



The Chicago Cultural Alliance expresses its deep condolences to the Polish Museum of American and the Polish people at the great loss suffered on April 10th. We recognize that given the strong and vibrant relationship that our wonderful city and the Polish Museum of America hold with the people of Poland, this is a deeply personal and devastating loss. The Illinois Arts Council also extends its condolences and has asked us to forward a letter written by their Chairwoman Shirley Madigan to the Polish Community.



April 15, 2010

To Chicago's Polish Community,

On behalf of the members of the Illinois Arts Council, our staff, and constituency, we extend our deepest sympathies to the people of Poland, including the Polish community of Illinois, for the tragic and profound loss of President Kaczynski, his wife, members of the Polish cabinet, their families and staff members. We were also deeply saddened by the loss of respected Chicago area artist, Wojciech Seweryn, in the same tragedy.

The State of Illinois honors its deep affinity and alliance with the citizens of Poland in many ways; Casimir Pulaski Day, Polish Constitution Day, and many, many other celebratory and esteemed events, in both small communities and large. Please know that the extended Illinois Arts Council community offers its strong solidarity with the citizens of Poland and Illinois' citizens of Polish descent, as they work to overcome this heartbreaking public loss.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shirley R. Madigan', written in a cursive style.

Shirley R. Madigan
Chairman
Illinois Arts Council