



*Polish Folk Dance Association
of the Americas*

Hello to all PFDAA members,

Elections will be held in conjunction with the Opoczno workshop in Atlanta in September/October. I am reaching out to all directors, dancers, ensemble Board Members to consider running for a position on the Board. The PFDAA will only continue to be as active as the membership is. Please make sure your groups dues are paid and the nominee is reflected as a delegate to the PFDAA board. Those who can't attend the elections in person will have the opportunity to electronically submit their votes.

We will be sending out election notices and information in the upcoming weeks. We will have one more PFDAA Board meeting prior to elections if anyone wishes to attend via the internet to learn a bit more about the duties.

We welcome "Mazury" who is kindly hosting this workshop to the PFDAA family! Job transfers of dance instructors and directors seem to create opportunities for new groups to be formed in areas with Polonia are located and where no dance groups existed previously. It is great to see new groups bring their talent to the PFDAA.

It hasn't been easy for any of our groups since COVID appeared on the scene. Many groups are still struggling to rebuild.

We are thankful that the Rzeszow Festival was postponed until next year. The realization that the number of ensembles who couldn't meet the requirements to be able to participate, the war continuing in the Ukraine and the fact that the Festival was shortened by several days at an increased cost seemed to make the most sense to postpone it for a year. This will give groups the ability to recruit members as well as raise finances if they intend to attend the event next year.

Taking into consideration that groups still may not be at the level they need to be for Rzeszow, the PFDAА is considering a PFDAА concert tour of Poland next year. Further details forthcoming.

It was nice to be back at the Milwaukee Polish Fest for the first time since COVID. Although the PFDAА contingent of groups was smaller than usual, the groups managed to put on a fantastic concert show. Many friendships were rekindled, and new ones made as Syrena and their crew organized after festival events for those out of town groups that participated.

It has been my pleasure and honor to serve as your president for the past two terms. I also would like to thank those Board Members who served with me for their support, knowledge and passion to the organization.

Edward J Rajtar,
President, PFDAА



WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBER

Mazury Polish Folk Dance Ensemble Atlanta, Georgia

Mazury was founded in 2022 under the direction of Maciej Smusz. The group is currently comprised of an adult group which rehearses twice a week, and performs for audiences in Georgia and surround states. Mazury is part of the Polish Club of Atlanta, a non-profit organization focused on education and cultural enrichment within the metro Atlanta area. www.facebook.com/Mazuryatl www.mazuryatl.com





POLISH FEST
AMERICA'S LARGEST POLISH FESTIVAL | MKE, WI

This year at Polish Fest in Milwaukee, there were 5 groups from PFDAA that participated in the Gala Concert on Saturday, evening. Here are pictures of the performance, submitted by the groups who performed.



Dolina
Polish Folk Dancers
Minneapolis, MN



POLISH FEST – page 2



*Syrena & Syrenka
Polish Folk Dance
Ensembles
Milwaukee, WI*



POLISH FEST – page 3



Szepty
Whispers Center for
Artistic Expression
Chicago, IL



POLISH FEST – page 4



*Wici Song & Dance Company
Chicago, IL*



NEWS FROM DOLINA – MINNEAPOLIS, MN



Dolina performed on June 25th, with other ethnic dance groups for a music and dance event to in support of the Ukraine. Here are photos from that performance.



Ballet Folkloric Mexico Azteca



Ethnic Dance Theatre



Phillipino



Romanians



Armenian



Ecuadorians



Peruvian



Japanese



Middleeastern

NEWS FROM – LAJKONIK – TUCSON

On April 18th Lajkonik celebrated Dyngus Day in the typical Polish Tradition.



Lajkonik was excited to be performing with their friends Arizona Balaika Orchestra at their Slavic Spring Celebration. This event held on Saturday, April 23 at the St. Cyril's Church Nicholson Hall, in Tucson, AZ.



NEWS FROM – MAZURY– ATLANTA, GA *and* PKM – PHILADELPHIA, PA

Polish American Arts Association



Wianki *Festival of Wreaths*

Saturday, June 25, 2022

6:00 - 10:00 PM

Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool



Folk dance ensembles in colorful, authentic Polish folk costumes:

Ojczyzna from Baltimore • PKM from Philadelphia • Mazury from Atlanta

• Music and singing by the Joyful Skrypczuk Duo •

Special Performance by Laura Kafka Price



Free and open to all. Bring your family and friends.

On Saturday, June 25th, the PKM Polish Folk Dance Ensemble and the Mazury Dance Ensembles performed at the Polish American Arts Association's Wianki Festival in Washington DC. PKM presented their Kujawiak and Oberek, Łowicz, and Krakowiak, and Mazury presented Polonez, Mazur, and a Lemko suite. The festival concluded with releasing candle wreath on the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool and a Polonez with the Polish Embassy workers, festival organizers, and audience. We hope to be back next year!



NEWS FROM – MAZURY– ATLANTA, GA
and
PKM – PHILADELPHIA, PA *continued*



NEWS FROM POLISH HERITAGE DANCERS – BUFFALO, NY

Dyngus Day - PHDWNY toughed out the freezing weather and marched down Broadway in the Dyngus Day parade, Buffalo NY, April 18, 2022



Started Dyngus Day off at St. Gabriel's RC Church for Polka Mass with Father Walter Grabowski and Special Delivery Polka Band,



NEWS FROM POLONIA – REGINA, CANADA

After a two-year break, the Polonia Polish Folk Dance Ensemble of Regina returned to the stage on Saturday, May 14, 2022, and performed to a sold-out concert



featuring all groups of Polonia.

The concert featured new choreography premiering their new dance "Tance Podlasie" which was specially choreographed by Marcin Bochenek Artistic director & choreographer from Zespól Podlasie in Biala Podlaska and new music for their Nowy Sacz suite recorded by Kapela Tradycja from Nowy Sacz Poland. Polonia's concert was a success and looks forward to more performances in the near future.



NEWS FROM POLONIA – REGINA, CANADA

continued



UCC

CKRM **THE WOLF 104.9** **play 92.1**

STAND WITH UKRAINE

benefit day

SUNDAY, JUNE 12

11 AM - 7PM COME AND GO
REGINA PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE
1077 ANGUS STREET

** DONATIONS AT THE DOOR**
All proceeds going to displaced Ukrainians in Saskatchewan

Entertainment · Markets · Raffles
Food & Beverages CASH ONLY

PERFORMANCES BY:

- Tavria Ukrainian Folk Dance Ensemble and School
- Chaban Ukrainian Dance Assoc. Inc
- Zabutnyy Dance Company
- Polonia Polish Folk Dance Ensemble
- Regina Balaton Hungarian Dancers
- Ridna Shkola
- Sadochuk Preschool
- Ukrainian Choirs

The Benefit for the Ukraine, was Sunday, June 12 at the Regina Performing Arts Centre from 11am to 7pm.

Entertainment was on the hour and included performances by Zabutnyy Dance Company, Tavria Ukrainian Folk Dance Ensemble, Chaban Ukrainian Dance Association, Polonia Polish Folk Ensemble, Regina Balaton Hungarian Dancers, Miorita Romanian dancers and Ukrainians singers. . 🇺🇦🇵🇵🇸🇷🇺



NEWS FROM SYRENA – MILWAUKEE, WI

Opening Day today! While our Milwaukee Brewers are on the road to start the 2022 MLB season, we're cheering on our Brew Crew and remembering some fond memories at the ballpark! ⚾



Syrena Świączone Album - April 11, 2022



NEWS FROM WAWEL- DETROIT, MI



On Sunday, May 22, the Wawel Folk Ensemble, along with many area dance groups, participated in St. Hyacinth's Blessing of the Dance Groups. An event that took a two year pause because of Covid 19. Each group attending, presented an offertory gift. Wawel presented soil from the Wawel Castle in a hand carved wooden box from Poland, in addition to a basket of scrolls signed by all the dancers of the groups in attendance. This year two of Wawel's senior members had the honor of presenting the gifts, Mary Beth Baker, and Chuck Pelshaw, wearing costumes from Eastern Krakow.



NEWS FROM WAWEL – DETROIT, MI *and* ZAKOPANE – WARREN, MI



After 2 years the Polish Festival had finally returned to the American-Polish Century grounds. The Festival featured delicious Polish food, Polka bands and dance groups from the area.

The Wawel Folk Ensemble opened the Festival on Friday wearing their Cieszyn costume and showing off their newly embroidered gals vests, which were embroidered by one of their dancers.

The Zakopane Polish Song & Dance Ensemble, performed on Saturday, with many of their dancers making their debut performance in their beautiful Krakowiak costumes.



NEWS FROM WAWEL – HOUSTON, TX



The Polish community in Houston hosted the annual Polish Festival from April 29th to May 1st, 2022, at Our Lady of Czestochowa Roman Catholic Church. The Houston Polish Festival is celebrated every year during the first weekend of May, in honor of Poland's National Constitution Day May 3. The Festival features authentic homecooked Polish food, music, dance, and vendors. The Polish Festival is an unforgettable

celebration, an event packed with color, music, flavors, and excitement. Year after year, visitors from all over join us - and our community keeps growing. Our very own Dance Group Wawel, Mini Wawel, and Babcia Wawel engaged the crowd all weekend long.



NEWS FROM WAWEL – HOUSTON, TX

continued



NEWS FROM WESOLY LUD – CHICAGO, IL

80 YEARS OF POLISH DANCING ON ONE STAGE



WESOLY LUD 45
SOUTH WEST CENTER 35
OF POLISH SONG & DANCE

JUBILEE CONCERT

CELEBRATE WITH US!
SUNDAY, MAY 1, 2022

MOTHER McAULEY THEATER, 3737 W. 99TH ST., CHICAGO, IL
DOORS OPEN AT 1:30 PM • PERFORMANCE AT 2:00 PM

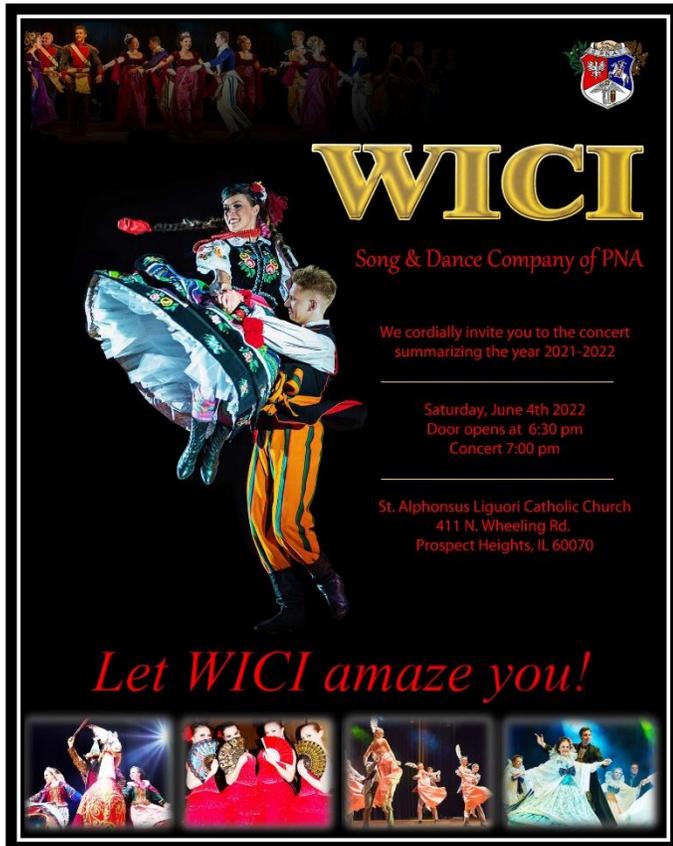
FOR TICKETS PLEASE CALL:
ANIA KRASZEWSKI-WINKLER (773) 972-0012

The last 45 years of Wesoly Lud have been like riding a roller coaster. The highs are exhilarating, the lows challenging. This was a challenging high and I could not be more proud of the different generations of dancers, their teachers, SWCPSD director and instructor [Ania Kraszewski-Winkler](#), the emcee [Nicole Bencik Turkiewicz](#) and of course, Richard - Mr. Everything! Thank you for all the additional happy memories. And special thanks to my earth angels - without you I couldn't have completed my m



NEWS FROM WICI – CHICAGO, IL

On June 4th, Wici had their end of the year performance which was held at St. Alphonsus Liguori Catholic Church in Prospect Heights, IL. Here are a few pictures from their performance.



PFDAA UPCOMING ELECTIONS

In the Fall, the term of the current Board of Directors will come to an end. Please consider running for one of the following positions; President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Sergeant of Arms. To be eligible to run for any of these positions, your group must be in good standing and you are listed on the PFDAA Roster as 1st contact, or alternate contact. The Board of Directors serve a three (3) year term.

All current BOD members are eligible to run for re-election to their current office, with the exception of the office of President. The President cannot run for the Office of President again (**2 consecutive terms**), but may run for another Office on the BOD.

The elections will be held in October, at the Workshop in Atlanta, GA. Below is a thumb nail description of the Duties of each Office.

DUTIES OF THE PRESIDENT

- 1) The President shall be the chief executive officer of the corporation and shall, control of the Board of Directors, supervise and administer the affairs of the corporation.
- 2) He/she shall perform all the duties incident to his/her office, and other such duties as may be required by Law, by the Articles of Incorporation, or these Bylaws, or which may be prescribed from time to time by the Board of Directors.

DUTIES OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

- 1) Conduct the meetings and coordinate activities in the absence of the President.
- 2) Be responsible for membership, publicity, special programs.
- 3) In general, perform all the duties incident to the office of Vice President and other duties, which may be assigned to him/her from time to time by the Board of Directors.

DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY

- 1) Conduct the meetings and coordinate the activities in the absence of the President and the Vice President.
- 2) Keep and have available the original, or a copy, of the Articles of Incorporation, and a copy of these By-laws as amended or otherwise altered to date.
- 3) Keep a book of minutes from all the meetings of the corporation.
- 4) See that all notices are duly given in accordance with these Bylaws.
- 5) Keep a record of the names and addresses of the Members, Delegates and Board of Directors.
- 6) Keep on file the final reports of Special Programs, including Festivals, and reproduce and mail a copy thereof to each member of the corporation prior to the next Board of Directors, or General, meeting, whichever comes first.
- 7) In general, perform all the duties incident to the office of Secretary and other duties as may be required by Law, by these Bylaws, or by the Articles of Incorporation, or which may be assigned to him/her from time to time by the Board of Directors.

DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

continued

DUTIES OF THE TREASURER

- 1) Have charge and custody of, and be responsible for all funds and securities of the corporation. He/she shall also deposit all such funds in the name of the corporation in such banks, trust companies.
- 2) Keep and maintain adequate accounts of the corporation's properties and business transactions, including accounts of its assets, liabilities, receipts, disbursements, gains and losses, prepare financial statements to be included in any required reports, and present them to the Board at its meetings, and to the Membership at its general meeting.
- 3) File any appropriate forms to any taxing authority.

DUTIES OF THE SERGEANT-AT-ARMS/PARAMENTARIAN

- 1) Sergeant-at-Arms, assists in preserving order at meetings as the chair may direct.
- 2) As Parliamentarian, advises and consults the President and other Officers, committees and members on matters of parliamentary procedure in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order and the Bylaws.



POLISH FOLKLORE PORTAL

There is a link to the new Polish Folklore portal provided by Wspólnota Polska for the membership. <http://www.wspolnotapolska.org.pl/polskifolklor/index.php>

The new portal includes instructional videos and professionally recorded music for three of the national dances- Polonaise, Krakowiak, and Kujawiak, as well as music and videos for Żywiec. There are also e-books available in Polish from Kaszuby, Lublin, Żywiec, and the national dances.

GROUP CONTACT & EMAIL ADDRESS

To keep our membership contact list current, please send us any changes your group may have had within the last 3 months to a year, regarding your Board of Directors or adding an additional contact person. Please send their name(s), home address(es), phone number(s) and email address(es) to PFDAAContact@gmail.com.

PFDA A WEBSITE

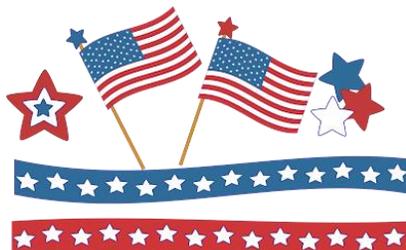
Please don't forget to visit our pfdaa.org website for access to our library of videos, and music from past workshops and the costume Market Place. The website also includes book and costume resources. *Also, our most current Workshop videos from Warmia and Wielkopolska (2021), will be available on the website in the very near future.*

2022 FALL WORKSHOP - UPDATE

The Workshop being held in the Fall will be hosted by Mazury in Atlanta, GA. The region that was voted on to be presented at the workshop is Opoczno. Final arrangements are still being planned. As soon as the host group has all the dates set an email will be sent to each member group.

FESTIVALS IN YOUR AREA

We would like to create a Polish Festival Database to post on our website. Please use this link to submit your Festival(s). <https://forms.gle/trdbKtvNTMjCwiuMA>



ANNUAL PFDAA DUES

Your PFDAA Annual Membership for 2022 is now due. The fee is \$35.00 USD. Payment can be made by Check or via PayPal.

For groups wishing to pay by check please send the payment and attached form to the following address:

PFDAA - Treasurer
c/o Daniel Smela
5143 Boswell Cres
Regina, SK S4X 4S4
CANADA

For groups wishing to send money via PayPal, (there is an additional charge of \$2.00), please use the following link and indicate on your payment the Name of Group and City and how many members are in your Ensemble. <https://www.paypal.me/PFDAAannual>

If you have any questions about the online payment option, please send an email to Dan Smela to PFDAAcontact@gmail.com.

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

If your group is celebrating a special event or would like to get the word out about an event, please feel free to submit a newsletter article to: donnaskurski@gmail.com and it will be published in our next newsletter. Newsletters are published every 4 months - March, June, Sept, and December. Please email your event information by the 15th of the previous month of publication.

PFDAA BOD

Edziu Rajtar
President

Duane Tomka
Vice-President

Maciej Smusz
Secretary

Daniel Smela
Treasurer

Donna Skurski
Sargaent-at-Arms

