940. The deadly conditions in the camp paralyzed his right hand. As a thirteen-year-old, after forging his birth certificate, he joined the emerging Polish Army in the Soviet Union.

Out of necessity, he deserted the army, and reunited with his family in a Polish refugee camp in Uganda. He studied painting in the UK, and then he came to the United States in 1950 with $50 in his pocket. He graduated from the Cleveland Institute of Arts, and then from Yale University.

Without having completed a primary school education, Julian Stanczak became a Professor of Painting at the Art Institute in Cleveland.

Sixty museums worldwide own his paintings, including MOMA, the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York and the Victoria and Albert Museum in London.

Julian says that he creates from his own experience, but with the hope that it will become universal. If he manages to catch the attention of the audience for a few moments, he is completely satisfied.

Andrzej Wajda. by Annette Insdorf, Ph.D.
(1928 - 2017)

Harriet L. “Jadzia” Barwick
(1934 - 2016)

Julian Stanczak, by Tomasz Magierski
(1928 - 2017)
It is believed that Polish and American war hero General Thaddeus Kosciuszko has been honored with more statues, monuments and other memorials in the United States than any other Revolutionary War figure except, of course, George Washington himself.

This coming October 15th marks the 200th anniversary of General Thaddeus Kosciuszko’s passing. To celebrate this anniversary the Embassy of the Republic of Poland invites you to Find Your Kosciuszko and organize a Kosciuszko 200 event in your neighborhood.

“I invite all Polish-Americans, friends of Poland and supporters of liberty to join in commemorating General Thaddeus Kosciuszko” said Ambassador Piotr Wilczek, who is the honorary patron of Kosciuszko 200 celebrations. “Thaddeus Kosciuszko holds a special place in the history of Poland and the United States. He is a symbol of freedom and a model patriot who crossed an ocean to help the American people secure their independence.”

General Thaddeus Kosciuszko (1746–1817) is a hero of two nations who fought in the Continental Army for the independence of the United States of America. Kosciuszko served seven years in the service of General George Washington and the American cause, proving instrumental in the American victory at the Battle of Saratoga and was responsible for overseeing the fortification of West Point. Described by Thomas Jefferson as “the purest son of liberty” Kosciuszko was a strong proponent of universal liberty and human rights, who deeded his wartime pay to purchase freedom for American slaves.

There are Kosciuszko namesakes all across America, reflecting the historic role he has played in the history of the United States. Find your local Thaddeus Kosciuszko namesake and organize a Kosciuszko 200 celebration on the weekend of October 14–15 in his honor.

Let us gather all across America to show that Kosciuszko’s legacy remains with us!

Kosciuszko 200 How-To:

1. Identify a Kosciuszko namesake in your vicinity. Research online, visit your library, or ask around. See if there are any parks, streets, statues, memorials, plaques or other references to Kosciuszko near you. If a statue is located in a park and is easily accessible, inquire whether any permits would be required to organize a gathering. If the object is not easily accessible, for instance a bridge, see if there is a park or open space nearby that could be suitable for a gathering.

2. Reach out to local Polish-American organizations, veterans groups, local historical societies, religious groups, civic clubs, etc. Seek out others to help you organize a successful event. Spread the word once details have been finalized so community members can attend.

3. Invite community and regional leaders to attend and speak about the contributions and legacy of General Thaddeus Kosciuszko. For instance: mayors, historians, veterans, local and state representatives, clergy and others. See that proclamations are issued by your local governments to commemorate the 200th anniversary of Kosciuszko’s death.

4. Be sure to inform the Embassy! We want to know where events are planned! We will include your event on our Kosciuszko 200 page, and your event will be part of a whole host of celebrations dedicated to Thaddeus Kosciuszko occurring all across America. Email us at Washington.press@msz.gov.pl

5. Tag your photos and social media posts with #Kosciuszko200
In 1791, when Poland passed the first democratic Constitution in Europe, Russian, Austrian and Prussian monarchs sent armies to crush this new democracy. Kosciuszko led an army against the invaders to fight for rights for peasants, burghers and Jews. His ally Berek Joselewicz, formed the first wholly Jewish military unit since biblical times and called Kosciuszko “a messenger from God.” Muslims, and even a black man named Jean Lapierre traveled to Poland to join Kosciuszko’s multicultural revolution.

In his quest for liberty, Kosciuszko worked with George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, and the French Revolutionaries while struggling against the tyranny of Russia’s Catherine the Great and Napoleon Bonaparte. Napoleon called Kosciuszko “the hero of the North,” and Russian Czarina Catherine offered a reward for anyone who could capture him “dead or alive.” Jefferson called, Kosciuszko “as pure a son of liberty, as I have ever known.”

Kosciuszko was a hero who changed history and that is why we work to educate new generations of heroes who will do the same.

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**Celebrate the Kosciuszko Bicentennial**

In honor of the Bicentennial of General Tadeusz Kosciuszko’s death, the Museum of the American Revolution will be hosting a public lecture by Dr. Gary B. Nash, Distinguished Professor and Director Emeritus National Center for History in the Schools, based on his book *Friends of Liberty: Thomas Jefferson, Tadeusz Kosciuszko and Agrippa Hull*.

**Free Public Lecture**

Orientation Theatre • 5:30PM - 7:00PM
Advance registration required through EventBrite

**Reception & Book Signing**

Liberty Hall • 7:00PM - 9:00PM
$80 / Person. Payment & registration required through EventBrite or enclosed Response Card

**Inquiries**

Contact Marcia at TheKFPhiladelphia@gmail.com

**Register for this event by 8/23/17:**

[https://kosciuszkomar.eventbrite.com](https://kosciuszkomar.eventbrite.com)
At the beginning of 2017, the Kosciuszko Foundation established the Kosciuszko Commemoration Fund to assist Polish American community in celebrating the Year of Kosciuszko and to support initiatives aiming at conserving Kosciuszko memorials and cultivating his legacy. The Fund is created from public donations and sponsorships, and will be used towards supporting a variety of projects throughout the country that stimulate community involvement, increase public awareness and highlight the role of Tadeusz Kosciuszko in shaping the history of Poland and the United States.

To make a donation please send a check written to: “The Kosciuszko Foundation” marked as “The Kosciuszko Commemoration Fund,” or contact us at (212) 734-2130.

The event will feature Kosciuszko dedicated art exhibit, talks, reception and live music. For more information go to www.TheKF.org or call (212) 734-2130
A BIG THANK YOU to our honorees, presenters, sponsors, supporters and guests who attended the Kosciuszko Foundation’s 82nd Annual Dinner & Ball – Honoring Polish Heroes on April 29, 2017 in the Grand Ballroom of the Plaza Hotel in New York City. It was great fun, with fantastic music, delicious food, dazzling artistic performances, raffle prizes and most importantly, messages delivered by the honorees. Many thanks to the talented guest artists who entertained the over 400 guests in attendance and to everyone else who helped make the evening a great success. We managed to raise over $85,000 that will support the Foundation’s educational and cultural activities over the coming year.
Wincenty Knapczyk, KF Pioneer Award Recipient with wife Helena and KF President Marek Skulimowski

Mieczyslaw Madejski, KF Pioneer Award Recipient with KF President Marek Skulimowski

Dancing at the Plaza

KF Trustee Krzysztof Ronkiewicz with wife Agnieszka

Video message from Lt. General Edward L. Rowny, KF Medal of Recognition Recipient

From left: Michelle Jastrzab, Alex Jastrzab and Aleksandra Kurzydlowski

From right: Consul General of Poland in NY Maciej Golaszewski with wife Agata and Drs. Anna and Tadeusz Pyz

Wincenty Knapczyk, KF Pioneer Award Recipient with wife Helena and KF President Marek Skulimowski

Alex Storozynski, Chairman of the Board with Edyta Kulczak and Gloria Grant

KF President Marek Skulimowski with wife Agnieszka and Dorota Andraka, KF Ball Chairman with husband Marek Andraka.

KF President Marek Skulimowski with wife Agnieszka and Dorota Andraka, KF Ball Chairman with husband Marek Andraka.

From left: Michelle Jastrzab, Alex Jastrzab and Aleksandra Kurzydlowski

Mieczyslaw Madejski, KF Pioneer Award Recipient with KF President Marek Skulimowski

KF Ball Guest Performers: Monika Krzywiecka, mezzo-soprano and Yelena Kardina, piano

Presentation by the Polish American Folk Dance Company
PHILANTHROPY IS NOT A SOLO ACT

Kosciuszko Foundation founder Stephen Mizwa understood this idea very well. Mizwa was, in today’s terms, an entrepreneur, and, like any entrepreneur, he perceived building a strong network as his most important mission. In his memoirs, Mizwa reflected, “I did not know anybody and for all intents and purposes, nobody knew me.” Yet, he understood that good ideas do not happen in isolation. Through his persistence and perseverance, Mizwa was able to bring on board many supporters, thanks to whom the Kosciuszko Foundation is, to this day a vibrant and key player in providing multiple levels of support to so many Polish-Americans and in promoting Polish culture in America.

Mizwa’s reason for making this happen lies in the roots of American philanthropy - the desire and motivation to improve one’s community. His actions were not so different from renowned American philanthropists, like John D. Rockefeller and Andrew Carnegie, who focused so much energy on giving back to the communities to strengthen them. That part of the KF’s history is still vibrant and alive.

The KF continues to be a “living memorial” to Tadeusz Kosciuszko. I can attest to that personally, as I stepped into the role Director of the Development Team last May. I am in the enviable position of inheriting a stellar level of support given to the Foundation by so many. Our team is fortunate to have the opportunity to meet and talk with many of the Foundation’s members, scholarship recipients, generous donors, and Trustees. With every encounter, we are excited by and appreciative of the enthusiasm, passion, and support for the Kosciuszko Foundation.

A big part of our work is reaching out and connecting with members as well as building a new membership base for the Foundation. So we hereby invite you to get engaged, to show your philanthropic support, and to become a more active part of the Kosciuszko Foundation. The Foundation enables endless opportunities to make a difference in the lives of others. In our team, we are always up for a conversation about strengthening our collective contributions to the next generation. Feel free to reach out to us, as we would love to hear your stories.

The single most concrete action one can take to impact the lives of Polish-Americans is to become a member of the KF, and, if you are already a member, to encourage others to join. Through each individual member we strengthen a philanthropic team that will touch many more lives together than we could ever hope to do as a solo act.

Tomasz Kierul, Director of Development

POLISH PROGRAM AT BROWN UNIVERSITY

The Polish Program at Brown University was founded in the Spring Semester of 2012 by Svetlana Evdokimova, Professor of Slavic Languages and Comparative Literature and Chair of the Department of Slavic Languages. She believed it was important for the department to expand beyond Russian and Czech and decided that the Department of Slavic Studies should offer Polish as well. She convinced the Brown University administration to launch a one-semester pilot course to gauge student interest and brought on Dr. Maggie Harrison as visiting lecturer to teach the course. Nine students enrolled which exceeded the administration’s expectations and they decided to keep Polish on the course roster for the Fall Semester of 2012 as well.

Prof. Evdokimova understood that she would also need to secure external funds to ensure the success of the Polish Program and she approached nine Polish-American organizations and businesses for support. The Kosciuszko Foundation was the only organization to respond positively to the petition, and hence, Dr. Harrison received the Kosciuszko Foundation Teaching Fellowship in September 2013 and then again for the following three years in the amount of $25,000 per academic year. Without this fellowship, the university would have undoubtedly cancelled the program, as it was not seen to be essential to the general curriculum, despite the positive response from the students who enrolled.
While the enrollments are not comparable to those, for example, in Spanish, Arabic, or German, for a less commonly taught language such as Polish, offered in a relatively small private university where language instruction is not mandatory, the department thinks our numbers are good and are optimistic about the future of the program.

Apart from teaching Polish language courses, Dr. Harrison organizes various extracurricular activities such as Polish and Slavic movie nights, conversation tables, and culinary events. She put together Polish Week, which took place November 16th – 20th, 2015. The week opened with a lecture on “Democracy in Poland on a Grass Roots Level” by the Polish Consul General in New York at the time, Ms. Urszula Gacek. Other events during the week included a screening of a Polish documentary, “Beats of Freedom” – A History of Polish Rock and Independence, and an exhibit on the Polish Constitution of May 3rd. On April 26th, 2016, the university hosted an exhibit from the Institute of National Remembrance (Instytut Pamięci Narodowej), entitled “Fighting Poland” about the Polish Underground during World War II. It was accompanied by a lecture by a member of the Institute in Warsaw, Mr. Przemysław Gasztold-Seń.

In February 2016, as part of the ongoing effort to convince the Brown University administration of the importance of the Polish Program, Professors Omar Bartov, Ethan Pollock, and Adam Teller – history and Judaic Studies scholars at Brown’s History Department – wrote a letter to Senior Associate Dean of Faculty, Janet Blum, in support of the Polish Program, emphasizing its importance to graduate students in history as well as Eastern European history. Thanks to both the letter and the KF Teaching Fellowship, the Dean proposed extending Dr. Harrison’s visiting lectureship for an additional two years. Being able to keep Dr. Harrison’s position means keeping the Polish Program alive.

The Polish Program currently has three levels of language instruction and will be offering the fourth one in the next academic year. Also on the schedule for the Fall, we have Polish for Reading, which was created for graduate and advanced undergraduate students. Prof. Michal Oklot plans to offer a course on contemporary Polish culture where students will explore current topics in Polish literature, art, music, as well as social issues. The Fall 2017-Spring 2018 enrollments are expected to increase to over 25 students in total in all of the courses offered.

The Department of Slavic Studies at Brown University is grateful to the Kosciuszko Foundation for its continued support in the form of the Fellowship. The patronage and presence of the Foundation adds importance and credibility to the mission to maintain and continue developing the Polish Program and demonstrate to the university officials that this is a program worthy of being preserved.

For more information about the Polish Program at Brown University please visit the Department of Slavic Studies’ website:

https://www.brown.edu/academics/slavic-studies/

This article is based on Professor Svetlana Evdokimova’s report – March 14th 2017.
WHY I SUPPORT THE KOSCIUSZKO FOUNDATION

By Peter Szymanski

The Kosciuszko Foundation is an increasingly important part of my life. I came to the USA in 1982, when Martial Law was introduced in Poland and the Communist repressions against the democratic opposition fueled a wave of emigration to America. I knew no English, and my only experience with America was through the few dubbed sitcoms Polish television showed, Tarzan and Charlie’s Angels. I remember having Coca Cola and Heinz Ketchup on the flight, and thinking it would be wonderful to have these available. My experiences in Poland were to stand in lines with rations for eggs, bread, and other basics. More significantly however, they also included education, and I learned to read and write in Polish at a very young age because my father read me Pan Tadeusz when I was only a few years old. My family started out in Philadelphia before moving to upstate New York three years later, when I was almost eleven. As the eldest child with immigrant parents who grew up in a world that no longer exists, I was put in a position of catching up with American social norms and popularities, and did so. As a result, it wasn’t until college that I became an accomplished student, where I earned a BS and MBA in four years, while studying abroad and earning internships in Warsaw in 1994 and Hong Kong in 1996. That led to a Kosciuszko Foundation Scholarship in 1997-2000 to study law. During this time, I clerked for a chief federal judge, and earned a summer internship at a top law firm in Silicon Valley, which is where I wound up working for 7+ years. I became an executive at several startups after that, and now run my own business named Silicon Valley Counsel helping and advising Silicon Valley startups. I also travel back to Poland to help Polish entrepreneurs, and have made my life the way I want it: self-sufficient and always evolving. As I have grown older, I have realized how much my name defines who I am to others, especially in our digital age, where our names precede our profiles, accomplishments, experiences, and talents. It’s this that’s made me understand that supporting the Kosciuszko Foundation is more important than ever. There are nearly 10 million Polish-Americans in the USA, and the Kosciuszko Foundation provides them a source of pride, and history that is unique and special. I think every Polish-American should learn about Kosciuszko, his heroics, and the values he stood for. Perception in the USA is based on accomplishments and prestige. It’s an honor to be a Kosciuszko Foundation scholarship recipient, because of what it helped me achieve: an education that enables me to make a living, and for what it taught me about being Polish-American: mainly knowledge that we Polish-Americans have played a proud, important and unique part in American history. West Point and the Kosciuszko Foundation are there today to prove it.

ESTATE GIFTS

Recently, the Kosciuszko Foundation received $164,000 from Christina Kanabrodzki Estate. Ms. Kanabrodzki, a resident of Sedona, Arizona passed away in 2015 at the age of 91. Born in Brooklyn, New York, she was working as a secretary in the automotive industry. She was also a part time college student and ultimately attained a master’s degree in library science. She was a member of Phi Beta Kappa and many Polish-American organizations. In her later years, she volunteered as a book editor and proofreader and often helped Polish university students with the English language.

Approximately $200,000 is to be received by the Kosciuszko Foundation from Thaddeus Jaszkowski Estate. Thaddeus “Ted” Jaszkowski, 90, of Montclair, N.J., passed away on May 9, 2017. Born in Grudziadz, Poland, Ted came to the United States after World War II and settled in Elmhurst, N.Y., before moving to Montclair in 1985. Conscripted to serve with the German Army, Ted was taken prisoner of war by the Allied troops. Released from captivity, he voluntarily joined the Polish Land Forces under British command in the United Kingdom. Ted transferred to the Polish Navy under British Command and served until his final discharge in 1948. Before retiring many years ago, Ted was an engineer for Foster-Wheeler Corp.
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.

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 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 up to 63% of the remaining benefits! If bequeathed to the Foundation, these funds would escape both income and estate taxes, and reduce your taxable estate.

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. 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 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.

MATCHING GIFT PLAN

Fortune 500 companies and many other corporations have matching gifts programs as part of their Employee Benefits Package. As stipulated by the Matching Gift Plan, the corporation will match any gift or gifts made by an employee to a non-profit organization of his/her choice.

Why not ask your company if such a program exists, and if so, perhaps your contribution to the Kosciuszko Foundation could be doubled.

THE KOSCIUSZKO FOUNDATION CAN KEEP ON GIVING ONLY IF YOU KEEP ON GIVING. PLEASE DO.

WE APPRECIATE YOUR KIND GENEROSITY.
Every year the Kosciuszko Foundation provides tuition scholarships to Polish and Polish American students that study at US universities. These scholarships offer help that fulfills dreams and changes lives. Read some of the notes from the students who received funding for 2016/2017 academic year, and imagine their stories in 10 years time...

I wanted to thank you, and specifically the Board of Trustees of the Kosciuszko Foundation from the bottom of my heart for my Tuition Scholarship of $4,500 to continue my legal education at Brooklyn Law School. Without this scholarship I would not be able to afford to continue my education. With the Kosciuszko Foundation's assistance I will be able to carry out my academic plans and will be working as an unpaid intern in the United States Attorney General’s Office for the entire academic year. Without the KF Scholarship this would not be possible at all. Again, I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart and I look forward to working with the Kosciuszko Foundation in the near future.

Paula Baginska (student of Juris Doctor Degree Program at Brooklyn Law School, NY)

I would like to thank you for awarding me with the Tuition Scholarship two years in a row. It is extremely rewarding, not only on the field of financial support, but also great encouragement to continue working and making efforts towards achieving my dreams. Appreciation fuels motivation and gives a birth to confidence that efforts have been made in the right direction. I really appreciate your support and hope that it will pay off soon.

Christopher Satola (student of Cinematic Arts Film and Television Production at University of Southern California)

Thank you so much for granting me the Scholarship. As I pursue my educational goals, I hope to embrace and continue furthering my relations within the Polish community. In a transition to such a new and exciting place, I am thankful that I have such a wonderful group of people supporting and encouraging me. Thank you all so much for your generous gift!

David Gardinier (student of Engineering at University of Florida)

It is such an honor to be recognized by your organization! I am proud to be a part of and think so highly of! Thank you for not only helping me, but also my family with four siblings become closer to our dreams. I am so excited, honor, proud, and most of all thankful for your support!

Caroline Cwialina (student of Biochemistry at Duquesne University at Pittsburgh, PA)

Thank you so much for granting me the Scholarship. As I pursue my educational goals, I hope to embrace and continue furthering my relations within the Polish community. In a transition to such a new and exciting place, I am thankful that I have such a wonderful group of people supporting and encouraging me. Thank you all so much for your generous gift!

David Gardinier (student of Engineering at University of Florida)

Thanks to the Kosciuszko Foundation Grant I was able to perform field study and to collect samples of high scientific interest. Visit at Stony Brook University gave me opportunity to meet and collaborate with great scientists, with Professor H. Bokuniewicz at the forefront. During my visit, I had also chance to present the aim of my study to undergraduate students, which was great experience. It was very fruitful scientific visit that definitely strengthened my skills and knowledge.

Ewa Modzelewksa (Ph.D. candidate in Polish Philology at Jagiellonian University in Cracow, Poland)
SPECIAL AND TRAVEL GRANTS

In addition to the regular grant, fellowship and scholarship programs, the Kosciuszko Foundation also awards special and travel grants that support artists, students, organizations, and events that promote Polish culture and Polish intellectual legacy. Beneficiaries of the Foundation’s recent special funding include:

Natalia Dolgowska – visual artist and a student of the Wajda School in Warsaw, Poland – recipient of a special grant to take the five-week intensive master class at the prestigious UnionDocs - Center for Documentary Arts in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, a non-profit organization that produces and presents pioneering documentaries. Only ten people from around the world were invited to take part in the UnionDocs program.

Artur Chrusciel and Wiktor Zapart - two cadets from the Gen. Tadeusz Kosciuszko Military Academy of Land Forces (MALF) in Wroclaw, Poland that had been enrolled at the University of North Georgia during the spring semester of 2016-2017 academic year under the exchange program between two universities. They both received a special grant for travel and cultural experiences while in the USA. Here they are pictured with Lacie Warren, International Projects Coordinator at the University of North Georgia and KF President Marek Skulimowski during their trip to NYC.

The KF was a co-sponsor of the photo exhibition “Fall in Love in Poland by Night” by Polish artist Krzysztof Masiuk. The opening of the exhibition, organized by the Polish Club of Atlanta, was held on April 1, 2017 at the City Hall in Atlanta and was attended by Ms. Vanessa Ibarra, Director of the International Office of the Mayor, Marc Zayac, Professor of History at the Georgia State University, sponsors and guests.

The Kosciuszko Foundation was a co-sponsor of “Conradian Crosscurrents: Creativity and Critique” - an academic conference on author Joseph Conrad, organized by the Joseph Conrad Society of America from June 1-3, 2017. The conference coincided with the celebration of the 160th anniversary of birth of Conrad (Józef Teodor Konrad Korzeniowski), and its aim was to reassess Conrad’s position at the crosscurrents of contemporary creative and critical works of all kind. Four panel discussions were held at the KF House during the second day of the conference and featured presentations by distinguished speakers such as Seamus O’Malley, Mark Bourdeau, Chris GoGwilt, Holt V. Meyer, Wieslaw Krajka, Julie Beth Napolin, Brian Richardson, Ryan Gilligan, Deborah Kachel, Anne Luyat, and John G. Peters, and a mini-keynote address by James Clifford.
Celebrating Leadership in TEIP in the Year of Kosciuszko

The summer of 2017 marked the 27th consecutive year that the Kosciuszko Foundation brought together Polish and American teachers and students through its unique cross-cultural learning initiative called the Teaching English in Poland Program (TEIP). Seven English Language and American Culture/Arts Enriched English Language camps took place at the following locations throughout Poland: Krakow, Krynica-Zdroj, Minsk Mazowiecki, Otwock, and Zalecze Wielkie. Ninety-Five American volunteers and approximately 700 Polish young people aged 8 to 18 benefited from this year’s program.

After UNESCO declared 2017 the “Year of Kosciuszko,” the Teaching English in Poland Program chose the theme of “Heroes and Holidays.” At this year’s camps, both the students and teachers learned about Tadeusz Kosciuszko, our “common hero of two continents.” One of the characteristics that is most valued in a hero is his or her leadership. For this reason, we would like to highlight the leaders of the TEIP program, those individuals who assume the great responsibility of directing each of the individual camps. The American Staff Leaders work diligently throughout the year planning for their camps by gathering educational materials, participating in fundraising activities, preparing their cadre of American teachers and teaching assistants, and communicating with their Polish counterparts. These volunteers are experienced master teachers who have participated in the TEIP program as teachers multiple times. We wish to thank them for their devotion to the program, the children, and the mission of the Kosciuszko Foundation. We salute them for their many years of service. We asked the American Staff Leaders to share how they became involved with the TEIP program.

**KRISTIN MILLER,** Last year my son Cael came home from school excited after starting a unit in his first-grade class entitled, “Who We Are.” The class had been discussing family origins and he posed a very simple question, “Where is our family from?” I answered the question without hesitation, “We’re Polish!” My son then asked what “Polish” exactly means? We pulled out the computer and my family looked at Poland on a world map as I tried to tell them anything about Poland beyond holiday foods and some cute phrases I had learned from my grandparents; it was during this struggle we realized maybe it was time for our family to learn what it truly means to be Polish.

As we looked for summer experiences to help us all understand our families’ roots, the Kosciuszko Foundation’s Teaching English in Poland Program immediately stood head and shoulders above other programs as it offered opportunities that appealed to each of our interests. We were thrilled to see TEIP encouraged our son to participate in classes and to interact with the Polish students. We learned so much about Poland from interacting with our Polish staff and campers but learned as well as what it means to be Polish-American from interacting with our fellow American staff members.

In one summer thanks to the Kosciuszko Foundation, my whole family experienced the best hands-on, living history lesson we could ever have hoped for. The Miller family can now all answer the question, “Who are we” with pride and confidence thanks to TEIP.

**THOMAS RUSNAK,** So, when my adult children presented me with a t-shirt this past Father’s Day, everyone I know and who knows me applauded it as the definitive gift. It was a simple navy blue shirt with the words printed in the brightest white, CAUTION: MAY SPONTANEOUSLY START TALKING ABOUT POLAND. I suppose it’s because after taking my annual trek one month a year with the Teaching English in Poland program I seem to spend the remaining eleven telling everyone I know about it. But, in my defense it’s very difficult to refrain from sharing such wonderful experiences with family, friends and, of course, potential recruits.

The TEIP experience is a unique one in so many ways. Navigating in a Central European nation with an unusually challenging language, dealing with students who are genuinely interested in what you want to teach, and interacting with an educated Polish staff are just a few of them. As a teacher, I was better in the classroom in the USA after having taught in Poland.

As a retired theatre instructor, I can share my passion for teaching and my art without the imposed academic structure which can be so prevalent in current institutional education.

But, the most impactful aspect of the English language camp adventure is the relationships made and sustained through the years I spent with the Kosciuszko Foundation’s TEIP program. I have thirteen years of memories to reflect on, to apply to future camps, and, of course, to share with anyone willing to hear about Poland.

**DR. GRETCHEN L. ESPINETTI,** For almost twenty years, I have known Dr. Mary Kay Pieski through our teacher education partnerships at Kent State University, as colleagues in our doctoral program in Cultural Foundations at Kent State University, and as friends. Dr. Pieski has spoken to me about the Teaching English in Poland (TEIP) Program many times. A couple of years ago, I attended the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the program at the Kosciuszko Foundation in New York City. Since participating in the program, I am also a member of the Kosciuszko Foundation.
Four years ago, Dr. Pieski asked me if I would consider teaching in the TEIP Program in Otwock, Poland. I finally said yes! Teaching English with another Kent State alum drama teacher in the Otwock location was an incredible experience personally, professionally, and culturally. For the last three summers, I have been the Staff Leader in the Krakow Middle and High School TEIP location. Again, TEIP is a phenomenal cross-cultural experience for the American team and the Polish team and students.

DOROTHY PARKER, An enthusiasm for travel, teaching, history, literature and building cultural bridges among people led me to the Kosciuszko’s Teaching English in Poland program in 2005. Here was an opportunity to experience the Polish culture as a participant and not as a tourist, to challenge myself to be the most effective communicator through imaginative, interactive lessons and return to the United States hopefully a wiser and more compassionate individual, who saw the unities that transcend people and places. And so commenced a month’s journey that began with the gathering of my fellow teachers and teaching assistants in Warsaw and left me with a resonating warmth for Poland and its people that has lured me back for six more camp seasons.

JACQUELINE BROWN-WILLIAMS, At some point during the late 1990’s my father introduced me to a friend who had just enjoyed a wonderful 3 weeks in Poland, teaching in an English Language program through the Kosciuszko Foundation. He suggested that this was something he and I should do together one summer. It took another five or so years for me to apply. A friend of mine applied to go with me, but we were sent to different locations. Oh how I envied her, going to the southern mountains (Limanowa) and I was to go to somewhere in western Poland to a place I could not pronounce, Przyток (at Zielona Gora). It wasn’t until we drove up to the gate and looked in that I knew my life was changing in more ways than one.

It was here that I met and kept correspondence with one of my students, an 11-year-old who lived in eastern Poland. In October, I will attend his wedding. These are the life connections many of us have when our hearts become involved in our teaching. Until I was assigned the role of American Team Leader (Krynica-Zdroj 2016 and 2017), I had taught under only one Team Leader, Dr. Mary Kay Pieski, my mentor and my friend. My camp experiences have included teaching Dulcimer making and music in Zalecze Wielkie, Creative Dramatics in Barlewiczki, and American Folk Dance in Otwock. As a member of The Kosciuszko Foundation, I hope to continue my involvement in the areas of Fund Raising and Development, Recruitment, and wherever else I may be needed.

DR. PATRICIA GRUTZMACHER, I became involved in TEIP through Dr. Mary Kay Pieski. Dr. Pieski had asked me about participating for several years. She and I attended graduate school at Kent State University and had become friends. Since I am Polish American, I was intrigued with the possibility of visiting the homeland of my parents and grandparents. I asked her for the information, applied, and was thrilled to not only be accepted, but was able to bring my teenage daughter to Poland. That first trip altered my life in many ways. I discovered my roots, and found answers to many questions regarding my family’s traditions and beliefs. As a teacher of music, the experience was a revelation. I found the Polish students to be engaging, and enthusiastic. These Polish students represented a cross-section of society; they were not chosen for musical talents. They were there to learn English, but for my classes, they practiced English through music. They were surprised at their own creativity, and I happily supported them in their musical activities. The process of learning guided the outcomes, and thus, the musical outcomes were extraordinary. The experiences that my daughter enjoyed supported her development as a young woman in many positive ways. She was not simply a visitor to Poland. She, too, came to understand her Polish ancestry.

I have returned to Poland as a volunteer for TEIP, bringing with me other American teachers and teaching assistants. Whether these volunteers have Polish roots or not, the experience is always relevant, always positive.

MARY ANN STEFKO, Sometimes you wonder, “Am I doing what I was really meant to do?” That’s the question that I was asking myself when a trusted mentor at Marywood University – Dr. Joe Polizzi - encouraged me to explore the TEIP program. Since I am very connected to my Eastern European heritage and love teaching children languages - this program seemed like the perfect fit.

I couldn’t imagine, as I signed up for my first TEIP experience, where this program would take me. I have met amazing people, I have taught incredible children, I have shared my American culture and learned more about Polish history and culture than I ever imagined possible.

The most meaningful part of the TEIP experience for me is the team of teachers who have experienced this journey for three years with me. We began as strangers, planned lessons and taught together, traveled together and learned together. We are a team and while we are vastly different in where we came from, we are very similar in why we do what we do. So similar, in fact, we are looking forward to TEIP 2018 together! TEIP not only confirmed that YES, I really am meant to do what I do but TEIP also gave me new and exciting ways to do it!
During its Semi-Annual Meeting, the Board of Trustees of the Kosciuszko Foundation approves funding for the Foundation’s Exchange Program to the U.S. In May 2016, the Board allocated $485,000 for 42 gifted individuals from Poland as recipients of the Foundation’s Fellowships and Grants for the 2016/17 academic year. Due to personal affairs 5 recipients gave up their scholarships.

Between March 7th and March 16th 2016 members of the U.S. Advisory Committee together with members of the Polish Academic Commission participated in personal interview sessions held at the University of Warsaw’s Collegium Artes Liberales in Warsaw, Poland.

Members of the Academic Advisory Committee for the 2016/17 Advanced Research/Study Program for Polish Citizens:

1. Ronald J. Hagadus, M.D., Associate Professor of Clinical Ophthalmology, New York Medical College; Honorary Senior Attending Surgeon, New York Eye & Ear Infirmary, Glaucoma Service, New York, NY.

2. Hanna Kelker, Ph.D., Research Assistant Professor, Departments of Microbiology and Medicine, New York University School of Medicine, Member of Center for AIDS Research at NYU, Member of the Board of Directors of PIASA

3. Włodek Mandecki, Ph.D., Chairman & President, PharmaSeq Inc., Adjunct Professor at the Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics at the New Jersey Medical School of Rutgers University at Newark, NJ.

4. John S. Miegiel, Ph.D. President & Executive Director, The Kosciuszko Foundation

5. Ewa Radwanska, M.D. Ph.D., Professor, Rush University Medical Center, Chicago, IL.

6. Alex Storożynski, President Emeritus, Chairman of the Board of the Kosciuszko Foundation

7. Piotr Wilczek, Ph.D., Professor at the Faculty of Artes Liberales, the University of Warsaw, and President, Fundacja Kosciuszkowska Polska.

All interviews were conducted in the English language, thereby evaluating the English proficiency of the candidates. Each interview lasted approximately 30 minutes, including Committee discussions prior to and after each session. Following the interviews, the candidates were ranked from the highest score down. Discussions at the end of each interview created a basis for evaluating the overall excellence and the importance of candidate research proposals – both in their fields of study and in relevance to Poland. Careful consideration was also given to the choice of the U.S. educational institution selected by the candidates for conducting their research projects. The Committee had an opportunity to review the files of all candidates beforehand in order to evaluate the merit of the candidates’ research proposals, their clarity and seriousness of purpose, and the persuasiveness of their arguments for conducting research in the United States.

**HUMANITIES:**

DEMkOWICZ, KAROL,
Ph.D. in Archaeology, Institute of Archaeology, University of Lodz, Ph.D. Candidate in Latin-American Studies, University of Lodz: 4-month’s grant to collect bibliographical and archival data connected to the problem of influx of armament into Mexico before and during the revolution of 1910-1920, specifically the issue of legal importation and smuggling, at the University of New Mexico with Professor Melissa Bokovoy.

GRYGIENC, JANUSZ,
Assistant Professor, Nicolaus Copernicus University, Ph.D. in Political Science, Nicolaus Copernicus University: 4-month’s fellowship on the contemporary philosophical discourse on democracy which is dominated by two perspectives: participatory and deliberative, the study aims to combine the two perspectives at Brown University with Professor David M. Estlund.

GRZEBALSKA, Weronika
Candidate in Gender Studies, Graduate School for Social Research, Polish Academy of Science: 3-month’s grant to enable the transfer and popularization of the gender perspective on militarism and security to Polish academia and policy making, at Clark University with Professor Valerie Sperling.
fellowship to conduct an analysis on Turkish-American relations on the threshold of the XXI century at the University of Illinois with Professor Maria Todorova.

LESINSKA, MAGDALENA, Assistant Professor, University of Warsaw, Ph.D. in Political Science, University of Wrocław: 3-month's fellowship to analyze the issue of political mobilization of Poles in the US (American Polonia) during the 1989 elections, the case will be analyzed in a broader context of the participation of diaspora in democratization processes in the country of origin, it will examine in depth the discourse and cleavages around 1989 elections developed among Polish diaspora worldwide, and the crucial impact of American Polonia on the campaign and final results of the elections, and furthermore, on successful political transition in Poland.

MODZELEWSKA, EWA, Ph.D. candidate in Polish Philology, Jagiellonian University: 3-month's fellowship to restore the fortunes of prominent Poles who emigrated to the United States after the November Uprising, as well as to explore the works of the little-known contemporary artists, who made a significant contribution to the cultural heritage and the technical development of the New World in the nineteenth century at The Ohio State University with Professor Yana Hashamova.

SZUBART, KAMIL, Ph.D. candidate in International Relations, Jagiellonian University 3-month’s research study on the transatlantic relations in the field of international security from 9/11 until the American Pivot towards the Far East and Southeastern Asia at Syracuse University with Director William C. Banks.

WIECIECH, TOMASZ, Professor, Jagiellonian University, Ph.D. in Political Science, Jagiellonian University: 3-month’s fellowship examining federalism in the early American political thought and constitutionalism as reflected in Thomas Jefferson’s political and constitutional thought at Robert H. Smith International Center for Jefferson Studies with Dr. Andrew O’Shaughnessy.

TUREK, MACIEJ, Assistant Professor, Jagiellonian University, Ph.D. in Political Science, Jagiellonian University: 3-month’s fellowship to explore and explain the way print and broadcast media (television) discuss qualifications, usefulness and capabilities to hold the office of the Vice President of the United States. Research will be conducted using quantitative and qualitative analysis of the data from the major American magazines and daily newspapers, public opinion polls, and interviews to be conducted during the research stay with presidential campaign operatives and staffers, press and TV reporters, as well as television news anchors at George Mason University with Professor Mark Rozell.

BIENERT, AGNIESZKA, Associate Professor, Poznan University of Medical Sciences, Ph.D. in Clinical Pharmacy, Poznan University of Medical Sciences: 3-month’s fellowship to examine the clinical pharmacokinetics of a new α2-adrenergic drug dexmedetomidine in the pediatric intensive care unit patients; the dependency of dexmedetomidine clearance on the length of the drug infusion will be determined using an advanced PKPD modeling at the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences with Professor William J. Jusko.

CHMIELARZ, PAWEL, Assistant Professor, Rzeszow University a Technology, Ph.D. in Chemistry, Rzeszow University of Technology: 3-month’s fellowship focused on the development of efficient grafting procedures using electrochemically mediated atom transfer radical polymerization (eATRP) at Carnegie Mellon University with Professor Krzysztof Matyjaszewski.

CIESIELCZYK, FILIP, Assistant Professor, Poznan University of Technology, Ph.D. in Chemical Technology, Poznan University of Technology: 3-month’s fellowship to conduct a research to obtain new lignin-based materials of possibly high surface area and well-developed pore structure, and an utilitarian aspect related to environmental (e.g., removal of selected impurities from wastewaters and air) and electrochemical (supercapacitors and electrocatalysts) applications at the Kent State University with Professor Mietek Jaroniec.

GOLA, MATEUSZ, Assistant Professor, Institute of Psychology, Polish Academy of Science, Ph.D. in Psychology, University of Social Science and Humanities: 3-month’s fellowship to analyze the comparison of brain imagine (fMRI) and clinical data from studies on 4 different addictive behaviors at the Yale School of Medicine with Professor Marc N. Potenza.

GRZELAK, KATARZYNA, Researcher, Institute of Oceanology Polish Academy of Sciences, Ph.D. in Earth Science, Institute of Oceanology Polish Academy of Sciences: 3-month’s fellowship to investigate interstitial meiofauna organisms in the submarine ground waters on Long Island Sound U.S.A and characterization of the impact of submarine groundwater discharge on functioning and structure of meiobenthic biota at Stony Brook University with Professor Henry Bokuniewicz.

JANIK, MICHAL, Ph.D. candidate/ Surgical Resident at the Military Institute of Medicine: 5-month grant to develop a simple and effective scoring system for predicting outcome categories after bariatric surgery, including Laparoscopic Sleeve Gastrectomy procedure at the Case Western Reserve University with Dr. Tomasz G. Rogula.
JAWIEN, JACEK. Chair of Pharmacology, Jagiellonian University School of Medicine, Ph.D. Habilitation in Internal Medicine, Jagiellonian University School of Medicine: 6-month fellowship to conduct a research on the putative inhibition of atherosclerosis by leflunomide in the best animal model of atherosclerosis: apolipoprotein E - knockout mice, at the Institute for Translational Medicine and Therapeutics Smilow Center for Translational Research with Professor Garrett A. FitzGerald.

KOSTYRKO, MIKOLAJ. Ph.D. candidate in Archaeology, Institute of Prehistory - Adam Mickiewicz University: 2-month fellowship to gather data and construct a visualization of interpretations of historical aerial photographs at the University of Arkansas with Rachel Opitz.

KOZLOWSKA, MARIA. Ph.D. candidate in Geophysics, Institute of Geophysics Polish Academy of Sciences: 4-month grant for research concerning the study of source parameters, especially stress drops, of seismic events induced by hydraulic fracturing and wastewater injection performed in Ohio, as well as understanding the relation between earthquakes dynamics and production parameters that can contribute to mitigating seismic hazards at Miami University with Professor Mike Brudzinski.

MAKUCH, KAROL. Researcher, University of Warsaw, Ph.D. in Physics, University of Warsaw: 4-month fellowship for a research to significantly improve the theoretical description of travelling of a sound wave in liquids with bubbles of different sizes at The California Institute of Technology with Professor John F. Brady.

ODrzywolek, Andrzej. Adjunct Professor, Jagiellonian University, Ph.D. in Astrophysics, M. Smoluchowski Institute of Physics: 3-month fellowship for a research study about the ignition of the type Ia supernova via dark matter interactions at the University of Arizona with Professor Johann Rafelski.

PODSZYVALOW- BARTNICKA, Paulina. Ph.D. in Biology & Biotechnology, Nencki Institute of Experimental Biology: 3-month fellowship for providing a research to determine if PARP1 inhibitors induce synthetic lethality in BRCA1-deficient leukemia cells from individual patients in the conditions mimicking bone marrow niche and peripheral blood, at Temple University School of Medicine with Professor Tomasz Skorski.

SKWARCZYNSKA, AGATA. Assistant Professor - Rzeszow University of Technology, Ph.D. in Environmental Engineering, Biomaterials, Lodz University of Technology: 5-month fellowship to develop an original method for production of chitosan materials which are formed to gel “in situ” at the human body temperature containing nano gold and silver and may be introduced into affected by tumor part of body by injection. Such gel incorporated into a tumor will penetrate into the tumor cells and then by the light of the particular wavelength the nanoparticles are activated in order to destroy the tumor cells without surgery and chemotherapy by not requiring the introduction of instruments into the body which minimize the side effects of cancer treatment. The research is to be conducted at North Carolina State University with Professor Samuel Hudson.

URBANEK, OLGA. Researcher, Institute of Fundamental Technological Research, Polish Academy of Sciences, M.Sc. in Materials Engineering, specialization: Biomaterials, Warsaw University of Technology: 3-month grant to conduct a research focusing on the surface modification of polymer fiber mat, formed by electrospinning technique, with polysaccharides eg, chondroitin sulfate and hyaluronic acid at Drexel University with Professor Caroline Schauer.

URBANIAK, Alicja. Ph.D. candidate in Chemistry, Adam Mickiewicz University: 3-month grant for a research investigating biological properties of novel resveratrol esters with cinnamic acid derivatives at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences with Professor Anna Radominska-Pandya.

WASKO, MARCIN. Researcher at The Medical Centre of Postgraduate Education in Warsaw: Department of Orthopedics and Rheumoorthopedics, Ph.D. in Medicine/ Orthopedics, The Medical Centre of Postgraduate education: 5-month fellowship for a research on a new surgical technique, periacetabular osteotomy, which has been introduced in the US, and recently in Poland, for the treatment of hip diseases in teenagers and adults, offering an alternative to total hip replacement. A developed unique multicenter study group database, will be the main source of research into clinical outcomes, complications and outlook for that procedure at the Washington University in St. Louis with Professor John C. Clohisy.

WISNIEWSKI, Lukasz. Ph.D. candidate in Space Mechanisms & Robotics, Space Research Centre of the Polish Academy of Sciences: 4-month grant for a research concerning space exploration domain and the development of tools and methods for the in situ determination of regolith properties on the surface of comets, asteroids and other small Solar System bodies at the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory with Robotics Research Engineer, Robert G. Reid.
**ARTS:**

**KLAJS, ZOFIA,** Ph.D. candidate in Graphic Design, Academy of Fine Arts: 3-month grant for a research focusing on the interdisciplinary field of socially oriented graphic design and the potential of the latter to constitute an important tool of a and a factor of social change at Parsons The New School for Design with Professor Lydia Matthews.

**LUKASZEWICZ-ALCARAZ, ALEKSANDRA,** Academic Lecturer, Academy of Art, Ph.D. in Philosophy, University of Warsaw: 3-month fellowship for a research elaborating on Joseph Margolis’ philosophy, specifically his papers on art, culture and aesthetics, to be translated into Polish for publication in a prestigious scientific editorial at Temple University with Professor Joseph Margolis.

**TETLA, LESLAW,** Associate Professor, Academy of Fine Arts in Katowice, Ph.D. Painting, Academy of Fine Arts in Katowice: 3-month Teaching Fellowship to provide a course for students of visual arts, provide lectures on contemporary Polish art, continue working on the issues of degraded geographical, demographical and sociological urban space at Cleveland State University with Professor Edward M. Horowitz.

**ZIEBA, MAGDALENA,** Ph.D. candidate in Art History, University of Wroclaw: 3-month grant for research on the history of exhibitions from the late 1960s to the present day, referencing the evolution of curatorial strategies in terms of the framing concepts of utopia and spectacle at the California College of Arts with Professor Julian Myers-Supinska.

**LAW & ECONOMICS:**

**BLAWAT, MAGDALENA,** Ph.D. candidate in Law, University of Warsaw: 3-month research focusing on the problem of conversion of invalid legal acts in a comparative context from the perspective of constitutional values at the University of California with Professor Katherine Stone.

**DOMARADZKA-WIDLA, ANNA,** Assistant Professor, University of Warsaw, Ph.D. in Sociology, Institute of Sociology: 3-month fellowship for a research to strengthen the capability for planning more livable cities, using existing research and know-how developed in best American institutions working in the area, at the San Diego State University with Dr. Roger W. Caves.

**HARRISON, MAGDALENA,** Ph.D. in Slavic Linguistics Second Language Acquisition, The Ohio State University: extension of Teaching Fellowship to conduct 10-month program teaching Polish Language and Literature in the Polish Studies Program at Brown University.

**DOROTA KOTOWICZ,** Archivist, The National Archives in Krakow, Post-graduate Studies in Public Administration, Jagiellonian University: 6-month grant for a research on the 1918-1939 History of Polish Migrations to the United States; an analysis of the wave of Polish emigration after World War I at the Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences of America with Dr. Bozena Leven.

**MARIOLA KILIAN - 2017 SOPHIE WOJCIECHOWSKI AWARD RECIPIENT**

The Foundation began awarding gift-ed students from Rakszawa, Poland as part of the Sophie Wojciechowski Endowment Fund. The town is the birthplace of Kosciusko Foundation founder Stephen Mizwa and holds a high school named in his honor.

Sophie Wojciechowski worked tirelessly during her life for the causes of immigrants and refugees. She held an undergraduate degree in Economics and a graduate degree in Social Work. In addition to her work with the Polish government in exile during World War II, she was involved with numerous programs to assist émigrés and their families after the war. Her years of dedication resulted in her receiving the Émigré Award for Distinguished Leadership from the Institute for Families and Children at Adelphi University in 1992. It was at this time that the Foundation announced the creation of the Sophie Wojciechowski Scholarship program.
We are pleased to present you with the list of awardees of the Kosciuszko Foundation’s Domestic Scholarship programs for academic year 2016-2017. The Domestic Scholarship program encompasses Tuition Scholarships, Exchange Programs to Poland and scholarships for Summer Study Abroad programs in Poland.

Tuition scholarships are awarded for graduate level studies in the US and for medical studies in Poland. A small number of tuition scholarships are awarded to undergraduates from the Jeannette Nieciecka Scholarship Fund, which supports New Jersey residents, and from the Massachusetts Federation of Polish Women’s Clubs Scholarship Fund, which supports Massachusetts residents. Scholarships for undergraduates also are awarded to eligible members of the Polish American Club of North Jersey and members of Group #1903 of the Polish National Alliance.

This year, three new scholarship funds have entered the ranks of the Kosciuszko Foundation’s many named scholarship funds for Americans. Generous donations have been made to the Kosciuszko Foundation by Drs. James and Wanda Trefil of Virginia, Dr. Witold Kawecki of Connecticut and Mr. David Rydzewski and Ms. Ruth Pilarzyk of Wisconsin. The Drs. James and Wanda Trefil Scholarship is awarded to an outstanding undergraduate majoring in the Natural Sciences. The Dr. Witold Kawecki Scholarship is awarded for graduate level studies in Psychology. The Wisconsin Study in Poland Scholarship supports Wisconsin students for Polish language and culture studies at the Jagiellonian University.

For academic year 2016/2017, the Foundation has awarded $312,660 in Tuition Scholarships, $1,800 in Year Abroad Scholarships and $2,700 in Graduate/Postgraduate Studies and Research in Poland Scholarships bringing the total to $317,160 in support of Polish American students. Additional awards are pending for the Exchange Programs to Poland for Americans.

In addition, this past summer 21 students received support to attend summer programs at the Jagiellonian University. Funding was awarded from the Tomaszkiewicz-Florio Scholarship Fund, the Wisconsin Study in Poland Scholarship Fund and the Constance K. Gray Fund. The total awarded to Americans of Polish descent comes to $36,375. A list of our scholarship winners follows below.

Addy Tymczyszyn
Scholarship and Grant Officer for Americans
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scholarship Fund</th>
<th>Student Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Field of Study</th>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Grant Amount</th>
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<td>KOSCIUSZKO FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS</td>
<td>TOMASZEWSKI, JOANNA</td>
<td>Salt Lake City, UT</td>
<td>Medicine</td>
<td>University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT</td>
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<td>DR. MAGDALENA MARIA</td>
<td>Whitestone, NY</td>
<td>Medicine</td>
<td>Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland</td>
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<td>SATOLA, CHRISTOPHER</td>
<td>Los Angeles, CA</td>
<td>Graduate Studies in Cinematic Arts Film and Television Production</td>
<td>University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA</td>
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<td>SWITALA, REBEKAH</td>
<td>Austin, TX</td>
<td>Graduate Studies in East European Studies</td>
<td>University of Texas, Austin, TX</td>
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<td>VAN DOREN, ALEXANDRA</td>
<td>Champaign, IL</td>
<td>Doctoral Studies in Comparative Literature</td>
<td>University of Illinois, Urbana, IL</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
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<td>MATYCZYK, EWA</td>
<td>Jamaica Plain, MA</td>
<td>Doctoral Studies in Art and Architecture</td>
<td>Boston University, Boston, MA</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
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<td>MICHALAK, ZUZANNA</td>
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<td>Medicine</td>
<td>Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
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<td>KAMINSKI, MICHAEL</td>
<td>St. Louis, MO</td>
<td>Pharmacy</td>
<td>Creighton University, Omaha, NE</td>
<td>$3,500</td>
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<td>SMYK-JAWORSKI, KAMILA</td>
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<td>Doctoral Studies in Clinical Psychology</td>
<td>Argosy University, Chicago, IL</td>
<td>$3,500</td>
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<td>CZERWINSKI, MIKOLAJ</td>
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<td>Art History</td>
<td>Buffalo State University, Buffalo, NY</td>
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<td>DIECKMAN, EMILY</td>
<td>Seymour, CT</td>
<td>Social Work</td>
<td>University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA</td>
<td>$4,500</td>
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<td>MIENKO, JULITA</td>
<td>Philadelphia, PA</td>
<td>Medicine</td>
<td>Temple University, Philadelphia, PA</td>
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<td>SARNEK, ANNA</td>
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<td>Graduate Studies in International Economics and Strategic Studies</td>
<td>Johns Hopkins University, Washington, DC</td>
<td>$4,500</td>
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<td>SWIECHOWICZ, WERONIKA</td>
<td>Bridgeview, IL</td>
<td>Graduate Studies in Computational and Mathematical Engineering</td>
<td>Stanford University, Stanford, CA</td>
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<td>BATOR, KATARZYNA</td>
<td>Buffalo, NY</td>
<td>Art Conservation</td>
<td>Buffalo State College, Buffalo, NY</td>
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<td>STYK, ALEXANDER</td>
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<td>Combined JD-MBA Program</td>
<td>Harvard University, Cambridge, MA</td>
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<td>SASIELA, KATARZYNA</td>
<td>New Britain, CT</td>
<td>Graduate Studies in Pharmacy</td>
<td>University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
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<td>CZRERWINSKI, SEBASTIAN</td>
<td>Lawrenceville, NJ</td>
<td>Undergraduate Studies in Business Administration</td>
<td>The College of New Jersey, Ewing, NJ</td>
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<td>DYMKO, NICOLE</td>
<td>Sayreville, NJ</td>
<td>Graduate Studies in Animal Science</td>
<td>Rutgers University, New Brunswick</td>
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<td>DZIEDZIC, DAMIAN</td>
<td>Garfield, NJ</td>
<td>Graduate Studies in Electrical Engineering</td>
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<td>$1,500</td>
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<td>Name</td>
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<td>Mokrzycki, Paul</td>
<td>for freshman year of undergraduate studies in Biology at the University of Rochester, Rochester, NY.</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
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<td>Sollecito, Natalia</td>
<td>for senior year of undergraduate studies in Neuroscience and Biology at University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA.</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
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<td>Tomaszkowicz, Adam</td>
<td>for first year of studies in Pharmacy, Rutgers University, Newark, NJ.</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
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<td>Bernstein, Jillian</td>
<td>for first year of studies in Dentistry at University of Connecticut, Farmington, CT.</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
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<td>Kozen, Martin</td>
<td>for first year of doctoral studies in East Central European History at University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI.</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
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<td>Zmirowski, Claudia</td>
<td>for first year of studies in Medicine at SUNY Downstate College of Medicine, Brooklyn, NY.</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
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<td>Malinowska, Aleksandra</td>
<td>for sixth year doctoral studies in Education Policy and Planning, University of Texas, Austin, TX.</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
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<td>Jaguszyn, Ariel</td>
<td>for second year of graduate studies in Education, Curriculum and Instruction, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL.</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
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<td>Pawlowska, Dorota</td>
<td>for four year of studies in Pharmacy and Public Administration at Fairleigh Dickinson University, Florham Park, NJ.</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
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<td>Wittek, Gabriela</td>
<td>for first year of doctoral studies in Pharmacology at University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA.</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
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<td>Dr. Irene S. Pyszkowski</td>
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**Notes:**
- **Morenz, Anna:** of Boston, MA – for second year of studies in Medicine, Harvard University, Boston, MA. $5,500
- **Zecca, Christina:** of Wilmington, DE – for first year of studies in Medicine at Weill Cornell Medical College, New York, NY. $5,500
- **Zmijewski, Claudia:** of Brooklyn, NY – for first year of studies in Medicine at SUNY Downstate College of Medicine, Brooklyn, NY. $4,000 (+ $3,000 from Pope JPII Scholarship)
- **Rolinski, Nicholas:** of Holland, MI – for third year of studies in Architecture at University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN. $4,500
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<td><strong>ZIELINSKI FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP FUND</strong></td>
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<td><strong>HOLMAN, JASON</strong> of Chicago, IL – for first year of graduate studies in Business Administration at University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA. $6,000</td>
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<td><strong>O’ROURKE, ANDREW</strong> of Studio City, CA – for second year of graduate studies in Entertainment Technology at Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA. $4,500</td>
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<td><strong>MASSACHUSETTS FEDERATION OF POLISH WOMEN’S CLUBS FUND - DR. MARIE E. ZAKRZEWSKA MEDICAL SCHOLARSHIP</strong></td>
<td><strong>LANG, NICHOLE</strong> of Worcester, MA – for third year of studies in Medicine at the University of Massachusetts, Worcester, MA. $3,500</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>POLISH NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF BROOKLYN, USA, INC. FUND</strong></td>
<td><strong>GALKA, EMILIA</strong> of Bethlehem, PA – for junior year of undergraduate studies in Chemical Engineering, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA. $365</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>GARDINIER, DAVID</strong> of Winter Springs, FL – for freshman year of undergraduate studies in Engineering, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL. $450</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>KACZOR, MAYA</strong> of Boston, MA – for sophomore year of undergraduate studies in Writing Literature and Publishing, Emerson College, Boston, MA. $525</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MCCORMACK, PATRICK</strong> of Westfield, NJ – for freshman year of undergraduate studies in Mechanical Engineering, New Jersey Institute of Technology, Newark, NJ. $475</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PLUCINSKI, PHILIP</strong> of Fort Lee, NJ – for second year of undergraduate studies in Computer Science and Information Technology, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ. $200</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>RUSZALA, DOMINIQUE</strong> of Lewisburg, PA for senior year of undergraduate studies in Animal Behavior, Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA. $500</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ZACHWIEJA, ZANETA</strong> of Elmwood Park, NJ – for sophomore year of undergraduate studies in Biology, Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ. $275</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>POLISH NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF BROOKLYN, USA, INC. FUND</strong></td>
<td><strong>GRANATOWSKI, ADAM</strong> of Buffalo, NY – for first year of graduate studies in History at University at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY. $2,000</td>
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</table>
Kosciuszko Foundation’s Exchange Programs to Poland, namely the Graduate/Postgraduate Studies and Research in Poland program and the Year Abroad program at the Center for Polish Language and Culture at the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, provides US citizens with opportunities to study Polish language in Poland and to research in Poland as part of the Foundation's Exchange Program with the Polish Ministry of National Education and Sciences. Candidates receive funding from the Polish Ministry and the Kosciuszko Foundation. The Ministry provides tuition waivers, and a modest stipend for housing and living expenses. In addition to funding from the Ministry, the Foundation provides each candidate with subsidies for living expenses. Please see below for a listing of awards made for study programs and research projects in Poland. Additional awards for academic year 2016-2017 are pending.

GRADUATE/POSTGRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH IN POLAND 2016/2017

CZERNIAK, SZYMON of Bellaire, TX – B.M. in Piano Performance, University of Houston, Houston, TX. To conduct advanced piano studies with Prof. Popowa Zydron at Akademia Muzyczna, Bydgoszcz, Poland from September 2016 through May 2017. $2,700 - 9 months

THE YEAR ABROAD PROGRAM AT THE JAGIELLONIAN UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR POLISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE IN THE WORLD 2016/2017

JACKSON, ELIZABETH of Cadott, WI – graduate student majoring in History at University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire, WI. $1,800 full academic year

SUMMER STUDIES AT THE JAGIELLONIAN UNIVERSITY, SUMMER 2016

Each year the Kosciuszko Foundation supports Americans of Polish ancestry for summer language programs in Poland. Students attend Polish language classes and lectures in Polish history, grammar, literature, sociology and more. The summer programs include cultural events such as re-enactment of Christmas eve dinners in Poland, traditional dances, contests in Polish language, and visits to cultural and historic places and nearby tourist attractions. This past summer, we awarded the first two scholarships from the Wisconsin Study in Poland (WSIP) Fund. Additional funding of $1,250 was made from the Constance Gray Fund, and $31,275 from the Tomaszkiewicz-Florio Scholarship Fund. A total of $36,375 was made to students to attend programs at the Jagiellonian University in Cracow. Scholarships for Session A, a 4-week program, were in the amount of $1,925; students attending Session B, a 3-week program, were awarded $1,250. Below, please find a list of our scholarship winners:

ADAMCZYK, MARLENA of Athens, GA – junior majoring in Biology/Pre-Dental at University of Georgia, Athens, GA. Tomaszkiewicz-Florio Scholarship, Session B

BERRY, MARIANNA of Raleigh, NC – sophomore majoring in Biological Science at North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC. Tomaszkiewicz-Florio Scholarship, Session B

BIERNAT, ISABELLA of Elk Grove Village, IL – freshman majoring in Liberal Arts at Oakton Community College, Des Plaines, IL. Tomaszkiewicz-Florio Scholarship, Session A

BORYCZKA, BARTLOMIEJ of Appleton, WI – high school senior majoring in Global Studies at Appleton West High School, Appleton, WI. Wisconsin Study in Poland Scholarship, Session A

BURZYNSKI, PETER of Milwaukee, WI – graduate student majoring in Creative Writing at University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI. Wisconsin Study in Poland Scholarship, Session A

DRASH, MICHAEL of Charlottesville, VA – junior majoring in Linguistics and Russian Language & Literature at University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA. Tomaszkiewicz-Florio Scholarship, Session A
THE KOZMINSKY, KACPER of Niagara Falls, NY – sophomore majoring in International Business at Buffalo State College, Buffalo, NY. Tomaszekiewicz-Florio Scholarship, Session B

FRANASZCZUK, MONIKA of Superior, CO – sophomore majoring in Russian and Eastern European Studies/ Musical Studies at Oberlin College and Conservatory, Oberlin, OH. Tomaszekiewicz-Florio Scholarship, Session A

HEROLD, EMILY of Belle Vernon, PA – junior majoring in Pharmacy at Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA. Tomaszekiewicz-Florio Scholarship, Session A

JANSEN, GERHARD (GARRETT) of Williamsburg, VA – senior majoring in Sociology of Religion at College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA. Tomaszekiewicz-Florio Scholarship, Session A

KLATKA, KAROLINA of Rock Springs, WY – undergraduate freshman majoring in Dance and Journalism at University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY. Constance Gray Scholarship, Session B

KOSCIUSZKO FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

KOZMINSKY, KACPER of Niagara Falls, NY – sophomore majoring in International Business at Buffalo State College, Buffalo, NY. Tomaszekiewicz-Florio Scholarship, Session B

MCGINLEY, ERIN of Dorchester, MA – junior majoring in Political Science at University of Massachusetts, Boston, MA. Tomaszekiewicz-Florio Scholarship, Session A

MOKRZAN, THERESA of Hilliard, OH – junior majoring in Psychology at Xavier University, Cincinnati, OH. Tomaszekiewicz-Florio Scholarship, Session A

OLECHNO, NATALIE of Chicago, IL – senior majoring in Liberal Arts at St. Ignatius College Prep High School, Chicago, IL. Tomaszekiewicz-Florio Scholarship, Session A

POLANSKI, RACHEL of Clarence Center, NY – junior majoring in Applied Mathematics at University at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY. Tomaszekiewicz-Florio Scholarship, Session B

SZELENVICZ, DANIEL of Hopkinton, MA – sophomore majoring in Chemistry at University at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY. Tomaszekiewicz-Florio Scholarship, Session B

WOLANSKI, NATALIE of Southwick, MA – junior majoring in Physician Assistant at Quinnipiac University, Hamden, CT. Tomaszekiewicz-Florio Scholarship, Session A

THE KOZCIUSZKO FOUNDATION RECOMMENDS:

War and Diplomacy in East and West: A Biography of Józef Retinger

M. B. B. Biskupski

Routledge, Chapman & Hall, Inc., 2017

This book is an admirable first effort by an author to compile a comprehensive biography of Józef Retinger, a Polish politician who was a brilliant, imaginative and influential figure in the 20th century. Retinger was a friend of politicians and diplomats of the highest rank in the West and the U.S. He was the founder of the Bilderberg Group and is considered a father of the European Union. Dr. Biskupski, known for his diligent research skills, drew on materials found in many archival collections and used many sources that had not been previously tapped to shed light on the life of this mysterious and intriguing political figure.

M. B. B. Biskupski holds the S. A. Blejwas Endowed Chair in Polish History at Central Connecticut State University, USA, and is a President of the Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences of America in New York. He is a renowned historian and author of numerous books and scholarly essays.
CELEBRATING BIRTHDAY ANNIVERSARIES IN 2017

160 years since the birth of Joseph Conrad (born as Józef Teodor Konrad Korzeniowski) (1857-1924) - Regarded as one of the greatest English novelists, Joseph Conrad is admired for the richness of his prose, narrative technique, and his interest in moral conflict. Born to Polish parents and raised and educated in Poland, he did not speak English fluently until his twenties, yet he became a distinguished stylist, publishing dozens of novels and stories. He is well-known for his novels such as Heart of Darkness and Lord Jim, which drew on his experience as a mariner and addressed themes of human nature. Over 80 films, television programs and other visual works have been based on his writings.

“I don’t like work… but I like what is in work – the chance to find yourself. Your own reality – for yourself, not for others – which no other man can ever know.” – Joseph Conrad

150 years since the birth of Marie Skłodowska Curie (1867-1934) – The most celebrated female scientist of all time, the first woman to win a Nobel Prize, and the only person to win the award in two different fields: physics and chemistry. She was also the first woman to become a professor of the University of Paris (later, Sorbonne University). Her achievements included the development of the theory of radioactivity, techniques for isolating radioactive isotopes, and the discovery of polonium and radium. She founded the Curie Institutes in Paris and in Warsaw, which remain major centers of medical research today.

In a letter to KF Founder Stephen Mizwa dated 1927, Marie Skłodowska Curie agreed to set up a scholarship fund in her name. Celebrating her 150th birthday, on November 7, the Kosciuszko Foundation will present a recent movie directed by Marie Noelle: “Marie Curie. The Courage of Knowledge.”

“Life is not easy for any of us. But what of that? We must have perseverance and above all confidence in ourselves. We must believe that we are gifted for something, and that this thing, at whatever cost, must be attained.” - Marie Skłodowska Curie

130 years since the birth of Arthur Rubinstein (1887-1982) – Considered one of the greatest pianists of the 20th century, he received international acclaim for his performances of the music written by a variety of composers. He began playing piano at the age of 3, made his performance debut shortly thereafter, and played in public for the following eight decades.

Many regard him as the greatest Chopin interpreter of his time. On October 17, 1949, Arthur Rubinstein played an all-Chopin concert at the Metropolitan Opera House, organized by the Kosciuszko Foundation under the auspices of the Chopin Centennial National Committee. It was a benefit concert partly for the Chopin Fund organized by Mr. Rubinstein and partly for the KF Chopin Scholarship Fund. A “brilliant audience,” as the New York Times critic put it, packed the “Met” to full capacity. Among the patrons in attendance were John D. Rockefeller, John Hubbard and Christian Dior.

Arthur Rubinstein was an unofficial ambassador of Poland to the world at large, bringing credit to the country of his birth and being a source of pride to Poles and Polish Americans. In 1958 Arthur Rubinstein was presented with the KF Medal of Recognition.

“I have found that if you love life, life will love you back.” – Arthur Rubinstein

The Kosciuszko Foundation extends its heartfelt thanks to Eva, Paul, Alina and John Rubinstein for donating a bust of their father - Arthur Rubinstein to the Kosciuszko Foundation. The bust was made in bronze by Nathan Rapoport and was commissioned for Carnegie Hall in 1976. Only few castings were made. The donated bust had been in Arthur Rubinstein’s Paris home and now is installed in the KF Art Gallery.
UPCOMING CULTURAL EVENTS AT THE KOSCIUSZKO FOUNDATION

In this coming fall season, we’ll present a broad offering of cultural events featuring recitals, art exhibits, film screenings, talks and lectures with renowned artists, performers and thinkers from USA, Poland and Canada.

The season opens with the evening with awarded and internationally bestselling author – Eva Stachniak, whose third novel "The Winter Palace" (published in 2012) was named one of the best books by the Wall Street Journal and the Washington Post. On Tuesday evening of Sept 12, Eva Stachniak will talk about her most recent novel "The Chosen Maiden" – a story inspired by the life and art of Bronisława Nijinska, a remarkable ballerina and choreographer; born to Polish parents in Russia, who for the last 30 years of her life was an American citizen.

In October, while the KF President will be opening the exhibit presenting some of the paintings from the KF Master's Gallery at the Palace on the Water (Łazienki) in Warsaw, Poland, here at the KF we’ll present a concert by Cracow Duo featuring two accomplished artists Kalinowski (cello) – Szlezer (piano) from Cracow, the city where Kosciuszko took an oath just before launching his insurrection in March 1794. The musicians have performed together for 15 years in Europe, Asia and the USA (including the Carnegie Hall in NY and Newman Hall in LA in 2015) receiving the highest critical acclaim. On October 20 they will perform selected works by Chopin, Paderewski, Stojowski, Nowowiejski and other composers in a concert commemorating Tadeusz Kosciuszko on the bicentennial of his passing.

In partnership with the Polish Cultural Institute New York, the KF will also present a recital by Konrad Skolarski, another eminent pianist from Poland, whom Krzysztof Penderecki describes as "great virtuoso of the piano.” He will perform compositions by Chopin, Bach, Beethoven and Grieg on November 10, in a concert celebrating the Independence Day of Poland.

On November 28 we’ll shine a spotlight on Monika Krajewska, mezzo-soprano and Yelena Kurdina, piano in a recital "Romantic Soul of Europe" featuring arias by Bellini, Donizetti, Karlowicz, Moniuszko, Rachmaninoff and others. Monika’s rich and powerful voice filled every cubic inch of the Grand Ballroom of the Plaza Hotel with over 400 guests during her mini recital at the last KF Ball receiving a thunderous standing ovation. Imagine what the same voice can do with space of the KF Gallery room fitting 100 guests.

And on January 23, "beyond amazing" (-Fanfare Magazine), "stylish and vibrant (...) playing with verve and superb control" (-The Strad) Kinga Augustyn will play notes by Schubert, Ysaÿea, Fauré, Franck and other composers in a violin recital.

On October 28, we cordially invite everyone for an evening with a renowned Polish scientist, authority on molecular biology, genetics and microbiology, Professor Emeritus of Oncology in the McArdle Laboratory for Cancer Research, Waclaw Szybalski. The event is part of the KF Collegium of Eminent Scientists’ Series and will feature remarks by Dr. William Summers from Yale University, a movie screening by Anna Ferens and a mini piano recital by Malgorzata Goroszewska.

Attention admirers of visual arts! "Rafal Olbinski at the Kosciuszko Foundation” exhibit presenting dozens of original works by the artist will be open to the public at the Kosciuszko Foundation House for two weeks beginning as of November 20. We are also planning to host two evenings of movie screening and discussion focusing on two world’s most famous and accomplished Polish women. On November 8, to mark the 150 anniversary of Marie Sklodowska-Curie’s birth, we’ll present a screening of “Marie Curie. The Courage of Knowledge” by Marie Noelle (French-German-Polish coproduction) and on January 18 – director Mariusz Kotowski will discuss his "Pola Negri – Life is a Dream in Cinema.”

At the time of creating of this newsletter, we are in the final stage of preparations for our major competitions, which both will take place in 2018: Chopin Piano Competition and Marcella Sembrich Vocal Competition. Check our website for more information on how to apply.

Believing that we managed to include something for everyone in the presented cultural events program, we hope that it meets your expectations.

Proceeds from the tickets as well as donations to KF Cultural Fund will support our efforts to enrich and expand our cultural offer, to present events with renowned artists and intellectuals and to help young, talented and aspiring ones in pursuing their professional goals. We thank you for your contributions and look forward to seeing you in the audience.

Ewa Zadworna

Director of Cultural Affairs
**CALENDAR OF KF EVENTS: FALL 2017 - WINTER 2018**

**September 12** – An author’s evening with the award winning and bestselling writer Eva Stachniak presenting her latest novel: “The Chosen Maiden”

**September 23** – “Kosciuszko, Jefferson and History’s Forgotten man From Stockbridge” - A lecture by Professor Gary Nash of UCLA at the Museum of the American Revolution in Philadelphia. Event organized by the KF Chicago Chapter.

**October 1** – Pulaski Day Parade; a reception and an artistic performance by young artists at the KF House

**October 12** – Celebrating the Kosciuszko Year at the Kosciuszko Foundation House – an event including live music, talks and award recognition presentation

**October 19** – Opening of the exhibit featuring works of art from the KF at the Royal Palace on the Water (Lazienki Museum) in Warsaw, Poland

**October 20** – A concert by Cracow Duo: Jan Kalinowski, cello and Marek Szlezer, piano

**October 28** – An evening with Prof. Wawel Szybalski featuring documentary screening by Anna Ferens, remarks by Prof. William Summers, a mini piano recital by Małgorzata Goroszewska. The event is part of the KF Collegium of Eminent Scientists’ Series.

**November 8** – “Marie Curie. The Courage of Knowledge” by Marie Noelle – a movie screening – event marking 150th anniversary of birth of Marie Sklodowska Curie

**November 10** – A piano concert by Konrad Skolarski in celebration of the Independence Day of Poland

**November 18** – Rafal Olbinski at the Kosciuszko Foundation - exhibit of selected works by the artist (open to the public for two weeks as of Nov. 20th from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.)

**November 19** – Musical Tribute to Tadeusz Kosciuszko – a concert at the Carnegie Hall (The KF is a co-sponsor of the event)

**November 28** – “Romantic Soul of Europe” - A recital by Monika Krajewska, mezzo-soprano and Yelena Kurdina, piano

**December 2** – The KF Gala Dinner in Washington, D.C.: Celebrating the Year of Tadeusz Kosciuszko; Mayflower Hotel, Stateroom, Washington, DC

**December 8** – A piano concert for four hands featuring: Rafal Lewandowski and Alexander Peskanov

**December 9** – Meet Santa Claus – an event for children and their parents hosted by the Polish American Teachers Association

**December 19** – Members’ Christmas Party

**January 18** – “Pola Negri – Life is a Dream in Cinema” – movie screening and talk with the director, Mariusz Kotowski

**January 23** – A concert by Kinga Augustyn, violin
The Kosciuszko Foundation hosts a variety of social, educational and cultural events to advance its mission of promoting Polish culture in the United States. Here are some of the last season’s highlights:

A recital of Polish songs by Adrianna Biedrzynska

Master & Student – Music Meets Art – a showcase of work by young artists at the Kosciuszko Foundation in NYC

Andrzej Rojek, Vice-Chair of the KF introducing President-elect Marek skimowski during Members’ Christmas Party

Dr. Julian E. Kulski, KF Trustee, Warsaw Uprising Fighter, gives the lifetime KF Membership to Marcin Gortat, NBA player. In the picture with Barbara Bernhardt, KF Director in Washington, DC. (Photo: Embassy of Poland/D. Mikołajczyk)

An author’s evening with Prof. Andrzej Krakowski presenting his recent book: “Pollywood II: Refugees in Paradise”

Chamber Music Masterworks – Brahms and Dvořák Piano Quintets by Malgorzata Goroszewska, piano, Sheng-Ching Hsu, violin, Patrick Yim, violin, Mujan Hosseinzadeh, viola and Benjamin Larsen, cello

Artistic performance by Wojciech Bukalski, bass and Tadeusz Domanowski, piano

The Inaugural lecture of the KF Collegium of Eminent Scientists: “Photochemistries are a Bridge” by Prof. Roald Hoffmann, Nobel Prize Winner in Chemistry (1981)

A recital by Jakub Jozef Orlinski, countertenor and Michał Biel, piano at the Kosciuszko Foundation. Jakub Orlinski was a winner of 2015 KF Marcella Sembrich Vocal Competition and 2016 Grand Finals of Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions.

Chopin piano recital by Dr. Magdalena Baczewska

“On the Road. American Landscape” – an exhibition of photographs by Hanna Kelker, Ph.D.

A Tribute to painter and one of the founders of the Op-Art Movement - Julian Stanczak (1928-2017)

A recital by Jakub Jozef Orlinski, countertenor and Michał Biel, piano at the Kosciuszko Foundation. Jakub Orlinski was a winner of 2015 KF Marcella Sembrich Vocal Competition and 2016 Grand Finals of Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions.
WASHINGTON DC

“Polish Day” in Washington D.C.
Celebrating Tadeusz Kosciuszko: A Dreamer Ahead of his Time.

A diverse and cheerful gathering of one hundred Polish-American guests from Washington D.C., Virginia and Maryland celebrated the 4th Annual Polish Day on Saturday, July 15th at the Kosciusko Foundation in Washington D.C. The Polish Ambassador to the U.S., Prof. Piotr Wilczek delivered opening remarks including a brief summary of General Tadeusz Kosciuszko’s most outstanding accomplishments as well as accolades for the Kosciusko Foundation that advocates for the General’s legacy of love, honor and persistence. “We are thankful to the Foundation for promoting this heritage and investing in people to people contact,” Ambassador Wilczek stated, wishing visitors “a happy celebration today and every day.” Barbara Bernhardt, the Foundation’s D.C. Director, took to the stage with a romantic approach and emphasized Tadeusz Kosciuszko’s broad intellectual as well as artistic horizons, praising him as “an artist, composer and poetry lover.”

“It was while we were in Philadelphia, in that year of 1798, that Tadeusz first broached the topic of his will. He made a most extraordinary request of me. Tadeusz had earned $15,000 from his service in the war – quite a substantial sum, as I’m sure you can understand. He wanted to turn this sum over, at the time of his death, to free Negro slaves and educate them. He made two versions of a will. He appointed me the executor of his will. He left the money with me” - Mr. Feffer-as-Thomas Jefferson, recited, and then explained why… Kosciusko’s last will was never executed by Jefferson - “[…] And Tadeusz was a dreamer. He dreamed of an independent Poland. He dreamed of an end to slavery. These are fine dreams, sir. […] But, in the end, we must all wake up from our dreams. And go about our business”.

Kosciuszko must have appreciated dreamy art, since he composed several music pieces, a couple of which – a polonaise and a waltz - were now played at the reception on piano by Mr. Labazevitch. Lunch followed his performance. “You are the heart, soul and spirit of the Kosciusko Foundation” – Tomasz Kierul, the Kosciusko Foundation’s Director of Development, told the guests. With such positive reinforcement, coming on the heels of aesthetic fulfillment, now guests rushed to lunch tables hoping to satiate their appetite as well.
Chapter’s Annual Meeting took place on April 23, 2016 in Polish Museum of America in Chicago. It included election and presentation “Stroll through the Medieval Ages Krakow” by KF fellow, Dr. Jakub Wysmulek, History Faculty of University of Warsaw and Institute of Philosophy and Sociology of the Polish Academy of Sciences.

Chapter assisted in organizing a special presentation “Rycerze na polach Grunwaldu” by Dr. Wysmulek. The presentation was addressed to students in Polish Saturday schools and was organized in the Polish Museum of America.

On October 7, 2016 the Chapter organized a chamber concert of music by Chopin, Paderewski, Panufik, Gorecki and Bacewicz by Multi Trio: Ewa Poblocka, piano; Ewa Leszczynska, soprano; Maria Leszczynska, cello. The event took place in residence of Dr. Kornelia Krol in Winnetka, Illinois.

On October 28, 2016 the Chapter celebrated Kosciuszko’s Name’s Day. On this occasion, our Chapter honored Dr. Anna Kordylewska for her leadership and dedication to Chicago’s Polish Community. The event took place in the Polish Museum of America (PMA) in Chicago.

In cooperation with newly established Polish and European Academic Center for Exchange & Research (PEACER) at Northeastern Illinois University (NEIU) in Chicago, Chapter created Kosciuszko Foundation Lecture series. Dr. Wysmulek’s lecture “Wills as Tools of Power in the Late Medieval Urban Community of Krakow” initiated on April 26, 2016 the series of KF lectures. Second lecture from this series “News from the Regenerative Medicine,” by KF fellow Dr. Anna Domaszewska-Szostek of the Department of Human Epigenetics, Mossakowski Medical Research Centre, Polish Academy of Sciences in Warsaw, Poland was organized on September 8, 2016. An introduction to the lecture was delivered by Dr. Maria Siemionow, an internationally recognized surgeon and president of the American Society for Reconstructive Transplantation. In 2008, she led a team of surgeons that performed the first...
near-total face transplant in the United States at the Cleveland Clinic. Most recently a presentation “In the Search of Glory, Money and New Experience - Central and Eastern European Music Artists in the U.S. Around 1900” by former KF fellow Dr. Tomasz Pudlocki from the Institute of History, Jagiellonian University, Poland was organized on November 10, 2016.

Chapter participated also in the PEACER week organized in December at NEIU by presenting Teaching English in Poland program and promoting KF exchange program with Poland.

Also in November the Chapter met with Ewa Modzelewksa, KF fellow to learned about her research on Polish immigrants in United States.

Chapter sponsored Holiday Concert of Lira Ensemble, directed by KF member and co-founder of the Chicago Chapter, Lucyna Migala. The concert took place in the Chicago Orchestra Hall on December 4, 2016. A portion of the concert was devoted to the opening of Kosciuszko Year.

Chapter participated and supported the celebration of 80th anniversary of Polish Museum of America in January 2017.

The Chapter Annual meeting took place on May 11, 2017 in residence of Dr. Kornelia Krol. In artistic program two soloist of Lira Ensemble Ewa Kowcz-Fair (soprano) and Anna Mazur (alt) performed to music of Mieczyslaw Karlowicz and Stanislaw Moniuszko, accompanied by Marek Rachelski (piano). Program was prepared and announced by Lucyna Migala, artistic director of Lira Ensemble and co-founder of the Chicago Chapter KF.

Results of the election: Lidia Filus, President; Anna Kordylewska, Vice President; Jolanta Pawlikowska, Secretary; Witold J. Pawlikowski, Treasurer; Maria Zakrzewska, Member; Czeslawa Kolak, Member; Ex Officio: Ewa Radwanska – K.F. Trustee, Joanna Rudnicka – Past President.

Chapter is preparing to celebration of this year Kosciuszko Imieniny that will place on October 27. This year honoree is Dr. Kornelia Krol.

NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER

On Sunday, April 23, 2017 the Kosciuszko Foundation New England Chapter held the 17th Annual Awards Luncheon at which the Chapter recognizes and congratulates Kosciuszko Foundation scholarship and grant recipients. The luncheon took place at Mount Holyoke College in South Hadley, Massachusetts. 150 people attended the Gala. Of the 29 recipients 14 were in attendance. Their accomplishments are extraordinary!

In attendance were Marek Skulimowski, President & Executive Director of the Kosciuszko Foundation; Peter Novak, Trustee of the Kosciuszko Foundation; Marek Lesniewski-Laas, Honorary Consul of the Republic of Poland from Boston; Richard Kos, Mayor of the City of Chicopee; Professor Robert Rothstein Walter Raleigh Amesbury Jr. & Cecile Dudley Amesbury Prof. of Polish Language, Literature & Culture at UMass/Amherst; Ronald Lech, President of the Polish Center of Discovery & Learning at Elms College; Carl Eger, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Polish Center of Discovery & Learning at Elms College; Anthony Bajdek: National VP for American Affairs, Polish American Congress, President and Founder, Polish American Congress of New Hampshire, President and Founder, American Assoc of the Friends of Kosciuszko at West Point; Joseph Kos: President of the Polish American Congress of Western MA; Theresa Struziak Sherman, National Director of the Polish National Alliance; Wanda Milecki Commissioner of PNA District 1; Jeannie Zapala VP/ PNA Council 62; Frederick Zimnoch, President of the Polish Genealogical Society of MA.
Marek Skulimowski presented the award certificates to each of the recipients after which recipients spoke about their studies and/or research and their future plans.

The Chapter also presented the NE Chapter Distinguished Polish-American Award for 2017 to Stephen Jendrysik a noted educator in high school and college, columnist, writer and narrator. As a historian he has made the people in Western MA aware of the legacy of the City of Chicopee and the Polish contribution.

The Chapter also recognized The Irena Sendler awardees Jennifer Brzezinski 2015 and Johnie Sanders 2017 for their excellence in social work at Elms College.

April 16, 2016 saw the inauguration of Polish Cultural Salons in Philadelphia & New Jersey. The Polish Cultural Salons promoting our culture are inspired by the famous Thursday Dinners of King Stanislaw Poniatowski, where the king and his guests dined and discussed the literature, art and politics of the day.

Our Salons take place in the private homes of KF Philly members and friends. We organized six salons so far with themes focused on: (i) poetry readings both Polish classics and the poets in exile, (ii) music: piano, violin and jazz concerts performed by member-musicians, (iii) presentation on “Cichociemni,” the elite Polish special operatives trained in England and dropped behind enemy lines into German occupied Poland during World War II, (iv) screening of the documentary: “Kościuszko: A Man Ahead of His Time” directed by Alex Storozynski.

PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER

This year marks 200th anniversary of Tadeusz Kosciuszko’s death, and UNESCO has proclaimed year 2017 as the YEAR OF KOCSIUSZKO. We are proud to announce that our Chapter will celebrate Kosciuszko’s Bicentennial anniversary on September 23rd in one of the most prestigious and meaningful places in Philadelphia: the new Museum of the American Revolution on Chestnut and 3rd Street. Prof. Gary Nash, an expert on the American Revolution and the author of “Friends of Liberty: Thomas Jefferson, Tadeusz Kosciuszko and Agrippa Hull” will present a lecture about Tadeusz Kosciuszko.

The Kosciuszko Essay Competition. The Committee of Cooperation with the African American Community met with students at Mastery Charter School at Pickett Campus in Philadelphia on June 6, 2017. The students and their teachers selected the topics: Why is Tadeusz Kosciuszko an inspirational leader to me?

Training of Volunteers for Kosciuszko House Completed. Five members of the local Polish organizations including the KF Philadelphia Chapter and Polish Heritage Society of Philadelphia completed the required training with the National Park Service. Located at the corner of Pine and Third streets in Philadelphia, the Kosciuszko House is part of the Independence National Historical Park.

We will celebrate our 2017 Christmas Dinner Theatre on Saturday December 9, 2017 at the Associated Polish Home in Philadelphia. A Musical Drama “Good Evening Monsieur Chopin” will be presented by the Polish Theatre in Toronto starring Maria Nowotarska, Agata Pilitowska and Piotr Pilitowski.

Chapter continues to offer Tomaszkiewicz-Florio and Mr. Raymond Wyszynski scholarships for the summer program at the Jagiellonian University.

We are delighted that more than 60 new members joined the KF Philadelphia Chapter this year!

We are continuing our tradition of organizing a Christmas Celebration.
PITTSBURGH CHAPTER

The Pittsburgh Chapter of the Kosciuszko Foundation is alive and well and growing. The chapter has recently appointed Father Thomas Schaeffer, Vice President for Global Affairs at La Roche College in Pittsburgh as our chaplain. Together the officers and board of directors have been busy planning fall events.

The Pittsburgh Chapter of the Kosciuszko Foundation will present its Outstanding Polonian Award to Mr. Val Pawlos, National Business Director for the Polish National Alliance and the President of the West End Pulaski Society during a luncheon on Saturday, September 23, at 11:30 A.M. The luncheon will be held in the junior ballroom of the Double Tree Hotel.

A retired employee of the City of Pittsburgh Water Authority, Mr. Pawlos has spent much of his adult life supporting and promoting his Polish heritage and Polish culture through the activities of the PNA and the West End Pulaski Society on both the local and national levels.

Plans are underway for the Pittsburgh premier of the film “Kosciuszko: A Man Ahead of His Time” based upon the book by Alex Storozynski The Peasant Prince: Thaddeus Kosciuszko and the Age of Revolution, published in 2009 by Saint Martin’s Press. The film will be shown at the Tull Family Theater in Sewickley, PA in late September.

Also planned for fall is an art sale featuring the work of local Polish and Pittsburgh artists. The sale will be free and open to the public. Proceeds will benefit our chapter scholarship fund.

THANK YOU FOR BEING A KOSCIUSZKO FOUNDATION MEMBER!

During this special year, dedicated to Kosciuszko by both UNESCO and Polish Parliament, your generous membership donation helped fund a number of efforts, including:

• Awarding 144 scholarships, fellowships and grants to some extraordinary individuals.

• Keeping Kosciuszko’s name with cooperation of the New York State Department of Transportation on the new bridge connecting Brooklyn and Queens.

• Against all odds, securing that the “Kosciuszko House” in Philadelphia will remain open.

As we move ahead, we aim to accomplish even more.

However, we cannot do it without the generous contributions from members like you! Please join the Kosciuszko Foundation for another successful year by renewing your membership today.

Your participation and commitment to the Kosciuszko Foundation strengthen the ability of our Polish-American community to continue our mission of promoting education and a broad and deep understanding of Polish culture.

As always, we thank you for your continued dedication to promoting Polish culture in the US and we look forward to another successful year together!
Children's Illustration Contest

Are you a young artist or do you know a young artist in 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, or 7th grade? Would you like to help illustrate a book about classical music? If so, we would love for you to be a part of The Children's Rhymes Project: an international community engagement project featuring an illustration contest for children in grades 2-7.

Original artwork in two-dimensional mediums such as ink, watercolor, pastel, colored or graphite pencil is being solicited from each Kosciuszko Foundation chapter and children everywhere to illustrate a forthcoming book on the Polish composer, Karol Szymanowski (1882-1937), by Laura Kafka, Ph.D.

Nineteen rhymes by Polish poet, Kazimiera Iłłakowiczówna (1892-1983) set to music by Szymanowski are featured in the book. Children in grades 2-7 can submit original artwork that best illustrates the meaning of each of the nineteen rhymes. The best original artwork selected by qualified judges will be included in the book, will receive monetary prizes, and a copy of the book.

Currently under construction, but coming very soon, is www.the-childrens-rhymes-project.com where you will find complete instructions on submitting original artwork (by November 30, 2017) and where you will be able to listen to each rhyme recited by a child in both Polish and in English translation to inspire you to draw something beautiful!

The Children's Rhymes Project is supported by grants from The Kosciuszko Foundation, The American Council for Polish Culture, The Polish American Arts Association of Washington, DC, The Peabody Conservatory of The Johns Hopkins University, and generous individuals.

An original illustration by Patti Pogodziński of Karol Szymanowski (1882-1937) in a rocking chair surrounded by the characters from Kazimiera Iłłakowiczówna's poems.
Volunteer at the KF

The Kosciuszko Foundation is eager to hear from college and graduate students and community members with communication, research and computer skills interested in supporting the Foundation’s work through pro bono service. Time commitment varies based on your interests, the needs of the Foundation, as well as your schedule.

There are several ways for volunteers to help the Foundation. Please see descriptions of our volunteer opportunities below:

**KF Annual Dinner & Ball and other fundraising events**

We need volunteers to help with preparations for the Ball and/or other fundraising events hosted throughout the year. Responsibilities include helping with promotional activities, identifying and reaching out to donors, setting up events, greeting and assisting guests, selling raffle tickets, providing general event monitoring, and more.

**Cultural and Special Events:** The Foundation holds many cultural and special events each year. We seek volunteers to assist us in making our events interesting and enjoyable. Volunteer job responsibilities include: event set-up, registration, greeting and directing guests and other miscellaneous tasks.

**Office Help:** The Foundation needs volunteers to answer phones, help with archive digitalization, mailings, data entry and other administrative tasks to assist full-time staff members.

**Creative Support:** The Foundation could use any of your special skills and talents, such as photography, graphic design, writing, etc. for a variety of organizational activities;

**Research:** help us find prospective foundation, corporate and individual donors.

**REASONS TO VOLUNTEER:**

Apart from your own motivation to become part of the Kosciuszko Foundation team, become a volunteer and you will receive: a free membership to the organization (minimum 50 hours of time commitment is required), a thank-you gift from the Kosciuszko Foundation, a letter from the Kosciuszko Foundation President and Executive Director recognizing your contributions, recognition during the event that you assisted with (where applicable), the ability to gain valuable work experience to add to your resume, the opportunity to gain new skills, and a chance to make new friends and meet a diverse group of interesting people devoted to an important cause.

If you are interested in volunteering with the Kosciuszko Foundation, please state your area(s) of interest and send your resume to: development@thekf.org or contact us at (212) 734-2130.

Thank you for your interest in volunteer opportunities with the Kosciuszko Foundation!

Thank you to our volunteer

**OLIVIER KUCZYNSKI**

Meet our summer intern, Oliver Kuczynski. Oliver is a junior at Boston College, studying Political Science and Eastern European Studies. He is also a member of Boston College Men’s Rugby and the Model UN club. He has assisted with historical research, outreach, and office tasks that he attests to be interesting and extensive hands-on work, that has allowed him to improve his time/resource management, trouble-shooting, and Microsoft Office skills.

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