

MILWAUKEE POLISH FEST



June 18-20, 2010

By Sarah Vitale, Polish Fest Director

The 29th annual Polish Fest will be held June 18-20, 2010, at the Henry W. Maier Festival Park on Milwaukee's scenic lakefront. This year's Polish Fest is sure to have something for everyone to enjoy. Every day you can find a mix of Polish and Polish-American entertainment from folk dancing to rock, pop, classical, jazz and polkas.

Our food vendors and bars offer something for every taste, and our marketplace will tempt you with Polish goods from here and around the world.

Join us Friday at 6 p.m. for Polish Fest's Opening Ceremony on the Miller Contemporary Stage. Everyone is invited to attend as we officially open the festival and thank the many sponsors and volunteers who make our festival possible every year.

Be sure to visit the Cultural Village which will bring the past and present together with several interesting and exciting exhibits. A tribute to Fryderyk Chopin and Ignacy Paderewski is planned as Polish Fest celebrates the 200th birthday of Chopin and the 150th birthday of Paderewski.

Stop by the Polish Sheepdog tents as the Highland (Tatra) and Lowland (PONS) Sheepdogs return to the festival this year. The Cultural Village will also feature folk art, genealogy and a Polish Forum with speakers on a range of Polish topics.

Polish Fest welcomes Easter Seals Kindcare for their 4th Annual Easter Seals Walk with Me on Friday afternoon. Participants in the walk will enjoy free admission from 5-6 p.m. on Friday. Registration for the walk can be found at www.walkwithme.org or by clicking through from the Polish Fest website, www.polishfest.org.

For those who enjoy spirits, Polish Fest will have vodka and spirit tastings on all three festival days. New this year, Polish Fest is proud to welcome Tyskie Premium Lager to the festival grounds. Tyskie has been imported from Poland for this year's festival, so don't miss your chance to enjoy this authentic Polish brew.

Polish Fest will be continuing its tradition of 50¢ Friday this year with 50 cent

admission on Friday from noon to 5 p.m.! The celebration will continue Friday evening with \$5 admission from 5:01 p.m. until midnight. Receive free admission from 8 p.m. to midnight on Saturday Night with the donation of three or more food items to the Hunger Task Force - help the Task Force feed those in need when you come in to see the headlining bands and enjoy a Tyskie beer! On Sunday, you can enter the festival for the reduced price of \$4 after attending the Polish Fest Mass at 10:15 a.m., at which Archbishop Jerome E. ListECKI will be presiding. In celebration of Father's Day on Sunday, dads of any age enjoy free Polish Fest admission from 4-6 p.m. when accompanied by their child of any age. Finally, Polish Fest honors our U.S. military personnel with free admission to anyone wearing a military uniform and presenting an active military ID.

Thank you to all of our volunteers for their countless hours of help throughout the year in making Polish Fest a success. Thank you to the Managing Committee for their guidance and leadership, as well as to the Polish Heritage Alliance Board for their support.

**See you at
Polish Fest
2010!**



12th Annual CHOPIN YOUTH PIANO COMPETITION

by Monika & Lidia Sobierajski

The Chopin Youth Piano Competition proudly joins in the celebrations throughout 2010 marking the 200th birthday of one of Poland's most notable pianists and composers, Fryderyk Chopin. This year's competition will take place on Sunday, June 20, 2010 on the Cultural Stage (located just north of the main gate) and is scheduled to run from 12:30 until 5 p.m.

The competition, founded by Monika and Lidia Sobierajski, will be marking its 12th year. The annual piano competition has continued to grow each year, drawing talented young pianists from various parts of Wisconsin and from as far away as California, Florida and New York.

The Chopin Youth Piano Competition is divided into two age divisions, Junior Division (ages 14 & under) and Senior Division (ages 15-18). Pianists as young as the age of 7 have competed in the annual competition. The competition awards over \$1,000 in monetary prizes, with special commemorative trophies being awarded to the top three winners in each age division. Top prizes in the Chopin Youth Piano Competition are sponsored by Barbara Wanless, owner of the Steinway Piano Gallery of Milwaukee, and Polanki - The Polish Women's Cultural Club of Milwaukee. The competition has also received additional support from Mr. Gil Kaczmarek, Ms. Julianna Ksiciński, Blessed Sacrament Christian Women's Society, Florence Mikna and many other individual contributors over the past 12 years. In addition, the Chopin Youth Piano Competition receives "in-kind" donations from very generous supporters of the competition. Polish Heritage Alliance member and member of PHA's Board of Directors, Michael Krass, has designed and donated crystal competition trophies to the 1st -3rd place winners in both categories since 1999. Frank Keppler, owner of Brew City Beer Gear, supports the event with a donation of originally designed "work of art" t-shirts that are given to each of the finalists. Theresa Geiger, owner of Mid City Blue Printing, has generously donated the printing of competition program booklets since 2006. The success of this annual piano competition would not be possible without the generous support of such contributors and friends of the competition.



If you have not yet had the opportunity to hear these fine young pianists, make this the year to attend!
For more information about the Chopin Youth Piano Competition, go to the Polish Fest website at: www.polishfest.org
and follow the link at the bottom of the page. Become a fan of the competition on Facebook at:
www.facebook.com/pages/Chopin-Youth-Piano-Competition/114025778632769.

Archbishop ListECKi to celebrate Mass at Polish Fest



Polish Fest is honored to be joined by the Most Rev. Jerome E. ListECKi, Archbishop of Milwaukee, for the Annual Polish Fest Mass. The Mass will be held at 10:15 a.m. on Sunday, June 20th in the covered Cultural Stage Pavilion just north of the main entrance. Gates for the Mass will open at 9:30 a.m. and will close at 11 a.m.

Polish organizations are invited to participate in the procession, which will begin promptly at 10 a.m.

All are invited for the musical prelude at 10 a.m. The readings and music will be in English and Polish.

Tickets into Polish Fest are only \$4 after attending the 10:15 a.m. Mass.

Plenty of Family Fun in the Children's Area

Choose from two games in Polish Fest's Children's Area. Kids can toss a bean bag at the Polish mushrooms or throw a ring onto your favorite Polish city then pick out their prize. Everyone is a winner!

Children can also enjoy several craft stations including designing a Polish Christmas ornament, making a beaded bracelet or an airplane from candy, designing a flower pot, coloring a leaf card, or making a Polish mushroom to hang in their room. Don't forget to bring your son or daughter in to make a Father's Day card.

Children can also learn Polish words and sayings from the Polish information board. They can also learn the names of famous Poles.

If a burst of energy hits your kids, they can do rock climbing. In addition, the slides and swings from Summerfest are up and ready for use along with other playground fun.

Thank You to 2010's Polish Fest "Circle of Friends"

Mike Bartels – Kathleen Conroy – Lani Orloff – Pyramax Bank – Kathleen Slupik – Casey Szulc



FRYDERYK F. CHOPIN



IGNACY J. PADEREWSKI



“Celebrating Chopin & Paderewski” in the Cultural Village at Polish Fest

by Susan Mikoś, Polanki, the Polish Women's Cultural Club of Milwaukee

Polish Fest is all about Poland's rich cultural heritage. This year, the Cultural Village pays tribute to two musical giants – Fryderyk Chopin and Ignacy Paderewski.

The year 2010 marks Fryderyk Chopin's 200th birthday and the 150th anniversary of Paderewski's birth. Polish Fest celebrates the occasion with a multimedia presentation on Chopin and a special exhibit on Paderewski, courtesy of the Polish Music Center at the University of Southern California.

Ignacy J. Paderewski (1860-1941) was a world-renowned Polish pianist, composer, and statesman. Acclaimed as a “Modern Immortal,” the charismatic virtuoso performed on every continent, including more than 1500 concerts in the United States, which he considered his second homeland. During World War I, Paderewski was a tireless advocate for the Polish cause. His skillful diplomacy helped to re-establish Poland as an independent nation in 1918. As Poland's first post-war Prime

Minister, Paderewski signed the Treaty of Versailles, and he also represented Poland in the League of Nations.

Fryderyk F. Chopin (1810-1849) was born to a Polish mother and a French father near Żelazowa Wola near Warsaw. After a failed Polish insurrection against Russian rule, Chopin moved to Paris, where he died of tuberculosis at the age of 39. He was a major composer of the Romantic era and is one of the world's leading composers of music for the piano. Chopin incorporated Polish folk melodies into his music and he has become an enduring symbol of Polish cultural identity.

The Cultural Village has more attractions in store, too. Folk artists will demonstrate traditional Polish crafts, including woodcarving, wycinanki (Polish papercuts), pisanki (decorated eggs), wianki (floral head wreaths), and metalworking. Polish painters will display their work in our recreated market square representing Kazimierz Dolny, a picturesque artists' colony on the banks of the Vistula River. Everybody's favorite, the Polish sheepdogs, will be back. Both the Highland (Tatra) and Lowland Sheepdogs (PONS) will wag their tails in greeting as their owners introduce Poland's special breeds.

Also in the Cultural Village, the ever-popular cooking demonstrations will teach Festival-goers how to make their favorite Polish dishes. In the Polish Forum, scholars will inform listeners about topics of general interest.

Rounding out the experience, family history experts from the Polish Genealogical Society of America and the Milwaukee LDS Family History Center will help you trace your Polish roots. In addition there will be displays on Lincoln Avenue's Polish masterpieces, St. Josaphat Basilica and the statue of General Tadeusz Kościuszko. Representatives of Milwaukee area Polish organizations will also be on hand to showcase their groups' activities.



Bring Your Appetite to Polish Fest

Are you hungry for some of the best Polish food in the area? Polish Fest food vendors can take care of that! **Twenty-four restaurants** will be offering Polish cuisine and much more at this year's festival.

You'll have a lot of delicious places to choose from for lunch, dinner or a quick snack. Enjoy favorites such as pierogi, bigos, Krakus Polish ham, Klement's Polish sausage, sauerkraut, potato pancakes, gołąbki, czarnina, and more. **Make sure to stop by Polish Fest's Kawiarnia Bakery Café** for some pączki, chruściki, sernik and other tasty treats.

Enjoy authentic Polish cuisine from Polonez, Old World Deli, Ski's Home Cooking, Busia's Kitchen, Kiszka House and European Kitchen. There is a wide array of delicious dishes from Charcoal Grill, Wisconsin Cheese Curds, Saz's, and Rupena's, who will be featuring spit-roasted chicken and Polish noodle casserole.

Grab a snack, a drink, or something to cool off with at Almond Hut, Anderson Corn, Catalano Produce, Cedar Crest, Bella Café, Country Time Kettle Korn, Cousins, Dippin' Dots Ice Cream, Hawaiian Shave Ice, Koepsell's Popcorn, Lemon Chill, Sil's Donuts, and Root Beer Barrels.

While you are thinking about food, be sure to check out the **COOKING DEMONSTRATIONS in the Taste of Polonia tent**. Local Polish cooks will illustrate the techniques of making pierogi and salads. Demonstrations start at 1 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Smacznego!



It's Tyskie Time!

Polish Fest is proud to announce that Polish beer will be available for purchase on the grounds for the first time in 2010! We are excited to feature Tyskie Polish beer or piwo all the way from the city of Tychy in Poland. Tyskie will be coming to us in 500mL cans and will be featured at all of our beer bars this year.

TYSKIE. Nasze najlepsze



Returning this year to the grounds is Sobieski Vodka. Featured again this year as our premier vodka in our Specialty Vodka bars, the Sobieski brand will be served with all of our mixed drinks and at our vodka tastings throughout the weekend.

We invite you to join us on Friday at 8 pm; Saturday at 2 pm, 5 pm and 8 pm; and Sunday at 2 pm and 5 pm for our Vodka and Mead tastings which will remain at \$12 a person.

Don't forget to enjoy our Polish Cherry Bomb, a mixture of Wisniowka—a Polish cherry cordial—and Red Bull. Keep your eyes out for a new drink this year at our Specialty Vodka Bars! See you at Polish Fest!

Visit the Sukiennice

For many people, one of the best parts of Milwaukee's ethnic festivals is the shopping. This year, browse the Sukiennice Marketplace for a wide selection of traditional Polish items such as Bolesławiec pottery, amber jewelry, Polish linens, hand-carved wooden boxes and plates, dolls, wycinanki, and much more. If you like your Polish items to have a more modern twist, visit one of the vendors for an assortment of novelty T-shirts, buttons, bumper stickers, flags and more. You can also find a wide variety of books, CDs and DVDs in Polish and English.



Don't forget to stop by our souvenir booth for Official Polish Fest items. This year's selection includes a special T-shirt honoring the 200th anniversary of Chopin's birthday. Other items such as T-shirts, sweatshirts, blankets, golf umbrellas, seat cushions, key chains and more will also be available.

Located in the Sukiennice Marketplace is the Mały Sklep (little store) that features "dry" goods found in a typical Polish general store. Pick up dill pickles, canned and dry soups, jams, juices, bread mixes, cookies and candy, among other Polish delicacies. Make sure to see the new inventory of goods this year. Samples available.



Entertainment for Every Taste

By Janine Adamczyk

The 29th annual Polish Fest will be celebrated June 18, 19 & 20, 2010 at the Henry W. Maier Festival Park (also known as the Summerfest grounds). This year's fest will showcase a variety of entertainment on five stages.

Headlining the 2010 festival on the Miller Stage is 18-time Grammy award winner **Jimmy Sturr and his Orchestra** with two performances each on Saturday evening and Sunday afternoon. Jimmy Sturr and his Orchestra is on the Top Ten list of all-time Grammy Awards, has won eighteen Grammy Awards, and has received more consecutive Grammy nominations than anyone in the history of musical awards. Broadcast Music Inc. (BMI) has awarded Jimmy Sturr and his Orchestra its most valued award, the "Commendation of Excellence," the only one ever awarded in the polka field.

Contemporary Polish music will be featured on the Miller Stage with **Marszałek Chicago Band** on Friday. On Saturday night the Miller Stage will feature **Korona** direct from Canada. Korona specializes in providing top level contemporary Polish music entertainment with a very broad based repertoire ranging from traditional to modern dance hits, including disco-polo.

On the AirTran Non-Stop Polka Stage will be Grammy nominees **Polka Family**, and **John Góra & Górale**. The premier polka band in the country, the **Polka Country Musicians**, will take the stage on Friday and Saturday night. Other top bands appearing include **The Knewz**, **Tony Blazonczyk's New Phaze**, **Copper Box**, and **The Polish Connection** along with many others.

Gypsy music will be featured this year as **Goranie** performs on Friday evening on the Cultural Stage. The **Megitza Quartet**, an Eastern European Folk and Gypsy band from

Chicago, will be making their first appearance at the festival on Saturday. Making their second appearance at the festival on Sunday will be **The Vitrolum Republic**, a trio best described as "Gypsy-Noir."

Polish dance groups will once again be showcased during the festival as more than ten dance groups from around the country will perform throughout the weekend. **The Polish Folk Dance Association of the Americas** will once again showcase the Polish dance ensembles in the Dance Gala on Saturday evening. In addition, the **Syrena Polish Folk Dance Ensemble** will offer Folk Dance Lessons during the weekend.

Entertainment for children will feature the opportunity to learn the Polish language with interactive band **Rojek** from Chicago on Friday and Saturday. In addition, the Children's Stage will feature magician **Julie Sobanski**, **Wayne & Wingnut**, **Discovery World Fire and Ice**, and **David Seebach's Wonders of Magic**, to name a few.

Country rock will be featured on Friday with **Flip Syde** and Top 40 on Sunday with **Spoiled Rotten**. For a complete entertainment schedule of events, pick up a Polish Fest brochure at the Entrance Gate. There's something for everyone at Polish Fest 2010!



TOP ROW: Fran Wasielewski, Syrena Polish Folk Dance Ensemble. MIDDLE ROW: Jimmy Sturr and his Orchestra, Megitza Quartet. BOTTOM ROW: Squeezebox, The Vitrolum Republic, Spoiled Rotten