

April 2022

Ann Arbor Polonia Association

Vol 11 (155)

Newsletter



Wesołego Alleluja!

While we continue to go through one of the most challenging times in our lives, spring brings us a renewal of life, hope for better times and Easter. We wish you and your loved ones a blessed and happy holiday!



Invasion of Ukraine

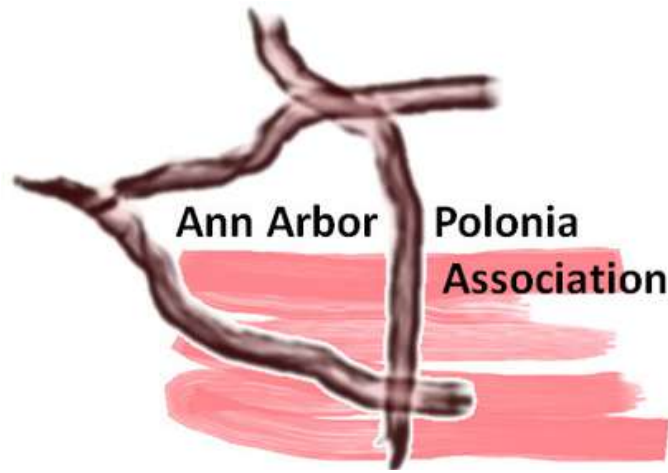
The war in Ukraine has become more tragic by the day. The Ann Arbor Polonia Association has already issued a statement against Russian aggression and support for the people of Ukraine. We encourage all members and friends to take advantage of numerous ways to help Ukrainian refugees.

Aside from a number of international humanitarian relief organizations, such as Doctors Without Borders and UNICEF, we would also like to make our members aware that dozens of Poland-based organizations are providing aid to Ukrainian refugees and are in need of support. Here are some links to a sample of these organizations:

- **Polskie Centrum Pomocy Międzynarodowej (PCPM)** - <https://pcpm.org.pl/en/about-us/support-us> (info in English)
- **Polska Akcja Humanitarna (PAH)** - <https://www.pah.org.pl/en/donate/> (info in English)
- **Caritas Polska** - <https://caritas.pl/formularz/>
- **Fundacja Ocalenie**- <https://crm.ocalenie.org.pl/civicrm/contribute/transact?reset=1&id=3&lang=en> (info in English)
- **Polski Czerwony Krzyż (PCK)** - <https://pck.pl/na-pomoc-ukrainie/> (info also in English)
- **Polska Misja Medyczna / Polish Medical Mission** - <https://pmm.org.pl/en/ukraine-urgent-medical-aid> (info in English)

The AAPA has also made a donation totalling \$850 PLN toward this important cause.





The 2022 AAPA Annual Membership and Election Meeting, 05/07/2022

We are pleased to announce the time and venue for our upcoming Annual AAPA Membership Meeting, where our leadership will present a summary of organization activities, we will elect board members for the '22-'23 year, and members will have an opportunity to chat while enjoying some light refreshments.

The meeting will take place on Saturday, May 7th, 2022, 2pm-4pm, at:

Washtenaw Community College,
Business Education Bldg., Room 160, (parking #4, see map)
4800 E. Huron River Dr. in Ann Arbor.



AAPA Board Candidate Search

The AAPA Executive Board is actively seeking candidates to help serve as board members! We are looking for new ideas and your energetic participation in steering our organization.

The time commitment averages an hour or two per month, and you will feel good about serving the Ann Arbor Polish community.

Please bring your candidacy to the attention of the AAPA by emailing us at poloniaannarbor@gmail.com. Nominations submitted "from the floor" during the Annual Meeting are also welcome!



Current Board Members (from left): Marcin Szczepanski, Ania Bielińska, Kuba Czyz, Alicja Bator-Naguib and Pawel Branski.

The Annual AAPA Lecture

The Annual AAPA Invited Lecture will be presented directly after the general meeting. This year, we welcome **Dr. Ildiko Porter-Szucs**, who will present the talk:

“The tale of two wolves: How to raise bilingual children” (“Wygra ten wilk, którego karmisz: Czyli jak wychowywać dwujęzyczne dzieci”.)



Ildiko (Ildi) Porter-Szucs, Ph.D.

Professor of ESL/TESOL at Eastern Michigan University, Founding Board Member and Instructor at the Polish Language Center of Ann Arbor.

Ildiko (Ildi) Porter-Szucs was born in Poland and raised in Hungary. After graduating with a B.Sc. from the Budapest Business School, she earned an M.Ed. in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) at Temple University in the U.S., followed by a Ph.D. in Higher, Adult, and Lifelong Education from Michigan State University. Her scholarship includes teacher formation; language assessment; and the teaching and learning of second, foreign, and heritage languages. Over the years she has taught languages (Polish, Hungarian, German, and English) and trained future teachers of English as a second/foreign language. After the birth of her daughter, Ildi’s top priority became raising Stefania trilingually and triculturally. To this end, she was instrumental in starting Polish and Hungarian playgroups, an unofficial Hungarian school, and a 501c3 educational nonprofit Polish school.

Wolverine Charity Ball

After a pandemic break, University of Michigan Polish Student Association continued their annual tradition of a spring charity ball. This year's event took place on March 26th at the grand ballroom of the Weber's Restaurant and Hotel in Ann Arbor, and benefited the Habitat For Humanity of Huron Valley. The Ball was attended by many students and members of the Polish communities of Ann Arbor, Detroit, and the surrounding area. The AAPA warmly supports Polish students' organization and their events and activities.



Polish Language Center

The Polish Language Center of Ann Arbor continues to offer in-person classes for children and online language instruction for both children and adults.

In-person classes currently take place at Spiritus Sanctus Academy in Ann Arbor, that graciously made their facility available during the pandemic, while Eastern Michigan University facilities were unavailable.

The end of current semester, with performances by each class, will take place on Saturday, May 21st. Families and friends are invited!

On June 5th, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., we also invite all members of the Polish community to Olson Park, 1505 Dhu Varren Rd. in Ann Arbor to celebrate the 11th Anniversary of the Polish School. It will be a potluck event with activities for children and adults.



The Ann Arbor Polish Film Festival Poster Competition



The Polish Cultural Fund – Ann Arbor invited students from Polish schools in Michigan to participate in a poster design contest to promote the 29th Ann Arbor Polish Film Festival. The submissions came from two schools: Polish Language Center of Ann Arbor and Adam Mickiewicz School of Polish Language in Sterling Heights.

They were all fantastic and it was evident that all students put a lot of thought, effort and imagination into their projects. The posters were created using a variety of artistic techniques, including colored pencils, crayons, markers and paint, computer graphics, and collage. The PCF jury scored each project based on artistic and technical skill, originality, and adherence to theme and contest requirements.

We are very pleased to announce that the winner is 10-year-old Julia Czyż from the Polish Language Center of Ann Arbor. An award will be presented in the Fall, during the 29th Ann Arbor Polish Film Festival, 4 – 6 November 2022.

Congratulations to the winner and thank you to all participants!

(An update from our friends at the Polish Cultural Fund - Ann Arbor)



MEMBERSHIP DUES

Please support us by renewing your membership!

We remind all AAPA members about their 2021/2022 membership dues of \$35 per person. In case of hardship, please contribute a symbolic \$5 per person. The fee can be paid by check, mailed to:

P.O. Box 130 423
Ann Arbor, MI 48113

(Please note: this is a new PO Box number!)

Or (preferably), electronically by PayPal
<https://paypal.me/aapolonia> or at our AAPA website (under the Join tab).

NEWSLETTER PHOTOS AND EVENTS

Please don't forget to send us information and photos from your events so we can highlight them in our Newsletter.

Just send ideas, information and photos to **poloniaannarbor@gmail.com** to be part of our next communication. Thank you!

CONTACT US

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poloniaannarbor@gmail.com
Check us out on Facebook!

AAPA Board Members

President: Anna Bielińska
Vice-President: Alicja Bator-Naguib
Vice-President: Jakub Czyż
Treasurer: Paweł Brański
Secretary: Marcin Szczepański

AAPA Community advisors

Wanda Walasek
Inka Kryczek
Amy Olszewski
Anna Uchmanowicz
Dorota Poznańska
Piotr Krzystek