

Philadelphia Officials Salute Polonia During the 25th Anniversary of Polish American Heritage Month



Polish Americans are an integral part of the City of Philadelphia and the nation. The Polish community has influenced and enhanced the ethnic diversity of our city while remaining focused on traditions and customs. The City of Philadelphia has many ties to Polish Heritage including the Kosciuszko House at 3rd and Pine Streets, the Kopernik Monument on the Parkway, the Pulaski Monument in the Garden of Heroes, on the west side of the Philadelphia Art Museum, the Polish American Cultural Center Museum at 308 Walnut Street, the Torun Triangle at 18th and the Benjamin Franklin Parkway and our Sister City association with Torun, Poland. All Philadelphians join you as you mark the 25th Anniversary of Polish American Heritage Month.

John F. Street
Mayor of Philadelphia, PA

I am pleased and proud to recognize the 25th Anniversary of the Polish American Heritage Month Committee in Philadelphia. The history and progress of our nation have been built on a combination of talents, culture, and traditions of millions of immigrants from many countries, including Poland, who came to America seeking better lives for themselves and their children. I wish all of my Polish friends an enjoyable heritage month celebration. Your contributions to our city are countless and you are an integral part of the fabric of America!



Anna C. Verna, President
City Council of Philadelphia

City of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Annually Declares October as Polish American Heritage Month

Whereas, The City Council of Philadelphia proudly joins Polish American organizations, schools, churches, libraries, and cultural groups throughout the United States in celebrating Polish American Heritage Month, and

Whereas, The Polish American community has so many outstanding accomplishments of which to be proud, including those of Pope John Paul II, who shared the Polish heritage, and was one of the most influential religious leaders and

Whereas, Throughout the 1970's and 80's Poles stood alone in their struggle for freedom against communist tyranny, became the beacon of hope for all other Eastern bloc countries, proved it was possible for small countries to achieve their national identity and break away from the U.S.S.R. and Poles have made outstanding contributions to science, technology, music, art and literature and

Whereas, The concept of designating a special month in which to celebrate the Polish Heritage began in Pennsylvania in 1981 at the suggestion of Michael Blichasz, a Polish American activist in Philadelphia. In 1986, Blichasz, President of the Eastern Pennsylvania District of the Polish American Congress and of the Polish American Cultural Center in Philadelphia, made a proposal at the national PAC meeting that Polish American Heritage Month be celebrated nationally each October,

Now therefore, the members of City Council of Philadelphia extend their best wishes and congratulations. As a legislative body we are honored and enthusiastically declare October as POLISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH. STO LAT!

Signed by:
Anna C. Verna, President
Joan L. Krajewski, 6th District



Congratulations on the 25th Anniversary of Polish American Heritage Month. I am proud to have been part of this effort since its founding in 1981. I know as a Councilwoman in the City of Philadelphia, which has a vibrant Polish community, Polonia has a lot to be proud of. Keep up the good work!

Councilwoman Joan Krajewski
6th District Philadelphia, PA



The Polish American Community remains an outstanding ethnic group in the City of Philadelphia, the State of Pennsylvania, and across the United States. Congratulations on the 25th Anniversary of the founding of Polish American Heritage Month in 1981!

Councilman Frank Rizzo
Council-At-Large, City of Philadelphia

My best wishes to the Polish American Community as you mark the 25th Anniversary of the founding of Polish American Heritage Month in the City of Philadelphia. I just want you to know that it is my privilege to work with you.

Councilman Juan Ramos
Council-At-Large City of Philadelphia



As the City Controller of Philadelphia between 1988 and 2005, I had the pleasure of working with Polonia and seeing first-hand your commitment to the preservation of the customs and traditions of your ancestors from Poland. As you mark the 25th Anniversary of the founding of Polish American Heritage Month, I proudly congratulate you and look forward to our working together for many years into the future. Sto Lat!

Jonathan Saidel



Additional 25th Anniversary Wishes to the Polish American Heritage Month Committee have also been extended from the following Philadelphia officials:

- Councilwomen Jannie Blackwell**
- Councilwomen Blondell Reynolds Brown**
- Councilman Darrell Clarke**
- Councilman Frank DiCicco**
- Councilman W. Wilson Goode, Jr.**
- Councilman Jack Kelly**
- Councilman James Kenney**
- Councilman Brian O'Neill**
- Councilwoman Donna Reed-Miller**
- Councilwomen Marian Tasco**

As a proud Polish American, I am especially honored to congratulate the Philadelphia Polonia as it celebrates the 25th Anniversary of Polish American Heritage Month. It is my hope that all citizens realize that they can draw strength from their cultural heritage as they continue to contribute to the building of America!

Honorable Bernice Soban DeAngelis
Philadelphia Traffic Court



In appreciation for your positive contribution to the City of Philadelphia and in recognition of this festive occasion, I wish you continued success. Sto Lat!

Alan L. Butkovitz
Philadelphia City Controller