As the President of the Kosciuszko Foundation, I often get unusual requests for money from people who think that the Foundation is sitting on piles of cash, just waiting to be handed out on a whim. That’s not the case.

The scholarship endowment governed by the Foundation’s Board of Trustees is made up of dozens of separate funds that were designated by donors for specific scholarships. Some of these are earmarked for the humanities, or law school, while others are set aside for journalism, or other subjects. The Foundation must carefully follow the instructions of the benefactor who establishes a scholarship fund. We invest these funds to earn the best return possible, and work to find the right student to match with the right scholarship.

The process for obtaining one of these scholarships is actually quite competitive, and our scholarship committee combs through applications and checks credentials and grades of the students before conferring these awards. Many of the talented students who have received scholarships for the current year are featured in this newsletter.

In 1985, I was one of those students awarded a scholarship, which allowed me to earn my master’s in journalism at Columbia University. After that, I attended the Kosciuszko Foundation’s summer program in Krakow. I decided to stay in Poland, and received a graduate fellowship by the Polish government to study journalism and political science at the University of Warsaw. This gave me access to the press conferences held by the Communist regime’s infamous press spokesman, Jerzy Urban.

But because Poland was then held captive by the Soviet Union, stuck behind the Iron Curtain, the Polish secret police, the SB, began to harass me. They stole my visa, and on several occasions, I was interrogated. Recently, I obtained a copy of my secret dossier, and the conclusion was as follows:

Alexander Storozynski (A.S.), born August 26, 1961, US citizen, was a doctoral student at the University of Warsaw in 1985. During his stay in the PRL (Polish People’s Republic) we conducted three operational interrogations with him, which had negative outcomes. He informed the U.S. embassy about these discussions. During these discussions he came across as arrogant, self-confident, with a critical perception of our version of reality. We have established that he was aware of operational methods used by our special services.

A.S., during his stay in the PRL, established and maintained close relationships with some opposition leaders and with their help tried to leave the country with photo negatives, whose content was undeniably anti-PRL. Additionally, in June 1986, during a customs control while crossing the border, it was revealed that he tried to smuggle illegal newsletters out of the country. Having considered all of the activities of A.S. during his stay in the PRL while on scholarship, he was entered into the registry of individuals considered undesirable in the PRL.

Of course I was critical of the Communist “version of reality” as any sane person would be. Luckily, today, Poland is a country that is flourishing democratically and economically. The battles of World War II and the Cold War are finally over, and Poland is part of NATO and the European Union.

That is why the Kosciuszko Foundation should work to raise funds for new areas of scholarship that will help Polonia in the future. Because of Poland’s political dilemmas of the past, most of our scholarship donations went to fund the humanities. Today, 80% of our scholarships are in the humanities, while only 20% are in the sciences.

It is my goal to try to balance that ratio and raise funds for more medical and scientific scholarships. We should also work to raise money to help students obtain business degrees, MBAs. In today’s world, China’s economy is growing much faster than that of Europe or the United States because they are focused on business. As Poles and Polish Americans, we, too, need to focus on the future and help to educate the next generation of Polonia in science and business.

Last year’s stock market crash hurt our endowment and our ability to award scholarships, but with the market climbing back up, next year, the Foundation will be able to award more scholarships. Each year, the Kosciuszko Foundation gives away a portion of its endowment. That’s what we do. But because of that, it is imperative that we raise money each year to keep this wonderful organization going. In fact, the Foundation must come up with more than $1 million each year just to pay the operating costs of our headquarters on the Upper East Side and to promote Polish culture and arts.

Our founder, Stephen Mizwa, showed us the importance of leveraging relationships with American institutions, such as Vassar College and Baldwin Locomotive Works. Today the KF must do the same and we need to form partnerships with corporations, universities and other entities to carry out our mission. While it is important that we look to the future when thinking about scholarships, we must also remember the past and acknowledge Polish history and culture. Now that the Kosciuszko Foundation has an office in Washington, D.C., we will look to increase Polonia’s interests in our nation’s capital.

continued on page 21
Message from the Chairman
Joseph E. Gore, Esq.

At the November 2009 Annual Board Meeting I was elected Chairman of the Board of Trustees after previously serving as the Foundation’s fifth President and Executive Director for nearly 22 years. My association with the Foundation, however, began while still in law school when I joined a group of Polish-Americans, mainly college graduates, who met regularly at the Foundation for both cultural and social activities. It was a “networking group” before that term became fashionable. We called ourselves “Young Members” and as the years went by we became the “Younger Members.” It was during those years that I met the Foundation’s founder and second President, Dr. Stephen P. Mizwa.

It was not until after Dr. Mizwa’s death, January 16, 1971, that I came to realize what a remarkable person he was – literally the embodiment of the American success story. Since the Foundation’s membership is constantly in flux, I thought it would be of interest to our membership to learn about the beginnings and our founder, Dr. Stephen P. Mizwa.

A poor peasant boy of 17 leaves his home in Eastern Galicia in what was then part of the Austrian-Hungarian empire with $10 to his name and arrives in Northampton, Massachusetts to a family of prior immigrants. He immediately starts to learn English and within a span of 11 years he completes his grammar and college preparatory courses and then proceeds to earn degrees from both Amherst and Harvard and along the way is elected to Phi Beta Kappa. He becomes a Professor of Economics at Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa and while at Drake he becomes inspired by an article written by Dr. Henry Noble MacCracken, President of Vassar College, about his visits and lectures at several European universities and is impressed by the intellectual atmosphere of one of the oldest, the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, founded in 1364. After meeting Dr. MacCracken, Mizwa is encouraged to establish an organization to promote exchanges of scholars, students and culture between the United States and Poland. In 1920 he forms the Polish American Scholarship Committee which, after some difficult fund raising efforts, he is able to award scholarships to 9 Polish students for studies at American universities. In 1925 the Committee is transformed into a foundation and named in honor of Thaddeus Kosciuszko whose 150th anniversary of his arrival in America to fight in the American Revolutionary war was to take place the following year, 1926. Dr. Mizwa decided that a Living Memorial for the purposes of promoting cultural and educational exchanges between Poland and the United States, the two countries so important in Kosciuszko’s life would be a more fitting and proper memorial than erecting another stone or marble monument. The great depression arrives and the Foundation is unable to support a full-time director requiring Dr. Mizwa in 1929 to accept the position of President of Alliance College serving as President until 1932. Thereafter, Dr. Mizwa devotes the rest of his life in making the Kosciuszko Foundation a leading American institution.

While Dr. Mizwa had a nucleus group of advisors consisting of Dr. MacCracken, Mr. Samuel Vauclain, President of the Baldwin Locomotive Works in Philadelphia and Mr. Willis H. Booth, Vice President of the Guaranty Trust Company, it was Dr. Mizwa’s efforts, sacrifice and total devotion that today we have a lasting bridge of understanding between Poland and the United States. And it is thanks to him that thousands of Polish American students and Polish scholars and academics have been assisted in achieving their educational ambitions. Dr. MacCracken became the Foundation’s first President serving 25 years; Mr. Samuel Vauclain lent his name and prestige to the new foundation (and became its first major donor in 1927 of $25,500) and as Chairman of the Finance Committee he was able to raise from Americans of non-Polish descent nearly $44,000, an enormous sum at that time; Willis H. Booth served as the first Treasurer from 1925 to 1942 and managed the investment portfolio (when there was one). Lest we forget, Dr. Mizwa was fortunate to have an understanding and supportive wife, Katherine, and two children, Helen and Tad.

It was a singular honor to have been able to continue the mission begun in 1925 and, hopefully, to have added to the prior accomplishments. I am pleased that the mission continues under the able leadership of the sixth President and Executive Director, Mr. Alex Storozynski.
The Kosciuszko Foundation and the National Polish Center in Washington, D.C., have joined forces to help promote Polish culture in the United States. To do so, the NPC dissolved in January and became the Washington Office of The Kosciuszko Foundation.

President and Executive Director of the Kosciuszko Foundation, Alex Storozynski, said, “This is an exciting alliance that expands the Polish community’s presence in our nation’s capital. We want all Polish-Americans to think of this as their headquarters in Washington, D.C. and we invite members of the U.S. Congress and all branches of government to visit our office at 2025 O Street in Washington, D.C. to learn about Polish contributions to life, liberty and culture in America.”

NPC Chair Patricia Koproski said, “For years, the National Polish Center and the Kosciuszko Foundation have had the same goal, to promote Polish culture, science and scholarship in America. With the economies of scale, this marriage makes perfect sense, and together, we become stronger and can do even more to educate future generations of Polish scholars and leaders.”

The Chairman of the Kosciuszko Foundation’s Board of Trustees, Joseph E. Gore, Esq. said, “By joining forces with our organization, NPC members become part of a rich heritage that dates back to 1925. The Kosciuszko Foundation has promoted Polish culture in America for 85 years, and given fellowships to numerous doctors, attorneys, artists, professors, and people such as the economist Leszek Balcerowicz whose ‘shock therapy’ policies helped turn Poland into the fastest growing economy in Europe.”

As part of the merger, two new trustees from the NPC were added to the Kosciuszko Foundation Board: Al Koproski, a businessman, activist, philanthropist and real estate broker, who loves baseball and all things Polish. He has sent huge shipments of baseball equipment to Poland and is National Vice President of the Polish National Youth Baseball Foundation.

Dr. Julian Kulski, FAIA, is a renowned international architect, a war hero, a distinguished professor and author of award winning book and DVD Legacy of the White Eagle, a story of teenagers fighting for Poland’s freedom and independence.

Mr. Storozynski said “The Kosciuszko Foundation also is indebted to the international law firm White & Case LLP who did excellent work representing the Foundation in this transaction on a pro bono basis. The White & Case LLP team included Petr Polasek, Hansel T. Pham, Maury J. Mechanick and Marisa R. Bassett in Washington, D.C. and Meredith J. Beuchaw in New York. White & Case LLP also has represented our interests in Warsaw, Poland.”

The Kosciuszko Foundation Inc., The American Center of Polish Culture solicits funds throughout the United States and Poland and is now registered as a corporation licensed to perform charitable solicitation and designated a tax exempt corporation in the District of Columbia.

The Foundation is named after Thaddeus Kosciuszko, the Polish General who devised the winning strategy for the U.S. Continental Army at the Battle of Saratoga, the turning point of the American Revolution. Kosciuszko also drafted the plans for West Point that Benedict Arnold tried to sell to the British and suggested that the Fortress be used as a Military Academy. After the revolution, Kosciuszko presented his salary from the U.S. Army, $17,000, to Thomas Jefferson with the instructions that the money be used to purchase black slaves and free them. Kosciuszko then returned to Europe where he started a revolution to end serfdom and liberate burghers, peasants and Jews.

The KF works to strengthen the relations between the peoples of Poland and the United States through educational, scientific and cultural exchanges. It holds annual competitions such as the prestigious Chopin competition, and awards up to one million dollars per year in scholarships.

Its major fundraiser of the year takes place on the last Saturday in April, this year on the 24th, at the Waldorf=Astoria Hotel on Park Avenue and 52nd Street in New York City.
The Kosciuszko Foundation is hosting an exhibit by master sculptor Tracy H. Sugg at the Kosciuszko Foundation at 15 East 65th Street. The unveiling of this exhibition took place on Friday, November 13, 2009 and will be open to the public.

Tracy Sugg, who has created several monuments in Mississippi, at West Point and numerous sculptures in private collections, unveiled a series of life-size portrait busts of notable Polish heroes and heroines throughout history. In addition to the thirteen portrait busts, there are two full-figure maquettes and a high relief sculpture panel.

Tracy’s attention to historic research and her innate ability to capture the sparkle of life that animates each portrait make this exhibit an introspective experience in viewing the soul of Poland.

Her works can be purchased at the Kosciuszko Foundation and include: Pope John Paul II, Fryderyk Chopin, Adam Mickiewicz, Marie Skłodowska Curie, Jadwiga Andegawenska, Mikolaj Kopernik, *Copernicus*, Gen. Casimir Pulaski, Ignacy Jan Paderewski, Emilija Plater, Helena Modjeska, Henryk Sienkiewicz, and King Jan III Sobieski.

*A portion of the proceeds from the sale of these sculptures of Polish heroes will go to support the Kosciuszko Foundation which grants scholarships to Poles and Polish Americans.*
2009 PROFESSOR MICHAL SMIALOWSKI AWARD

The Academic Advisory Committee of the 2009 Professor Michal Smialowski Award selected as its recipient Dr. Halina Krawiec, AGH University of Science and Technology in Krakow, Department of Electrochemistry, Corrosion and Applied Surface Science. Her doctoral thesis in the field of Electrochemistry was the basis for this prestigious recognition.

The Professor Michal Smialowski Award is given annually to a Polish citizen for a distinguished publication in the field of Material Science. The Award was established at the Kosciuszko Foundation in 1991 by Professor Susan Smialowski in memory of her late husband, a highly recognized authority in the world of Material Science, founder of the Institute of Physical Chemistry of the Polish Academy of Science in Warsaw and its Director in the years of 1960-1973. The selection of the recipient of the annual award is made by the Foundation based on recommendations of the Academic Advisory Committee which is comprised of several Polish academicians, all experts in the field of Material Science.

The award ceremonies are held by the Foundation in its office during the annual Exchange Program personal interview sessions held in March. The 2009 ceremony was hosted by Mr. Alex Storozynski, President and Executive Director of the Foundation, who presented the winner with a certificate and a Foundation check for $2,000. Present at the ceremony were the representatives of the Institute of Physical Chemistry, Polish Academy of Science.

On Saturday, April 24, 2010 the Kosciuszko Foundation will present its 75th Annual Dinner and Diamond Jubilee Ball at the Grand Ballroom of New York's Waldorf=Astoria. Chairpersons Joseph E. Gore, Esq. and Mrs. Eugenia F. Gore will be hosts of the evening. Music and dancing will be provided once again by the Hank Lane Revue and a colorful dance presentation will be performed by The Polish American Folk Dance Company.

The debutantes being presented at the ball are: Ms. Mikhaela Ackerman, daughter of Mrs. Mary Lynn Ackerman, Ms. Diana Marie Grutzmacher, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David and Patricia Grutzmacher, Ms. Natasha Brook Polewac, daughter of Ms. Dawn Polewac, Ms. Adria Wyszynski and Ms. Rachel Wyszynski, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond and Cynthia Wyszynski, Ms. Alexandra Zachowski, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Matt and Lucia Zachowski.

This year’s Debutante Patroness is Mrs. Patricia (Patti) Rutkoske McCune of Fort Worth, Texas. Ms. Juliana Fazio serves as Honorary Debutante Chairwoman for this year's event. Ms. Dawn Polowac continues on as Debutante Chairwoman.

A long time favorite, The Fanfare Squadron of the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy joins us, as well as the color guard and debutante escorts from Kings Point Military Academy.

This year’s Medal of Recognition awardees are Nobel Peace Prize Laureate President Lech Walesa, Award Winning Artist Rafal Olbinski, and Pioneering Plastic Surgeon Dr. Maria Siemionow.

This is the Kosciuszko Foundation’s main fundraiser each year which enables us to continue our mission of promoting education and cultural relations between the United States and Poland, increasing American awareness of Polish culture and history.

Come join us for a magnificent evening filled with music, wonderful food and charming company. Tickets can still be purchased through our website: www.TheKF.org or by calling our office at (212) 734-2130. This is a Black Tie event.
KF PARTNERS IN NEW EXCHANGE PROGRAM FUNDED BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

During the course of 2009, the Kosciuszko Foundation participated as a cooperating partner in a pilot exchange program for American and Polish high school students under the aegis of the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. The U.S. – Poland Parliamentary Youth Exchange Leadership Program was established in 2008 by Senator Richard Lugar (R-IN) in commemoration of the 90th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the U.S. and Poland. It was inaugurated in 2009.

The U.S.-Poland Parliamentary Youth Leadership Exchange Program is a four-week program for 15 Polish and 15 American high school students that focuses on leadership and civics education, on the development of mutual understanding and respect, and on promoting enduring ties between the United States and Poland. A teacher from each participating school accompanies the students.

Fifteen American high school students and two teachers from Chicago and Des Moines, IA were matched with fifteen Polish students and two teachers from Nowy Sacz and Gdansk. The Polish students and their chaperones came to the U.S. in early February ’09 for three weeks. They spent the first two weeks living and going to classes with their American counterparts. They also met and interned with local government officials and observed and participated in community service programs. Their third week was centered on a trip to Washington, D.C. for civics education workshops and visits to places and monuments important in U.S. history and government.

The American contingent arrived in Poland in early June. The students were met and taken to their host’s homes in Nowy Sacz and Gdansk where they spent two weeks living, studying, observing and participating in Polish communities. The Kosciuszko Foundation hosted the Americans in Warsaw during their third week for a series of civics education workshops presented by prominent Poles and provided visitations to places of cultural and historical importance that paralleled the Polish students’ experiences in Washington, D.C. The Foundation was also responsible for arranging accommodations and meals for the Americans.

In late June, all thirty Polish and American students and their four chaperones were reunited in Krakow for the program’s fourth week to participate in a one-week leadership and community service training camp organized by the Foundation. The focus of this camp was to bring the students together and to immerse them in workshops dealing with enhancing leadership skills and developing community service projects. Program activities were developed by Christine Kuskowski. Bernadette O’Keefe, retired teacher of Social Studies (N.Y.C.), conducted the workshops. She was assisted by Anna Utecht, bi-lingual certified teacher of Polish and KF staff member. Excursions to places important to the history and culture of Poland were arranged. Joseph Herter, KF representative in Warsaw, took care of the logistics in Warsaw and Krakow.

As a culminating activity, the students formed seven teams consisting of both Polish and American participants. Each team worked to create a community service project to benefit one of the Polish host communities. Written proposals for the projects were produced in competition by the seven teams and were submitted to the Kosciuszko Foundation’s Education Committee for evaluation. The Kosciuszko Foundation awarded grants totaling five thousand dollars ($5,000) to three teams selected by the committee, two for the host community in Nowy Sacz and one for Gdansk. The grants are to be used by the Polish team members to implement the projects in their communities. Their American teammates agreed to serve in an advisory capacity via the internet.

The first U.S.-Poland Parliamentary Youth Exchange Leadership Program ended on July 3rd, 2009 with all participants departing Krakow for home. The Foundation is monitoring the progress of the Community Service projects currently taking place in Nowy Sacz and Gdansk and is looking forward to participating again in 2010 as a partner in this exciting new program.

Submitted by Christine B. Kuskowski, Program Director, U.S.-Poland Parliamentary Youth Exchange Leadership Program
The Kosciuszko Foundation held a three day tribute, Sept. 17-19, to the Warsaw Uprising and Poles who fought during World War II. The program included photography exhibits, films, literature and music, and appealed to a diverse age group that ranged from students to elderly and those that fought in the Warsaw Uprising.

There were two photography exhibits: Warsaw, Paris of the North, an exhibition of prewar Warsaw photographs on loan from the collection of the Warsaw Uprising Museum in Poland, and works from private collections of Mr. Zygmunt Walkowski and Mr. Jerry Glowczewski. Aside from the destruction of historical buildings lost during the war and the uprising, the exhibit reflected the intellectual climate of the city embodied in photographs featuring meetings between the international elite. Part of the exhibit featured fragments of poetry and prose about Warsaw, a fragment from Jan Karski’s Tajne Panstwo describing Warsaw just days before the start of World War II.

The evening commenced with a dazzling performance of songs of the period by Mrs. Marta Wryk, mezzo-soprano, who sang from the spiral stairs leading to the Gallery. The program was made possible with grants from Polish Army Veterans, SWAP District 2, and Mrs. Alexandra Solowij and Mr. William Watkins from Boston, who established a Tadeusz Solowij Literary Fund of the Kosciuszko Foundation, as well as the Polish Consulate in New York.

Awards were presented to the winners of the historical essay contest analyzing the “International Significance of the Nazi-Soviet Invasion of Poland in September of 1939.” There were 103 essays entered into the competition, and the First Prize, $2,000, courtesy of The Polish Army Veterans Association of America, District 2, was awarded to Katarzyna Tokarz for her essay, “The Fourth Partition of Poland.” Ms. Tokarz is a student at Georgetown University. Second prize, $1,000, awarded by the Kosciuszko Foundation went to Paul Armstrong, a student at the University of St. Thomas, for his essay, “Poland: First to Fight.” Third Prize, $500, courtesy of Adamba Imports went to Bogumil Misiuk, a student at Seton Hall University.

Next came a dramatic reading of poetry and prose hosted by Mrs. Grazyna Drabik, accompanied by a slide show from the collection of the Warsaw Uprising Museum and a performance of patriotic songs of the period by Mrs. Marta Wryk.

Following the poetry reading guests were invited to view an exhibition of photographs taken by the insurrectionists during the Warsaw Uprising against the Nazis.

On the following evening guests were presented with a showing of a documentary film called Betrayal: The Battle for Warsaw, by Andrew Rothstein. Afterward, guests were able to ask questions of Mr. Bill Biega and Mr. Mike Madejeski, both of whom took part in the uprising, as well as of Mr. Jerry Glowczewski, a soldier who fought in the battle of Tobruk. After the war, Mr. Glowczewski was an architect involved in the rebuilding of the capital.

On the final day came the theater presentation of Błyskawica by the Polish Theater Institute that depicted the fate of a radio station during the Warsaw Uprising.
The Kosciuszko Foundation’s nineteenth Teaching English in Poland Program underwent some notable changes this past summer. After the Polish Ministry of National Education announced the withdrawal of its financial support from all summer foreign language immersion camps for the 2009 season, the Foundation received offers from the administrations of two former camp locations to continue the TEIP Program independently.

Ms. Krystyna Mikita, Director of the ZHP (Polish Scouts) Educational-Recreational Center, “Nadwarcianski Grod” in Zalecze Wielkie agreed to host two smaller camps at that location: an Arts Enrichment Camp in English for junior high school students and an English Language Immersion Camp for upper elementary school students. Several students from Rakszawa, Professor Stefan Mizwa’s hometown, attended the camp. The four-week term, including a six-day tour of historical and cultural highlights for the American staff, took place from June 26th to July 24th.

Mr. Jerzy Cisewski, Director of the Janusz St. Pasierba School Campus for Economics and Business in Tczew organized the popular KF TEIP English Language Immersion Program for high school students (sixteen to nineteen years of age). The Tczew program that began on July 1st and ended on August 1st also included a tour for the American staff.

The administrations of both locations were able to organize the camps independently by charging the Polish students tuition (up to 2,000 PLN) for their three week term and by receiving grants from local community and county governments. The American staff for each site were cut by one-half because of fewer Polish student participants due to the high tuition costs.

The Arts Enrichment Camp for 48 junior high school students (13-16 years of age) was initiated and implemented by Staff Leader Mary Kay Pieski, President of the Ohio Chapter of the Kosciuszko Foundation, for the purpose of introducing Polish students to the Arts as taught in American schools. Ms. Pieski, an experienced TEIP camp leader and Middle School music teacher, successfully obtained a grant of $4,500 from the Delta Kappa Gamma Educational Foundation to purchase Orff Musical Instruments in Poland for the camp. She organized a staff of 6 teachers and 6 student assistants experienced in the Arts who were from Ohio, New York, Colorado and Massachusetts. They produced an impressive program of varied learning experiences and activities in the Arts.

The English Language Immersion Camp for 50 Upper Elementary School students (10 – 12 years of age) was held simultaneously but separately from the Arts Enrichment Camp. Veteran Staff Leader Theresa Rivard of the Western New York Chapter was responsible for implementing the TEIP program based on American life and culture with a staff of 5 teachers and 5 teaching assistants. Staff members hailed from New York, Minnesota, and Illinois.

During the course of the program, the Zalecze Wielkie Camp’s population was increased with the arrival of children who were displaced from their homes by the floods that ravaged southwestern Poland at the time. They participated in some TEIP program activities.

The KF-Tczew Camp was led by veteran Staff Leader Janice Sherry of Henderson, Nevada. Her staff included 10 teachers representing a cross-section of the U.S.A. from Nevada, Washington (state), Georgia, Florida, Pennsylvania, New York and Texas. They conducted the ever-popular TEIP Program as in past summers for 80 students (ages 16-19).

All of the Americans were treated by their camp administrators to a six-day cultural-historical tour at the conclusion of the camp programs.

At the close of its nineteenth consecutive summer, the Foundation’s TEIP Program is credited with organizing a total of 103 English language camps served by 1,700 American volunteers for the benefit of approximately 10,200 Polish students since 1991.

For detailed information about this cultural-educational program, please refer to the Kosciuszko Foundation’s website at: www.thekf.org under Summer Programs.
EXCHANGE FELLOWSHIP AND GRANTS
FOR POLISH CITIZENS FOR ADVANCED STUDY/RESEARCH AND/OR TEACHING IN THE UNITED STATES FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2009/10

Some of Poland's brightest and most talented scholars were chosen by the Kosciuszko Foundation to represent Polish academia in the United States during the academic year of 2009/10.

Every April, during its Semi-Annual Meeting, the Board of Trustees of the Kosciuszko Foundation approves funding for the Exchange Program with Poland for the next academic year. Last April the Board allocated $244,867 for 16 scholars and scientists from Poland as recipients of the Fellowships and Grants for the 2009/2010 academic year.

The decision of the Foundation's Board was based on the results of a very careful selection process, including personal interviews, conducted by the members of the U.S. Academic Advisory Committee and Polish Academic Commission in March at the Foundation's Warsaw Office.

The US Academic Advisory Committee is composed of the following members:
1. Prof. Thaddeus V. Gromada, Executive Director, Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences in America, New York.
2. Ronald J. Hagadus, M.D., Trustee & Member of the Kosciuszko Foundation Scholarship Committee.
3. Dr. Christopher Lange, SUNY, Health Science Center, Brooklyn, New York.
4. Ewa Radwanska, M.D., Ph.D., Rush University Medical Center in Chicago.
5. Prof. Bozena Shallcross, Department of Slavic Languages, University of Chicago.

The work of the US Committee was assisted during the personal interview sessions at the Foundation's office in Warsaw by the members of the Polish Academic Commission which included a number of former Fellows of the Kosciuszko Foundation:
1. Maria Brewinska, Curator, Zacheta National Gallery of Art in Warsaw, Former Fellow of The Kosciuszko Foundation
2. Dr. Andrzej Dakowski, Director of the Polish Fulbright Commission in Warsaw.
3. Prof. Władysław Miodunka, Director, Centrum Języka i Kultury Polskiej w Świecie, Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland. Former Fellow of The Kosciuszko Foundation
4. Dr. Jarosław Kusmierczyk, Assistant Professor, Clinic of Ophthalmology, Center for Medical Training, Prof. W. Orlowski Hospital, Warsaw, Poland. Former Fellow of The Kosciuszko Foundation
5. Prof. Zbigniew Lasocik, LL.D., Dean, Law Department, The Lazarski School of Commerce and Law in Warsaw. Former Fellow of The Kosciuszko Foundation
6. Dr. Sebastian Rejak, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Bureau for Polish-Jewish Relations, Warsaw, Poland. Former Fellow of The Kosciuszko Foundation

Professor Thaddeus V. Gromada, Kosciuszko Foundation Vice Chairman and Chairman of the Scholarship Committee, along with Alex Storozynski, President and Executive Director and Ms. Maryla Janiak, Vice President/Educational Programs presided over the personal interviews which 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 according to several sets of criteria. The discussions at the end of each interview created a good basis for evaluating the overall excellence and the importance of their research proposals both in their fields of study and to Poland. Careful consideration was given to the choice of the U.S. educational institution selected by the candidates for conducting their research projects. Members of the Committees had an opportunity to review the files on 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. For the academic year 2009/2010 all applications were reviewed by the New York office and subsequently prepared and presented for evaluation by the two Committees. Of the 41 applicants who were interviewed, 16 were selected for funding.

Maryla Z. Janiak
Vice President/Educational Programs
HUMANITIES

CZETWERTYNSKA, GRAZYNA, Assistant Professor, Institute for Interdisciplinary Studies, University of Warsaw: Three-month fellowship to conduct research/study on methodology of teaching, educational policy, sociology of education and quality management in education at Boston College with Professors Mark O’Connor and Philip Altbach.

GRZELAK, JANUSZ, Full Professor, Department of Psychology, University of Warsaw: three-month fellowship to conduct research on social value orientations and control motivations at Department of Psychology, University of Delaware with Professor David M. Kuhlman.

KOWALIK, KATARZYNA, An Archivist, The State Archive of Capital City of Warsaw: five-month grant to conduct research on Eminent Polish Emigres Scientists Associated with Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences in America from 1942. Their Contributions to American Science and Scholarships at the Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences in America, New York City with Professor Thaddeus V. Gromada.

LIPSZYC, ADAM, Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, Polish Academy of Science in Warsaw: three-month fellowship to conduct research on Walter Benjamin’s thought at the University of Chicago with Professor Mendes-Flohr, Professor of Modern Jewish Thought in the Divinity School.

MALECKI, WOJCIECH, Assistant Professor, Department of Polish Philology, University of Wroclaw: ten-month fellowship to conduct research on his project entitled Literature in the Aesthetics of the New Pragmatism at Florida Atlantic University with Professor Richard M. Shusterman.

MOSKALEWICZ, MAGDALENA, Ph.D. candidate in History of Art, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznan: three-month grant to conduct comparative research concerning American and Polish modernism of the 1960’s at Columbia University, Barnard College, department of Art History with Professors Alexander Alberro, Rosalyn Deutsche, Keith Moxey.


SIERAKOWSKI, SLAWOMIR, Journalist, political commentator, literary and theater critic in sociology, Warsaw University: three-month fellowship to conduct research on the transformation of the Polish Public sphere and analysis of public discourse in Poland between 1989–2004 at Princeton University with Professor Jan-Werner Muller.
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Ronald J. Hagadus, M.D.
Bedford Hills, New York

Alexander Koproski
Stamford, CT

Marian A. Kornilowicz, Esq.
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Julian Kulski
Washington, DC

Peter S. Novak
Holyoke, Massachusetts

Ewa Radowanska, M.D.
Chicago, Illinois

Sigmund Rolat
New York, New York

Krzysztof Rostek
Blauvelt, New York

Witold S. Sulimirski
Bronxville, New York

Helen Mary Tyszka
Garden City, New York

Wojciech Uzdelewicz
New York, New York

POLISH STUDIES

DEMBOWSKA-WOSIK, IWONA,
Assistant Professor,
Department of Applied and Cultural Linguistics:
ten-month teaching fellowship to teach Polish language (elementary/intermediate and advanced intermediate) at Indiana University Polish Studies Program. Also, to conduct research for her doctoral thesis on certificate exams of Polish as a foreign language.

GRABOWSKI, ARTUR,
Assistant Professor,
Department of 20th Century Literature, Jagiellonian University: ten-month teaching fellowship to teach courses in the Polish Studies Program at the University at Buffalo, New York.

PAMULA, SALOMEA,
Assistant Professor,
Center of the Polish Language and Culture of the World, Jagiellonian University: ten-month teaching fellowship to teach courses in the Polish Studies Program at the University of Connecticut at Storrs.

STUHR, MARIANNA,
Assistant Professor,
Polish-Japanese Institute of Information Technology in Warsaw: two-month grant to learn new techniques of graphic prints at the University of Connecticut, School of Fine Arts.

SCIENCE

GOWIN, EWELINA,
Assistant Professor,
Department of Family Medicine, University of Medical Science in Poznan: three-month grant to study/observe the effectiveness of follow-up intervention after GP’s training in preventive medicine in primary care at a placement arranged by the Polish American Medical Society in Chicago.

MULAK, AGATA,
Assistant Professor,
Department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Wroclaw Medical Academy: five-month fellowship to conduct research on experimental models of functional bowel disease and studying brain-gut interactions at the Division of Digestive Diseases, David Geffen School of Medicine at University of California, Los Angeles with Professor Yvette Tache.

SUFFCZYNSKI, PIOTR,
Assistant Professor,
Department of Biomedical Physics, Institute of Experimental Physics, University of Warsaw: five-month fellowship to conduct research on the cortical generators of high-gamma oscillations in the human brain at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine with Professors Piotr J. Franaszczuk and Nathan E. Crone.

LAW/ECONOMICS

GEBUSIA, IWONA,
Counsel, Czajec-Don Siemon & Zyro Sp.K. in Warsaw: three-month grant to conduct research and to prepare a comprehensive guide to private equity issues, based on the comparative analyses of the United States and Polish Law at Harvard Law School Library and New York University, Law Library.

MIKLASZEWSKA, EWA,
Professor
Department of Finance, Economic University of Krakow: three-month grant to conduct research for her book on current challenges to large, complex financial institutions and strategic response to them including regulatory proposals at Global Business Institute, Stern School of Business in New York City with Professor Ingo Walter and Roy C. Smith.
SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS FOR AMERICANS 2009-2010

The domestic scholarship application season enjoyed another robust turnout, with more than 200 applications received and reviewed by the Kosciuszko Foundation's Grants Department for its various domestic scholarship programs for the 2009/2010 academic year.

This academic year, the Board of Trustees allocated $104,925 in scholarship to Americans of Polish descent. Of this amount, $78,000 has been awarded as Tuition Scholarships to 30 Americans of Polish descent toward their graduate studies. An additional $15,125 has been awarded as Tuition Scholarships to 30 Americans of Polish descent toward their graduate studies. An additional $10,800 has been awarded as Tuition Scholarships to 30 Americans of Polish descent toward their graduate studies. An additional $10,800 has been awarded as Tuition Scholarships to 30 Americans of Polish descent toward their graduate studies. An additional $10,800 has been awarded as Tuition Scholarships to 30 Americans of Polish descent toward their graduate studies. An additional $10,800 has been awarded as Tuition Scholarships to 30 Americans of Polish descent toward their graduate studies. An additional $10,800 has been awarded as Tuition Scholarships to 30 Americans of Polish descent toward their graduate studies. An additional $10,800 has been awarded as Tuition Scholarships to 30 Americans of Polish descent toward their graduate studies. An additional $10,800 has been awarded as Tuition Scholarships to 30 Americans of Polish descent toward their graduate studies.

The Polish Ministry provides scholarship to 15 Americans students to attend Summer Session programs at the Jagiellonian University in Krakow. Each student received $2,130.

Lastly, in addition to funding for the year-long programs, the Foundation awarded $31,950 in Tomaszkiewicz-Florio Scholarships to 15 Americans students to attend Summer Session programs at the Jagiellonian University in Krakow. Each student received $2,130.

The grants and scholarships for Americans were made possible through the funds that are listed below. We are pleased to present the scholarship recipients for the 2009/10 academic year.

Addy Tymczyszyn Scholarship and Grants Officer for Americans

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TUITION SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

2009-2010

THE KAZIMIERA ADRIAN ADRIANOWSKA SCHOLARSHIP FUND

JAKALA, ELIZABETH of Chicago, IL – for second year of graduate studies in nursing, University of California, San Francisco School of Nursing, San Francisco, CA. Scholarship: $2,000 including $1,000 from Zimber Fund

SZYMANEK, KATARZYNA of Arlington Heights – for final year of graduate studies in medicine, Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences, Kansas City, MO. Scholarship: $3,000 including $2,000 from Zimber Fund

CHYLINSKI I SCHOLARSHIP FUND

JUDA, ANDREA of New York – for second year of graduate studies in integrated marketing, New York University, New York, NY. Scholarship: $3,000 including $1,000 from Miskowicz Fund

SOPHIA GRODZICKA SCHOLARSHIP FUND

KOWALCZYK, KAROLINA of Chicago, IL – for second year of graduate studies in clinical social work, The University of Chicago, School of Social Service Administration, Chicago, IL. Scholarship: $3,000

SOCHA, ANNA of Elizabeth, NJ – first year of graduate studies in Medicine, Karol Marcinkowski University of Medical Sciences, Poznan, Poland. Scholarship: $3,000

EDWIN L. HARASIMOWICZ SCHOLARSHIP TRUST FUND

MROZEK, JULIE of Grove City, PA – for second year of graduate studies in Podiatric Medicine, Ohio College of Podiatric Medicine, Independence, OH. Scholarship: $3,000
KOSCIUSZKO FOUNDATION

WALTER JARZEMBSKI SCHOLARSHIP FUND

POMIANOWSKI, JOSEPH of New Britain, CT – for first year of graduate studies in history of science, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. Scholarship: $3,000

SCZEPANIK, DARY of Beeville, TX – for second year of graduate studies in optometry, University of Houston, College of Optometry, Houston, TX. Scholarship: $2,000

SIEMIANOWSKI, ALISON of Springfield, MA – for first year of graduate studies in public administration, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT. Scholarship: $2,000

DR. CASIMIR V. KIERZKOWSKI SCHOLARSHIP FUND

LETOWSKI, JAN of Knoxville, TN – for second year of graduate studies in museum studies, George Washington University, Washington, DC. Scholarship: $2,000 including $1,000 from J.C. Kierzkowski Scholarship Fund

VICTORIA KOKERNAK SCHOLARSHIP

FILIPIAK, ANNA of Chicago, IL – for second year of graduate studies in international relations, Johns Hopkins University, School of Advanced International Studies, Washington, DC. Scholarship: $3,000

FORMELLA, KAROLINA of Brooklyn, NY – for second year of graduate studies in teaching English to speakers of other languages, Hunter College, New York, NY. Scholarship: $2,000

STAN LESNY SCHOLARSHIP FUND

PIACEWICZ, STEPHANIE of Chicago, IL – for second year of Ph.D. studies in medical engineering, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA. Scholarship: $4,000

TOMCZAK, ADAM of River Vale, NJ – for first year of graduate studies in astrophysics, University of California, Berkeley, CA. Scholarship: $2,000

MIZWA SCHOLARSHIP FUND

OLCON, KATARZYNA of Burbank, IL – for first year of graduate studies in human rights, Columbia University, New York, NY. Scholarship: $3,000

FLOYD AND IRENE MCKAIN/JOHN AND HELEN GENZA SCHOLARSHIP FUND

HENDERSON, LARA of Foxboro, MA – for second year of graduate studies in book arts/printmaking, University of the Arts, Philadelphia, PA. Scholarship: $2,000

WARCHAL, JESSICA of Kingston, PA – for third year of graduate studies in dance, Temple University Boyer College of Music and Dance, Philadelphia, PA. Scholarship: $2,000

THE JOSEPH NOWAK SCHOLARSHIP FUND

TOKARZ, KATARZYNA of Frederick, MD – for first year of graduate studies in international affairs, Johns Hopkins University, Washington, DC. Scholarship: $3,000

THE DR. EDWARD AND MARIA NOWICKI MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

LACEK, ANETA of Chicago, IL – for third year of graduate studies in dentistry, University of Illinois, Chicago, IL. Scholarship: $3,000

ORLIK, ALEKSANDER of Palo Alto, CA – for first year of graduate studies in dentistry, Indiana University, School of Dentistry, Indianapolis, IN. Scholarship: $2,000

POPE JOHN PAUL II SCHOLARSHIP

ROTNER, JONATHAN of New York, NY – for first year of doctorate studies in electrical engineering, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA. Scholarship: $3,000

HENRY W. ROKICKI MEMORIAL FUND

GROBELSKI, JENNIFER of LaGrange, IL – for third year of graduate studies in law, DePaul University College of Law, Chicago, IL. Scholarship: $3,000

THE ARTHUR AND GENEVIEVE ROTH SCHOLARSHIP FUND

BOGUCKI, CAROLINE of Boston, MA – for second year of graduate studies in business, Georgetown University, McDonough School of Business, Washington, DC. Scholarship: $2,000
<table>
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<tr>
<th><strong>EDWARD C. SMITH SCHOLARSHIP FUND</strong></th>
<th><strong>THE MICHALINA AND HERMAN ZIMBER SCHOLARSHIP FUND</strong></th>
<th><strong>GRABOWSKI, ALEKSANDER</strong> of Belleville, NJ – for senior year of undergraduate studies in print journalism, American University, Washington, DC. Scholarship: $2,000</th>
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<tr>
<td>CZERWIEN, CHRISTY of Ripon, WI – first year of graduate studies in East Asian studies, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS. Scholarship: $3,000</td>
<td>HOWARD, BARBARA of Albuquerque, NM – for fifth year of Ph.D. studies in clinical psychology, Fielding Graduate University, Santa Barbara, CA. Scholarship: $2,000</td>
<td><strong>RICHARD SOBIERAJ SCHOLARSHIP FUND</strong></td>
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<td><strong>IRENA SPALLUTO-BONCZAK SCHOLARSHIP</strong></td>
<td><strong>DR. MARIE ZAKRZEWSKA MEDICAL SCHOLARSHIP OF THE MASSACHUSETTS FEDERATION OF POLISH WOMEN’S CLUBS FUND</strong></td>
<td><strong>SADOWSKI, MACIEJ</strong> of Brooklyn, NY – for sophomore year of undergraduate studies in biology, Fordham University, Bronx, NY. Scholarship: $2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STANISZEWSKA, MALGORZATA of Brooklyn, NY – for second year of graduate studies in vocal performance, Conservatory of Music, Brooklyn College, Brooklyn, NY. Scholarship: $2,000</td>
<td>PARZYCH, LYDIA of Worcester, MA – for first year of graduate studies in medicine, Harvard University, Boston, MA. Scholarship: $3,500</td>
<td><strong>ALBERT SPIEZYNY SCHOLARSHIP FUND</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MAZUREK, STEFAN</strong> of Chicago, IL – for first year of graduate studies in biology, University of Washington, Seattle, WA. Scholarship: $2,000</td>
<td>ANDREZYK, MARK of Boston, MA – for third year of undergraduate studies in visual media arts, Emerson College, Boston, MA. Scholarship: $1,250</td>
<td><strong>MASSACHUSETTS FEDERATION OF POLISH WOMEN’S CLUBS FUND</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>THE WASIL SCHOLARSHIP FUND</strong></td>
<td>SLOMIAK, JOANNA of West Palm Beach, FL – for first year undergraduate program in veterinary medicine, Becker College, Worcester, MA. Scholarship: $1,250</td>
<td><strong>CIECJERSKI, CAROLINE</strong> of Hackensack, NJ – for first year of undergraduate studies in nutritional science, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ. Scholarship: $585</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DABROWSKA, MARTA of Middle Village, NY – for second year of graduate studies in creative writing, New York University, New York, NY. Scholarship: $3,000</td>
<td><strong>MATICKA, SAMANTHA</strong> of Ringwood, NJ – for sophomore year of undergraduate studies in religious education, Mount St. Mary’s University, Emmitsburg, MD. Scholarship: $500</td>
<td><strong>POLISH AMERICAN CLUB OF NORTH JERSEY FUND</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>JABLONSKA, JUSTYNA of Chicago, IL – for first year of graduate studies in journalism, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL. Scholarship: $3,000</td>
<td><strong>PLASKON, PAULINA</strong> of Wallington, NJ – for senior year of undergraduate studies in clinical laboratory, Fairleigh Dickinson University, Teaneck, NJ. Scholarship: $575</td>
<td><strong>GRABOWSKI, ALEKSANDER</strong> of Belleville, NJ – for senior year of undergraduate studies in print journalism, American University, Washington, DC. Scholarship: $2,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>WOLICKI, KATHERINE of Asheville, NC – for second year of graduate studies in international economics, American University, Washington, DC. Scholarship: $3,000</td>
<td><strong>PONCELEORANCA, KEVIN</strong> of Ridgewood, NJ – for first year of undergraduate studies in mechanical engineering, Virginia Polytechnic and State University, Blacksburg, VA. Scholarship: $970</td>
<td><strong>WIS, SANDRA</strong> of Clifton, NJ – for first year of undergraduate studies in English, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ. Scholarship: $495</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
THE YEAR ABROAD PROGRAM IN POLAND 2009/2010

DUBOWSKI, LAUREN of New York, NY. Undergraduate senior majoring in theater studies and French at Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, PA and Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, PA. Scholarship: $675

FIGUS, ELIZABETH of Minneapolis, MN. B.A. in international relations and sociology at Mount Holyoke College, South Hadley, MA. Scholarship: $1,350

KUDLACZ, TOM of Meriden, CT. Undergraduate sophomore majoring in history at Clemson University, Clemson, SC. Scholarship: $675

MAILLOUX, CAROLINE of Taunton, MA. Undergraduate senior majoring in development studies at Brown University, Providence, RI. Scholarship: $1,350

MIKULSKI, LAURA of Trenton, NJ. Undergraduate senior majoring in drama at The Catholic University of America, Washington, DC. Scholarship: $1,350

NUNGOVITCH, PETRO of Atlanta, GA. B.A. in Arts and humanities at University of Maryland, College Park, MD. Scholarship: $1,350

PIERKOWSKI, MARK of Knoxville, TN. Undergraduate senior majoring in history at Emory University, Atlanta, GA. Scholarship: $1,350

WILLEY, DAVID of Geneva, IL. Second year doctoral student in Slavic languages and literatures at Yale University, New Haven, CT. Scholarship: $1,350

GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH IN POLAND 2009/2010

LARSEN, ROBIN of Omaha, NE. B.A. in English from Smith College, Northampton, MA. M.J. in journalism, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA, Ph.D. in journalism from Temple University, Philadelphia, PA. To conduct research on Polish women as film directors whose works have been screened at Polish Film Festivals in New York, Los Angeles and other United States locations. The project includes interviews which will reveal how Polish women create contemporary works of Polish cinema and how Polish women have entered the crucial dialogue that cinema has historically conducted with the Polish people. The interviews are intended to turn into either a long monograph or a book. The research will be conducted at the Institute of English Studies, University of Wroclaw, Wroclaw, Poland and the Department of American Culture and Literature, University of Lodz, Lodz, Poland with Prof. Agnieszka Salska and Prof. Dominika Ferens. Scholarship: $1,000
TOMASZKIEWICZ-FLORIO FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS
FOR SUMMER STUDIES AT THE JAGIELLONIAN UNIVERSITY, CRAKOW
SUMMER 2009

ALTMAN, ROBERT of Littleton, CO – high school senior at Lakewood High School, Lakewood, CO. Scholarship: $2,130

ARKIN, REBECCA of Princeton, NJ – undergrad- uate sophomore majoring in comparative literature, Princeton, University, Princeton, NJ. Scholarship: $2,130

COBERT, EMMA of Stanford, CA – undergraduate sophomore majoring in international relations, Stanford University, Stanford, CA. Scholarship: $2,130

D’ANGELO, PAUL of Edmonds, WA – undergraduate sophomore majoring in molecular biology, University of Washington, Seattle, WA. Scholarship: $2,130

DZIURZYNISKI, LUKASZ of Philadelphia, PA – undergraduate junior majoring in mathematics, University of Pennsylvania, PA. Scholarship: $2,130

GOBA, MARISSA of Fairfield, CT – undergraduate sophomore majoring in marketing and international business, Fairfield University, Fairfield, CT. Scholarship: $2,130

HABINA, KONRAD of West Lafayette, IN – undergraduate sophomore majoring in aeronautical engineering, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN. Scholarship: $2,130

HERNANDEZ, ERIK of Fairbanks, AK – high school senior attending West Valley High School, Fairbanks, AK. Scholarship: $2,130

JEDNAC, PAULINA of Brooklyn, NY – undergrad- uate freshman majoring in -library arts, Hunter College, City University of New York, New York, NY. Scholarship: $2,130

KOVACS, KATHERINA of Springfield, MO – high school senior at Central High School, Springfield, MO. Scholarship: $2,130

MATUSZEWSKI, BRIAN of Ithaca, NY – undergraduate sophomore majoring in industrial and labor relations, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY. Scholarship: $2,130

MICHALIK, THOMAS of Aliquippa, PA – high school senior at Hopewell Senior High School, Aliquippa, PA. Scholarship: $2,130

SETMAJER, ALEXANDRA of Omaha, NE – high school senior at Millard North High School, Omaha, NE. Scholarship:

SLUSARZ, PIOTR of Pomona, CA – undergraduate freshman majoring in mechanical engineering, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, CA. Scholarship: $2,130

ZIELINSKI, JOSEPH of Athens, OH – undergraduate sophomore majoring in history, Ohio University, Athens, OH. Scholarship: $2,130

PLEASE VISIT OUR NEW WEBSITE AT THEKF.ORG
During the period May-November 2009, the activities of the Chicago Chapter included numerous in-house events as well as participation in outside happenings. In May, the Chicago Chapter was invited to the following events: an exchange agreement signing ceremony between Northeastern Illinois University in Chicago and University of Technology in Czestochowa; a meeting with Professor Adam Budnikowski, Rector of Warsaw School of Economics who visited and gave a presentation at NEIU; Chicago promotion of Alex Storozynski’s book “The Peasant Prince, Thaddeus Kosciuszko and the Age of Revolution.” A book signing event took place on May 8 in the Polish Museum and in the Polish Consulate on May 9; the 20th Anniversary of Falling of Communism in Poland Celebration that took place in Chicago on May 29. The celebration consisted of two parts, an event at NEIU during which one of the university buildings was named Lech Walesa Hall, and a concert in Millennium Park in downtown Chicago. The Chicago Chapter became a founding member of Lech Walesa Fund at NEIU.

In July, the Chicago Chapter participated in a meeting with a delegation from Fundacja Kulturalna Pulsu Polonii from Australia. Discussions included how to save the name Kosciuszko Mount in Australia and about plans for Imieniny Kosciuszki.

In October, Imieniny Kosciuszki took place in the Polish Museum of America and the Chapter co-sponsored a Polish American Heritage celebration at Northeastern Illinois University on October 30.

In addition, the Chapter was visited in December by Brendan Collins, an Australian composer who recently wrote a work commemorating the life of Tadeusz Kosciuszko. The piece represents the extraordinary achievements of Kosciuszko in Poland and America and also draws a connection with Australia, by including a ‘climb to the summit’ of Australia’s highest peak, Mount Kosciuszko.

Submitted by Lidia Filus, KF Chicago Chapter President
During the fall 2009 and winter 2010 seasons, the activities of the Philadelphia Chapter have increased the visibility and outreach of the Kosciuszko Foundation in the City of Brotherly Love. On the first Sunday in October, the Chapter participated in the Philadelphia Pulaski Day Parade. The Chapter’s contingent featured Tomasz Kiewicz-Florio Scholarship winner Lukasz Dzurzynski, and Frances E. Wyszyński Memorial Scholarship winner Marcella Hollender.

On Sunday, October 25, 2009, the Philadelphia Chapter hosted its first Imieniny Celebration for our organization’s beloved namesake. With its elegant Victorian ambiance, the SilverstoneStay Bed & Breakfast in Chestnut Hill comprised the perfect setting to pay tribute to Kosciuszko. Chapter Board member Yolanta Roman and her husband Romuald served as consummate hosts for the Imieniny party. Classical guitarist Lukasz Kuropaczewski delighted all with an outstanding recital. The finest Polish pastries followed a delectable dinner of Polish cuisine. Gathering with friends to observe the beautiful Polish tradition of “imieniny” and at the same time honoring the memory of Thaddeus Kosciuszko proved to be an exquisite way to spend an unforgettable autumn afternoon in Philadelphia.

Following a long-standing custom, the Philadelphia Chapter co-sponsored the Polish Poetry Reading of the Overbrook Poets Society at the Polish American Cultural Center. This year’s featured artist was Juliusz Słowacki. On November 13, guests enjoyed hearing texts (poems and acts from plays) in English translation and in their original Polish.

Despite a formidable snowfall the day before, the Chapter’s Annual Polish Christmas Celebration enjoyed great success on Sunday, December 20, 2009. The highlight of the event consisted of an exceptional concert by Polish violinist Kinga Augustyn. The Christmas celebration also included Christmas caroling, sharing of the opłatek Christmas wafer, a buffet of Polish cuisine, and basket raffle.

In January, the Chapter celebrated the Chopin bicentennial with a group outing to the Kimmel Center for “Keyboard Conversations: Chopin the Storyteller” by Jeffrey Siegel. Mr. Siegel coupled his performance of Chopin’s works with insightful commentary which allowed audience members to gain a deeper appreciation for the compositions.

Submitted by Chapter President, Teresa G. Wojcik, Ph.D.
WE S TERN N EW YORK C HAPTER

The Western New York Chapter of the Kosciuszko Foundation is pleased to announce, in cooperation with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, a concert featuring pianist Berenika Zakrzewski. The concert will be the signature event for Western New York’s celebration of the 200th anniversary of the birth of Frederick Chopin. Berenika will perform Chopin’s Piano Concert #2, and additional pieces by Szymanowski, Karlowicz and Lutoslawski will be performed by the BPO under the baton of Maestro JoAnn Falletta. The concert is scheduled for October 23 & 24, 2010 at the historic and world renowned Kleinhans Music Hall. A private reception with Maestro Falletta, Berenika and the BPO will be hosted by the WNY Chapter of the Kosciuszko Foundation. Tickets will be available through the WNY Chapter of the Kosciuszko Foundation and at the Kleinhans Box Office.

Berenika’s performances have taken her all over the world. She has appeared with the Pittsburgh Symphony and Asheville Symphony under Daniel Meyer, with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra under Jukka Pekka Saraste, the National Arts Centre Orchestra of Canada under Erich Kunzel, the Penderecki Festival Orchestra under Heirich Schiff, the Boston Civic Symphony under Max Hobart in Jordan Hall, the Oxford Philomusica, the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, the RIC Symphony Orchestra, the Bialystock Philharmonic, Sinfonia Varsovia, Camerata New York, the Poznan Philharmonic, the Canadian Chamber Orchestra, the Christ Church Orchestra, the Beethoven Academy Orchestra and the Aspen Sinfonia among others. She has given a tour of South America as a soloist with the Youth Orchestra of the Americas performing in the major concert halls of Brazil, Panama, Peru, Uruguay, Costa Rica, and Argentina, including the Teatro Colon, Buenos Aires for enthusiastic audiences. She also performed at Rock Hotel Piano Fest in New York and in the Allen Room, Jazz at Lincoln Center and at the Wigmore Hall, London.

Berenika is the recipient of the prestigious Leonard Bernstein Scholarship at Harvard, the Arthur W. Foote prize of the historic Harvard Musical Association which has hosted such artists as Ferruccio Busoni, the John Knowles Paine Fellowship, and the Canada Council for the Arts Award.

She made a critically acclaimed live recording of the Beethoven Piano Concerto No. 3 with Sinfonietta Cracovia under John Axelrod, distributed by Universal Music Group and Berenika was also the international spokesperson in all media for Casio Inc., Japan’s Privia – a new line of digital pianos. Her performances have been widely broadcast on television and radio, appearing on Bravo!, the CBC, City TV, YTV, MDR Germany, WCQS, and the BBC. She was a featured performer on New York radio station WQXR’s McGraw Hill Young Artist Showcase, hosted by Robert Sherman. She was also London station Classic FM’s “Hot Property” on Late Night Lisa featuring the best young performers in classical music today. Berenika has been photographed by celebrity photographer Douglas Kirkland and dressed in Halston.

Berenika was the Leonard Bernstein Fellow at the Tanglewood Music Center giving performances at Tanglewood on Parade, the Festival of Contemporary Music, and the Steinway Recital series and in collaboration with the Mark Morris Dance Group at Jacob’s Pillow. She was a New Horizon’s Fellow at the Aspen Music Festival, and also attended the Verbier Festival, Switzerland and the International Summer Academy Mozarteum in Salzburg.

She has had the honor of being presented to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, performing in a gala concert at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Edinburgh, Scotland, being introduced in the House of Commons, performing at the Canadian Parliament in Ottawa and performing for the 40th anniversary of the Fulbright Commission.

A born performer, Berenika started piano at age 3, by 5 she already won her first piano competition and at 9 she performed as soloist with the Sault Symphony Orchestra. Coming from a northern Canadian town, she moved to New York to attend the Juilliard School and Professional Children’s School at age 13. She graduated magna cum laude from Harvard University in both Music and Government and from Christ Church, Oxford University.

For more information please contact KosciuszkoFdnwny@gmail.com.
The Kosciuszko Foundation, in conjunction with the Polish American Teachers Association, offers special programs for children that foster Polish culture, history and traditions. All programs are bilingual.

MESSAGE FROM ALEX STOROZYNSKI

That is why this year, the 70th anniversary of the Katyn Forest Massacre, the Kosciuszko Foundation is sponsoring an international conference about the Katyn Massacre at the Library of Congress on May 5.

The Foundation is putting on this conference in cooperation with the Helsinki Commission, the Cold War Studies program at Harvard University, the Memorial, a human rights group based in Moscow, and the Polish Embassy in Washington D.C. We will also display a rare collection of Katyn photographs and documents on loan from The Council to Protect the Memory of Struggle and Martyrdom.

The conference will provide a forum for political leaders, scholars, authors and human rights advocates from Poland, Russia and the United States which will help teach the U.S. Congress and the American public about this chapter of Polish history.

All of these events take a lot of time, manpower and money, and that is why we need you, our members and benefactors to help the Kosciuszko Foundation thrive in the 21st Century. Your donations to the Foundation are an investment in Polonia. Remember the Kosciuszko Foundation when you are looking for a tax deduction, when you are drafting your will, and when you are looking for what organizations to join.

I have had the good fortune that allowed me to make contributions to the Kosciuszko Foundation to pay back that scholarship that I received to attend Columbia University. And as our former grantees become successful, hopefully they will also be able to do the same to help the next generation of Polish-Americans.

John F. Kennedy once said, “Ask not what your country can do for you, but ask what you can do for your country.” As Polish-Americans, we should also ask not what Polonia can do for us, but ask what we can do for Polonia.
CONTRIBUTORS

Thank you

Making gifts to the Kosciuszko Foundation in memory of friends and relatives is a wonderful way to truly honor them and to turn warm thoughts into vital support for the Foundation’s educational and cultural programs. The following memorial contributions were received from the Foundation between October 1, 2007 and December 31, 2009. Sincere thanks to these thoughtful donors.

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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 over 80% of the remaining benefits! If bequeathed to the Foundation, these funds would escape both income and estate taxes, and reduce your taxable estate.

**How will the Kosciuszko Foundation use my gift?**

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

A **restricted bequest** provides cash or property to be used by the Foundation for a specific Foundation program or named scholarship fund. If you are considering a restricted bequest, please call the Foundation’s Development Office at 212-734-2130 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.**
UPCOMING EVENTS

DEBUTANTE LUNCHEON
World Yacht Marina, New York
Sunday, March 28, 12 Noon

61ST ANNUAL
CHOPIN PIANO COMPETITION
David Dubal, Jury Chair
Friday, April 9-10, 10AM
$25/$15 KF Members

75TH ANNUAL DINNER AND BALL
Saturday, April 24, 7pm
Waldorf=Astoria, New York City
For more info, call the KF at 212-734-2130

LAUREN SKUCE, SOPRANO
MARIJA STROKE, PIANO
Chamber Music Series
Sunday, May 2, 3 PM
$25/$15 KF Members

LARA NIE, MEZZO-SOPRANO
Chamber Music Series
Sunday, May 23, 3 PM
$25/$15 KF Members

Events subject to change: Call the KF to confirm and get details.
All presentations at the KF House unless otherwise noted.

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