



POLISH CULTURE

American Institute of Polish Culture of Tampa Bay Publication

1521 North Saturn Avenue, Clearwater, FL 33755 www.aipctampabay.org email: AIPctampabay@gmail.com



Nicolaus Copernicus
1473 – 1532



Tadeusz Kosciuszko
1746-1817
Military Leader



Frederic Chopin
1810-1849
Composer



Marie Curie Sklodowska
1867-1934
Scientist-Radioactivity



Karol Wojtyla
1920-2005
Pope Saint John Paul II



Solidarity Trade Union
1980 -
Fall of Communism

100 Anniversary
of Poland Regaining
Independence
1918-2018

#PL100

Embassy
of the Republic of Poland
in Washington, DC

niepodległa

POLAND
THE CENTENARY
OF REGAINING
INDEPENDENCE

In its glorious thousand year old history Poland has made great contributions to the causes of human liberty and justice, the advancement of science, and protection of individual freedoms. To name a few, Poland adopted the first European constitution, extending human rights, right to education and religious freedom. Marie Sklodowska-Curie was the first woman to receive the Nobel prize, and the first scientist to receive a Nobel prize in two different fields, she was a tireless campaigner for women's rights. Nicolaus Copernicus demonstrated that the Earth spins around the sun and not the other way around. Thaddeus Kosciuszko fought for Polish and American independence, and gave his general's pay towards the freeing of black slaves. Three authoritarian regimes, Tsarist Russia, Imperial Prussia, and Imperial Austria attacked Poland, partitioned it and removed it from the world map for over a hundred years. Today we celebrate a 100th anniversary of regaining Poland's independence.

Celebrating 100 Years of Polish Independence

Please join our Polish Community on

November 11, 2018

as we commemorate

100th anniversary of Poland regaining her independence

after 123 years of being partitioned by the Russian Empire, the Kingdom of Prussia and by Habsburg Austria

11:00 am

Presentations and Parade

sponsored by the American Institute of Polish Culture

Kosciuszko Monument in Williams Park

330 2nd Ave North, St. Petersburg, FL

1:00 pm

Celebratory Mass

Ks.Dr. Andrzej Gorczyca, MIC, Mercy of God Polish Mission

St. Paul Catholic Church, 1800 12th St. North, St. Petersburg, FL

3:00 pm

Celebration, Dining and Dancing

Sponsored by Polish Center of John Paul II

1521 N. Saturn Avenue, Clearwater, FL

Home away from home!

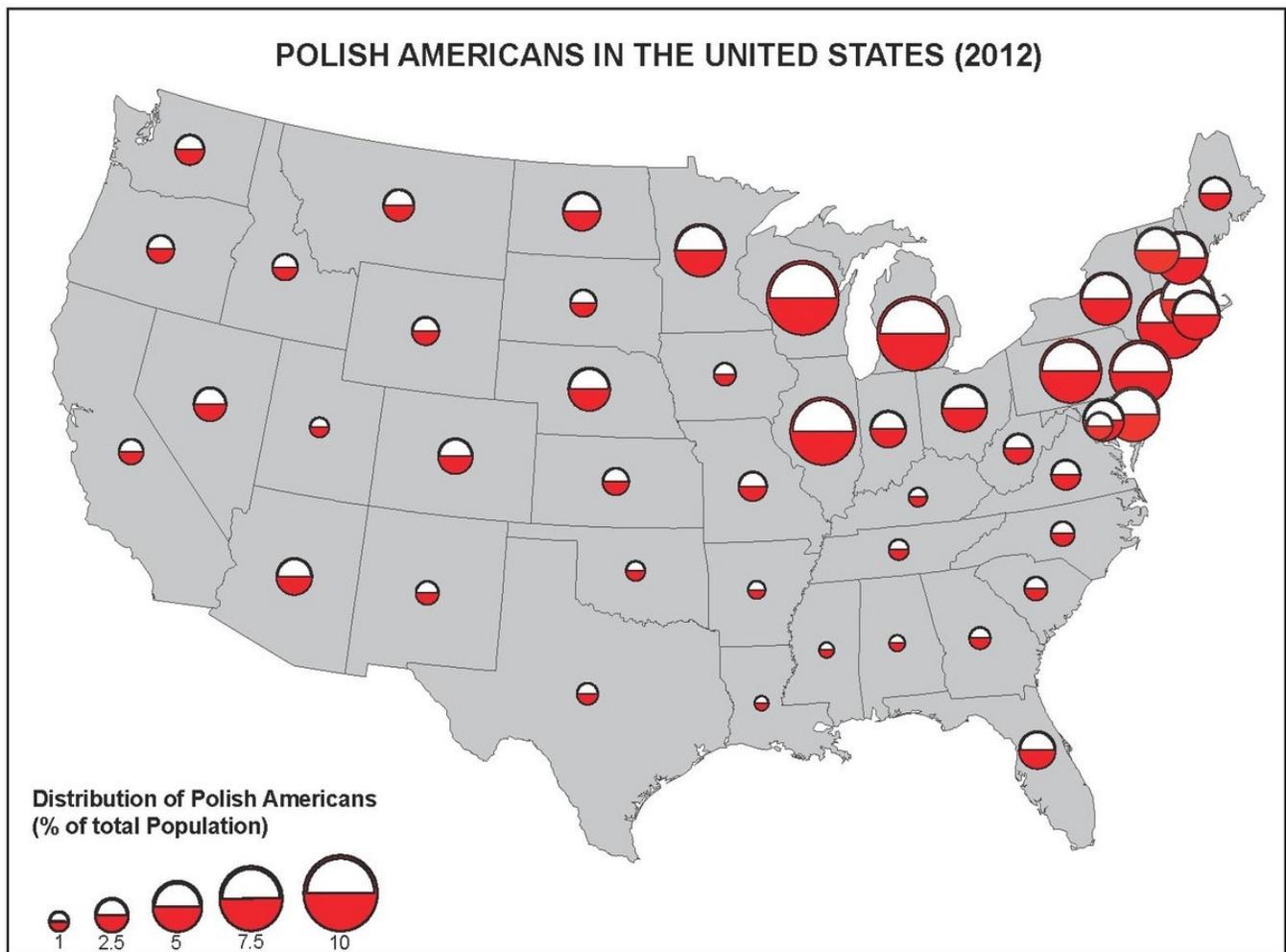
There was a time when Poles came to the United States for economic reasons (“za chlebem” /“after bread”). Then they came to the U.S. to escape political oppression (communism).

Today they come here to expand their careers – and the U.S. needs us.

“At the turn of the 20th century, Polish immigration exploded. Imperial repression, land shortages and chronic unemployment made life more and more untenable for the Poles of Europe, and as the 19th century waned they left for America by the thousands, then by the hundreds of thousands. Exact numbers are difficult to come by, given the many different routes Poles took to the U.S., but the 1910 census found more than 900,000 new immigrants who spoke Polish. After World War I, Poland regained its independence, and immigration began to slow. Even so, it is estimated that more than 2 million Poles had immigrated by the 1920’s.” Library of Congress

According to the 2016 official statistics, there were **9.25 million people in the US that declared Polish heritage representing approximately 3% of the U.S. population.** Polish Americans are the largest Slavic ethnic group in the United States, second largest Central European group and the eighth largest immigrant group overall. Source: www.census.gov

It is estimated that the Polish diaspora numbers 20 million people, which is more than half of Poland’s population. Persons of Polish descent live across the entire globe, sometimes forming a large and influential population segment of foreign cities like Chicago, New York, Toronto , Paris or London.



Come and Celebrate Start of the Holidays with us! - St. Nick is coming to town!



1960 5th Avenue South
St. Petersburg, Florida

Thursday, December 6, 2018
Mikołajki/ Saint Nicholas Day
6:30 pm—10:00 pm
Kozuba & Sons Distillery
1960 5th Ave S, St. Petersburg, FL 33712
www.kozubadistillery.com
vodka, whiskey, cordials, wine, beer etc.
Tickets: \$40 (includes 2 drinks and Polish tastings)

Purchase tickets and updates at: www.aipctampabay.org
or send check to: 1521 North Saturn Avenue, Clearwater FL 33755 (note: Kozuba event)

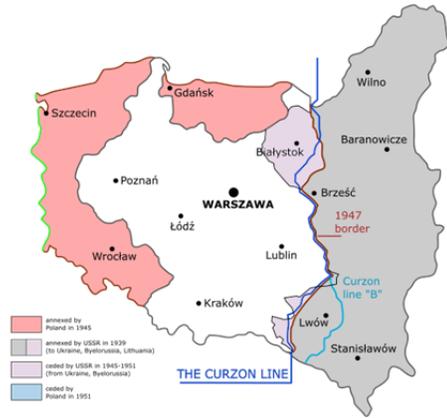
The American Institute of Polish Culture in Tampa Bay is dedicated to preserving and promoting the richness of Polish culture including the contributions made by Poles and Americans of Polish descent to the advancement of our civilization.

Please mark your calendar and join us as we celebrate our heritage ...

- ◆ **November 11, 2018** Join us in celebrating 100th Anniversary of Poland's Independence
We will honor those who persevered and fought for our independence
- ◆ **December 6, 2018** Start the Holiday Season festivities with us at the premier Polish Distillery in St. Pete.
We promise, it will be a joyful and special celebration with many surprises.
- ◆ **February 23, 2019** The Polonaise Ball
Carnival Festivities in full swing!
Safety Harbor Spa, Safety Harbor, Fl
- ◆ **March 9, 2019** Giants of Central and Easter European Classical Music
Beatrice Friedman Symphony Center, Sarasota, FL (transportation will be available)

It is with vey mixed emotions that we would like to notify you that the Institute sold its headquarters on 49th Street. Although for many years, the building held many important meetings and celebrations it was time to move. We want to extend our sincerest appreciation to the Polish Center for inviting us to move our offices to the Center. We also offer our special thanks to Michael Bak for assisting with the move and his willingness to temporarily store many of our boxes at his warehouse until we can display our memorabilia for all to enjoy. Thanks to Jola Zasadna for facilitating the sale and many thanks to our Board volunteers for spending hours packing and clearing years and years worth of memories, many of them to be digitized.

Once again, Krystyna Markut travels to Kresy



Kresy, or “the eastern borderlands” in Polish, refers to parts of present-day Ukraine, Lithuania, and Belarus that once belonged to Poland. During World War II, thousands were driven out of their homes in these Polish lands. Krystyna recalls:

“For the past twenty summers I have been traveling to Poland to attend the Annual Convention of Kresovians at the monastery of the Black Madonna in Czestochowa. After this spectacular event, Maria Mirecka-Lorys, Danuta Skalska, and

I continue on to Ukraine to visit Polish people, who until this day live in poverty. With the money collected here, we are able to bring some financial and emotional relief to these people. This summer, Maria Mirecka-Lorys, who is 102 years old, stayed home and we welcomed a much younger companion, Dorota Prokop.



We traveled from Wolyn to Podole and around Lwow. In Sambor, we met an older Jewish man visiting a Polish orphanage. During World War II's German occupation, he and twenty other children were rescued and hidden by Polish nuns there. In Kolybajowka, we visited our friend, 95-year-old Rafalka Wroblewska, who lives without hands. She lost them in Kazakhstan due to an infection from cleaning oils and subsequently had to have them amputated.

These stories are dramas difficult to visualize and even harder to accept. My heart goes out to these people, because if it wasn't for my mother's decision to leave Lwow in 1945 after Yalta Pact, I would be in their shoes right now or long gone to Siberia.” [read more](#) ([map credit](#))

Please support our Mission

Join us by becoming a member

Family	\$30 annually
Individual	\$20 annually
Student	\$10 annually
Supporting –	\$50 annually
(businesses, corporations and civic groups)	

Donations are welcomed

Volunteers needed to help with future events

Make checks payable to

American Institute of Polish Culture, Tampa Bay
1521 North Saturn Avenue
Clearwater FL 33755

or pay on line at www.aipctampabay.org

To be added to our mailing list

or with questions about upcoming events
email: AIPCTampabay@gmail.com

Sign the Declaration

details: www.deklaracjapolonii2018.org/english



We, the sons and daughters of the Polish Nation, on the one hundredth Anniversary of Polish Independence, wish to extend our thanks to the United States of America for its enormous contribution to the cause of Polish sovereignty.

American Institute of Polish Culture, Tampa Bay Board of Directors

George Czkwianianc, Hanna Kolanko, Krystyna Markut, Mariola Nowakowski, Wojtek Sawa, Eva Skibicki, Aleksandra Stobnicki, Jola Zasadna

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