



Kosciuszko: A Man Ahead of His Time

A Documentary Film Narrated by Blair Underwood
Written and Directed by Alex Storozynski
Executive Producer Eve Krzyzanowski

Based on the Book
The Peasant Prince: Thaddeus Kosciuszko and the Age of Revolution

Jefferson called, Kosciuszko “as pure a son of liberty, as I have ever known.”

With a moving narration by Blair Underwood, the story is told through reenactments at West Point, Saratoga, Philadelphia, and Poland, along with dramatic readings by screen actors such as Olek Krupa.

It includes interviews with experts such as Former U.S. National Security Advisor Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski, UCLA Prof. Gary Nash, Purdue Prof.

James Pula, and Pulitzer Prize winning journalist Alex Storozynski.

Thaddeus Kosciuszko was a prince of tolerance whose principles still resonate today.

To learn more about Polish culture:

Please visit www.thekf.org



The Kościuszko Foundation

Founded in 1925, the Kościuszko Foundation promotes friendship between the peoples of Poland and the United States through educational, scientific, and cultural exchanges and other related programs and activities. It awards fellowships and grants to graduate students, scholars, scientists, professionals, and artists and helps to increase the visibility and prestige of Polish culture in America by sponsoring exhibits, publications, film festivals, performing arts such as concerts and recitals, and assists other institutions with similar goals.

www.thekf.org

The Chicago Chapter of the Kościuszko Foundation

Lidia Filus - President

Anna Kordylewska - Vice President

Jolanta Pawlikowska - Secretary

Witold Pawlikowski - Treasurer

Executive Committee:

Czesława Kolak

Joanna Rudnicka

Maria Zakrzewska

Ewa Radwańska - Trustee



ance, Polish Arts Club, Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences, and the Kosciuszko Foundation. She joined the Polish Women Alliance of America in 2000 and together with Dr. Lidia Filus, founded the Queen Jadwiga Millennium Group 821. In the same year she served as a founding member and first director of Maria Sklodowska-Curie Polish School, founded under the auspices of the PWAA. She has also served as National Director of the Polish Women's Alliance.

Mrs. Kolak's achievements for excellence in teaching and community engagement have been recognized locally and globally. In 1996, she received an Appreciation Award from the Polish Association of Former Political Prisoners of Nazi and Soviet Concentration Camps. In 2002, she was placed on the Wall of Tolerance as Founding Member of the National Campaign for Tolerance. She also received the Medal for Service to Church and Nation from the Polish Primate, Cardinal Jozef Glemp (2009), Educator of the Year from the Council of Educators in Polonia (2006), Certificate of Appreciation from Maria Sklodowska-Curie PWAA Polish Saturday School (2006), and recognition from Mayor Daley in 2006 for her exceptional contributions to the City of Chicago. Her teaching recognitions include the CPS Parent Award (2000 and 1999), Bilingual Lead Teacher Recognition (1999), The Commission of National Education Medal from the National Ministry of Education in Poland (1998), Gold Medal from the Polish American

Congress and Polish Alma Mater Abroad in London (1989), and Outstanding Teacher of Polish Award from the Bureau of Foreign Languages in Chicago Board of Education (1989). She was included several times in Who's Who in Polish America and in Who's Who Among America's Teachers. She was twice Queen of May and Swita in PWAA. From her homeland in the County of Dąbrowa-Tarnowska, she received the "The Land of Vistula River Award" in 2000. For her service to education she was awarded with Silver Medal "Labor Omnia Vincit" by Hipolit Cegielski Society in Poznan. In 2018, she was inducted to the Order of St. Stanislaw and in 2019, she was awarded the title "Outstanding Pole Abroad" in the Culture category, in the contest organized by the Polish Promotional Emblem Foundation in Warsaw.

Czeslawa graduated from the Academy of Education in Krakow with a degree in Polish philology. In Chicago, she earned two master degrees; one in Slavic Languages and Education from the University of Illinois at Chicago, and another in School Administration and Supervision from Roosevelt University. She received several endorsements to teach English as a Second Language and Russian, and is a Ph.D. candidate in Polish Literature at the University of Chicago. She is also a dedicated wife, mother, and grandparent, and has traveled to over twenty-seven countries.

2019 oct 22

CZESŁAWA KOLAK



Czesława Kolak immigrated to Chicago from Poland in 1973. Since then, she has been continuously promoting Polish language and culture.

Czesława pioneered Polish bilingual programs as a bilingual coordinator at Foreman High School, a Chicago Public School, for 27 years. She is an advocate of multicultural education and an active supporter of bilingual students, parents, and teachers. She served two terms on the Illinois Bilingual Education Council and was a team member of the Teacher Education Program Approval Section of the Illinois State Board of Education. The program she developed at Foreman High School became the largest bilingual Polish program in the United States. She has additionally taught Polish language and traditions at Northeastern Illinois

University since 1979, where she introduced courses on Polish Women and Polish Culture and Civilization. Czesława presented on her work at national conferences, including a prestigious one month program in Hawaii's at Manoa University funded by a National Foreign Language Resource Center Grant. She was also U.S. delegate and speaker to the International Conference of Polish Educators in Paris, France.

Czesława has promoted civic education for high school and college-age students by organizing cultural excursions, from City Hall to Springfield to Washington D.C. She organized an exchange program between High School in Łancut, Poland and Foreman, including a tour to Philadelphia, Washington D.C. and New York, "In the footsteps of Our Forefathers." She organized and directed summer immersion programs for Polish teachers and students, sponsored by the Chicago Board of Education. At Northeastern Illinois University she organized many Polish events with students as a faculty advisor to the Polish Club, including memorable trips to the first Polish settlement in Panna Maria, Texas, and Pulaski's final resting place in Savannah.

Czesława serves the community as an active member of several organizations including the Council of Educators in Polonia, Polish Women's All

PROGRAM

1. Welcome

Lidia Filus, President, Chicago Chapter of the Kosciuszko Foundation

2. Greetings

Malgorzata Kot, Managing Director of the Polish Museum of America (PMA)

Richard Owsiany, President Polish Museum of America

Piotr Janicki, Consul General

Consulate General of the Republic of Poland in Chicago

Frank Spula, President Polish American Congress

Ewa Radwanska, Kosciuszko Foundation Trustee

3. Presentation

“Being a hero is not enough. The artistic passions of General Tadeusz Kosciuszko” by Dr hab. prof. Anna Mlekodaj.

“Polish Imagination – The World of Tomorrow:

Polish Pavilion at the 1939-1940 New York World’s Fair.”

– exhibit preparation remarks by Malgorzata Kot

4. Award Ceremony for Czeslawa Kolak

in assistance of the Polish Soldiers Society of

Gen. T. Kosciuszko and the last year honoree Prof. Lidia Filus

5. Musical Program

Joanna Turska -flute and Danuta Berger-piano

6. Raffle

Joanna Rudnicka, Chicago Chapter KF Scholarship Chair
and Anna Kordylewska, Chapter Vice President

7. Reception

8. Final Remarks – Lidia Filus

The Chicago Chapter

of the



Kościuszko Foundation

***Tadeusz Kosciuszko's
Imieniny***

October 28, 2019