



2011 FRIENDS OF POLISH ART SZOPKA COMPETITION



SZOPKA COMPETITION RULES

1. Your szopka must be portable, lightweight and stable, and made so nothing falls or breaks off.
2. Your szopka should be no taller than 24", wider than 16", or deeper than 8" (including the base). Any szopka exceeding these dimensions will be disqualified.
3. Your szopka should be constructed from recycled or found objects (boxes, paper towel rolls, milk cartons, foil wrappers, etc.). As much as possible should be made by hand.
4. Your szopka must have the nativity scene, which must include at the very least the figures of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. Figures may be hand made, cutouts, or be store bought.
5. Your szopka must have at least ONE tower, which may be topped with flags, stars, or Polish eagles (but not crosses). Your szopka may have balconies, domes, windows, clocks, steeples, bells, and other architectural elements. While the traditional Krakow szopka incorporates that city's architecture, we encourage using elements of Detroit area buildings (particularly its churches).
6. You may decorate your szopka using foil, wrapping paper, pipe cleaners, glitter, sequins, beads, fabric trim, etc. You may even add lights or moving parts to your szopka.
7. Your szopka must be submitted for judging, accompanied by the application form on the next page. Your szopka must also have your name and phone number printed on the back. Deliver your szopka any day between **11/05/2011** and **11/12/2011**, during normal store hours, to:

**Polish Art Center
9539 Jos Campau
Hamtramck, MI
(313) 874-2242**

All entries will be displayed at the Polish Art Center from Nov. 19 to Sat., Dec. 10, 2011.

8. Entry categories are:
 - ★ Children (ages 6-11)
 - ★ Youth (ages 12-17)
 - ★ Adult (ages 18 and up)

Group entries are encouraged, but the group's age bracket is determined by its eldest member.



SZOPKA CONSTRUCTION TIPS

1. Collect and use materials including cardboard, empty boxes, foil, shiny paper, gift wrappings, ribbon, metallic cord, beads & sequins, old jewelry, etc.
2. Start with a rigid base; plywood is good.
3. Form basic structure using boxes, cardboard, wood, recycled containers, etc; a traditional szopka has a shallow depth with a fully detailed facade and an unornamented, flat back.

4. Use materials with brilliant colors (especially gold, silver, red, blue and green) and shiny surfaces
5. Add surface architectural details using papercuts, shaped foil, etc.
6. Top towers with flags, stars, eagles, etc. (but not crosses).



SZOPKA JUDGING

The following five criteria (each worth a maximum of 20 points) will be used to decide the winning entries. All decisions of the judges will be final.

1. Construction Materials

- Use of traditional materials: wood, cardboard, paper, foil, etc.
- Imaginative use of found (scrap) materials.
- The use of commercially produced dollhouse and miniature components is strongly discouraged (and will result in a reduction in scoring).

2. Design

- Use of recognizable Detroit (or Krakow) area architectural elements in design.
- Use of traditional proportion: the szopka should be shallow (its depth should be no more than $\frac{1}{4}$ its width) with a fully detailed facade and a flat, unornamented back.

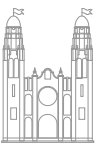
3. Craftsmanship

- Good craftsmanship in execution of project.

4. Use of color (harmonious, dramatic, etc.).

5. Attention to details

- Architectural details
- Decorative details (windows, flags, surface detail, etc.)



COMPETITION WINNERS

All entrants will be notified of the judges' decisions during the week of November, 16th, 2011. All entries must be picked up December 11-13th from the Polish Art Center during regular business hours. All prizes will be awarded at the Polish Art Center on Sunday November 20 at 3:00 pm. All winners or a family representative must be available for the awards ceremony. A certificate of participation will be presented for every entry.

Prizes will be awarded for each category: Children's, Youth and Adult.

- First Place - \$ 100.00 gift certificate
- Second Place - \$50.00
- Third Place - \$25.00



2010 SZOPKA COMPETITION APPLICATION

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/ZIP: _____

Day Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____

SZOPKA ENTRY INFORMATION

Entry Category:

Child Age: _____

Youth Age: _____

Adult

Building(s) used as basis for your design: _____

Comments about your szopka experience: _____



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