

## **Major Activities of the Polish Cultural Foundation, Inc. (PCF) in 2006**

### **Exhibits**

- The photographic exhibit “JOHN PAUL II THE HOLY MAN; TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH”, which originally was prepared in cooperation with the Publishing House „Kwadrat” in Krakow”, was expanded and updated. A new exhibit catalogue and additional information materials were printed. Between March 21 and April 9, in cooperation with the Embassy of the Republic of Poland (RP), the exhibit was presented at the John Paul II Cultural Center in Washington, DC. On April 29 and 30 as well as May 6 and 7, the exhibit traveled to New Jersey and was shown at the Parish of Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Bayonne and then at St. Theresa’s Parish in Linden. On September 9, the exhibit was once again shown in Washington DC, within the framework of a special program, „Wadowice on the Potomac”, organized by the Friends of John Paul II Foundation, Inc. Finally, on November 14, the exhibit highlighted John Paul II’s annual Cultural Day at the National Shrine of the Divine Mercy in Stockbridge, MA.

- On May 3-14, in conjunction with the Embassy of RP in Washington, DC, PCF presented an exhibit at UMASS Boston dedicated to the 25th anniversary of Solidarnosc entitled “Roads to Freedom, Europe via Solidarnosc”. The exhibit was widely viewed both by the students and the university faculty. It was also open to the public.

### **Concerts / Festivals**

- On September 23 and 24, our Foundation participated in the Polish Harvest Festival at Our Lady of Czestochowa (OLCz) Parish in South Boston. Within the framework of this festival, we sponsored the performance of the Polish Amateur Theatre of Boston, as well as the recital of a renown vocalist, Grazyna Auguscik. Also, we took part in advertising the festival, preparing the decorations and organizing a series of traditional presentations.

### **Charitable Activities**

- This year, we began collecting funds to support Polish language summer camps for Polonia youth in Latvia. This was mostly done in conjunction with JPII exhibits. To date, we have collected over \$1,000. The collection effort will continue until May of 2007.

### **Miscellaneous**

- PCF members enthusiastically supported many efforts linked with the reinstallation in Boston of Andrzej Pitynski's „Partisans” sculpture. The efforts were successful, and the sculpture was returned to Boston installed at a prominent place next to the World Trade Center in South Boston on September 6.
- On November 12, during the Polish Independence Day celebrations at OLCz Parish in South Boston, the Secretary of our organization, Mark Szpak, received the distinguished award „Amicus Poloniae” from the Ambassador of the RP in the US. During this same event, thanks to efforts by the Foundation, this high honor was also bestowed upon a great supporter of Polonia, Prof. Mark O'Connor.
- During the entire year, we continued to distribute our bookmarks, promoting Poland and Poles, mostly among American youth. Thanks to the financial support (\$500) received from the Consulate General RP in New York, it was possible to produce another 5,000 bookmarks, a part of which will be distributed by the Consulate in NY and a part (2,000), will remain for PCF distribution. Additionally, in anticipation of the 400th anniversary of the arrival of the first Poles in America, we prepared a design of a new bookmark that celebrates the 400th anniversary of Jamestown.

### **Ongoing Activities**

- The Youth Film Club (DKF) continued showing and discussing interesting Polish feature films during the first half of the year. These activities are expected to pick up once again in 2007.

- PCF continued its patronage of the John Paul II Polish Language School in S. Boston (offering organizational help, taking part in the work of the School Advisory Board, etc.).
- This year, besides cooperation with the local organizations, we expanded our fruitful collaboration with the Embassy RP in Washington, DC, the Consulate General RP in NY, and the Polish Parish in South Boston.
- PCF continued to disseminate information about its own cultural activities as well as that of others. This was done mostly through the internet site [www.polboston.com](http://www.polboston.com) , as well as through the recently updated PCF website, [www.pcf-boston.org](http://www.pcf-boston.org) . Information was also distributed through the continuously expanding email member list.