Polish American Congress, Ann Arbor Chapter
"Serving Polish-American Community of Washtenaw County"
Newsletter

Issue 142	Ann Arbor, Michigan	November 2017

Ann Arbor Polish Film Festival is Around the Corner!

All are invited to the 24th Ann Arbor Polish Film Festival that will take place on November 17-19 at the Michigan Theatre, Ann Arbor.

This year, the festival program includes four feature films including Andrzej Wajda's final film, *Powidoki (Afterimage)*, six films submitted to the festival competition, and two family programs. The festival guest is director Łukasz Nowak, author of the film *Drzewo i ja (The Three and Me)*. As is already our tradition, the family program will feature an exhibit of the selected Polish books for children.

All are welcome!

Friday, November 17
7:00 pm
Wołyń / Volhynia dir. Wojciech Smarzowski, drama, 2016, 150 min.
Set in the 1939-1943, the film tells the story of young Polish girl, Zosia Głowacka, from Volhynia's village settled by Ukrainians, Poles and Jews. Despite being in love with a Ukrainian boy, Zosia is forced to marry a wealthy Polish widower. World War II erupts around them, plunging the region into utter chaos.

Saturday, November 18
Children's Program, 3+
10:00 am
Przytul mnie / Hug me dir. Mateusz Jarmulski, animation, 2016, 5 x 6 min
An uplifting TV show for children, portraying the unique bond that Father and Teddy share. It teaches children to pay attention to small words and gestures, thanks to which we create and maintain good relations with others.

Mami Fatale dir. Marcin Wasilewski, animation 2012-2014, 3 x 10 min
A story of Mami who left the city to live an idyllic life in the country, and to follow her greatest passion which is cookery. In her slightly strange kitchen, she creates amazing dishes which Piglet and Doggie wait for patiently, but not always too patiently.

Children's book exhibit

Documentary and Short Films
1:00 pm
W absolutnej ciszy / In Absolute Silence dir. Łukasz Śródka, 2017, 65min
Sen o Warszawie / Dreaming of Warsaw dir. Mateusz Czuchnowski, 2017, 15 min
Złe uczynki / Evil Deeds dir. Piotr Domalewski, 2016, 24 min

Intermission 15 min.

Kurs / The Ride dir. Kacper Anuszewski, 2017, 19 min
Jestem Tomek / I Am Tomek dir. Paweł Son Ngo, 2016, 8 min
Drzewo i ja / The Tree and Me dir. Łukasz Nowak, 2016, 30 min; Q&A session with the director to follow.

Festival awards ceremony

Feature Films
6:00 pm
Sztuka kochania / The Art of Loving dir. Maria Sadowska, biography, 2017, 117 min
Michalina Wisłocka, the most famous and recognized sexologist of communist Poland, fights for the right to publish her book, which will change the sex life of Polish people forever.

8:30 pm
Po prostu przyjaźń / Simply Friendship dir. Filip Zylber, comedy 2017, 136 min
Friendship connecting a group of people is put in jeopardy by life's setbacks.

Sunday, November 19
Children's Program, 8+
10:00 am
Za niebieskimi drzwiami / Behind the Blue Door dir. Mariusz Palej, family, 2017, 90 min
An adventure beyond your wildest dreams. It has everything children love: intriguing heroes, mysterious monsters and new friends – colourful, magical birds. It starts when Łukasz discovers that the blue door in his room leads to a different world.

Childrens' book exhibit

Documentary and Short Films
1:00 pm
Zygmunt Hübner: Gra z rzeczywistością / Zygmunt Hübner: Playing with Reality dir. Edyta Wróblewska, 2017, 63 min
Wspólna kamienica / Our House dir. Agnieszka Magdalena Podkówka, 2017, 30 min
Daniel dir. Anastazja Dąbrowska, 2016, 24 min

Feature film
3:00 pm
Powidoki / Afterimage dir. Andrzej Wajda, drama, 2016, 100 min
Famed Polish director Andrzej Wajda's final film tells the story of charismatic painter Władysław Strzemiński, who opposed social realism and maintained his own artistic freedom in spite of political harassment.

Admission (per screening): $10 general public, $6 seniors, UM students free. Family program: $5 per person or $15 family ticket for 4 or more.

Full program:
http://www.annarborpolonia.org/index.php/polish-film-festival/home

AAPFF Bake Sale

As in previous years, we are going to hold a **bake sale** before film screenings. Please let us know if you would be willing to provide baked goods or help us with the sale. All and any contributions will be greatly appreciated. You can contact us at pac.ann.arbor@gmail.com.

Welcome New Members!

It is our great pleasure to welcome Eva and Arek Zapolski to our organization.

Report from Our Recent Activities

Our traditional summer picnic took place on Sunday, August 26 at the Dexter-Huron Metropark. The event was attended by over 50 people, members and friends of the PAC Ann Arbor Chapter. The weather was gorgeous, the food delicious, and in general, we had a lot of fun. The "Mystery Basket" was drawn by Ewa and Darek Barczyńscy. Congratulations!

On September 30, nearly 40 members and friends of PAC Ann Arbor Chapter gathered at the Brighton Recreation Area's Migizi Cabin for our annual fall bonfire – ognisko. We spent a beautiful autumn afternoon and evening around the bonfire. Some went on a walk around Bishop Lake, kids were playing on the meadow and in the cabin. We all enjoyed fun and relaxing time, great company and an abundant pot luck table. Thanks to everyone who attended the ognisko and we hope to see even more of us next year!

We would also like to thank Basia and Janusz Walkowc, and Wanda and Włodek Walasek for the donation of firewood.

Polish Bilingual Day

October 29 marked the first celebration of the Polish Bilingual Day in our region. This initiative, introduced in 2015 by the Dobra Polska Szkoła Foundation and Education for Democracy Foundation with support of the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, is intended to promote bilingualism in Polish families living abroad, to encourage children to further explore and appreciate their cultural heritage, and also extend knowledge of Polish achievements and culture to our neighbors and friends. The Polish Bilingual Day was brought to Michigan by the Polish Mission of Orchard Lake along with the Polish American Congress Michigan Division and other local Polish organizations. The celebration took place at the American-Polish Cultural Center in Troy, and included a performance of Cinderella by the theater group "Little Stars" from Chicago, a lecture for parents on the benefits of bilingualism by Dr. Katarzyna Zechenter of University College London, a presentation about Maria Skłodowska Curie accompanied by a chemistry workshop, and a costume party with karaoke. The celebration was attended by some 300 people, with a number of families from our local Polish School of Ann Arbor. The PAC Ann Arbor Chapter is proud to participate and sponsor this very worthy initiative, and would like to congratulate the organizers - Mrs. Marzena Owiński and her team - on the very successful event. We had great fun! See photos here and more information here.

October - Polish Heritage Month in Michigan

Polish organizations in Michigan organized a variety of events to mark the Polish Heritage Month. Over few weeks in October the representatives of our Board attended series of lectures by dr. Taddeus Radzilowski (Piast Institute) titled

"Reflections on Polish and Polish American History" and "Poles in the History of Detroit" presented in Hamtramck and at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. These lectures explored new and unconventional perspectives on familiar emigrant themes, and gave the audience new insights into the rich and complex story of Poland, Poles and the Polish diaspora in America.

Upcoming Events

24th Ann Arbor Polish Film Festival
November 17-19, 2017
Michigan Theater, 603 E Liberty St.

Polish Wigilia i Jasełka
Sunday, December 3, 2017 at 5:30 pm
Chapel of St. Francis of Assisi Church, Ann Arbor
Please bring a Christmas dish to share after the Mass.

Pasterka
January 6, 2018 at 5 pm
St. Francis of Assisi Church, Ann Arbor
We invite you to join us for the evening of Polish Christmas Carols and a celebration of a traditional Pasterka Mass. The Polish choir Filareci from Troy will perform the Christmas carols during and after the Mass.

Membership Dues

The membership year starts with the Executive Board elections in May. The $35 dues can be paid at a meeting or by mailing a check to PAC AA, PO Box 130763, Ann Arbor, MI 48113-0763. Please remember to renew your membership as this is the only source of funding for our activities!

Contact Us

Whenever you have a question, comment or complaint, please contact us:

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