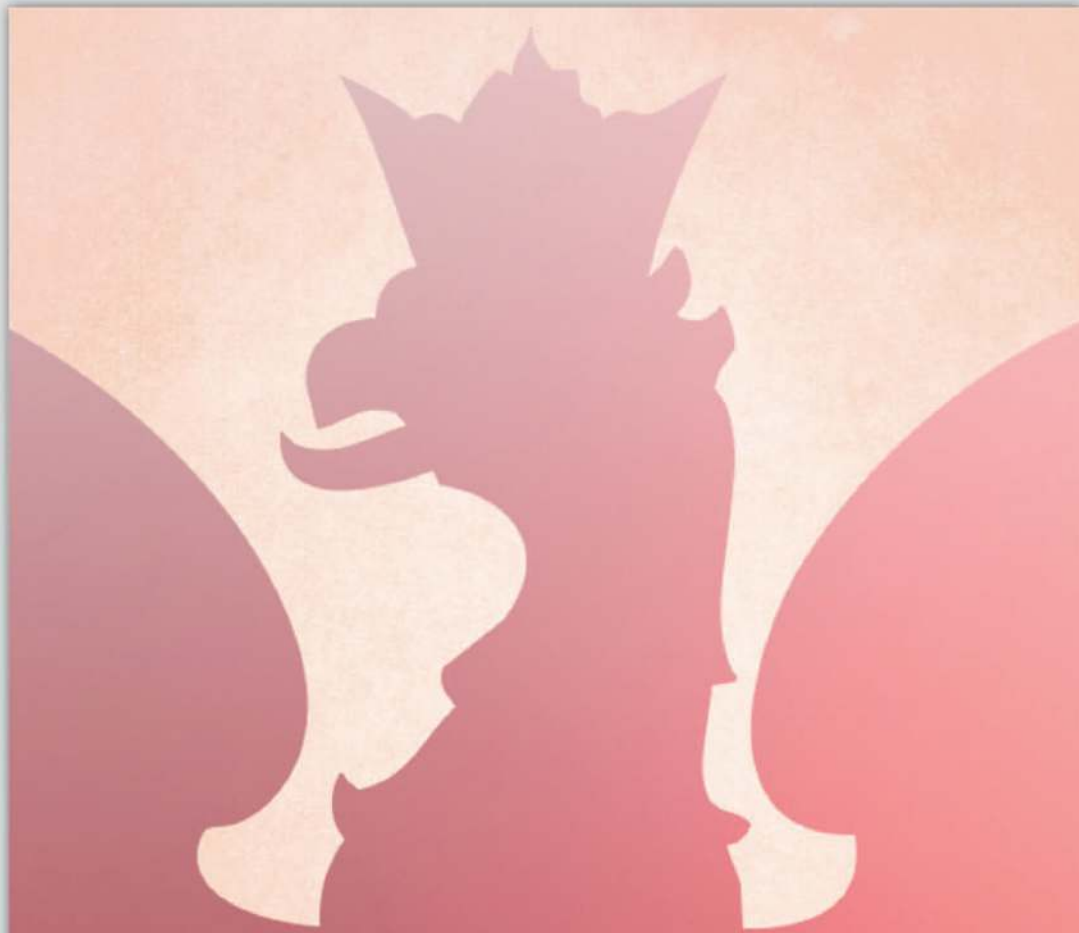


# *The 46<sup>th</sup> International Polonaise Ball*

**100 years of Poland's Independence  
and Centuries of  
Polish - American Relations**



**Gala Dinner Dance  
Saturday, February 10, 2018 at 7:00 pm**

**Eden Roc Hotel  
Mona Lisa Ballroom – Cocktail Hour  
Pompeii Promenade Ballroom – Dinner  
4525 Collins Avenue Miami Beach, FL 33140**

**“Polonaise” by the Members of the Committees and special guests  
Entertainment by Polish American Folk Dance Company  
Music for Dancing**

**White or Black Tie  
Regalia**

**R.S.V.P.**

# ENDURING SPIRIT



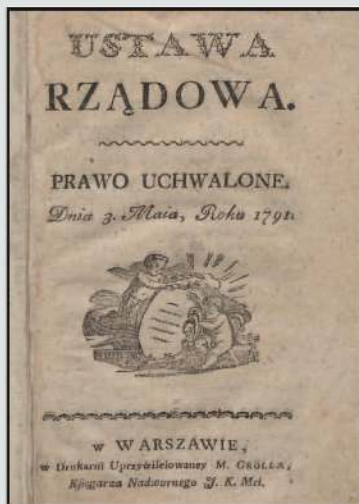
May 3, 1791 Constitution painting by Jan Matejko

Democracy and tolerance are historical virtues of Poland, a country who places great emphasis on human rights and freedom. On May 3, 1791, Poland adopted the first written democratic constitution in Europe, the second oldest in the world after America. Citizens elected their Kings and Queens and embraced an open door policy to all nations and people.

However, Poland abuts countries that were determined to annex her lands and caused changes in her borders called partitions. After the 3<sup>rd</sup> Partition of 1795, Poland ceased to exist as a sovereign nation and for the next 123 years, it

disappeared from the map of Europe. Polish nationals in search of independence immigrated to other countries, especially France.

Through the centuries the enduring spirit of Poland and her people have never been defeated. They have fought willingly and with courage and perseverance to gain total freedom. The Polish national anthem, written by Jozef Wybicki in 1797 while he was in exile, illustrates this the best. He named it *Dabrowski'si Mazurka* in honor of the Polish Legions formed in Italy.



Constitution May 3, 1791

*“ Poland has not yet perished  
So long as we still live.  
What foreign force has seized,  
We at sword point  
shall retrieve.*

*March, march Dabrowski!  
From Italy to Poland.  
Under your command  
Let us rejoin our nation. “*

Polish National Anthem

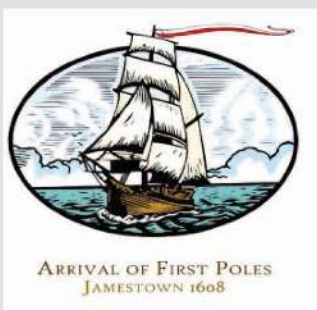


Constitution May 3, 1791



Partitions of Poland by Russia, Prussia and Austria

## FIGHTING FOR FREEDOM



The ship "Mary and Margaret" brought the first Poles to America on October 1, 1608. Captain John Smith asked them to come with him to help establish the first permanent colony. Under Polish supervision, tar was made from pine wood, a well of sweet water was built and potash production started in 1608.

The misfortunes that befell Poland were actually beneficial to the American Revolution. Many exiled Poles heard about America's struggle for independence from Great Britain and they emigrated to the States to join the fight for freedom.



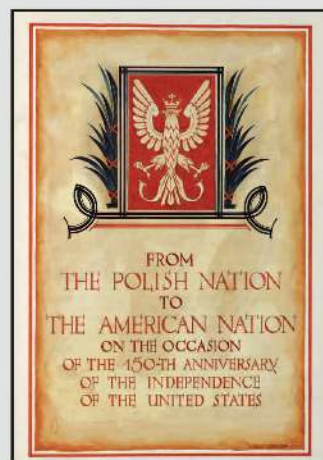
Pulaski at Savannah



General Tadeusz Kosciuszko

Kazimierz Pulaski volunteered at the Battle of Brandywine and helped General George Washington defeat the enemy. Appointed "Commander of the Horse," Pulaski was the first officer assigned responsibility for training all American Cavalry units; in fact, he was later referred to as the "Father of the American Cavalry." His heroic death during the Siege of Savannah is commemorated every year as Pulaski Day on October 11<sup>th</sup>.

General Tadeusz Kosciuszko, an engineering officer, was one of the first European volunteers to arrive in America and he played a crucial role in the victorious battle of Saratoga. He also designed and constructed fortification in West Point. In his Last Will, Kosciuszko instructed his great friend, Thomas Jefferson, to use his assets to purchase the freedom of slaves and educate them for citizenship.



*"I came here, where freedom is being defended, to serve it and to live or die for it."*

Pulaski

An extraordinary gift by one nation to another - 111 volumes presented to the US by Poland on the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of American independence. These volumes consist of a declaration of admiration signed by 5.5 million Polish citizens, representing more 1/6 of the total population in 1926.

## OCCUPATION TO OPPRESSION



Ignacy Jan Paderewski



Marshall Jozef Pilsudski

In October 1918, with all three partitioning powers - Prussia, Russia and Austria - on the verge of collapse, the dream of an independent Poland became a reality on November 11, 1918. Marshall Jozef Pilsudski became the Head of State.

The United States officially recognized the Polish State in January 1919 and diplomatic relations were established and thrived.

Ignacy Jan Paderewski, a world renowned pianist, composer and statesmen, served as Poland's Premier and Minister of Foreign Affairs. Independence was still marred by wars against Russia and the famous "Miracle on the Vistula" in 1920.

Poland's independence was short-lived. On September 1, 1939 Germany attacked Poland, who valiantly battled them for six years until liberation in 1945. During the Yalta Conference, however, Polish lands were handed over to Russia's communist rule which lasted for 44 years until 1989.



November 11, 1918

# FREEDOM AT LAST

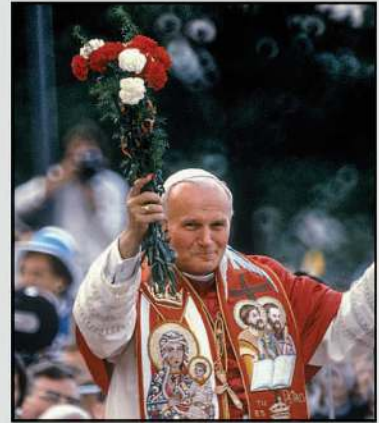
Thanks to President Ronald Reagan, Pope John Paul II, Lech Walesa and the Solidarnosc movement, the Iron Curtain was lifted in 1989 and Poland was again free and democratic. And thanks to Poland, other East European countries gained their independence as well.



Lech Walesa



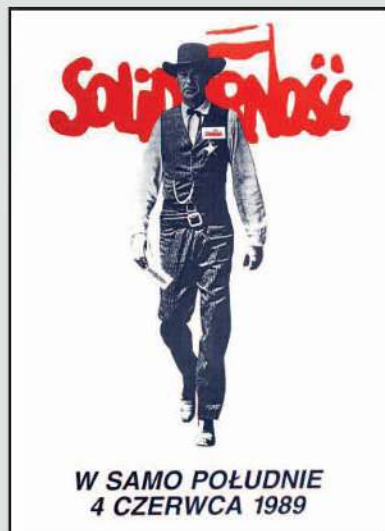
President Reagan 1981



Pope John Paul II



Polish Eagle



Solidarity



American Eagle

A vibrant economy has been growing steadily in Poland for the last 28 years. For two decades, it has had the most impressive performance in Central Europe. The country has become a major tourist attraction and with the many historical sites, breathtaking landscapes and hospitable and kind people, Poland's popularity is booming.



Krakow



Modern Warsaw



Warsaw

Under the gracious patronage of the Ambassador of  
the Republic of Poland in Washington D.C.

Honorable Piotr Wilczek

### SPECIAL GUEST

Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki  
Senator Anna Maria Anders  
Deputy Marshall of the Senate Adam Bielan

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