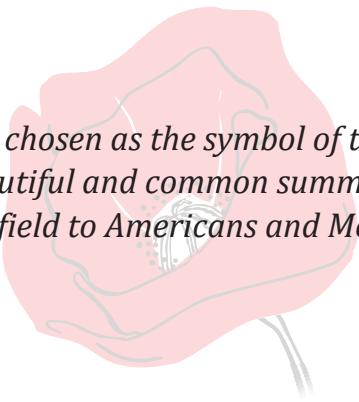


THE POLISH MUSEUM OF AMERICA

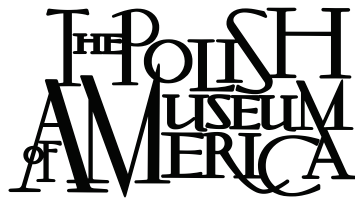


THE POLISH
MUSEUM
OF AMERICA

THE 40TH ANNUAL GALA



*The poppy was chosen as the symbol of the Summer Gala
because it is both a beautiful and common summer wild flower of Poland,
symbolizing Flanders's field to Americans and Monte Cassino to the Poles.*



The Polish Museum of America Presents

its

VIRTUAL 40TH GALA

NOVEMBER 7TH, 2020 @ 6PM

Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic we will stream our Gala virtually

This year's program will include:

Music by the ANTHONY KAWALKOWSKI TRIO

Spirit Award recipients for 2020 are:

**HOLY TRINITY POLISH MISSION accepted by PASTOR ANDRZEJ TOTZKE, SChr
IZABELA J. ROMAN, M.D., PH.D.**



Our Mistress of Ceremony, Magda Walczak,
will guide you through videos of the Polish Museum of America,
ballroom dance performance by the Interclub Academy of Dance, plus more.

Your support during this unprecedented time is greatly appreciated!

Please log on to our website to make a donation.
Log into polishmuseumofamerica.org – Nov 7th at 6 PM

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Michał Klempka

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Marek Rowicki

Robert Kowalski

Katarzyna Rychcik



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to the 40th Polish Museum of America Gala streaming live from the Sabina Logisz Great Hall. 2020 has been a year like no other. Normally, we would have celebrated the Summer Gala in June but due to the pandemic we were forced to cancel the in-person event and change the Gala to a virtual event. This year, as many cultural institutions throughout the United States and the world, we were forced to close our doors to the public. Cancellation of museum tours, events, and activities was a difficult step in dealing with the pandemic. The effect on our finances has been difficult. Even though the PMA was closed to the public, the staff continued to work from home on many projects. We are grateful to the Polish Ministry of Culture and National Heritage for awarding a grant to fund our operations, programs, and promotion of the PMA this past summer. We are also grateful to our Life Heritage Members and Life Members for heeding the call to action and supporting the Life Member Appeal which raised over \$110,000.00.

Tonight, as we stream live from the Museum, I hope that you feel a part of the Gala even though we are not together in person. This year we not only celebrate the 40th Gala but we also celebrate the 85th anniversary of the founding of the PMA by the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America. I also want to congratulate the 2020 Polish Spirit Award recipients: Holy Trinity Polish Mission and Dr. Izabela Roman for their support of the PMA and their work in Polonia.

Since the last Summer Gala, the officers, Board of Directors, and staff have continued in making the PMA an institution that evolves and continues to attract. We have a new permanent exhibit featuring Polish modern art through the generosity of Dr. Anna Paré. The Deborah Greenlee Room containing panel walls and fixtures from the Polish Pavilion was refurbished with funding from the Polish Consulate in Chicago. The Transportation Exhibit Room was updated with new cabinetry and artifacts. 29 paintings were conserved and repaired with funding provided by Institut Polonika. Along with many smaller improvements, the PMA continues everything it can do to make a visit to the Museum pleasant, memorable, and educational. We want the Museum to be a destination for all those who are interested in our Polish heritage.

On behalf of the officers, Board of Directors, staff, and volunteers, I want to thank all our donors to the 40th Gala. I especially want to thank our anonymous donor who challenged us with a matching \$25,000 donation. The funds raised will allow us to continue our mission of "Preserving the Past to Benefit the Future" into 2021. I also want to recognize the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America for their support of the PMA for 85 years. To all our donors and sponsors throughout the year, thank you for your faith in and commitment to the Polish Museum of America. *BÓG ZAPŁAĆ!*

All of us at the Polish Museum of America hope that we will see you soon at the Museum.

Richard Owsiany
President



“Gratitude turns what we have into enough.” – Anonymous

2020 has proven to be a difficult, stressful, but special year for all of us. Amid the ongoing pandemic, the PMA team realized its strengths and rediscovered its professional passions. As the PMA celebrates 85 years of being part of this strong and generous community, and staying true to our mission of preserving the history of Poles and Polonia, we look back to our past to understand where we are today. *Widać lepiej w oddaleniu* – Everything looks clearer from a distance.

Many items from the PMA archives, library, and museum collections were catalogued and many histories became clearer and well-rounded from a historical point of view. The PMA team worked tirelessly. During these hard times, we were able to help one another on a professional and personal level. An additional 22 paintings were conserved thanks to continued cooperation with Polonica – The National Institute of Polish Cultural Heritage Abroad. Refreshed, they have returned to the PMA and await the safe return of guests to be viewed once again.

Many of our volunteers and friends supported us with good words and cheer. Although apart, we stayed connected online. Past events, shared again on their anniversaries via social media platforms, gave a deeper understanding and proved to be very popular – some reaching thousands of views. Many appreciate art and culture even more when they are not able to engage with it in person. Thanks to a grant from Poland’s Ministry of Culture and National Heritage, the PMA was able to survive during summer. Among many other projects, a series of short films was created, focusing on the black pearls within the collections. I was proud of each presenter and the production crew, and appreciate that these films will now be a part of PMA history. It makes one realize that a virtual museum is a unique experience in its own right.

As we all continue to adjust to the day to day changes of living during a pandemic, it is significant that there have been two constants for the PMA. The first has been the staff, who remain dedicated to the hard work of keeping a historical museum alive. The other is you – the members, donors, and friends. Even though many of you have experienced your own hardships, you have been steadfast in your response to our appeals for support. This support will see the PMA through these difficult and unprecedented times. Among you are this evening’s Spirit Award recipients: Holy Trinity Polish Mission and Izabela J. Roman – my hearty congratulations to both.

My gratitude, and the gratitude of everyone at the PMA, cannot be fully expressed in words. *Wdzięczność uskrzydla, dziękuję Państwu za przywilej pracy z Wami!*

Małgorzata Kot
Managing Director



WICEPREZES RADY MINISTRÓW
MINISTER
KULTURY, DZIEDZICTWA NARODOWEGO
I SPORTU
prof. dr hab. Piotr Gliński

Pani
Małgorzata Kot
Dyrektor
Muzeum Polskie w Ameryce

Pan
Ryszard Owsiany
Prezes
Muzeum Polskie w Ameryce

Szanowna Pani Dyrektor,

Szanowny Panie Prezesie,

Idea utworzenia pierwszej w Ameryce instytucji polonijnej o charakterze muzealnym pojawiła się niemal równocześnie z odzyskaniem przez Polskę niepodległości. Jak podkreślali w 1931 roku uczestnicy 40. Sejmu Zjednoczenia Polskiego Rzymsko-Katolickiego w Ameryce: „Polonia... tak liczna i zasobna nie ma ani jednej instytucji, ani jednego miejsca, w którym by można było składać dokumenty i dowody naszej pracy dla tutejszego kraju i Polski”. Urzeczywistnieniem tej potrzeby stało się powołanie 4 lata później, 15 października 1935 roku, Muzeum i Archiwów Zjednoczenia Polskiego Rzymsko-Katolickiego w Ameryce. W bieżącym roku mija 85. rocznica tego wydarzenia. Przypuszczam, że żaden z założycieli, czy ówczesnych pracowników muzeum nie spodziewał się, że właśnie ta, stworzona z potrzeby serca, placówka stanie się jednym z najstarszych i największych muzeów etnicznych w Stanach Zjednoczonych i zajmie czołowe miejsce na mapie amerykańskich instytucji polonijnych, dokumentując i promując polską historię i kulturę, a także pokazując ich przenikanie na teren amerykański.

Do Muzeum Polskiego w Ameryce kierują swoje kroki mieszkający w Stanach Zjednoczonych Polacy i Amerykanie polskiego pochodzenia poszukujący śladów polskości, a także liczni badacze i miłośnicy historii, w tym w szczególności historii amerykańskiej Polonii.

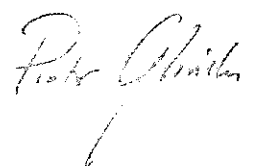
To tu, w sercu pierwszej polskiej dzielnicy w Chicago, znajdują się unikatowe zbiory archiwalne, historyczne pamiątki o niespotykanej dla nas wartości, bezcenne kolekcje sztuki,

w tym wiele nieznanych dotąd w kraju obrazów, rzeźb, rycin i dokumentów, które nadal czekają na opracowanie i prezentację w ojczyźnie. To tu przyjeżdżają badacze kultury i sztuki XX-lecia międzywojennego, dla których jest to często jedyne miejsce, w którym mogą obcować z zachowanymi od wojennego zniszczenia dziełami tego okresu, gdyż właśnie w Muzeum znalazły przystań niezwykle cenne eksponaty z Polskiego Pawilonu na Wystawie Światowej 1939 roku. Można je było niedawno podziwiać podczas pięknej ekspozycji „Polska wyobraźnia: Świat Jutra” przygotowanej z okazji 80. jubileuszu wystawy. To tutejsze eksponaty, które z radością pozyskałyby najlepsze muzea w kraju, dzięki współpracy Muzeum z podobnymi ośrodkami na całym świecie, w tym instytucjami i organizacjami w Polsce, poddawane są konserwacji, by odzyskać dawny blask i przez kolejne dziesięciolecia świadczyć o wartości zakłętą w zbiorach polskiego dziedzictwa. Do Muzeum trafiają także, z pozoru przypadkowe osoby z zamiarem skorzystania z atrakcyjnej oferty kulturalnej tego miejsca, by chwilę później dać się uwieść zamieszkującemu to miejsce duchowi polskości. Przykłady można mnożyć w nieskończoność.

W historię 85 lat istnienia Muzeum wpisało się wiele osób i zdarzeń. Gratuluję tego pięknego jubileuszu, zdając sobie sprawę, że na sukces i dorobek muzeum składają się nie tylko jego bogata historia, unikatowe zbiory czy działalność edukacyjna, ale także odpowiedzialna i pełna pasji praca całego zespołu Muzeum i grona jego wiernych przyjaciół. Gorąco dziękuję za tę codzienną pracę, za serce i zaangażowanie z jakimi ratują i popularyzują Państwo polską kulturę w Ameryce. To dzięki Państwu Muzeum jest miejscem zupełnie wyjątkowym, a jego wkład w podtrzymywanie polskości wśród amerykańskiej Polonii nieoceniony.

Szanowni Państwo, na ręce Pani Dyrektor Małgorzaty Kot i Pana Prezesa Ryszarda Owsianego, pragnę złożyć wyrazy najgłębszego uznania dla dotychczasowych osiągnięć i serdecznie podziękować wszystkim – pracownikom, przyjaciołom, darczyńcom i wolontariuszom Muzeum. Życzę Państwu wszelkiej pomyślności i wytrwałości w tej niełatwej, ale jakże pięknej i cennej misji „zachowania przeszłości dla przyszłości”. Proszę przyjąć najszczerze gratulacje z okazji jubileuszu 85-lecia Muzeum Polskiego w Ameryce.

Z wyrazami szacunku



Warszawa, 29 października 2020 r.



Konsulat Generalny
Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej
w Chicago

CHI-SEK-OG-162/2020/W

Chicago, 27 października 2020 r.

Pan Ryszard Owsiany
Prezes
Muzeum Polskiego w Ameryce

Z okazji 40. Gali organizowanej przez Muzeum Polskie w Ameryce pragnę przekazać na ręce Pana Prezesa serdeczne gratulacje i podziękowania dla wszystkich pracowników Muzeum za działania podejmowane na rzecz zachowania polskiego dziedzictwa narodowego w Stanach Zjednoczonych. Słowa podziękowania za szczodrość, życzliwość i nieustające wsparcie kieruję także do darczyńców i przyjaciół Muzeum Polskiego w Ameryce.

Muzeum Polskie w Ameryce jest miejscem szczególnym dla Polonii i Polaków, w którym zgromadzone są wspaniałe zbiory i skarby polskiej historii, to oaza polskości łącząca przeszłość z teraźniejszością, gdzie realizowana jest niezwykle odpowiedzialna misja edukacyjna kolejnych pokoleń i kształtowania przyszłych ambasadorów polskiego dziedzictwa narodowego.

Na wyrazy głębokiego uznania zasługuje fakt, iż pomimo wyjątkowo trudnego roku aktywnie realizują Państwo działalność muzealną i podejmują nowe inicjatywy służące kultywowaniu i popularyzowaniu polskiego dorobku kulturowego, a także umacnianiu relacji polsko-amerykańskich.

Dziękując za wieloletnią i owocną współpracę z serca życzę Państwu wszelkiej pomyślności, dalszych sukcesów i rozwoju Państwa Placówki oraz udanego przebiegu Gali. Jestem przekonana, że kolejne lata zapiszą piękne karty historii Muzeum Polskiego w Ameryce.

Małgorzata Bąk-Guzik
Konsul RP w Chicago



A Legal Reserve Fraternal Benefit Society
Polish Roman Catholic Union of America

984 N Milwaukee Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60642-4101 ♦ e-info@prcu.org
(773) 782-2600 ♦ Fax (773) 278-4595 ♦ www.PRCUA.org

James J. Robaczewski, FIC, ALMI, ACS
National President

November 7, 2020

Dear Friends of The Polish Museum of America,

I would like to welcome all of you to the first virtual gala of the PMA. As you are all aware, these are quite different times. As always, we have been able to adapt to and overcome the obstacles that periodically arise around us.

This year we are approaching great milestones for the beloved treasure of Polonia that is the PMA: the 85th anniversary of its founding and the 40th year of the annual Gala. It was with great foresight that in 1935, the President of the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America, Joseph Kania, acted upon the motions of the PRCUA Convention to begin collecting documents regarding Polonia and Poland for future generations to study. Along with Mieczyslaw Haiman, as curator, the institution began collecting historic mementos, books, photos and transcripts. Because of the progressive thinking of these two individuals, we now boast an expansive collection in the PMA.

I would also like to congratulate the museum on the occasion of its 40th Gala. It was 40 years ago that a few dedicated supporters decided to organize this annual fundraiser to assist the PMA in reaching its financial goals.

Congratulations to the PMA and best wishes for a prosperous future and many anniversaries to come!

Sincerely yours,

James J. Robaczewski
National President

The Polish Museum of America

proudly presents the

POLISH SPIRIT AWARD

to

**Izabela J. Roman,
M.D., Ph. D.**

in the individual category

and to the

**Holy Trinity
Polish Mission**

in the organization category

in recognition of their commitment to American Polonia
in promulgating Polish and Polish American heritage, culture,
and community as well as supporting
the Polish Museum of America
in its mission



Izabela J. Roman, M.D., Ph.D.

Izabela Roman has been active in Chicago's Polonia since she first came to the city in 1999. Engaged with many professional and social organizations in the community, she has long been one of the PMA's most ardent supporters. In 2019, she and her sister donated the Polish Tapestry Collection of Anna Roman, their mother.

Additionally, she has served as the President of the Board of Polish American Association. Annually, she is involved with the Polish Film Festival in America, and has helped individual filmmakers, including Magda Piekorz, to complete their projects. In Poland, she donated a valuable collection of paintings to the museum in Suwałki, and supported the construction of the Gdańsk Shakespeare Theatre.

Professionally, as Medical Director, Dr. Roman cofounded Target Research Associates and was responsible for all medical-related activities and policies, including project design and drug safety. In 1999-2000, she served as President of the American Association of Pharmaceutical Physicians (AAPP), an organization of approximately 1,500 physicians in clinical research. Dr. Roman has over 20 years of clinical research and pharmaceutical experience. She was Vice President of Medical and Scientific Affairs. She was responsible for worldwide regulatory compliance as well as worldwide clinical drug development. Dr. Roman also spent several years at Merck, where her last position was a Director in the International Clinical Pharmacology. Dr. Roman earned her M.D. and Ph.D. from the Medical Academy in Gdańsk, Poland.



Holy Trinity Polish Mission



Holy Trinity Parish has been a spiritual, educational, and community inspiration to countless generations of Chicago Polish-Americans since its founding in 1873. As a friend and neighbor of the Polish Museum and the Polish Roman Catholic Union it is among very few Polish organizations remaining strong in what was once the heart of Chicago's Polonia.

The beginnings of the parish were long and hard. Built in affiliation with St. Stanislaus Kostka Church down the street, in 1893, the parish was turned over to the Holy Cross Fathers from South Bend, Indiana. The Pastor for the next 56 years was Fr. Kazimierz Sztuczko, C.S.C., until his death in 1949. During his time as pastor, the parish grew dramatically to 15,000 parishioners. In 1906, the present church building, designed by William Krieg was built, as well as three schools run by the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth and Holy Cross Brothers, C.S.C. who taught the children of Polish immigrants.

During the 1960s and 1970s, the surrounding neighborhood began changing demographically at a fast rate. Poles began moving out to different parts of the city and suburbs. In 1975, the Holy Cross Fathers and the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth left the parish. In their place for the next eleven years came the Resurrectionist Fathers. It was during that time, in 1986, that the decision came to close the parish. However, many Poles living in Chicago, as well as various Polish organizations began the efforts to save Holy Trinity.

As an answer, Cardinal Joseph Bernardin formed the Polish Pastoral Mission at Holy Trinity. The Mission was placed under the care of the Society of Christ Fathers. The first director of the Mission was Fr. Wladyslaw Gowin, SChr, and Fr. Andrzej Maslejak, SChr, his first assistant. Fr. Gowin, with his zeal and love for the Church, brought the parish back into bloom. Poles returned to Holy Trinity and the church was again filled with worshippers from all parts of Chicago. In 1989, the Missionary Sisters of Christ the King for Polonia, along with their first superior, Sr. Teresa Ambroza, MChR, were invited to work at the Mission. A Polish Saturday School was opened with a few hundred children in attendance. There was also a children's and an adults' choir, Trojcowo Band, and Lajkonik Folk Dance Group.

In August of 2002, the Director of the Mission became Father Pawel Bandurski, SChr. During this period, there were great developments in the Mission. The church building was beautifully restored, the roof was replaced, the bell towers rebuilt, and the inside of the Church with its elaborate paintings and gilding brought back to life. On October 1, 2006, we celebrated the 100th Anniversary of the consecration of the Parish at a joyous occasion, with Francis Cardinal George celebrating Mass. From 2007 to 2015, Fr. Andrzej Maślejak, SChr served as a Director of the Mission. On August 2015, Fr. Andrzej Totzke, SChr became the new Director of the Polish Mission, a position he continues to this day.

Polish Spirit Award Recipients

The Polish Spirit Award is given annually in recognition of the commitment of an individual in promulgating Polish and Polish American heritage, culture, and community as well as supporting the Polish Museum of America in its mission – “Preserving the Past to Benefit the Future.” Since 1987, forty-three individuals and organizations have been so honored.

- 2020 Izabela Roman, M.D., Ph.D.
Holy Trinity Polish Mission
- 2019 Deborah L. Greenlee
Paderewski Symphony Orchestra
- 2018 Maria Bronny Ciesla, President Emeritus of the Polish Museum of America
Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union
- 2017 Copernicus Foundation
- 2016 Polish American Chamber of Commerce
- 2015 Gift from the Heart Foundation (Fundacja Dar Serca) and
Shriners Hospital for Children, Chicago
- 2014 Joann S. Ozog
- 2013 Polish Teachers Association in America
- 2012 Kazimiera Bober, Founder of Kasia's Deli, Inc.
- 2011 Alex Storozynski, President of the Kosciuszko Foundation
- 2010 The Ted and Alice Przybylo Family of White Eagle Banquets
- 2009 Teresa N. Abick, Vice President of the Polish National Alliance
- 2008 Polish and Polish American Veterans Association
- 2007 Alliance of Polish Clubs in the U.S.A.
- 2006 Polish Highlanders Alliance of North America
- 2005 Walter L. Sojka
- 2004 Chet and Dolores Schaefer
- 2003 Donald V. Versen, Sr., and Joan Versen
- 2002 Stanley and Barbara Stawski
- 2001 Polish Roman Catholic Union of America
- 2000 Chicago Society Polish National Alliance
- 1999 LOT Polish Airlines
- 1998 Polish Women's Alliance of America
- 1997 Matt L. Rodriguez, Superintendent, Chicago Police Department
- 1996 His Eminence Adam Cardinal Maida, Archbishop of Detroit
- 1995 Polish American Medical Society
- 1994 The Honorable Mary Ann McMorow, Justice, Supreme Court of IL
- 1993 PeKaO Trading Corporation
- 1992 U.S. Congressman Dan Rostenkowski
- 1991 Chester S. and Stella T. Sawko
- 1990 I. George and Joan Kosinski
- 1989 Legion of Young Polish Women
- 1988 His Excellency Bishop Alfred L. Abramowicz, D.D.
- 1987 Aloysius A. Mazewski, President of the Polish American Congress and Polish
National Alliance

HISTORY OF THE PMA SUMMER GALA

The Polish Museum of America (PMA) was established in 1935 by the Polish Roman Catholic Union (PRCUA) under the presidency of Joseph Kania. Officially dedicated in January 1937, its goal is to preserve the Polish past in America and promote Polish history, culture, and traditions. Located in a section of the Polish Roman Catholic Union building, the PMA became a separate non-profit organization in 1971. Although the PRCUA pledged continued support, PMA leaders in the 1970s sought an independent source of funds to ensure the continued operation of the Museum.

The idea of a formal ball as a major fundraiser for the museum was initiated by PMA Librarian Sabina Logisz (who was a longstanding staff member for 67 years), and tireless Board Member/Volunteer Walter Sojka. The first ball was held at the Chicago Yacht Club in 1979 and a Summer Ball or Gala has been held every year since then with the exception of 1986. Elegant venues in a variety of Chicago and suburban locations were chosen. When the event resumed in 1987, the focus became conveying the “Polish Spirit Award” to an outstanding individual or organization who has contributed significantly to promoting and studying the history and culture of Poland and Polonia. The Museum today continues to be a destination for Poles and Polish Americans to discover or re-discover our rich and beautiful heritage.

The Summer Gala has become the PMA’s biggest fundraiser of the year, with proceeds earmarked for general operations. The poppy was chosen as the symbol of the Summer Gala because it is a beautiful though common summer wildflower in Poland. It symbolizes World War I’s Flanders Fields to Americans and the World War II Battle of Monte Cassino to Poles.



A VIRTUAL GALA

Since our Gala can’t be held in person this year, let’s participate in our imaginations by looking back on recent years. Be sure to don your snappy tuxedo or finest cocktail dress because these Poles really look good!

The Gala begins with a cocktail reception where guests may browse the silent auction items on display. After pausing for dinner, dedicated shoppers can elbow their way through the competition and continue their quest throughout the evening. Watch for a rush just before the auction concludes at 11:30 pm as eager bidders hope to snag their favorite Polish memorabilia, books, artwork, local sports tickets, or the treasured LOT airline tickets to Poland.

To kick off the formal dinner, the unstoppable Gala Chair, Sharon Orlowski enthusiastically welcomes everyone. PMA Board Chairman and robust baritone James Robaczewski (or previous Chair Joseph Drobot) leads singing of the Polish and American anthems. An inspiring invocation is given by PMA Chaplain and Pastor of Holy Trinity Polish Mission, Rev. Andrej Totzke, SChr. And then as the exquisitely plated dinner of filet or fish arrives at elegantly decorated tables, President Richard Owsiany offers a toast to launch the festivities.

The PMA is always honored to hear remarks by the Consul General or Deputy Consul General of the Republic of Poland, attesting to the great regard the Polish government holds for the Museum. Major donors, the lifeblood of PMA operations, are called to the stage and handed a red rose which symbolizes our gratitude. Then comes the highlight of the evening – the presentation of the Polish Spirit Award to an individual and/or organization that exemplifies commitment to the Polish culture and heritage embodied in the PMA. Family and friends of the honoree crowd the stage for photo ops.

The music is about to begin and that gentle toe-tapping you detect under your table is evidence of just how anxious everyone has become! There may be a Ballroom Dance Presentation by the Interclub Academy of Dance or another special presentation, but that only makes the audience anticipation greater. At last, the Anthony Kawalkowski Orchestra takes to the stage as guests leap to their feet to dance the night away. The Orchestra has quite a record with the PMA. With the exception of four years, they have performed continuously at every Ball and Gala since 1987.

You may have noticed loyal PMA staff plying the room all evening selling raffle tickets for cash prizes. In some years, the winner of the top prize has generously donated his or her proceeds back to the museum. Don't forget to take home your program book. Not just for the compendium of ads from loyal PMA businesses that you may patronize in the future, but as a resource loaded with editorial content. Recent issues have featured extensive articles celebrating the 80th anniversary of the Polish Pavilion at the 1939 New York World's Fair and the Centennial of Poland's Regained Independence assisted by the efforts in Chicago of Ignacy Jan Paderewski. Staff reports highlight important exhibits such as the "50th Anniversary of Poland's Millennium of Christianity" and the popular "Polish Past in Chicago 1850-1939." And maybe you can spy yourself in the wealth of photos published in every program that were taken at PMA events throughout the year.

Although we can't be together in person this year to enjoy such an impressive event, never forget how important your support is to the endurance of the Polish Museum of America. In the prophetic words of Sabina P. Logisz and Walter L. Sojka, the co-chairs of the PMA's first Summer Ball in 1979:

The idea of an annual fundraiser benefitting the Polish Museum of America grew out of a genuine concern for its continued, viable existence... Your presence here tonight convinces us that the idea found full acceptance and that we have truly succeeded in establishing a tradition of the Polish American community: an annual Summer Ball for the benefit of the Polish Museum of America which will become even more elegant and profitable as the years go by.

Hope to see you all next year, in person, at the Polish Museum of America!

The Spirit of Balls and Galas Past

1979	Chicago Yacht Club, Chicago, IL
1980	Chicago Yacht Club, Chicago, IL
1981	Chicago Yacht Club, Chicago, IL
1982	Ridgemoor Country Club, Harwood Heights, IL
1983	Preston Bradley Hall, Chicago Public Library Cultural Center, Chicago
1984	Starlight Inn Penthouse, Schiller Park, IL
1985	Starlight Inn Penthouse, Schiller Park
1987 July 24	Oak Meadows Country Club, Addison, IL
1988 July 22	South Shore Cultural Center, Chicago, IL
1989 July 14	Itasca Country Club, Itasca, IL
1990 June 22	Itasca Country Club, Itasca, IL
1991 June 21	Itasca Country Club, Itasca, IL
1992 June 19	River Forest Country Club, Elmhurst, IL
1993 July 23	Starling Inn, Schiller Park, IL
1994 June 24	Starling Inn, Schiller Park, IL
1995 June 23	Starling Inn, Schiller Park, IL
1996 June 28	Itasca Country Club, Itasca, IL
1997 June 20	Itasca Country Club, Itasca, IL
1998 June 12	Rosewood Restaurant & Banquets, Rosemont, IL
1999 June 18	Galleria Marchetti, Chicago, IL
2000 June 23	Starling Inn, Schiller Park, IL
2001 June 22	Galleria Marchetti, Chicago, IL
2002 June 21	Café la Cave, Rosemont, IL
2003 June 20	Rosewood Restaurant & Banquets, Rosemont, IL
2004 June 25	European Cristal Banquet, Arlington Heights, IL
2005 June 24	European Cristal Banquet, Arlington Heights, IL
2006 June 23	The Mid-Day Club Chase Tower 56th floor, Chicago, IL
2007 June 22	The Mid-Day Club Chase Tower 56th floor, Chicago, IL
2008 June 20	The Wyndham O'Hare Hotel, Rosemont, IL
2009 June 26	Café la Cave, Des Plaines, IL
2010 June 11	Rosemont Hotel at O'Hare, Des Plaines, IL
2011 June 10	Sheraton Chicago Hotel & Towers, Chicago, IL
2012 June 8	Rosewood Restaurant & Banquets, Rosemont, IL
2013 June 7	Rosewood Restaurant & Banquets, Rosemont, IL
2014 June 6	Galleria Marchetti, Chicago, IL
2015 June 5	Galleria Marchetti, Chicago, IL
2016 June 3	Café la Cave, Des Plaines, IL
2017 June 2	Café la Cave, Des Plaines, IL
2018 June 8	Café la Cave, Des Plaines, IL
2019 June 7	Café la Cave, Des Plaines, IL

There was no ball in 1986. Instead, the PMA held a benefit on October 26th, entitled, "Pot-pourri Musicale and Reception honoring Edwin Cudecki Past President."

PICTURES OF PAST GALAS



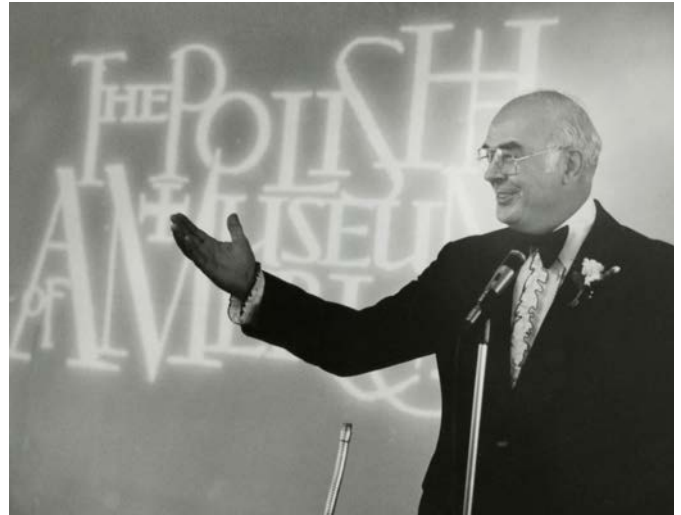
Summer Gala, Chicago Yacht Club, 1979. From left: Sabina Logisz, Ted Świgoń, Joseph Żurawski, Delores Molek, Mr. Molek, Clara Winiiecki, Virginia and Edwin Cudecki, Walter L. Sojka, Martha Kwiatt.



1980 Gala Committee. Seated: Helena Wajda, Clara Winiiecki, Martha Kwiatt. Standing: Delores Molek, Fr. Biliński, Estelle Sprengel, ?, Ted Świgoń, Alice Żurek, Helen Wójcik, Sabina Logisz, Walter L. Sojka, Chicago Yacht Club.



1984 Gala, Polonaise dancing: Sabina Logisz and Ted Świgoń, Arlene Prugar and Richard Owsiany, Martha Kwiatt, Angela Ritza, and Wanda Kass



Summer Gala in 1984, Donald Gutowski addressing the guests



Polish dancers at the Summer Gala in 1987, Itasca Country Club. First from right is Peter Schafer.



Joann Kosinski receiving Polish Spirit Award, 1990



Summer Gala in 1988, South Shore Country Club. Closest table- Helena Wajda, Mary Wajda



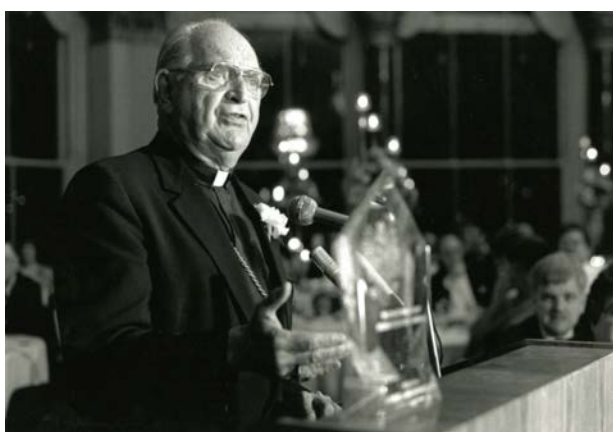
Summer Gala in 1984, Silent Auction, Chester Kosiński, Helen Kosiński (back), Marie Krakowski (profile)



Summer Gala in 1984



Summer Gala in 1985, Martha Kwiatt, JoAnn Kuk, Alice Żurek



1. Summer Gala in 1985, Frank Gondela, Donald Versen 2. Summer Gala Silent Auction, 1984 3. Summer Gala in 1988, South Shore Country Club, His Excellency Bishop Alfred Abramowicz



Summer Gala, 1980s; Mr. and Mrs. Ed Dykla



Joan Kosinski and Wallace Ozog



Summer Gala in 1988, South Shore Country Club. Left: Michael Dykla and partner, both from the Chicago Intercollegiate Council. Right: second from left - Mark Dobrzycki, Małgorzata Owsiany, Richard Owsiany



PMA Summer Ball, July, 1983. From left - Simi and Chester Kosinski, Tony Kosinski, unknown guest, unknown guest, Walter Mieczynski, Rev. Donald Bilinski

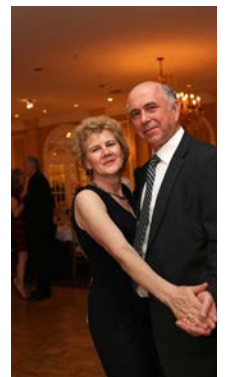


Summer Gala in 1987, Itasca Country Club















40th Polish Museum of America Gala

Streaming live from the Sabina Logisz Great Hall

PROGRAM

Welcome	Richard Owsiany, PMA President Sharon Orłowski, 2020 Gala Chair Magda Walczak, Mistress of Ceremony
Video Presentation	<i>The Founding of the PMA</i> Micheline Jaminski, PMA Board Vice Chair & PRCUA Vice President
Remarks	James Robaczewski, PMA Board Chairman & PRCUA President Micheline Jaminski, PMA Board Vice Chair & PRCUA Vice President Małgorzata Kot, PMA Managing Director
Video Presentation	<i>Paderewski's Watch</i> Halina Misterka, PMA Head Archivist
Recognition of new Life Heritage Members and Life Members	Maria Bronny Ciesla, PMA President Emeritus
Recognition of Life Member Appeal Donations	Richard Owsiany, PMA President Andrzej Pawłowski, PMA Vice President
Video Presentation	<i>Mysterious Painting and its Creator</i> Julita Siegel, PMA Curator of Collections
Polish Spirit Award	Richard Owsiany, PMA President James Robaczewski, PMA Board Chairman & PRCUA President Małgorzata Kot, PMA Managing Director Bogdan Ogórek, PMA Board Member
Entertainment	Anthony Kawalkowski Trio Interclub Academy of Dance Iwona & Erwin Rybczynski



Magda Walczak

Magda Walczak is the CEO of Coacharya, a global leadership development firm democratizing coaching. She's an authentic leader, passionate about gender equality. She was recently named a Maverick of the Year at the Stevie Awards in recognition of her work. Previously, Magda led teams at multiple startups in the US and Australia. She holds an MBA from the Australian Graduate School of Management and BA from Loyola University Chicago. You can learn about her professional experience at [linkedin.com/in/magdawalczak](https://www.linkedin.com/in/magdawalczak).

Magda recently launched the Wonder Women Wednesdays podcast, where she champions women of all walks of life from around the world. She also spearheads Coacharya's webinar program, which led to her involvement with the Gala.

Magda's also a children's book author (Saylor's Tale) and an avid supporter of animal rights. She's an immigrant from Poland, having arrived in the US at the age of 12, and an alumna of Holy Trinity Polish School. Her interests include cooking, travel, and the outdoors. She lives in Chicago with her dog Saylor, sister Nika and cats Sorsha, McClane, and Miles. You can find Magda on Instagram at MagdaMakesIt.

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The Board of Directors serve as volunteers who meet quarterly and serve on several committees without compensation.

Employees represents over 140 years of combined PMA experience with higher education in related fields, in addition to continuous professional development, as well as a passion for Poland and Polonia.

The compilation of volunteers is done in alphabetical order based on those who register or those who have provided service of which we are aware. Each hour donated to the PMA is a multiplier that advances the plans of the Board and Staff of the Museum. There are many more names of persons who are working on committees, giving of their time or money, or both, whose names are not reflected here, but to whom we extend our sincerest *Bóg zapłać* (May God Reward You).

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

The Polish Museum of America recognizes
the support received over 85 years from its founder

Polish Roman Catholic Union of America



The Polish Museum of America recognizes
the ongoing grant support from the Republic of Poland

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Consulate General of the Republic of Poland in Chicago

2020 Life Member Appeal

The strength of the Polish Museum of America lies in the individuals and institutions that are its members who believe in our mission of "Preserving the Past to Benefit the Future." We recognize those Life Heritage Members and Life Members who contributed to the 2020 Life Member Appeal this past summer to aid in strengthening the financial position of the PMA during this extraordinary difficult time.

In Memory of Jack & Dorothy Radgowski \$25,000.00

Deborah Greenlee \$20,000.00

Alicia Glowacki \$10,000.00

Stephen & Jamie Kusmierczak \$10,000.00

Leo Paul Niemiec \$10,000.00

Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union \$7,500.00

Council of Educators in Polonia \$3,000.00

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Polish American Congress Charitable Foundation \$2,500.00

Benjamin & Frances David Foundation \$2,000.00

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The PMA would like to express its heartfelt appreciation to all its generous donors who give throughout the year. Without them, the PMA would not be able to fulfill its mission of safeguarding Polish and Polish American history and artifacts.

Additional thanks go to a generous, anonymous PMA supporter, who graciously committed a \$25,000 matching donation, which was swiftly met.

"A Museum of the dimensions and scope of the Polish Museum of America cannot be the operation or concern of one individual." Joseph A. Drobot, PMA Chairman, 1979



The PMA is grateful to the following donors
who chose to support the traditional Gala appeal

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In Memory of Jack & Dorothy Radgowski

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Caricature drawing by Walter Krawiec, depicting Jozef Kania riding on the resisting donkey, signed "Polonia", holding a banner "Budujmy Muzeum Polonii" [Lets build a Museum of Polonia], the donkey is pulled by Arthur Waldo and pushed by Mieczyslaw Haiman



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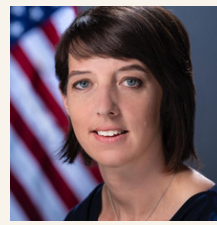
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on their 85th Anniversary Gala**

Best Wishes and Words of Appreciation

for

**Many Years of Work to Promote
Polish Arts and Culture**

in the United States of America

and

**honoring the memory of the War Effort
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*Congratulations to Spirit Award Recipients:
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The Polish Museum Of America Virtual 40th Gala

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES
TO 2020
SPIRIT AWARD RECIPIENTS

Holy Trinity Polish Mission
accepted by Pastor Andrzej Totzke

Izabela J. Roman, M.D., Ph.D.



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nurturing the Greater Polish Community is
indispensable and integral in the education of
morals, traditions, and customs of our people.

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Congratulations and Best Wishes
to the Polish Museum of America

Richard, Anna, Kiki and Alexandra Pare

Congregation of the Resurrection
wishes to congratulate
Dr Izabela Roman
&
Holy Trinity Mission
as recipients of the Polish Spirit Award 2020
and best wishes to
The Polish Museum of America
2020 Gala

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NOWOŚĆ!

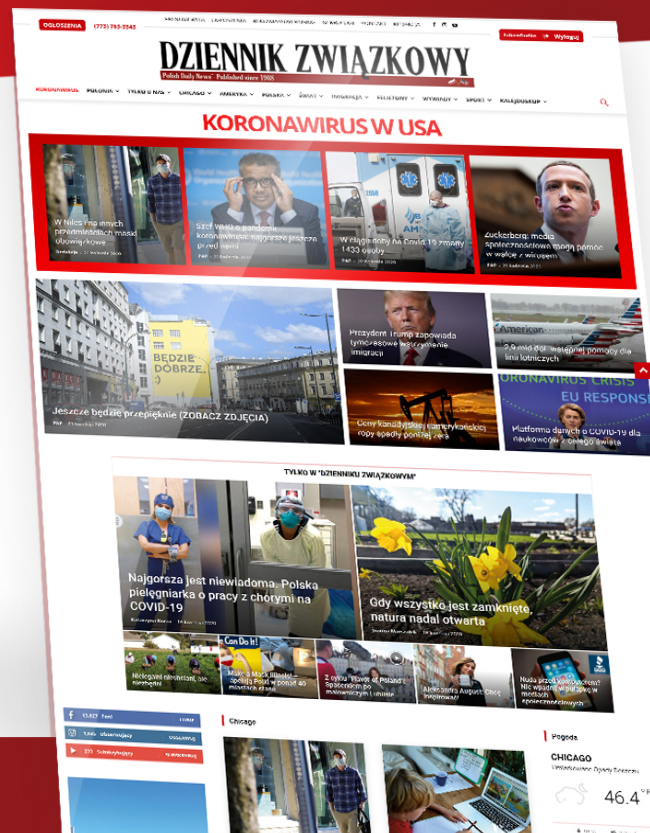
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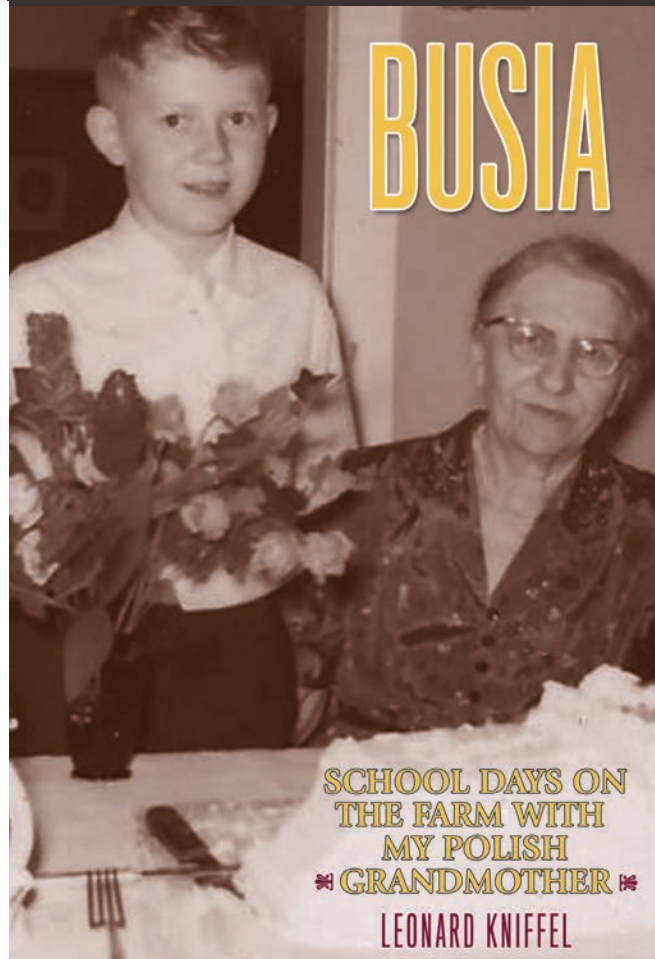
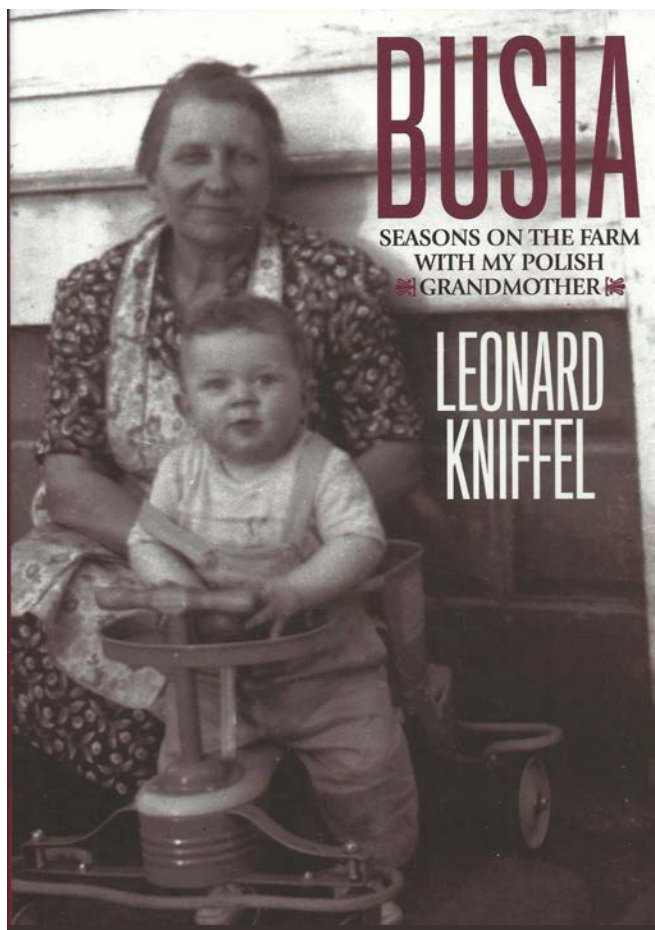
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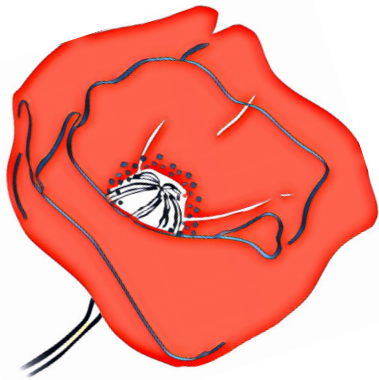
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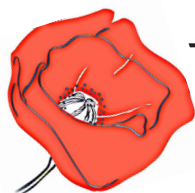
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Congratulations
to the
POLISH MUSEUM OF AMERICA
on its 40th Anniversary Gala
and over 85 years of service to the
Polish American Community.

Thank You for Your Continued Support!!

Czuwaj!

Związek Harcerstwa Polskiego
Polish Scouting Organization of Illinois



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na dalsze lata wspaniałej działalności na rzecz Polonii amerykańskiej

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Prezes Józef Cikowski

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Wishing
THE POLISH MUSEUM OF AMERICA
much success for the 2020 PMA Gala.

May your museum continue
to preserve the heritage of our parents
and grandparents for future generations.

Sincerely,
Ms. Elizabeth Dynowski
and Mr. Myron Cislo
PRCUA District 8 National Directors



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The Polish Genealogical Society of America Congratulates the Polish Museum of America

On its continuing commitment and achievements in
preserving and promoting the cultural heritage
of Poland, and the Polish-American diaspora.

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On the occasion of this 40th Anniversary Gala, the Polish American Engineers Association would like to recognize the significant efforts and important work of the Polish Museum of America in preserving the past to benefit the future, especially in these uncertain times.

We also congratulate Izabela J. Roman, M.D., Ph.D., as well as the Holy Trinity Polish Mission on receiving the prestigious Polish Spirit Award!

Polish American Engineers Association
Chicago, November 7th, 2020



www.polishengineers.org

We invite all Technologists and those interested to our monthly meetings, which take place the 3rd Friday of each month, September through November & January through May. Please see our website for more information.



**Congratulations
to the
Polish Museum of America
on their 85th Anniversary of Founding
and salutations to**

Spirit Award recipients for 2020

**Holy Trinity Polish Mission
accepted by Pastor Andrzej Totzke**

and

Izabela J. Roman, M.D., Ph.D.

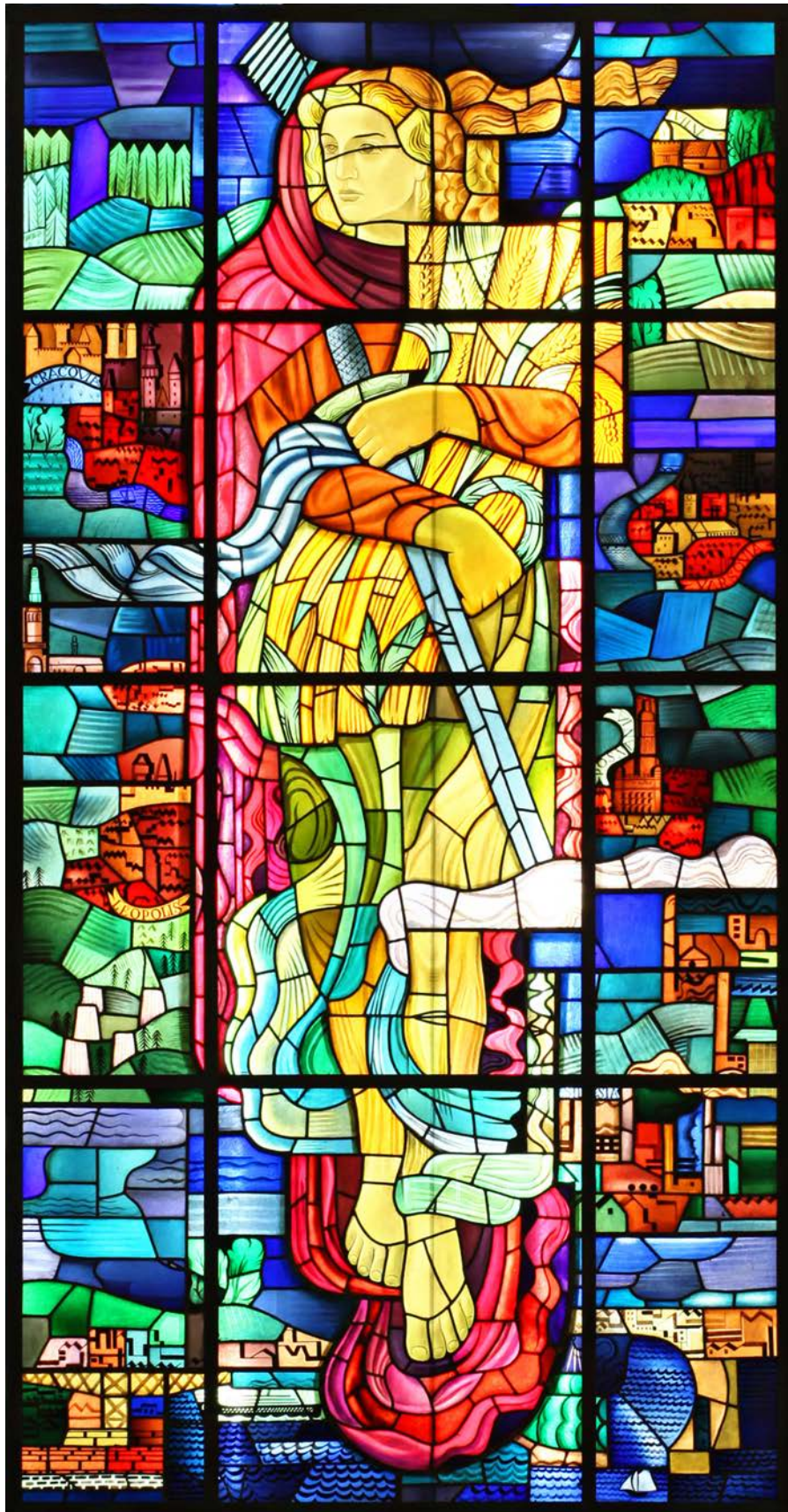
From

Polish American Congress Illinois Division

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**75th Anniversary of the Opening of The Polish Museum of America exhibit,
curated by J. Siegel and L. Terlecki, Sabina P. Logisz Great Hall, 2012,
photograph by J. Siegel**



*Symbol of Poland Reborn, detail, design: **Mieczysław Jurgielewicz**,
fabrication: Krakowski Zakład Witrażów S. G. Żeleński, 1939, stained glass,
1939 New York World's Fair Polish Pavilion Collection, The Polish Museum of America*