

Museum's Historic Reflections Project Part 3

June 30, 1911 - Czeslaw Milosz (Born)

Czeslaw Milosz was an internationally respected Polish poet who received the 1980 Nobel Prize in Literature. In 1960, Czeslaw Milosz immigrated to America and settled in California. He became an American citizen and was a teacher at the University of California, Berkeley. In addition to his many poems, he wrote a work of non-fiction, "The Captive Mind" which is available in book stores all over the world.



July 1, 1926 - Benjamin Franklin Bridge (opened)

Opened in 1926, the Benjamin Franklin Bridge was built by Ralph Modjeski, a proud son of Poland. It was a proud day for Modjeski, especially as more and more Poles immigrated to America to be part of the Industrial Revolution and America's great ethnic mosaic. Polish workers were part of the team that helped Modjeski build the bridge which was first named the Delaware River Bridge.

July 2, 1923 - Wislawa Szymborska (Born)

Wislawa Szymborska was a Polish poet, essayist and translator. As the winner of the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1996, and numerous other awards, Wislawa Szymborska is considered one of the most important Polish poets of our time.



July 3, 1879 - Alfred Korzybski (Born)

Alfred Korzybski developed the theory of General Semantics, which states that human beings are limited in what they know by (1) the structure of their nervous system and (2) the structure of their languages. Alfred Korzybski published many books in the United States and lived in Lakeville, CT until his death in 1950.

July 4, 1934 - Marie Sklodowska Curie (Died)

A noted chemist and physicist, Marie Sklodowska Curie was born in Warsaw, Poland, on November 7, 1867. She was the first person and the only woman to be awarded two Nobel Prizes, in 1903 for Physics, and in 1911 for Chemistry. During her lifetime, she received over 125 degrees, medals and decorations from universities and organizations around the world. The Marie Curie-Sklodowska Institute in Lublin, Poland was founded in 1944 to further scientific research and learning.



July 5, 1879 - Wanda Landowska (Born)

Wanda Landowska was a Polish harpsichordist whose performances, teachings, recordings and writings played a large role in reviving the popularity of that instrument in the early 20th century. Wanda Landowska, who spent her last years in Connecticut, was the first person to record Bach's Goldberg Variations on the harpsichord.

July 6, 2000 - Wladyslaw Szpilman (Died)

Wladyslaw Szpilman was a Polish pianist and composer. He is well known as the protagonist of the Roman Polanski film, "The Pianist", based on Szpilman's autobiographical book recounting how he survived during World War II.



July 7, 1980 - Marika Dominczyk (Born)

Marika Dominczyk is a Polish-born American actress who has appeared in such films as the Forty Year Old Virgin and many television series including ABC's Brothers & Sisters. Marika landed the lead role of Lara in "I Hope They Serve Beer in Hell".

July 8, 1925 - Dr. Alina Szczesniak (Born)

Dr. Alina Szczesniak emigrated to the United States and became the world's leading authority on food texture. She was a food scientist and researcher for General Foods Corporation for 34 years.



July 9, 1926 - John Dingell (Born)

We salute Representative John Dingell of Michigan, son of Polish immigrants, who was the longest serving member of the House of Representatives from 1955-2015.

Greetings to Polonia in Philadelphia and the Tri-State Area from the



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