

Pennsylvania State and National Officials Salute the 25th Anniversary of Polish American Heritage Month

Senator Vincent Fumo Salutes Polonia on the 25th Anniversary of Polish American Heritage Month

Dear Members of the Polish American Congress:

Upon the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of the founding of Polish American Heritage Month, I extend my best wishes to all Polish Americans. I would also like to congratulate the Philadelphia Polish community for the significant role its members played in establishing this as a national observance.

As someone whose grandparents immigrated to this country from Europe, I believe it is appropriate for Americans to celebrate their ethnic heritage. We can revere the United States of America, and the wonderful benefits that our country provides for us, while still holding an abiding appreciation and respect for the culture and customs of our ancestors.

Certainly, Polish Americans should be proud of the contributions of their countrymen, dating back to the early days of American colonization in the 17th century and continuing through today. Additionally, all Americans should honor the service to our nation that many Polish Americans have rendered in many areas of endeavor.

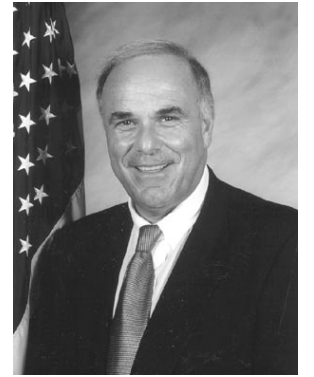
It gives me great pleasure, therefore, in my official capacity as a State Senator from the First District in Philadelphia, to join you in commemorating Polish American Heritage Month in 2006.



State Senator Vincent J. Fumo
First District, Pennsylvania

Congratulations on the 25th Anniversary of Polish American Heritage Month

As the Governor of Pennsylvania and the former Mayor of Philadelphia, I have been pleased to work closely with the Polish American Community. I respect the contributions that Polish Americans make to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and I enjoy participating at activities that keep our communities together and highlight Pennsylvania's cultural diversity. Working together we make Pennsylvania a special place to live and prosper.



Edward G. Rendell, Governor
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

The Polish American community is a vibrant part of Pennsylvania and the United States of America. It is important for your community to continue to commemorate the diversity in which this great country was founded. As you mark the 25th Anniversary of the founding of Polish American Heritage Month and the 398th Anniversary of the arrival of the first Polish settlers to America at Jamestown, in 1608, I congratulate you and wish you continued success.



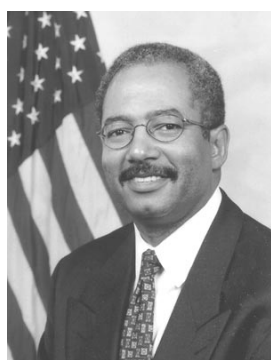
Senator Arlen Specter
United States Senator, Pennsylvania



My fellow members of the United States Congress salute the Polish American Community as you mark the 25th Anniversary of Polish American Heritage Month in 2006. Your national efforts to maintain Polish heritage in the mosaic of America is sincerely appreciated.

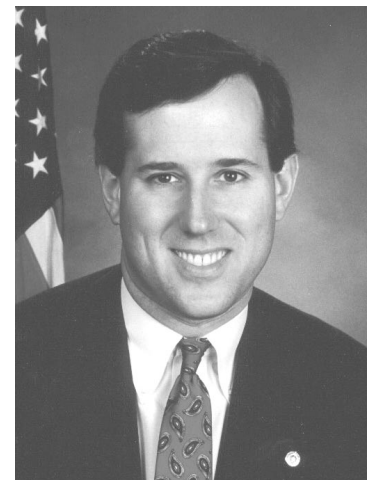
Congressman Robert Brady
1st District, Pennsylvania

It is my pleasure to send my warmest greetings to the Polish American Heritage Month Committee. The City of Philadelphia is the home of people with many different ethnic backgrounds. While it is important to work together as Philadelphians, we must not forget the uniqueness of our various ancestries. To all those dedicated to the preservation of America's Ethnic Mosaic, keep up the good work!



Congressman Chaka Fattah
2nd District, Pennsylvania

I am honored to offer my best wishes to Polonia during the 25th Anniversary of Polish American Heritage Month. This effort founded in the City of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania is another example of the desire for Polish Americans to share their rich cultural heritage with all Americans. During my time as a Congressman and a Senator from Pennsylvania since 1995, I have witnessed the commitment of Polish Americans to be outstanding citizens of the United States and their strong devotion to the needs of their ancestral homeland, Poland.



During my lifetime, I have witnessed the outstanding efforts of the Polish American Congress and the Polish American community and the activities of the Solidarity movement and the spiritual guidance the world received from Pope John Paul II. As you mark the 25th Anniversary of Polish American Heritage Month and the 398th Anniversary of the arrival of the first Polish settlers at Jamestown, Virginia, on October 1st, 1608, I join with you in marking these special occasions.

Senator Rick Santorum
United States Senator, Pennsylvania



In addition to offering my congratulations on the 25th Anniversary of the founding of the Polish American Heritage Month Committee, I am honored to take this opportunity to join you in commemorating the 398th Anniversary of the arrival of the first Polish settlers to America at Jamestown and the first meeting of General Casimir Pulaski and Benjamin Franklin in 1777. As we reflect on these events and the many other contributions that Polish Americans have made to our Heritage, "Zycie wam szczesliwych uroczystosci i Sto Lat!"

Congressman Michael Fitzpatrick
8th District, Pennsylvania



I would like to offer my heartfelt congratulations on the celebration of the founding of the Polish American Heritage Month Committee. It is wonderful to know that the Polish American Community does so much to encourage unity, mutual respect and cooperation on both the national and local levels. The dedication of the Polish Community in Philadelphia to enhance positive public awareness of Polish causes, traditions, and the contributions of persons of Polish descent is truly admirable.

Congresswoman Allyson Y. Schwartz
13th District, Pennsylvania