



The Polish Mission of the Orchard Lake Schools activities 2013-2014



ONGOING PROJECTS July 1, 2013 – Current

Eisenhower Presidential Museum Partnership

Successful completion of artifacts loan to the Presidential Museum for the next three years as part of the *Men of Valor* Series.

Forbidden Art Cooperation between Polish Mission and Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum

August 16 - September 2	Forbidden Art at Polish Mission
September 7 – 28	Forbidden Art at Wayne State University (Detroit)
October 5 – 20	Forbidden Art at Northeastern Illinois University (Chicago)
December 8 – January 31	Forbidden Art at UCLA (Los Angeles)
February 7 – 21	Forbidden Art at Temple Beth-Sholom (Las Vegas)
November 2013	Forbidden Art at Park East Synagogue (New York)
February-March 2014	Forbidden Art at the Royal Castle in Monaco (Europe)
May-September 2014	Forbidden Art at the Eisenhower Presidential Museum and Library, <u>featuring 3-D scans</u> (Kansas)
September-October 2014	Forbidden Art at the University of Wisconsin-Madison
October 2014-January 2015	Forbidden Art at the Polish Museum of America (Chicago)
January 2015	Forbidden Art at the United Nations (New York)

Developments:

Completed training for project manager JJ Przewozniak at Auschwitz in Poland (completed February/March 2014)

Completed addition of 3-D object scans for inclusion into the exhibition at the Eisenhower Presidential site.

Muzeum of Polish History Partnership

Successful completion of historical exhibition loan (*Polish War Effort*) to the Museum of Polish History (MuzHP) in Warsaw. Exhibition to undergo full conservation and display at University of Warsaw in Fall 2014.

- Lukasz Kubacki visit September 2013 – collection evaluation for future cooperative endeavors (international exhibits, and educational outreach consultation and development)
- Collections Curator JJ Przewozniak in Warsaw to facilitate cooperation February/March 2014
- Exhibition *Jan Kariski: Humanity's Hero* brought to PM in Spring 2014, in cooperation with the Polish Consulate in Chicago.
- MuzHP to loan WWII exhibition to PM in Summer 2014 for the occasion of the 1939 Commemoration.

MAIN CAMPUS EVENTS

July 1, 2013 – Current

July – August 2013

Van Duzer: Shrine Chapel Sculptor

Exhibition at the Galeria

July 11, 12, 2013

Days of Polish Music

Two-day concert event with Marian Sobula, Anna Miernik-Sobula, and Patrycja Piekutowska, supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Polish Mission was the only stop in the United States for the international program.

August 6, 2013

Balachadi Reunion

Nation-wide reunion of Polish orphans, originally displaced to Balachadi, India in the 1940s. 80 people in attendance, made up of orphans, their families, and guests. Chłopcy z Polski

- September 1, 2013 **September 1939 Commemoration**
Annual commemoration offered in cooperation with the Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum, and presented with an honor guard of 11 soldiers from the United States Army.
- September 6, 2013 **PBS Pledge Drive**
Polish Mission Team and volunteers television presence for PBS pledge drive
- September 22, 2013 **Genealogy Roadshow fundraiser/Premiere**
Pre-release premiere of *Genealogy Roadshow* featuring Genia Gorecki. Also kickoff of a new awareness campaign through television marketing.
- October, 2013 **Friends of Polish Art**
Exhibition at the Galeria
- November, 2013 **Anya Kozlowski**
Solo exhibit at the Galeria
- November 14, 2013 **“Operation AB-Katyn”**
Exhibition from the Institute of National Remembrance, featuring our own Katyn artifacts, displayed at the library until December
- November 16, 2013 **Tajemnice Ordonki (Secrets of Ordonowna)**
Live performance with Maria Nowotarska and Agata Pilitowska and gala reception.
- December 3, 2013 **PBS Pledge Drive**
Polish Mission Team and volunteers television presence for a second PBS pledge drive
- December, 2013 **Klassics by Kurtis Ornament Collection**
Shop & browse at the Galeria
- January 27, 2014 **Liberation Day**
First-of-its-kind ceremony commemorating the liberation of Auschwitz, done in unison with A-BSM, and held in the Galeria.

- March 18, 2014 **“Solidarity”**
The Exhibition formerly displayed at Wayne State University, put on display at the Galeria
- March 18, 2014 **A Place to Stand**
Michigan film premier of the Documentary *A Place to Stand*, with director Anna Ferens and Polish Consulate of Chicago, Presented in celebration of the 25th anniversary of the first partially free elections in Poland.
- April - June, 2014 **Jan Karski: Humanity’s Hero**
Exhibition from the Muzeum of Polish History, acquired through cooperation with the Polish Consulate in Chicago.
- April 26-27, 2014 **Canonization Celebration**
Celebrating the canonization of SS. John Paul II and John XXIII with all-night vigil, aand live transmission from the Vatican
- May 4, 2014 **Constitution Day**
Addendum to Holy Mass in cooperation with the Polish-American Congress
- June 6-8, 2014 **D-Day Commemoration at the Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum**
A joint delegation of Polish Mission, St. Mary’s Preparatory, Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum (A-BSM), and Polish Consulate of Chicago, represented the Republic of Poland at the D-Day commemoration in Abilene, Kansas, where General Eisenhower is buried. A premier selection of Polish Mission artifacts was presented in the *Be Ye Men of Valour* exhibit, and *Forbidden Art* from A-BSM was exhibited with the world premier of 3-D glass castings of original artifacts from the collections. Other dignitaries present included foreign attachés of Canada and Great Britain, and the commanding generals of Ft. Hood, Texas, and Ft. Riley, Kansas.
- July 30-August 3, 2014 **NMDA/NAS Conference**
Annual conference of Polish-American Doctors and Lawyers held in Washington, D.C. Presentation given by Polish Mission on archival documents, conservation, and a

presentation of PM's in-house exhibition on the Warsaw Uprising.

Aug 15 – Nov 15, 2014

Galicja Jewish Museum Partnership/Traces of Memory Exhibition

Embarked on formal partnership with the Galicja Jewish Museum. Traces of Memory exhibition arrived on campus, exhibit venue is the Holocaust Memorial Center in Farmington, Michigan. August 15 –November 15

September 7, 2014

September 1939 Commemoration – Honoring 75 years since outbreak of WWII

Annual commemoration offered in cooperation with the Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum, the Holocaust Memorial Center, The Home Army (AK) Foundation of Michigan, the Orchard Lake Philharmonic Orchestra, and the United States Marine Corps. Featuring exhibitions from the Museum of Polish History, the National Archives of Poland, the Institute of National Remembrance (IPN), the Galicja Jewish Museum, and the Museum of Calligraphy and Paper preservation in Grebocin, Poland

August 18, 2014

Polish Language program offered at St. Mary's Preparatory

Through the Polish Mission's full financial support, Polish language courses have been re-instated at St. Mary's Prep. Classes offered as part of standardized High Schools Curriculum

October, 2014

Movie Nights at The Polish Mission

Outdoor cinema classics by the lake.

PARI EVENTS

July 1, 2013 – July 1, 2014

Spring 2013

Launch of our Spring Marketing Campaign to bring tri county groups to tour the Polish Mission. Target groups: Historical societies, parish groups, senior groups,

genealogical societies, and Wayne, Oakland, and Macomb county Intermediate School Districts (including recreational programs)

Summer 2013

Research and PBS project

July 2013

PARI completed research & developed the story line for PBS *Genealogy Roadshow*. Our segment featured Eugenia Gorecki, OLS volunteer and major donor. PM hosted a film crew from PBS, footage of which was featured in the Detroit segment of *Genealogy Roadshow*.

August, 2013

Kresy Siberiak visit attended by 50 people. Signed a contract with GRIP to bring 125 researchers to attend a week long lecture series. Ceil did outreach/booth at the FGS conference in Fort Wayne attended by 3,000 people.

September, 2013

Polish Mission was featured in PBS *Signal Magazine*. Additionally, PM was featured on numerous 30 second spots on PBS. A team of PM employees and volunteers were show cased one evening during the local PBS pledge drive. Ceil did outreach/lectures in Chicago, IL for the PGSA attended by 300 people.

PM/Campus premiere of *Genealogy Roadshow* attended by 125 people. The Detroit segment of *Genealogy Roadshow* was broadcast nationwide on PBS stations.

October, 2013

Ceil did outreach/lectures in Troy, MI for PGSM attended by 170 people.

November, 2013

PM/PARI proposals were accepted for UPGS in Salt Lake City, UT [May, 2014] and a Polish track at the FGS in San Antonio, TX [August, 2014]. Ceil made a 2 day outreach presence at the Polish Art Center in Hamtramck, MI which was attended by well over 1,000 people.

December, 2013

Polish Mission was featured in PBS *Signal Magazine*. Additionally, PM was featured on numerous 30 second spots on PBS. A team of PM employees and volunteers were show cased one evening during the local PBS pledge drive. During this December 3rd event, 250 copies of the PM publications were purchased as premiums during this fund raising evening. Outreach/lecture by Ceil for the

	Dearborn Genealogy Society in Dearborn, MI for 40 people.
January, 2014	Outreach/lecture by Ceil for the Lyon Township Public Library attended by 35 people.
February, 2014	Outreach/lecture by Ceil at Fox Run in Novi, MI for 50 people.
March, 2014	Outreach/lecture by Ceil for the Farmington Genealogy Society in Farmington, MI for 30 people. PM/PARI crafted and submitted a grant request for \$15,000.00 to the Michigan Humanities Council to fund a Vintage Photo Exhibit and publication showcasing PM photo collection. PARI visit from 25 young scouts from Our Lady of Refuge Parish. PM/PARI booth display at the 56 th annual Michigan Historical Society hosted in Sterling Heights, MI and attended by 500 people.
April, 2014	A scheduled visit is arranged for 15 Red Hat Ladies for a lecture & lunch.
August 4-8, 2014	Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh (GRIP) Conference held at the Polish Mission. Approx. 50 people traveled to Orchard Lake representing 23 states for a series of genealogy workshops hosted by PARI. Mr. Tomasz Szpil of the National Archives of Poland in Lodz delivered lectures on Polish history, and archival methods
August 27-30, 2014	Federation of Genealogical Societies Conference in San Antonio, Texas. Program presentation by The Polish Mission team with special guest lecture by Tomasz Szpil. Special presentation at Panna Maria.

ACTIVITIES

July 1, 2013 – July 1, 2014

- Special Visits:
 - Ryszard Schnepf, Ambassador of The Republic of Poland in the United States (Pending 2014-2015)
 - Pawel Pietrzyk (June-August 2013) – Follow-up visit to National Archives in Lodz in September 2013, with Msgr. Tom

- Vice Consul Konrad Zielinski (February 2014)
 - Filmmaker Anna Ferens (February 2014)
 - Elzbieta Cajzer, Head of Collections from the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum, and Lukasz Pryk, technician (October 2013)
 - Lukasz Kubacki, advisor to Robert Kostro, Director of the Museum of Polish History (September 2013)
 - Tomasz Szpil, National Archives of Lodz. July 1 – December 5
- American Jewish Committee’s Global Diplomatic Seder (March 2014) representing Polish General Consul of Chicago
 - *Forbidden Art* Presentation at the annual NMDA convention in Egg Harbor, Wisconsin. (Summer 2013)
 - Attendance to the annual MAB conference (Budapest) in September 2013
 - Commemorative Plaque placement from The Polish Mission of The Orchard Lake Schools at the new memorial center dedicated to Polish armed forces at the Monte Cassino battlefield (Siena, Italy) Unveiling planned during the 70th anniversary of the battle.

Grant Activity

- **AWARDED:**
 - Forbidden Art Grant – New York Forbidden Art: **\$10,000**
 - City of Bydgoszcz – Exhibition creation in PL at the Wyczółkowski Museum (matching grant)
 - Ministry of Foreign affairs:
 - 70th anniversary of the Warsaw Uprising: **\$2,000**,
 - 25th anniversary of the first partially free elections in PL: **\$2,000**,
 - Archival materials grant: **\$2,000**
 - Polish Mission program for genealogy conference in Texas: **\$600**
 - Michigan Humanities Council / National Endowment for the Humanities grant in support of *Portrait Studios of Polonia*: **\$15,000**
- **PENDING**
 - Auschwitz grant support for ongoing partnership with A-BSM from the Polish government: **\$55,000**

Special Recognition:

- August 2, 2014: Polish Mission Director Chumiecki received the distinguished Service award from the American Council for Polish Culture (ACPC) in Buffalo, New York.

“[Your] eagerness, professionalism, and efficiency...is second only to the degree of prestige contained in the collection of Polish artifacts that you have most graciously lent us...”

-Karl Weissenbach, April 3, 2014
Executive Director, Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum

“I hope you continue this important work for many years to come”

-Senator Carl Levin, September 1, 2013

“...our joint mission to promote culture and bilateral cultural relations bring your institutions and the US Embassy in Poland close together, so we are pleased to learn about your endeavors and accomplishments.”

-Mark L. Wenig, January 17, 2014
Cultural Attaché, US Embassy in Poland

“...very impressive and constructive activities in which The Polish Mission department of the Orchard Lake Schools is pursuing.”

-Zbigniew Brzezinski, March 31, 2014
Former National Security advisor, and Professor,
Center for Strategic & International Studies

“Of all the degrees of cooperation possible, the special kind that is between the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum and the Polish Mission of the Orchard Lake Schools, is most critical.”

-Dr. Piotr M.A. Cywiński, February 12, 2014
Director, Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum

“We at the Polish Consulate General in Chicago appreciate appreciate that hundreds of thousands of Americans have already discovered the Polish Mission’s many educational programs. I am even more thrilled that under Marcin Chumiecki’s leadership the Mission’s programs are being made available not only in Michigan, but also throughout the United States. It is thanks to this great institution that many Americans, no matter their age, are continually discovering this educational mission.”

-Paulina Kapuścińska, January 27, 2014
Consul General of the Republic of Poland

“As the personal and official representative of His Holiness Pope Francis... I was pleased to be informed The Polish Mission of the Orchard Lake Schools, in cooperation with the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum...will be commemorating...the liberation of the Auschwitz camp. ...I gladly convey to you and to all of the participants my warm greetings and personal best wishes.”

“Please be assured that your correspondence and folder of material, destined for His Holiness Pope Francis, will be duly forwarded.”

His Excellency Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganò, January 20, 2014
Apostolic Nuncio

“Thank you so very much for the beautiful book. It is outstanding and I cannot wait to visit.”

R.D. Musser, August 1, 2013
President, The Grand Hotel

“I sincerely thank the efforts of The Polish Mission to pay tribute to this important anniversary through their unique display. [Forbidden Art]”

Rick Snyder, January 27, 2014
Governor, State of Michigan

“Let me express my heartfelt appreciation for the efforts of the Polish Mission to educate the younger generations about Polish history and for initiating numerous projects to foster Polish-American relations.”

Ryszard Schnepf, January 21, 2014
Ambassador of the Republic of Poland to the United States of America

“We are grateful for the initiative of our dear colleagues at the Polish Mission of the Orchard Lake Schools for their commemorative efforts.”

Roey Gilad, January 27, 2014
Consul General of the Nation of Israel

“Thank you for organizing such an outstanding event.”

Sergey I. Kislyak, January 27, 2014
Ambassador of the Russian Federation to the United States

“Regrettably, previous engagements preclude me from coming to attend what will undoubtedly be a most moving – I should say unforgettable – ceremony and exhibition.”

Claudio Bisogniero, January 22, 2014
Ambassador of Italy

“I would like to congratulate The Polish Mission for contributing to the International Holocaust Remembrance Day with such an important event.”

Peter Kmec, January 22, 2014
Ambassador of the Slovak Republic

“Thank you for enabling so many people to see [the] extraordinary exhibition of *Forbidden Art*.”

Rabbi Michael Schudrich
Chief Rabbi of the Jewish Community of Poland

“I want to take this opportunity to congratulate you and your comrades on the celebration of the Annual Commemoration of the 1939 outbreak of WWII in Poland.”

-William A. Thien, September 1, 2013
Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

“In particular, during the last years of the Polish Mission, I have seen an expanded field of activities, gaining in prestige and authority within multiple ethnic groups, and leading non-governmental institutions as well as the governments in Poland and the USA. Your consistent, tireless action in advocacy of the American Polish community, and your work at building bridges between cultures and ethnic groups has cemented an important place for the Polish Mission in the character of many communities and institutions in the U.S. and Poland.”

-Ewa Kopacz, January 30, 2014
Marshal of the Polish Sejm

“Your activities are a testimony of the work of your compatriots overseas, and your care for our treasured Polish national identity and traditions.”

-Jan Stanislaw Ciechanowski, January 23, 2014
Bureau of Veterans Affairs of the republic of Poland

“The Board of the American Council for Polish Culture (ACPC) has voted to present you with our Distinguished Service Award for your successful work as Director of the Polish Mission at Orchard Lake Schools as well as promoting our Polish Culture in related activities.”

-ACPC Board, March 3, 2014

“Excellent! These contacts and ties strengthen Orchard Lake's Polish Mission as well as our Polonia at large...”

Waldemar Raczkowski
Revenue Management and Global Analytics Chief Operating Officer

GALERIA BUILDING PROJECT (In-progress)

In November of 2013, the connection was renewed with historical building conservationist and architect John Dziurman. Since then, different options have been discussed to accommodate a variety of economical multi-function space and architectural procedures. In February, a meeting was held with the Galeria building commission, to introduce Mr Dziurman and his lengthy program of research, and to introduce one of his many advisory colleagues. Following up on that meeting, a list of requirements was prepared by The Polish Mission that will be submitted to Mr. Dziurman by April 1.

- July 1, 2014: Galeria building renovation project kickoff. Full renovation of existing building and 2-story addition added to the rear. Stage 1, phase 1 underway: research of existing building,

Future activities summary:

- *Anders' Army* exhibition from Museum of Polish History development/preparation. (July 2014)
- Exhibition from the Warsaw Uprising Museum – August 2014
- *Neither Silent Nor Passive: Jews Who Rescued Jews*. formal cooperation begun August 2014
- "From War to victory 1939-1989" exhibition from IPN (September 2014)
- *Portrait Studios of Polonia* exhibition (Michigan Humanities grant supported) (October 2014)
- *Leon Wyczolkowski and his Friends* exhibition from the Wyczolkowski District Museum in Bydgoszcz, with special guests Dr. Wozniak and Inga Kopciewicz (November 2014)
- 70th Anniversary of Auschwitz Liberation in New York (January-February 2014)
- *Wielka Szpera* exhibition from the National Archives in Lodz. Currently seeking partners for translation/printing expenses.
- *Posters Across the Atlantic* exchange program with the National Poster Museum in Wilanow. Exchange of American art posters with Polish posters in a cooperative educational exhibit, with the honorary patronage of the Ambassadors of Poland and the United States.
- ***Modern Poland Campaign: 4 year campaign with traveling exhibitions showcasing modern Polish culture, and achievements in business and education.*** Each year, an exhibition highlighting one of Poland's 4 geographic regions will be presented to audiences across the USA, highlighting an aspect of modern Polish identity.