



FPA Launches a New Grant Program in Honor of Donald Samull

Friends of Polish Art was honored to receive a bequest from the Donald Francis Samull estate. Born and raised in Detroit, Donald Francis Samull (1941 – 2009) held an MA from the University of Michigan and taught at public schools in Dearborn Heights and Bloomfield Hills. He was a recognized expert on Polish American history and culture and a passionate enthusiast of Polish folk culture. Among many other endeavors, starting in 1976, Donald Samull published for many years the Polish American Calendar which offered fascinating information about Polish traditions and celebrations. He was a member of many Polish American organizations such as Friends of Polish Art, Polish American Historical Association, Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan and West Side Detroit Polish American Historical Society.

To honor Donald Samull and his contributions to the Polish American community, FPA has created a grant program in his name. The purpose of the grant program is to support local Polish dance groups. Up to four grants in amounts up to \$2,500 each will be awarded to Michigan-based Polish folk-dance groups on an annual basis.

The recipients of this year's grants will be announced during the membership meeting on March 31. For more information about the grant program, and how to apply in the future, please go to the FPA website.

FPA Accepting Scholarship Applications for 2023

Friends of Polish Art is announcing that applications are now being accepted for the 2023 Frank Filipek and the Lillian & Chester Mitchell Fine Arts Scholarships.

Through the generosity of the late **Frank Filipek** of Battle Creek, Michigan, **five scholarships** are available for academic studies in areas including, but not limited to: law, medicine, architecture, engineering sciences and liberal arts. The amount of each scholarship is **\$2,500**.

Additionally, **two Lillian & Chester Mitchell Fine Arts Scholarships** are available for students pursuing studies in painting, sculpture, music, drama, theatre, dance and other forms of creative expression as well as history, literature, religion, philosophy, and Polish Studies. The amount of these scholarships is also \$2,500 each.

All applications and required documentation must be received no later than April 24, 2023. Previous recipients, as well as non-Michigan residents, are not eligible. Award-winning recipients will be notified on or before May 15, 2023. Awards will be made payable to the individual. All scholarships will be presented at the Friends of Polish Art General Membership Meeting to be held on Friday May 19, 2023.



To download an application form please go to:
<https://www.friendsofpolishart.org/scholarships/>



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**The FPA Newsletter
is published
4 times per year.**

Submissions from FPA members are highly encouraged. Please send them as an e-mail to the editor.

The opinions and editorial views expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Friends of Polish Arts.

FPA does not assume any responsibility for statements advanced by contributors to this newsletter. The editor reserve the right to edit any submission.



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Friends of Polish Art
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Dear Members and Friends,

The next few months will be full of exciting Polonia events and FPA will be a big part of them!

We are very proud that in addition to the **Frank Filipek** and **Lillian & Chester Mitchell Fine Arts** Scholarships, this year FPA added a new grant program in memory of our late member Don Samull (more about this grant, and the scholarships on p.1)

As you know, in January we elected FPA officers; a picture of a new Board of Directors appears in this newsletter.

Our Wigilia last December was a beautiful event that brought us together and many people contributed to its success. To the many thanks already published in the last newsletter, **we would like to add late and sincere thanks to 2022 Wigilia donors, Eugenia Gorecki and Michael Ostrowski, and basket donor Patty Malski.**

We also want to share with you this note of appreciation which we received from a 2022 Szopka Competition winner, Jan Mordenski:

"To the Wigilia Committee and the Friends of Polish Art,

I wanted to express my gratitude to you for all your time and effort in regard to this years szopka competition. It was a wonderful project in which to be involved and I and my family were enriched by the experience. It really seemed to get us in the Christmas spirit and it also reinforced our involvement in Polish culture. What a treat to also be invited to this year's Wigilia; we had a great time!

May you have a wonderful celebration of the holidays with your friends and family and may 2023 bring you joy, peace and prosperity!

Warmest regards, Jan Mordenski"

We hope to see you all at our next General Membership meeting on Friday, March 31 at the APCC in Troy, 6-9 pm. During the meeting you will meet the very first recipients of the Don Samull Grant Program, as well as view a wonderful exhibit "Outstanding Polish Women", on loan from the Polish Embassy in Washington.

For more events, and the scholarships deadlines, please check the calendar of events as well as the more detailed information available in this issue.

Thank you for continuous interest and support of Polish culture and we hope to see you on March 31 at our next general meeting!

Alina Klin, Brian Malski and Carol Surma, this issue's editors

At the General Membership meeting held in January 2023, the following individuals were elected as officers of FPA with the exception of our President, Frank Dmuchowski, who is completing the second year of his two-year term:

President:	Frank Dmuchowski	First Vice President:	Alina Klin, Ph.D
Second Vice President:	Richard Lapham	Treasurer:	Iwona Jędrzejczak
Corresponding Secretary:	Dariusz Klepko	Financial Secretary:	Carol J. Surma
Recording Secretary:	Position vacant		
Directors:	Ann Bankowski	Donna Bielecki	Brian Malski
	Michael Ostrowski	Stella Szczesny	

FPA is still in need of a Recording Secretary. In the past two individuals served in this capacity so that one person attended and recorded the minutes at the General Membership Meetings and another individual attended and recorded the minutes at the Board Meetings. Please consider volunteering for this very important office. If you are interested, please call President, Frank Dmuchowski, or any member of the Board.

Congratulations



In the photo, standing left to right: Brian Malski, Carol J. Surma, Stella Szczesny, Dariusz Klepko, Michael Ostrowski; sitting: Alina Klin, Frank Dmuchowski and Donna Bielecki. Not in the photo: Richard Lapham, Iwona Jędrzejczak, and Ann Bankowski.

FPA Calendar of Events

Date/Time	Event	Location
Friday, Mar. 31, 2023 Doors Open 6:00 pm Meeting begins 6:30 pm	General Membership Meeting Exhibit "Outstanding Polish Women" & Don Samull Dance Grant Awards Presentation	American Polish Cultural Center 2975 East Maple Road Troy
Wed., April 5, 2023	Leonard Skowronski Polish Studies Scholarship – Application Deadline	Go to "American Council for Polish Culture" website for requirements & application
April 24, 2023	FPA Scholarships Applications Deadline	See requirements & application forms on the FPA website – "Frank Filipek & Fine Art Scholarship Applications"
Friday, May 19, 2023 Doors Open 6:00 pm Meeting begins 6:30 pm	General Membership Meeting & Presentation of Scholarship Awards	American Polish Cultural Center 2975 East Maple Road Troy
July 27 - 29, 2023 Registration, Opening Reception, Meetings, Concert, Banquet	American Council for Polish Culture 75 th Anniversary Convention "Celebrating a Rich Past – Looking Forward to a Bright Future"	Detroit - Troy - Orchard Lake (See FPA & Polish Heritage Newsletters for details)
Saturday, Aug. 26, 2023 Parade Start 4:00 pm	Annual Polish Day Parade	Warren Civic Center 1 City Square Warren, Mi.



The FPA 2022 Wigilia was on December 17th at the American Polish Cultural Center in Troy



(left) Carolyn Meleski and Jan Mordenski, the winners of the 2022 FPA Szopka Competition, with Brian Malski, the Szopka Competition Chairman, and Iwona Jędrzejczak, the FPA Treasurer



(center) Father Volodymyr Petriv, Pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, and Father Bernard Witek, STD, Director of the St. John Paul II Polish-American Liturgical Center



(right) Ukrainian choir (Tetiana Bedrus, Khrystyna Bilan, Liliana Masnytska and Iryna Savuliak) with the accompaniment by Przemek Frątczak, performed at the Wigilia



(left) Wigilia attendees admiring szopkas



(right) Dan Malski and Karen Mulvahill: Dan just won “share the wealth” raffle!



(left) Stella Szczesny, the Basket Raffle Chair, selling the tickets



(right) Susan Walkowiak with friends



(left) Jacqueline Kolowski and Martyna Gogoliewicz



(right) Barbara Lisiecki, Stella Szczesny and Zofia Duniec-Dmuchowski



(left) Members of the 2022 Wigilia committee: Frank Dmuchowski, Ann and Walter Bankowski, Iwona Jędrzejczak and Brian Malski. Not in the photo: Zofia Duniec-Dmuchowski, Stella Szczesny and Rik Lapham



(left) Among the Wigilia attendees were Mr. and Mrs. Richard Walawender and members of Polish Institute of Culture and Research

American Council for Polish Culture 75th Annual Convention

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The 75th Annual Convention for the American Council for Polish Culture will take place July 27 through 29, 2023. This year's convention is being sponsored and organized by the American Polish Cultural Society. It will take place at the Somerset Inn located on Big Beaver Road just west of I 75 in Troy, Michigan.

As an affiliate of the national organization, Friends of Polish Art can send delegates to attend the convention. Since it will be held locally, this is a great opportunity to learn about all the wonderful things ACPC does to preserve and promote Polish culture, education and tradition. The Convention is always a wonderful experience.

In addition to the business meetings, other activities will be held throughout the convention that FPA would encourage our members to attend in order to show our support not only for ACPC but also for the American Polish Cultural Society. One evening will be devoted to a dinner and concert that will be performed by the Marcella Sembrich award winner. Saturday evening will be a dinner at which the newly elected officers of ACPC will be sworn in. In addition, awards will be presented to individuals for Distinguished Service, Cultural and Polish American Achievements.

For more information regarding registration and to attend other events, please go to the ACPC website: polishcultureacpc.org. Also, if you would like to attend as a delegate representing FPA (as a delegate you can vote on matters brought before the convention), please contact FPA President, Frank Dmuchowski, so that we can provide the list of names to the convention credentials committee.

If anyone is interested in helping with the organizing or other activities of the Convention, please contact FPA member Barbara Lemecha at 313-580-7988. It would be greatly appreciated.

Looking forward to seeing you at the convention in July!



(left) 2022 ACPC Convention in San Antonio, Texas



(right) Carol Surma, Barbara Lemecha and Ray Okonski at the 2017 ACPC Convention in Toronto



Mary Ellen Tyszka (center) with the 2017 ACPC Convention attendees in Toronto
(Photos: Carol Surma and Brian Malski)

Just a reminder that the 2023 annual dues for Friends of Polish Art are now due. If you have not sent in your payment, please send a check or money order to: **FRIENDS OF POLISH ART, 2615 12 Mile Road, Suite 118, Berkley, MI 48072**

The dues for the organization are still the same:

Single person	\$ 25.00	Couple	\$ 30.00	Patron	\$ 50.00 or more
Student	\$ 10.00				

By sending in your dues now, we can save money by not having to send a separate notice to the members which is costly due to the increase in postage and printing. In addition, if you are not aware, \$5.00 of each member's dues is sent to the American Council for Polish Culture because FPA is an affiliate organization. The remaining amount from dues is used to print and mail the Newsletter, pay for meeting hall rental and refreshments and other activities such as maintaining the website. Every penny counts in running FPA.

If you have a change in name, address, phone number or email, please send in that information with your dues payment.

2023 FPA Membership Drive

Please join the Board in recruiting new members to join FPA during 2023. Consider asking your immediate or extended family members, friends and/or acquaintances who may have an interest in Polish/Polish American art, customs, history and traditions in becoming a member. Remember a person does not have to be Polish to join. Only an interest in Polish culture and traditions is necessary.

As you know FPA traditionally sponsors a variety of events each year including Wigilia, scholarships, art competitions, and lectures/speakers at all general membership meetings. We also publish a Newsletter four times during the year. Our annual membership dues are very reasonable (\$25 for Individual and \$30 for couples).

Membership application forms can be found on the FPA website

<https://www.friendsofpolishart.org> under the "Membership" tab which can be easily downloaded and printed.

Feel free to contact any member of the Board if you have any questions.



Frank Dmuchowski, Carolyn Meleski,
Patty and Brian Malski
with the winning szopkas at
Polish Art Center, Hamtramck



Friends of Polish Art
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2615 Twelve Mile Road, Suite 118
Berkley, MI 48072-1627



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*An Affiliate of the
American Council
for Polish Culture*

Please join us for the next General Membership Meeting
on Friday, March 31, 6:30 – 9 PM, at APCC in Troy. Doors open at 6 pm.

Program: exhibit “Outstanding Polish Women”
(compliments of the Polish Embassy in Washington DC)
& Donald Samull Dance Grant Awards Presentation
Refreshments will be provided



Check out the FPA website:
<https://www.friendsofpolishart.org>

Like us on our Face Book page:
<https://www.facebook.com/friendsofpolishart/>