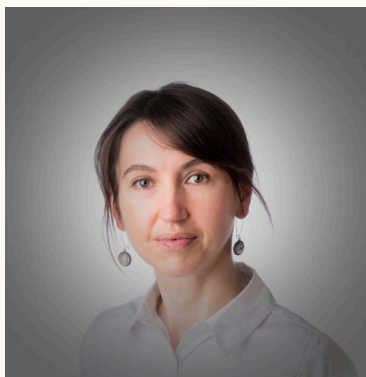


**FROM THE PRESIDENT
DR. MARTA CIEŚLAK**



As I am writing this note in the early days of May, the spring is in full swing behind my window. Since most PAHA members live in North America and Europe, many of our readers are probably now getting ready for warmer weather activities. Thus you might be surprised to hear that winter, and specifically the first weekend of January, is very much on the minds of some of us in PAHA. January 3rd through 6th is when we will meet for the 81st annual conference, which in 2025 is scheduled in New York. The Conference Planning Committee under the leadership of our current First VP and incoming President, Dr. Karen Majewski, is currently hard at work, reviewing the submitted proposals and putting a program together. I am not at liberty to reveal details at this point, but we are excited to have received the largest number of proposals since our last pre-COVID-19 conference, which also took place in New York. So, get ready for a busy and intellectually stimulating gathering with old and new PAHA friends.

What I can disclose is two exciting celebrations that will accompany the conference:

First, we are thrilled to have in our hands the very recent three-part, multi-authored study of Polish American history published by Routledge. The three volumes offer the most comprehensive picture of Polish America history written thus far. The first volume, *Polish American History before 1939* by Adam Walaszek, focuses on the years 1854 – 1839. The second one, *Polish American History after 1939* by Joanna Wojdon, examines the years 1939 – 2004. The third volume is *Polish American Voices: A Documentary History, 1608–2020*, edited by Anna D. Jaroszyńska-Kirchmann and James S. Pula. It presents first-hand accounts of the generations of Polish Americans through 145 primary sources. PAHA members recognize the names of the authors and editors, all of whom are among the most prominent historians of the Polish American experience. What a treat to be able to read these three volumes now and celebrate their publication during the upcoming conference!

An equally joyful celebration comes thanks to our older friend and colleague, the Kosciuszko Foundation (KF). We are meeting in the first days of January 2025 in New York City, the home of the Foundation, established exactly 100 years ago. Dedicated to promoting educational and cultural exchanges between the United States and Poland and to increasing American understanding of Polish culture and history, the Foundation is one of PAHA's sister organizations. We are thrilled to be partnering with our KF friends and colleagues to celebrate their 100th anniversary.

If you find yourself in New York in early January 2025, please join us for another exciting meeting. The PAHA members who would like to attend as audience may register and attend for free and the registration will open in September. It will likely be cold outside, but we can assure you that the heat of scholarly discussions and warmth of PAHA's old and new friendships will certainly help us enjoy the New York winter.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS INSTRUCTIONS FOR POLISH AMERICAN STUDIES

If you would like to change your mailing address for *Polish American Studies* please e-mail your new contact information to Shelly Bolen, Subscriptions Manager at journals@uillinois.edu. Be sure to specify *Polish American Studies*.

Congratulations to our 2023 PAHA Award Winners!

PAHA had the great honor of awarding the 2023 Award Winners at the 80th annual conference of the Polish American Historical Association held January 4-6, 2024 in San Francisco. The awards recognize individuals or groups for their contributions in Polish American academic research and publications, and cultural, artistic, and social life. The attendees were welcomed by Dr. Marta Cieślak, PAHA President, and the awards were presented by Ewa Barczyk and Joshua Blank of the PAHA Awards Committee.

A heartfelt congratulations to all our award winners!

The **Amicus Poloniae Award** recognizes significant contributions to enhancing knowledge of Polish and Polish-American heritage and culture by individuals not of Polish descent.

Winner: Ricky Huard, Editor-in-Chief at Ohio University Press and de facto acquisitions editor for the Polish and Polish-American Studies Series

The **Skalny Civic Achievement Award** honors individuals or groups who advance PAHA's goals of promoting research and awareness of the Polish American Experience.

Winners:

Jim Mazurkiewicz, Texas A&M University

The Polish Club, Inc. of San Francisco

Maureen Mroczek Morris

Polish Arts and Culture Foundation

The **Creative Arts Prize** recognizes contributions in the field of creative arts by individuals or groups who have promoted an awareness of the Polish experience in the Americas.

Winner: Bolesław Kochanowski

The **Swastek Prize** recognizes the best article in a 2022 volume of *Polish American Studies*.

Winner: Anna Muller, "The People of Hamtramck: Some Reflections on Belonging, Agency, and Being Polish American," *Polish American Studies* vol. 79, no. 2.

The **Emerging Scholars Travel Award** recognizes outstanding research into Polish-American history and culture by two graduate students or early career scholars in the humanities or social sciences. The winners receive a travel grant to present their work at the PAHA Annual Meeting.

Winners:

Iwona Flis, University of Gdańsk

Benjamin Bax, Swansea University/University of Central Oklahoma

The **Mieczysław Haiman Award** recognizes a scholar for their sustained contribution to the study of Polish Americans.

Winner: Ewa Barczyk

The **Oscar Halecki Prize** recognizes an important book on the Polish American experience.
Winner: *Footprints of Polonia: Polish Historical Sites Across North America*, edited by Ewa Barczyk.
New York, NY: Hippocrene Books, 2022.



Philadelphia's Polish People's University: A Hundred Years Later

by: Margaret M. Zaleska, PhD, President of PUL



The establishment of the Polish People's University in Philadelphia (Polski Uniwersytet Ludowy, PUL), similarly to many folk or People's Universities in Europe, was based on the concept originally developed in the Netherlands by poet and theologian N.F.S. Grundtvig in the 18th century. The Maatschappij tot Nut van 't Algemeen (Nut for short; Society for Public Welfare), a non-profit organization, was founded in 1784 with the purpose of developing individuals and society, primarily through extracurricular education.

In Poland, People's Universities also have over a hundred-year tradition starting in 1905. Initially called "workers" universities, they were developed mostly in regions of Poland which had been partitioned by Austria (Galicia), where the use of the Polish language was allowed. The model organization was the Folk University of Adam Mickiewicz in Krakow which exemplified the deep connection of writers, scientists, and artists with the worker's community. Their approaches united the nation, overcame class divisions, and taught cooperation and mutual understanding between different ethnicities. In 1995 there were 80 such institutions in operation in Poland. The first Polish People's University (PUL) in the US was established in Chicago in 1908 and one of its oldest branches was PUL in Detroit established in 1912. In the next 50 years, seventeen branches of PUL were formed including New York, Cleveland, and Toledo, OH, Flint, MI, Milwaukee, WI, Niagara Falls, NY, Jersey City and Harrison, NJ, Gary IN, and St. Louis, MN. While most of these branches ceased their activity, Philadelphia's PUL, established in 1918, continues its active engagement in the Polish community for over a hundred years.

Since its beginnings, PUL has placed a great emphasis on maintaining and preserving the beauty of the Polish language. All the lectures and readings are in Polish and are held on Sundays at the Associated Polish Home (Dom Polski) located at 9150 Academy Road, Philadelphia, PA 19114. The lectures encompass a diverse spectrum of topics including literature, history, art, science, economy, and new developments in medicine and technology. The lectures are presented by many distinguished representatives from Polonia's political, and cultural spheres: professors, members of the Polish government, diplomats, doctors, engineers, scientists, and artists. Lectures are followed by receptions where all attendees have an opportunity to exchange questions and opinions with the speakers in both Polish and English over coffee and Polish *paczki*.

Last year, in recognition of our work and contributions to Polish community, PUL received a "Skalny Award" from the Polish American Historical Association. PUL is also partly financed by the Chancellery of the Prime Minister as part of the "Polonia and Poles Abroad 2021" competition organized by Wspólnota Polska. Our current lecture schedule could be found at <https://www.polishpeoplesuniversity.org/lectures>

PAHA Webinar Series Continues



Polish American Historical Association Webinar Series



Join us for a conversation with Bruce Harkness, urban documentary photographer, moderated by Dr. Karen Majewski

Edziu: The Extraordinary Ordinary Ed Thiede
A Photo Story from Detroit's Poletown by Bruce Harkness
Saturday, April 27, 2024, 11:00 AM EST/ 17:00 Warsaw

On April 27, 2024, PAHA hosted Bruce Harkness who presented a webinar entitled “Edziu: The Extraordinary Ed Thiede. A Photo Story from Detroit’s Poletown.” It was moderated by Karen Majewski. For those who missed it, you can find it on the PAHA website at: <https://polishamericanstudies.org/.../paha-webinars-2021...>

SAVE THE DATE

PAHA Annual Conference, January 3 - 6, 2025, New York City

We look forward to seeing you at the 81st Annual PAHA Conference in New York City January 3-6, 2025 as part of the 181st American Historical Association Conference. All PAHA panelists (conference presenters) are required to join PAHA and register for the conference via the American Historical Association registration system. While AHA registration fees may change in 2025, please see the AHA 2024 registration rates for your reference. PAHA presenters do not need to become AHA members.



CALL FOR 2024 NOMINATIONS FOR PAHA AWARDS AND PRIZES

DEADLINE JULY 31, 2024

The Polish American Historical Association (PAHA) is seeking nominations for the following awards, to be presented by PAHA at its 81th Annual Meeting in January 2025 in New York City. For further details about these awards and past recipients, see the PAHA webpage www.polishamericanstudies.org under "Awards".

Please send the nominations via email to Ewa Barczyk ewa@uwm.edu by July 31, 2024. Include the name of the award, awardee (with contact information) and brief statement-- no more than one page-- highlighting why this nomination should be selected for the award. You can submit additional relevant information about the awardee.

Mieczyslaw Haiman Award is offered annually to a scholar for sustained contribution to the study of Polish Americans.

Oskar Halecki Prize recognizes an important book or monograph on the Polish experience in the United States. Eligibility is limited to works of historical and/or cultural interest, including those in the social sciences or humanities, published in the two years prior to the year of the award.

Skalny Civic Achievement Award honors individuals or groups who advance PAHA's goals of promoting research and awareness of the Polish American experience. Possible initiatives may include preservation of artifacts or broader community initiatives related to Polonia. Self-nominations not accepted.

Amicus Poloniae Award recognizes significant contributions enhancing knowledge of Polish and Polish-American heritage by individuals not belonging to the Polish American community.

James Pula Distinguished Service Award is given occasionally to a member of PAHA who has rendered valuable and sustained service to the organization. This award honors Prof. James Pula, PAHA's past president and treasurer, and a long-time editor of the Polish American Studies.

Creative Arts Prize recognizes the contributions in the field of creative arts by individuals or groups who have promoted an awareness of the Polish experience in the Americas.

Joseph W. Zurawski Prize is awarded for the best article or book published on the topic of Polish American screen images in films or television presented to audiences in the United States and released by American companies. To be eligible, works must have been published within the past three years. It also includes a cash award.

GRADUATE STUDENT/YOUNG SCHOLAR TRAVEL GRANT

DEADLINE JULY 31, 2024

PAHA encourages graduate students and emerging scholars (up to three years after graduation) to apply for a Travel Grant. Two such grants of \$500.00 each will be awarded to offset travel costs to attend the 2025 PAHA Annual Meeting in New York City. The grants will be awarded to the two best conference proposals dealing with the Polish diaspora experience in any historical epoch, scholarly field, or aspect submitted by junior scholars.

To apply please submit the following documents:

Your paper proposal (as required by the general CFP)

A brief letter of application

A current CV

One letter of recommendation from a senior scholar (e.g. thesis advisor).

In order to receive the travel grant it is mandatory to present the paper at the conference in person.

Awardees will receive remuneration during the Awards Ceremony at the Annual Meeting. Failure to present the paper in person at the annual meeting shall result in the withdrawal of the grant.

Please send your application packets by email to Ewa Barczyk ewa@uwm.edu with the subject line "Graduate Student Travel Grant" by July 31, 2024.

PERSONALIA

Kazimierz Bem received the Presbyterian Historical Society in Philadelphia Research Fellowship, The Congregational Library in Boston Research Fellowship and the Oberlin Library Frederick B. Artz Summer Research Grant – all for the work on his upcoming book *Anarchists, Communists, and Women: Congregational Missions to Polish Immigrants in Twentieth-Century America*.

Mieczysław B. Biskupski's latest book *Prezydent Woodrow Wilson a odrodzenie państwa polskiego (1914-1918)* has just been published in Warsaw. Over 500 pages, it has been described by Marek Kornat of the Instytut Historii Polskiej Akademii Nauk as "a reinterpretation of American policy" and a reconsideration of Wilson while noting his "erudition."

Stanley Cuba recently published *Paul Kontny: A Modern Artist in Europe and America* with University of Colorado Press. The book is rich in the history of early twentieth-century Poland and the plight of soldiers conscripted into the German army—and the life of an architect dedicated to helping rebuild and then embarking on a transcontinental life as an artist. The book includes photographs and images of Kontny's life and travels, input from friends, collectors, and family, and more than 100 color reproductions of his striking and varied works.

Silvia G. Dapía moderated a session at the XLIV International Congress of Latin American Literature held at the National and Kapodistrian University in Athens, Greece, where she also made a presentation on the work of León Rozitchner ("Cuerpo, Compasión y Transindividualidad en la obra de León Rozitchner," Body, Compassion, and Transindividuality in León Rozitchner's Work). She gave a paper on the "(Un)translatability of Indigenous Languages: Borges's Perspective" at the 42st International Congress of the Association of Spanish Professionals in America, University of Oviedo, Spain. She was invited to join the International Advisory Board for the Research Project "Imaginamics: Practices and Dynamics of Social Imagining" organized by the Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena in Germany. As member of the Board, she participated in a conference in Jena in December 2023 and a second conference in March 2024. Her research topic is "Affective Imaginaries in the 'Age of Reason': Simón Rodríguez and the Politics of Compassion."

John Drobnicki (Library, York College/CUNY) published a book review in the February 2024 issue of *Choice* marking thirty years of reviewing for that publication (1994-2024). *Choice* is published by the Association of College and Research Libraries, a division of the American Library Association.

Anne M. Gurnack gave a talk entitled, "Poland's Response to the Ukrainian Refugee Crisis: The Warsaw Experience" in March 2023 at the Polish Center of Wisconsin. She spoke about her recent visit to Poland when she met with the Mayor's office in Warsaw and the recently appointed Deputy Minister of the Interior, Prime Minister Tusk's cabinet. The talk was also featured in the February/March 2024 issue of the *Polish American Journal*.

Al Koproski accumulated 40 years of data on the Koproski Family Name and published a history of where the Koproski name came from in Poland and its descendents in the United States.

Dominic A. Pacyga took part in a podcast with Andrew Sola and Tobias Brinkman concerning Polish, Jewish and East European immigration to Chicago. The podcast is sponsored by Amerikazentrum-Hamburg, a non-partisan, not-for-profit institute dedicated to increasing transatlantic understanding and strengthening transatlantic relations in celebration of the 30-year anniversary of the Chicago-Hamburg Sister-City Partnership. Pacyga also spoke at the Annual Pulaski Day Celebration at the Polish Museum of America in Chicago on March 4 concerning Kosciuszko and

Pulaski as symbols for the American Polonia. On March 16 Pacyga will chair a session of a conference exploring Midwestern Polonias at the Chicago History Museum sponsored by the Polish American Historical Association and The Chicago History Museum. The conference will also celebrate the first exhibition on the Chicago Polonia in a major Chicago museum, "Back Home Polish Chicago." Pacyga was the principal researcher for the exhibit which is largely based on his book *American Warsaw: The Rise, Fall, and Rebirth of Polish Chicago* (Chicago; University of Chicago Press, 2019).

Donald Pienkos (Professor Emeritus, Political Science, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee) was invited by Poland's Consul General in Chicago to speak at the 25th Anniversary celebration of the entry of Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic into NATO on March 12. Don was actively involved in the effort to bring about NATO expansion. Appropriately, the great event was at the President Truman Memorial Library in Independence, Missouri. His prerecorded presentation was shown at the event.

James S. Pula co-authored *Polish American Voices: A Documentary History, 1608-2020* (Abingdon-on-Thames, UK: Routledge, 2023). With co-author Anna Jaroszyńska-Kirchmann he co-presented a Zoom report on the new book for the Kosciuszko Foundation in New York City in March. He gave a Zoom presentation on the participation of Poles in the US Civil War for the Polish Heritage Center in Panna Maria, Texas, and another on the Kosciuszko Squadron in World War II for the South Deerfield Polish American Club in Connecticut. He also chaired a session on "Midwest Urban Polonia" at the "A Day of Dialogue: Polish American Historical Association Symposium" at the Chicago History Museum in March.

Barbara Rylko-Bauer, and her colleague Alisse Waterston, published an essay in the Polish journal, *Czas Kultury* (*Times of Culture*, vol. 39, No. 3, 2023), titled: "Etnografia Intymna – Łączenie Opowieści, Pamięci i Historii" ("Intimate Ethnography: Bridging Story, Memory, History"). The approach of intimate ethnography was developed while the authors were working on their respective books, which focus on the lives of their Polish immigrant parents (one Catholic, one Jewish), within a historical context.

Michał J. Wilczewski was promoted to Associate Professor of Instruction in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures at Northwestern University.

Maria Zakrewska published *Stanisław Wokulski i Tomasz Judym. Małość i heroizm* (*Stanislaw Wokulski and Tomasz Judym. Mediocrity and Heroism*) in October 2023 by LIBRON, a scientific publishing house in Kraków, Poland. The subject of this book refers to the Polish history of literature of 19th and 20th centuries. This book is available in many Polish universities and public libraries, as well as in a number of libraries in the USA. She was also featured in the Chicago Public Library's blog. In 2023, the Chicago Public Library celebrated its 150th anniversary. As part of the celebration, an additional entry in the CPL's blog entitled "Maria Zakrewska: Connecting CPL and the Polish Community" has been added. The entry refers to her successfully applying for and receiving a state grant for Polish books as well as having established the Polish American Services Committee which she chaired for 15 years. This committee, under her supervision, organized approximately 500 programs systemwide (for adults and children) which were attended by roughly 12 thousand patrons. The blog also mentioned that she authored an article "Chicagowska Biblioteka Publiczna w służbie Polonii" (Chicago Public Library serving Polish community) that was included in a book *Polacy w Chicago* (*Poles in Chicago*) published in Warsaw, Poland in 2020. The CPL's blog can be found at the following link: <https://www.chipublib.org/blogs/post/cpl-librarian-maria-zakrewska-and-the-polish-community/>.

If you have any updates you'd like featured in the newsletter, write to michal.wilczewski@northwestern.edu.

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PAHA MISSION STATEMENT

PAHA's goals are: to promote the study of Polish American history and culture as part of the greater Polish diaspora; to encourage and disseminate scholarly research and publication on the Polish American experience in the fields of history, the social sciences, the humanities and the arts, and advance scholarly collaboration across disciplines; and to support collection and preservation of historical sources regarding the Polish past.



SUBMISSION GUIDELINES FOR POLISH AMERICAN STUDIES

Polish American Studies is the Polish American Historical Association's interdisciplinary refereed double-blind scholarly journal (ISSN 0032-2806; eISSN 2330-0833) which has been published continuously since 1944. It appears biannually and is published by the University of Illinois Press on behalf of PAHA. It is indexed in *America: History and Life*; *American Bibliography of Slavic and East European Studies*; *ATLA Catholic Periodical and Literature Index*; *Bibliographic Index*; *Current Abstracts*; *Historical Abstracts*; *MLA International Bibliography*; *PIO - Periodical Index Online*; *PubMed*; *TOC Premier*, *SCOPUS*, and *EBSCO*. Electronic content is available through the Scholarly Publishing Collective (scholarlypublishingcollective.org) and JSTOR (www.jstor.org). To subscribe visit: www.press.uillinois.edu/journals/pas.html.

The editors welcome scholarship including articles and related materials dealing with all aspects of the history and culture of Poles in the Western Hemisphere. They particularly welcome contributions that place the Polish experience in historical and comparative perspective as part of the larger Polish diaspora, and that examine its relationship to other ethnic groups. Contributions from any discipline in the humanities and social sciences are welcome. The Swastek Prize is awarded annually for the best article published in a given volume of *Polish American Studies*.

The journal employs a "double-blind" review process. Manuscripts or inquiries should be submitted in Microsoft Word via e-mail attachment to the Editor, Dr. Anna Jaroszyńska-Kirchmann, at anna.k@polishamericanstudies.org. Manuscripts should be no longer than 8,000-10,000 words plus notes, tables, etc. They should include an abstract of 200 words, and a brief author's biographical information, their affiliation, and email address. Editors will not review works previously published in any form or ghostwritten. Authors should follow *The Chicago Manual of Style*, 17th edition.

Books for review (English language) should be sent to Mary Patrice Erdmans (Department of Sociology, 10900 Euclid Avenue, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH 44106) or Anna Mazurkiewicz (Polish language; University of Gdańsk, Faculty of History, ul. Wita Stwosza 55, 80-952 Gdańsk, Poland). Books may be submitted by publishers or authors. Submission is no guarantee that books will be reviewed, and books will not be returned. For full submission guidelines and other information, see <https://polishamericanstudies.org/text/13/polish-american-studies.html>.

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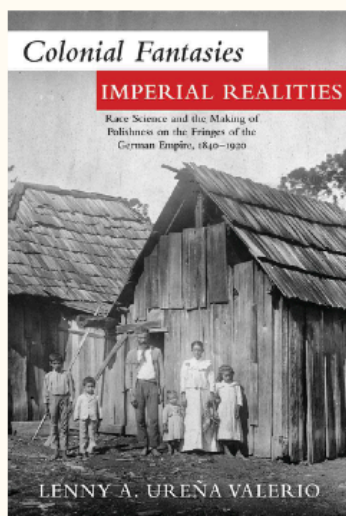
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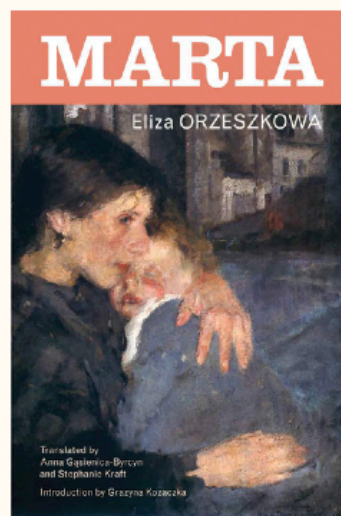
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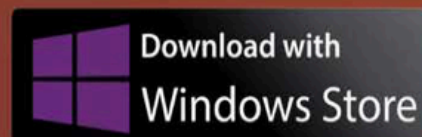
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