



Friends of Polish Art
 Founded 1937 Non-Profit Organization

*An Affiliate of the
 American Council
 for Polish Culture*



Inside This Issue:

Polish Art Exhibit	1
Donald Samull Grants	1
President's Letter	2
FPA Scholarships	3
Calendar of Events	4
Revised FPA	
By-Laws	5 & 6
Parade, Chopiniana and Convention	7
Membership Meeting	8

**The FPA Newsletter
 is published
 4 times per year.**

Submissions from FPA members are highly encouraged. Please send them as an e-mail to the editor.

The opinions and editorial views expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Friends of Polish Arts.

FPA does not assume any responsibility for statements advanced by contributors to this newsletter. The editor reserve the right to edit any submission.

***Friends of Polish Art Co-organizes
 Polish Art Exhibit in Downtown Detroit***

Promotion of Polish culture is at the core of FPA. Therefore, we are very proud to announce that at the beginning of this year we partnered with the Polish Institute for Culture & Research (PICR) and together have been working with the Metropolitan Museum of Design Detroit (MM-O-DD) on their seventh edition of the International Design Exhibition & Marketplace exhibit which will feature Poland, Finland and Italy.

The exhibit, which will open on November 8, 2024, creates a great opportunity for contemporary Michigan artists of Polish descent to show their work. Thanks to FPA and PICR, five to seven selected artists will have their work on display at MM-O-DD. In addition, in the heritage part of the exhibition, Polish art from the PICR collection as well as a few pieces owned by local collectors, will be representing the arts of Poland.

We are thrilled that we can be a part of this great project promoting Poland, Polish culture and Polonia. We would like to invite all FPA members to attend the opening of the exhibit. FPA, as a co-organizer, will get specially-priced \$50.00 tickets for the event. **However, to make attending more affordable, FPA will subsidize each ticket purchased by an FPA member (with paid dues) in the amount of \$25.00 (so your cost will be \$25.00).** If you are interested, please contact Brian Malski. We hope to see many of you at this exciting event promoting Polish culture!



The Metropolitan Museum of Design Detroit, where the exhibit will take place and representatives of FPA and MM-O-DD.

MM-O-DD is located at 905 Henry St. 3rd Floor, Detroit, MI 48207.

FPA Awards Don Samull Folk Dance Group Grants



Representatives of the three grant winning dance groups with the FPA grant committee members.

At the ceremony held last May, FPA presented the Donald Samull Folk Dance Group Grants. The grants went to three local dance groups which excel in promoting Polish culture and heritage: the PRCUA Opole Dance Ensemble (Elizabeth Thacker, the group's director accepted the award), the PRCUA Rogalin Dance Troupe (Lisa Brandt, the group's director and Janet Vilag, a dance instructor, accepted the award) and Wieliczka Dance Ensemble (Kristi Mihalic, the group's director accepted the award.)

The Donald Samull Polish Folk Dance Group Grants are new awards, and this is only the second time they have been given out. The grants ranged from \$1,500 to \$2,500.



FPA BOARD of DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

President

Brian Malski

First Vice President

Alina Klin

Second Vice President

Michael Ostrowski

Treasurer

Iwona Jedrzejczak

Financial Secretary

Carol J. Surma

Corresponding Secretary

Barbara Lemecha

Recording Secretary

Position Vacant

DIRECTORS

Donna Bielecki

Barbara Hantz

Patty Malski

Charles Pelshaw

Stella Szczesny

NEWSLETTER

EDITORS

Alina Klin

Brian Malski

Carol J. Surma



Friends of Polish Art
Founded 1937 Non-Profit Organization

Hello Members,

Hope this letter finds you in good health and spirits.

It's probably been another busy summer for most of us. Whether it be graduation parties, family reunions, camping or glamping trips, weddings, visits from out-of-town relatives, cookouts with friends & neighbors, Independence Day festivities, attending a ballgame and/or an outdoor concert, there always seems to be plenty of celebrations and activities this time of the year. Combine the fun things with many around the house and garden chores and before you know it summer is pretty much over.

As for myself, the summer involved some of the above, but it also included working on upcoming FPA events, attending several Polonia functions and trying to stay on top of the organization business. One of the functions I attended was the 76th Annual ACPC Convention in Chicago hosted by the Chicago Chopin Society. It was four full days of business sessions, an election, concerts, a banquet, recognition of award recipients and a recital spent with FPA and affiliate organization members from Baltimore, Philadelphia, Washington, Boston, St. Louis, Savannah, Buffalo, Hartford and of course Chicago. The theme of the convention was Achievements of Post-Solidarity Emigrants, and a good portion of the convention activities focused on music of Polish composers. Several concerts featured professional and student musicians who were either associated with the Chopin Society, the Paderewski Symphony Orchestra or the Academy of Music (AM of PASO). The events also included an exceptional recital performance given by this year's Sembrich award winner, Grace Touhill. What I found rather surprising was the large number of talented students enrolled in the Academy. If you are interested, look them up on their Facebook page where many of their performances are posted. I think you will be quite impressed.

Another activity I attended with FPA members was the recent Polish Day Parade held in Warren. Our unit included walkers Barb Hantz, Deanna Welemirov, Patty Malski and me. We carried our FPA parade banner, waved American and Polish flags and poms-poms, and handed out candy to watching children, while Michael Ostrowski and Jackie Kolowski drove a decorated truck. The parade in my estimation was the best attended since it relocated from Hamtramck. One thing that also struck me was the significant increase in youth who participated in this year's parade. The Polish Folk dance groups, Cousino High School Marching Band, and Polish Scouts added a great amount of energy and enthusiasm to the parade which many were happy and pleased to see. Please make it a point to attend or walk with FPA in next year's parade.

Moving ahead, FPA has two exciting events planned for this coming fall which should not be missed. The first is the **20th Century Art Deco Poster Presentation** by Elijah Majeski, which will be held during our upcoming General Membership meeting at the recently renovated Galeria at the Orchard Lake Schools Campus on Saturday, September 28. The second is the **"International Design Exhibition & Marketplace 2024: Poland"** to be held downtown at the Metropolitan Museum of Design Detroit with the opening scheduled for Friday, November 8. Both should be very exciting and we hope you plan to attend. See the Newsletter, our website and Facebook page for additional information about these and other upcoming events we will be hosting.

Before I close, I would like to say thank you to all the Board Members, Committee Chairpersons and Committee Members, Newsletter Editors and others who are active members in the organization. These members, some who serve on two or three committees, give a great deal of their time and energy to our organization as well as to other Polonia organizations such as PAC, PNA, APCC, etc. We wouldn't be able to do all the events and activities and manage the business of the organization if it wasn't for them. We have many standing committees in the organization that are currently not supported, and it would be very much appreciated if you would consider becoming a committee member or chairperson. Please call or email me and let me know how you can become a more active member in FPA.

Brian Malski

During the May General Membership meeting, FPA presented the 2024 scholarship awards (\$2,500 each) to seven outstanding students. This year's Frank Filipek Scholarship awardees are: Natalya Bonkowski, Luscia Kuban, Karolina Spiewak, Wiktoria Surmiak and Abigail Wrzesinski.

The Mitchell Fine Arts Scholarship awardees are Dylan Barduca and Lauren Dinkelmann. We congratulate all the very deserving recipients!

The FPA Scholarship Committee: Brian Malski (Chair), Agnes Bongero, Patty Malski & Carol Surma.



In the photo: (top row) Dylan Barduca, Luscia Kuban, Lauren Dinkelmann, Ms. Wrzesinski (accepted for her daughter, Abigail) and Brian Malski, FPA President and the Scholarship Committee Chair; (bottom row) Karolina Spiewak, Natalya Bonkowski and Wiktoria Surmiak



Dylan Barduca recently finished his freshman year at Schoolcraft College and will be transferring to Grand Valley State University in the fall of 2024 to major in Film and Video Production within the Department of Visual and Media Arts.



Karolina Spiewak graduated this past spring from the International Academy West – White Lake Township. This fall she will begin pursuing a molecular and cellular biology degree from Harvard while on the pre-med track.



Natalya Bonkowski will be attending Lawrence Tech University nursing program this fall and will be a member of the school's dance team.



Wiktoria Surmiak is currently finishing her first year in the Doctor of Physical Therapy program at Wayne State University, where she also received her bachelor's degree in kinesiology.



Lauren Dinkelmann is a 2024 graduate of Saline High School. She is enrolled at Western Michigan University and will be pursuing a degree in Technical Theatre and Design focusing on sound design.



Abigail Wrzesinski is a senior at Oakland University, majoring in Sociology with a minor in Italian. After completing her undergraduate studies, Abigail plans to pursue a graduate degree in legal studies.



Luscia Kuban graduated from Royal Oak High School with Distinction in May 2024. Luscia plans to attend Loyola University Chicago in August of 2024.

DATE/ TIME	EVENT	PLACE
Saturday, September 28 Doors open 3:30 pm Program begins 4:00 pm	Presentation by Elijah Majeski about Art Deco Posters designed by Polish Artist, Stefan Norblin, followed by FPA General Membership Meeting	The Galeria–OLS Campus 3535 Commerce Rd Commerce Township, MI
Saturday, October 19, 4 pm. Galeria open prior to the event (12:00 - 3:00 pm)	Galeria Grand Opening, PICR, Sacred Images and Holy Spaces: Art & Faith in Poland and Italy	The Galeria–OLS Campus 3535 Commerce Rd Commerce Township, MI
Sunday, October 20, 3:00 pm See the flyer	Chopiniana Concert and Dinner	American Polish Cultural Center 2975 E. Maple Road Troy, MI
Sunday, October 20 Doors Open - 1:00 pm Dinner - 2:00 pm	Autumn Harvest Dożynki Polish Dinner PNA District 10 & Women's Division	PLAV Post 16 25222 Warren Ave. Dearborn Heights, MI
Oct. 31 – Nov. 2 See their website for details regarding time and movies	The 31st Ann Arbor Polish Film Festival	On Friday at the Michigan Theatre and on Saturday and Sunday at the State Theatre Ann Arbor, MI
Friday, November 8 6:00 - 9:00 pm	2024 International Design Exhibition & Marketplace – Polish Art Exhibit Opening	Metropolitan Museum of Detroit Design 905 Henry Street, 3rd Floor Detroit, MI
Saturday, November 9, 5:30 pm	APCC 35th Anniversary Gala	American Polish Cultural Center 2975 E. Maple Road Troy MI
November 16 -17 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm	Submission of Szopka for Annual Szopka Competition	Polish Art Center 9539 Joseph Campau Hamtramck, MI
Friday, November 22 6:30 pm	FPA General Membership Meeting	American Polish Cultural Center 2975 E. Maple Road Troy, MI
Saturday, December 7 2:00 pm	Awarding of prizes for Szopka Competition	Polish Art Center 9539 Joseph Campau Hamtramck, MI
Saturday, December 14 5:00 pm doors open 6:00 pm dinner	Wigilia and display of Szopka Competition winning Szopki	American Polish Cultural Center 2975 E. Maple Road Troy, MI



Have You Started Working on Your Szopka Yet?

Announcing: 2024 Friends of Polish Art Annual Szopka Competition

Hosted by the Polish Art Center

Polish Art Center, 9539 Jos. Campau, Hamtramck, MI

Submission Date: Nov. 16-17, 2024

Award Presentation: Dec. 7, 2024

Adult & Children Prizes

Construction, Tips, Templates and Rules found on the website:
www.friendsofpolishart.org under "Competitions" - Szopka Competition

CURRENT LANGUAGE	PROPOSED LANGUAGE
<p>ARTICLE VIII – MEETINGS Section 1. The General Membership meetings of the Friends of Polish Art shall be held in January, March, May, September and November. The purpose of the General Membership meeting is to notify the membership of Board activities and decisions, to have the membership decide matters of policy, and to provide a forum for activities which interest and benefit the members of the Friends of Polish Art. Notice of a regular meeting shall be mailed or emailed, if requested by the member, to all members.</p>	<p>ARTICLE VIII – MEETINGS Section 1. The General Membership meetings of the Friends of Polish Art shall be held in January, May, and October. The purpose of the General Membership meeting is to provide a forum for activities which interest and benefit the members of the Friends of Polish Art, to have the membership decide matters of policy, and to notify the membership of Board activities and decisions. Notice of a regular meeting shall be mailed or emailed, if requested by the member, to all members.</p>
<p>ARTICLE VII – DUES Section 2. The annual active membership dues of the Friends of Polish Arts shall be: Member and Spouse \$30.00, Individual Member \$25.00, Student, 21 years of age or younger, \$10.00.</p>	<p>ARTICLE VII – DUES Section 2. The annual active membership dues of the Friends of Polish Arts shall be: Member and Spouse/Couples \$40.00, Individual Member \$30.00, Student, 21 years of age or younger, \$10.00.</p>
<p>ARTICLE VII - DUES Section 3. The annual Supporting Patron dues shall be \$50 or more per person.</p>	<p>ARTICLE VII – DUES Section 3. The annual Supporting Patron dues shall be \$60.00 or more per person.</p>
<p>ARTICLE IV – STANDING COMMITTEES Currently there is no section 9.</p>	<p>ARTICLE IV – STANDING COMMITTEES Section 9. Dance Grant Committee shall select recipient groups to receive Donald Samull Polish Folk Dance grants. The grants would be available until either the funds are exhausted, or the competition is discontinued.</p>

<p>ARTICLE IV – STANDING COMMITTEES Currently there is no section 10.</p>	<p>ARTICLE IV – STANDING COMMITTEES Section 10. Literary Competition Committee shall select recipients for the Susan Sloat Youth Literary Competition and the Estelle Wachtel – Torres, M.D. Literary Competition until the funds are exhausted or the competitions are discontinued.</p>
<p>ARTICLE IV – STANDING COMMITTEES Section 6. The Scholarship Committees shall select recipients of two scholarships:</p> <p>A.) Fine Arts Scholarship Committee shall select recipients for study in the fields of fine and liberal arts. For definitions see Article I, part A and B of FPA Constitution.</p> <p>B.) Filipek Scholarship Committee shall select recipients for study in the fields of law, medicine, architecture, engineering and sciences, until the funds are exhausted.</p>	<p>ARTICLE IV – STANDING COMMITTEES Section 6. The Scholarship Committee shall select recipients of two scholarships:</p> <p>A.) Scholarship Committee shall select recipients for study in the fields of fine and liberal arts. For definitions see Article I, part A and B of FPA Constitution.</p> <p>B.) Scholarship Committee shall select recipients for study in the fields of law, medicine, architecture, engineering and sciences, until the funds are exhausted.</p>
<p>ARTICLE II – DUTIES OF THE OFFICER Section 5. The Corresponding Secretary shall conduct all general correspondence as directed by the President. It shall also be the duty of the Corresponding Secretary to notify the members of General and Board Meetings. In addition, the Corresponding Secretary will transmit quarterly reports of the organization’s activities to the National Publication of the American Council for Polish Culture after the contents are approved by the President. The Corresponding Secretary may assist with any other mailings as directed by the President.</p>	<p>ARTICLE II – DUTIES OF THE OFFICER Section 5. The Corresponding Secretary shall conduct all general correspondence as directed by the President. It shall also be the duty of the Corresponding Secretary to notify the members of General and Board Meetings. In addition, the Corresponding Secretary will transmit tri-annual reports of the organization’s activities to the National Publication of the American Council for Polish Culture after the contents are approved by the President. The Corresponding Secretary may assist with any other mailings as directed by the President.</p>



On August 24, a group of FPA members took part in the 2024 Polish Parade in Warren. This year's Parade theme was "Outstanding Polish Women".

The Brotherhood of the Rooster, also known as the Bractwo Kurkowe, is a Polish civil defense organization that has been in existence for over 750 years. The organization's original purpose was to protect Krakow and other major Polish cities from invaders. Today, the Brotherhood of the Rooster also serves as a guardian of Polish national identity and traditions.



The Brotherhood of Rooster member, Mark Szpak with (l to r) Rose Kobylinski, Jackie Kolowski, Barb Lemecha and ACPC President, Celia Larkin at the ACPC Banquet

American Polish Cultural Society
Cordially invite You, Your Family and Friends to

CHOPINIANA 2024

A Musical Tribute to Poland's Greatest Composer, Frederic Chopin

Sunday, October 20, 2024 at 3:00 pm
American Polish Cultural Center
2975 E. Maple Road, Troy, MI 48083

Featuring
Kamil Pacholec, Pianist

Celebrating 35th Anniversary of American Polish Cultural Center

Doors open at 2:00 pm, Concert at 3:00 pm, Cash Bar Available
Family Style Dinner with Champagne, Coffee and Dessert at 4:30 pm

Admission \$70 per person, \$30 Students, \$20 Concert Only
\$100 Patron (name in the program), \$200 Benefactor (name in the program)
Advanced Reservations Required by October 12th, 2024
For more information, please call 248-689-3636

Respond portion below

American Polish Cultural Society – Chopiniana 2024
October 20, 2024 at 3:00 pm, American Polish Cultural Center

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Email: _____

Reservation: Regular @ \$70.00 = _____ Student @ \$30.00 = _____
 Patron @ \$100.00 = _____ Concert @ \$20.00 = _____
 Benefactor @ \$200.00 = _____

I am unable to attend, please accept my donation of \$ _____ Total amount enclosed: \$ _____

Ticket Deadline: October 12th, 2024

Please return reservation form with a check payable to
American Polish Cultural Society and mail to: 2975 E. Maple Road • Troy, MI 48083
Please write seating request on back of this card



The Brotherhood of Rooster member & ACPC Director, Waldemar Niklinski (far left), with others from the Brotherhood at the ACPC Banquet.



Friends of Polish Art
Founded 1937 Non-Profit Organization

2615 Twelve Mile Road, Suite 118
Berkley, MI 48072-1627



Sembrich Vocal Competition Recipient Grace Tauhill with delegates to the 76th Annual ACPC Convention in Chicago, following the concert.

Check out the FPA website:
<https://friendsofpolishart.org>

Like us on our Facebook page:
<https://facebook.com/friendsofpolishart/>

Program & General Membership Meeting

Saturday, Sept. 28, 2024

Doors open 3:30 pm. Program begins 4:00pm

The Galeria – Orchard Lake Schools – 3535 Commerce Road, Orchard Lake, MI.

Revisiting 20th Century Art Deco Poster Collection Acquired by Friends of Polish Art

Designed by Acclaimed Polish Artist, Stefan Norblin (1892- 1952)



Guest Speaker - Elijah Majeski/PICR Galeria Manager

“Light refreshments served after the program”