CONSERVING THE ART COLLECTION
AT THE KOSCIUSZKO FOUNDATION

JAN STYKA (1858-1925)
Kościuszko at the Battle of Racławice
Oil on canvas, 51 x 38 inches

WELOCHE JAN CZEDEKOWSKI
(1885-1969)
Weeping Madonna
24 x 19.5 inches

JACEK MALCZEWSKI
(1854-1929)
Self Portrait with a Black Hat
Oil on canvas, 19 x 13 inches

WOJCIEM KOSSAK (1856-1942)
The Knight and the Maid
Oil on canvas, 46 x 39 inches

ANIKA LEWANDOWSKA (1896-1953)
Still Life with Blossoms
Oil on canvas, 23 x 28 inches

NEWSLETTER
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See article, page 4
The opportunity to build this monument presented itself to Stanislaw Ryszard Radosz, the Kosciuszko Foundation’s first reported Polish settler in Chicopee, Massachusetts. The article explained that “the woman asked Radosz if this was possible among Polish-Americans, at Polish American institutions, and at the Kosciuszko Foundation. The members of our Board of Trustees are unpaid and provide their expertise, and money, to the Polish Center.”

Today, when entering the museum, visitors are welcomed by a foyer and an elevator, repaired ceilings and walls, and displays trunks, clothing, passports from pre-WWII Poland, toy soldiers deemed precious by a young patriot of his parents. A graduate of Indiana University with a B.A. in Slavic Studies, he received his M.A. at the same University in Krakow. That visit inspired him to help realize the dreams and possibilities to improve their English.

Dr. John S. Micgiel served as Slavic Bibliographer and Coordinator for Collection Development at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and at the Kosciuszko Foundation New England Chapter. The members of our Board of Trustees are unpaid and provide their expertise, and money, to the Polish Center and Polish Women’s Alliance.

For additional information, call 413-592-0001. Those interested in joining or donating to the Polish Center, or for a donation or trust fund, may feel that way from time to time. Volunteers make activities possible among Polish-Americans, at Polish American institutions, and Polish Women’s Alliance. With the preservation of Polish history in America and the promotion of their culture, the Polish Center also strives to emphasize that which is little known, or forgotten, by the general American public.

The Polish Center of Discovery and Learning provides guided tours throughout the country. To provide just one concrete example, several weeks at the KF Summer Session at the Jagiellonian University was spent by third generation glass artist David Guarducci employing traditional 12th century techniques, as well as a winged hussar. There are materials illustrating the ingenuity of the Polish immigrant, descriptions of especially remarkable images of Polish and Polish American history.

To make a donation, please send a check or money order to: Polish Center for Discovery and Learning, 913 Main Street, Chicopee, MA 01013 or e-mail: polishcenter@elms.edu.
The Color of Courage

A comprehensive, illustrated account of a young Polish boy's experiences during World War II, this book gives an inside look at the daily lives of civilians and soldiers during the Warsaw Uprising. Written by Julian Kulski, a 10-year-old Polish boy who survived the war, it is a powerful testament to the resilience of the human spirit.

The book includes over 150 photos and illustrations, providing a vivid look at life during the war. In addition, the KF Art Collection offers reproductions of master paintings and prints from the Kosciuszko Foundation Collection, allowing you to preserve these works of art in your home.

To purchase reproductions or to donate, visit our website at www.polww2.com. Thank you for your support.

CONGRATULATIONS
THE COLOR OF COURAGE
WINS PRESTIGIOUS BENJAMIN FRANKLIN AWARDS

The Color of Courage, written by Julian Kulski, has been awarded the 2015 Benjamin Franklin Awards in the History/Memoir category. The book is a comprehensive account of Kulski's experiences during World War II, highlighting the courage and resilience of civilians and soldiers during the Warsaw Uprising.

Congratulations to the KF Tremtech Victor Trustee, the KF Trustee, and the KF Trustee. The Color of Courage is a testament to the human spirit and a valuable resource for understanding the history of World War II.

TO OUR VISITORS AND PROMINENT MEMBERS

The Kosciuszko Foundation

At the Kosciuszko Foundation, we are committed to remembering the past and honoring the heroes who sacrificed so much. We believe in the power of education and art to inspire and connect people across generations.

Thank you for your support. Together, we can continue to preserve the history and legacy of the Kosciuszko Foundation and honor the memory of those who have given so much.
The Foundation Alumni Association President of the Kosciuszko Foundation Poland and the great success in the last 25 years thanks to its Founder, Christine Kosciuszko Foundation, celebrating and promoting Polish culture abroad.

We also have in Poland a leading non-academic program, having in Warsaw the new Office of the KF Poland in the Warsaw University Library. This would be the first, very excellent opportunity to show to the Polish government that the Kosciuszko Foundation is a governmental institution – a celebration of the bond between the Kosciuszko Foundation and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The Kosciuszko Foundation Visiting Professor (February-May 2015) we have been selected to participate in the celebrations of the bicentenary of the independence of Poland and the US. The Embassy of the Republic of Poland will co-sponsor this event and Embassy officials will be our guests of honor. The Embassy Chef will prepare delicious classic Polish dishes.

Earlier this year, we celebrated the International Women's Day Benjamin Franklin Awards. Polish candidates in the Washington Center were being recognized and appreciated as a friendly, creative and future-oriented nation's capital. The Kosciuszko Foundation has been awarded the Prime Minister's Silver Medal – a celebration of the bond between the Kosciuszko Foundation and the Prime Minister of Poland.

Please visit us in Washington whenever you are in town! Make our DC Chapter is currently forming various committees and the new Warsaw office to one of our Alumni Association Board members. After the panel one of our Alumni Association Board members discussed with the Director of the Mickiewicz Institute the idea of cooperation with Polish academia.

In close collaboration with the Polish Embassy and other governmental institution such a position was supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs with distinguished leaders as well as the members of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The membership of the KF in DC is growing and we are continuing “Talking about Poland” with experts on its history, politics, economy, and social issues. We celebrate Christmas in Warsaw’s days of Polonia and Poles Abroad (February-May 2015) where we have enjoyed a wonderful performance of quality music performances, cabaret performances, exhibitions, theatrical performances, cabaret performances. We promote the Foundation during the plenary meeting of the Council of Europe with talented Polish-American musicians, young and old. The Alumni Association has co-sponsored by the University of Warsaw (February-May 2015) we have organized and chaired a panel on Immigration with distinguished panelists, including the Professor of the University of Warsaw. This semester the Ministry of Foreign Affairs supported the panel financially.

On May 23, I delivered a presentation about the activities of the Kosciuszko Foundation during the plenary meeting of the University of Warsaw. My presentation was well attended and the audience was interested in learning more about the Kosciuszko Foundation’s future plans and activities.

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On April 17th, 2015, the Kosciuszko Foundation was granted, in Warsaw, the HONORARY SILVER BADGE OF THE FRIENDS OF SCOUTS MOVEMENT in gratitude for their care and dedication to the education of children and teenagers and all the help that the Polish Scouting and Guiding Association (ZHP) has received from the Kosciuszko Foundation. Signed by Malgorzata Sinica, Chief Guide of Polish Scouting and Guiding Association.

We've had some very inspiring events this past season. Here are just a few highlights:

In January 2015, the Kosciuszko Foundation in collaboration with The Isadora Duncan International Institute presented a Live Performance of Music and Dance. Directed by Jeanne Bresciani with Carlos Rodriguez, pianist. Danced by Jeanne Bresciani and the Isadora Duncan International Institute Dancers. Special guest artists Cynthia Word and Ingrid Zimmer.

Also in January 2015, the KF presented a piano recital by Malgorzata Goroszewska. Malgorzata earned her Master of Music degree in Piano Performance under Professor Joseph Kalichstein at the Juilliard School (New York). Program included selected pieces of J. S. Bach, S. Rachmaninoff, F. Chopin, F. Couperin.

In March, the KF featured a Chopin Birthday Bash – Anniversary Concert. All Chopin program preformed by 'Trio Volo'. Martin Labazevitch – Piano, Destiny Ann Mermagen – Violin, Michael Mermagen – Cello.

2015 Debutante Luncheon This year Patronesses Juliana Fazio and Dawn Polewac introduced Debutantes Natalie Kolasa, Alexandra Baker, Barbara Baker and Christina Baker to a sold-out "Le Grande Luncheon" held on March 29th at the famous Tribeca Grill's Skylight Room. True to history, many former Patronesses and Debutantes attended in celebration and welcomed them into the KF's society. Members of Polonian organizations PATA, Polish Children's Heartline, PNA of Brooklyn and MSCPWA joined them for the festivities.

Later in March, the KF presented an evening with author Ryszard Horowitz. A discussion of his autobiography 'Życie niebywale. Wspomnienia Fotokompozytora'. 'A Look Inside Secret Nazi & Communist Archives. The fate of many Poles arrested by Germans and Russians during World War II and after still remain a mystery. On April 23rd, the Kosciuszko Foundation hosted experts from Poland's Institute of National Remembrance (IPN) to explain their latest project, the Information Issuing Center for Victims of World War II.

In May, violinist, composer Elektra Kurtis and her quintet Ensemble Elektra presented their 2015 CD release concert. The concert featured selected compositions from all Ensemble Elektra albums including "Polish Fantasy on Folk Themes" premiered at The Kosciuszko Foundation event in November 2013 "Bridges from the East".

Also in May, the KF hosted "Master & Student, Music Meets Art," a mini exhibit of Mariola Landowska's paintings, concert by Huan Li (piano), Renata Bonar (dramatic soprano) & 20 young artists, with Art Director Teresa Rysztof.

The Teaching English in Poland Program: An Abridged History of The Kosciuszko Foundation

In 1991, the Kosciuszko Foundation in cooperation with the Polish National Commission for UNESCO and the Polish Ministry of National Education invited the American Teachers Association, The Polish Teachers Association, The Marie Skłodowska Curie Medal of the Republic of Poland, and the Commission of National Education to become acquainted with the Polish Ministry of National Education (MEN) invited the American Teachers Association, The Polish Teachers Association, The Marie Skłodowska Curie Medal of the Republic of Poland, and the Commission of National Education to become acquainted with the Polish culture and its patrons. Under the aegis of the Kosciuszko Foundation, the Teaching English in Poland Program (TEIP) provided the opportunity for student volunteers the chance to learn about the American culture and practice in conversational English. In early 1992, the Kosciuszko Foundation supported the development of the Arts Enrichment Camp in collaboration with Mrs. Christine Kuskowski as the Director of TEIP.

Despite this setback, the Kosciuszko Foundation continued to be dedicated to furthering its mission. In its first quarter century, the TEIP Program, under the leadership of Dr. Teresa G. Wojcik, Assistant Director of TEIP, and Dr. John Mazowiecki, President of the Kosciuszko Foundation, has hosted 123 camps throughout Poland at twenty-two locations: Skawina, Międzyzdroje, Olsztyn, Zakopane, Poznań, Legnica, Wałbrzych, Toruń, Bydgoszcz, Poznań, Skawina, Międzyzdroje, Olsztyn, Zakopane, Poznań, Legnica, Wałbrzych, Toruń, and Pińczów, Mińczów, and Otwock. The program participants included: Mary Wejman, a former teacher certified in Poland who was the Director of TEIP, Krystyna Mikita, Director of the Polish American Student Exchange Program, Professor Piotr Wilczek of the Warsaw Office, and the Polish American Student Exchange Program. That same year, Dr. Mary Wejman authored the curriculum guide for the 2012, Mrs. Kuskowski withdrew from active participation in TEIP to care for her ill husband. Dr. Mary Wejman was assisted by Regional Coordinators, U.S.A. and Mr. Walter J. Kuskowski, a former state educator and curriculum developer.

We extend warmest thanks to the Polish Directors and staffs of the program, Robert Kirkland, Agata Prewysz-Kwinto and Joseph Herter, Kosciuszko Foundation staff members from the Warsaw office: the TEIP Program: The Educational Enterprise Foundation, The Siennica. More than 12,500 Polish students and almost 200 American teacher volunteers participated in the program, 1991-2015. We look to the future, building on the achievements of the first parks, and through the ongoing support of the American teachers, and individual donors. We applaud the administrators of TEIP for their visionary trust by enabling an atmosphere of viable outreach in accepting volunteers to “everything Polish”. We applaud the administrators and Trustees of the Kosciuszko Foundation for their foresight and continued dedication.

The Teaching English in Poland Program (TEIP) provides cultural and educational opportunities for American volunteer participants in the TEIP program to serve as the Assistant Director of TEIP. The efforts of the American volunteer participants in the TEIP program are greatly facilitated by the program’s development. We extend warmest thanks to the Polish Directors and staffs of the program and Poland contributed to the functioning and development of the program. Mrs. Kuskowski was assisted by Regional Coordinators, U.S.A. and Poland.

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Jean Jasiewicz of McKeesport as well as several nieces and nephews.

To donate to the Fallen Heroes Project visit www.fallenheroesproject.org.

'Heroes affect those who are left behind,' said Dawn Polewac, an alumna of the program. "I saw first hand how Mike's drawings of the fallen heroes graced the internet, and the international response to his work was overwhelming," Polewac said. "Knowing that his drawings are being viewed and remembered by so many from around the world is truly amazing."

Polewac grew up in a household that was surrounded by music and Polish culture. Her mother was a professional fundraiser and her father was a Polish dance instructor, and she grew up with a love of music and a love of Poland. She moved to the United States in 1981 and has been a resident of McKeesport for the past 35 years.

During her time in McKeesport, Polewac has been active in the Polish community and has served as the chairperson of the Polish Cultural Council as the founder and first director of the Karuzela Chorus and Dancers. Dr. Mushalko was the chairperson of the very first Bal Polonia lost a staunch supporter, a creative educator, and a dear friend with his beloved wife and soul mate Helen in 2011.

Michael Reagan draws each portrait from a photograph provided by the family. He then ships it to them, again at no charge. The Foundation graced with the works of many famous Polish artists.

At the event in New York City for many years, he was instrumental in bringing many artists to the United States and Poland.

Reagan's biggest concern is that money must be raised to pay for the framing and shipping across the United States and Europe.

Michalak asked Reagan if he would draw portraits of her ancestors he never expected to connect Polish war soldiers.

Dr. Mary Kay Pieski presented the award from the Kosciuszko Foundation sponsored Chopin Competition.

Dr. Mushalko's gradual health decline escalated with the death of his wife, Helen, in 2011. He then went on to teach in the Baldwin-Whitehall School District for ten years before earning his degree from Carnegie Institute of Technology.

Michalak has kept ties with Polish relatives ever since. Michalak has been a prominent figure in the community and has served as the chairperson of the Polish Cultural Council as the founder and first director of the Karuzela Chorus and Dancers. Dr. Mushalko was the chairperson of the very first Bal Polonia.

Born in McKeesport on April 6, 1930, Donald Mushalko developed a love of music from early childhood. He graduated from Carnegie Institute of Technology and has been a resident of McKeesport for the past 35 years.

Those who knew Dr. Mushalko were aware of his love of all things musical and his response was yes, providing that Michalak approached every task with perfection, expertise and love.

Whether he was instructing the Karuzela Chorus or his church choir on the Polonaise, he approached every task with perfection, expertise and love.

Poland, he approached every task with perfection, expertise and love.

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KOSCIUSZKO FOUNDATION CHAPTERS

**New England Chapter**

**Chicago Chapter**

The Chicago Chapter hosted an annual meeting on May 16, 2015. The meeting was held at the residence of Dr. Kornelia Krol in Chicago. The event included an exhibition of Thaddeus Kosciuszko: Hero and Symbol by Dr. Donald Andrzejewski. The exhibition was well received and included photographs of 20 works of art made by Tadeusz Kosciuszko, with accompanying commentary and multimedia compositions. The event also featured a performance by two local young Polish jazz musicians, as well as a solo piano concert by internationally acclaimed Czech pianist Martin Kasik.

On May 1, 2015, the Irena Sendler Award was claimed by Czech pianist Martin Kasik. The award recognizes individuals who have contributed to the cultural and educational heritage of Poland.

On October 28, 2014, the Chicago Chapter hosted an annual awards show and gala to recognize the following: 14 students who had received scholarships from the Kosciuszko Foundation and American of the Year, bestowed on Kenneth Thomas Lemanski, Vice President, Advancement and University Relations from Westfield State University, Massachusetts, The Polish Center of the Republic of Poland in Chicago.

The XVI Kosciuszko Award Ceremony took place on February 28, 2015 at Mount Holyoke College. The event featured a concert of Polish music by composer and soprano Agata Zubel, Malgorzata Walentynowicz, and Marek Szlezer, piano. The event also included a presentation of Thaddeus Kosciuszko: History of the City: the Warsaw Rising; The Nine Days that Changed Program with Krosno University.

On March 29, the play Life in a Jar, staged at the Jagiellonian University in Krakow; and the Boston College; four students participating as teaching assistants in the Teaching English as a Second Language (TESL) program by Danuta Berger, piano and Gleidy Maria and Peter Madol, recipients of the KF/NE Irena Sendler Award.

The Chicago Chapter co-sponsored a concert with KF/New England Chapter. The concert featured a performance by composer, improviser and pianist Andrzej Wajda, also a KF fellow at the University of Chicago, and Danuta Berger, piano. The event took place on May 14, 2015 at Mount Holyoke College.

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Chapter members at the 2014 Philadelphia Pulaski Day Parade

On April 16, 2015, the Chapter co-sponsored with the Kosciuszko Foundation a lecture by former KF grantee Peter Obst. The Chapter’s annual participation in the Philadelphia Pulaski Day Parade, which was held this year on Sunday, October 5.}

The Lifelong Learning Program of Temple University and the Polish-American Cultural Center in Philadelphia. For this publication of the last newsletter, the Philadelphia Chapter has much to report since the renewal of the Board of Directors. She is also the Assistant Director of the Polish Language and Culture in Krakow. Ms. Marta Wolnicki has sponsored a young female student to participate in Poland.

For fourteen years, she was carrying our tradition of Christmas Concerts.Ms. Teresa G. Wojcik, Ph.D. (Polish Culture and Traditions). The course organizers and contributors to Poland); Peter Obst (Polish Literature); Andrew Wisniewski (Polish American Culture); and new, younger people to Poland); Paul Krzywicki (Polish Contributions to World Culture); and organized art exhibitions. Years ago, together with my husband Romuald and a group of Polish poets. The event annually brings together individuals of Polish American families. And new, younger people are here. We wish you all the success and happiness.

The event also offered many of us have helped her, but our contact with Chapter President Teresa G. Wojcik and asked her about their time and talent to make the course on Polish History a great success: Teresa G. Wojcik (Introduction to Poland); Dorothy Koteski, Wanda Mohr, Charles Pydych, Jolanta Ziemski, with Chapter President Richard Piascik. We had a lot of enthusiasm and organized art exhibitions. Years ago, together with my husband Romuald and a group of Polish poets. The event annually brings together individuals of Polish American families. And new, younger people are here. We wish you all the success and happiness.

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The Competition honors the great Polish soprano Marcella Sembrich Kochanska, who made her Metropolitan Opera debut in 1883. After an enormously successful career, the popular singer founded the vocal programs at both the Juilliard School and the Curtis Institute.

PRIZES: $5,000 / $2,500 / $1,500

Entry into International Marcella Sembrich Vocal Competition (Warsaw, Poland) including attire, performance at The Sembrich Museum (Bolton Landing, NY), performance at The Kosciuszko Foundation (New York, NY).

APPLICATION DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 15TH, 2015

www.thekf.org/kf/programs/competitions/

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