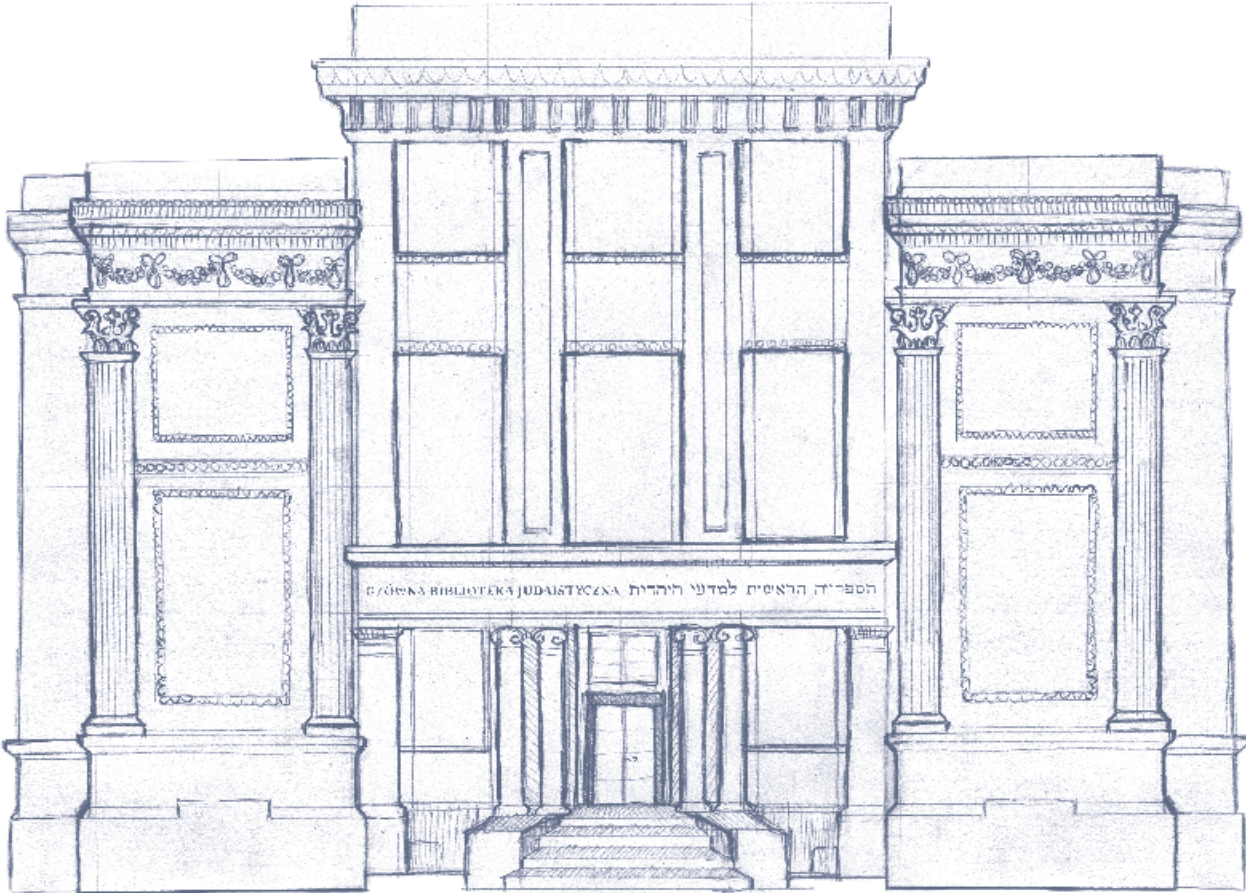


Report — 2017



ASSOCIATION OF
THE JEWISH HISTORICAL
INSTITUTE OF POLAND



Report of the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland ————— 2017

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ASSOCIATION OF
THE JEWISH HISTORICAL
INSTITUTE OF POLAND

The Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland, established in 1951, is a Jewish philanthropic organization based in Poland and dedicated to the civilization of Polish Jews and their contributions to world culture. The Association initiated and cofinances POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews and supports the Emanuel Ringelblum Jewish Historical Institute.



← Marian Turski and Piotr Wiślicki

2017

Dear Members, Donors, Partners, and Friends of the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland,

In our 2017 Annual Report of the statutory activities of the Association, we present our joint projects with POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews and the Emanuel Ringelblum Jewish Historical Institute, as well as projects funded by grants to organizations preserving local Jewish heritage in Poland. It is thanks to donors in Poland and abroad and to the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage and the City of Warsaw that we can support such a diverse program of activities.

We are also heartened by the many people of good will who are open to dialogue and who respect the multicultural heritage of Poland, despite divisions and misunderstandings in our country at this time.

The Association's first major accomplishment in 2017, a new POLIN Museum statute, confirms the rights of POLIN Museum's three founding institutions: the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage, the City of Warsaw, and the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland, the signatories to the 2005 founding agreement. This document is very important for the stable management of POLIN Museum in the coming years. It attests to the successful private-public partnership that is responsible not only for the founding of the Museum, but also for its effective functioning since then. Details regarding the statute appear on page 22.

Our second major accomplishment in 2017 was the signing of the deposit agreement, which confirms the existing and long-term principles of our cooperation with the Emanuel Ringelblum Jewish Historical Institute regarding the storing and sharing of the collections of Association of the Jewish Historical Institute.

We value the fruitful cooperation with the Jewish Historical Institute to date and look forward to future collaboration on our main mission — to preserve and share tens of thousands of documents and artifacts, including the Ringelblum Archive, the underground archive of the Warsaw Ghetto, a legacy for world Jewry and humanity.

We are happy to share this report with you. Please feel free to contact us for additional information.

On behalf of the Management Board of the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Piotr Wiślicki'.

PIOTR WIŚLICKI
President, Association of the
Jewish Historical Institute of Poland

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Marian Turski'.

MARIAN TURSKI
Chair, POLIN Museum Council
Vice President, Association of the
Jewish Historical Institute of Poland

Association of the
Jewish Historical
Institute of Poland



The Association has been supporting Jewish cultural and historical research, educational programs, and activities that encourage mutual understanding and respect for almost seventy years.



↑ Meeting of the Jewish Historical Committee in Łódź in 1946, including Chaskiel Kameraz, Bluma and Hersz Wasser, Józef Kermisz, Filip Friedman, Nachman Blumental, and Rachela Auerbach
Collection of the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland and Jewish Historical Institute

History

01
—

The Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland is the successor to the Central Jewish Committee, which was established in 1944. The Association was registered in 1951 in Warsaw. The Association's statutory goal is to preserve and commemorate the history and culture of Polish Jews and their contributions to world culture. The Association has been supporting Jewish cultural and historical research, educational programs, and activities that encourage mutual understanding and respect for almost seventy years. The Association works with organizations with similar goals in Poland and around the world.

The Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland initiated the Museum of the History of Polish Jews as a project in 1993. It formed an international team of experts to plan the institution and develop its core exhibition. The Museum was to be a space for open discussion, dialogue, and mutual respect — a place that would unite, not divide. Polish presidents and governments supported this idea, as did many organizations, countless individuals around the world, and our donors. Thanks to this massive support the Association could lead this project as an independent initiative.

On 25 January 2005, the Association, the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage, and the City of Warsaw established a joint cultural institution, the Museum of the History of Polish Jews. According to the founding agreement, the public institutions would finance the construction of the Museum building, while the Association would finance and manage the creation of the core exhibition. With the support of over 500 donors from around the world, the Association raised PLN 145 million between 1993 and 2014 for the design and production of the core exhibition. The Association raised PLN 20 million for the Museum's public and educational activities. The Association has continued to support the Museum since its opening, having raised almost PLN 15 million to that end.

As a guardian of the material and spiritual legacy of Polish Jews, the Association is also responsible for supporting the preservation and accessibility of a vast archive of materials from as early as the mid-seventeenth century, a library of about 80,000 volumes, and extensive collections of paintings, prints, posters, photographs, sculpture, and artifacts. One of its most valuable holdings is the Ringelblum Archive, also known as the Underground Warsaw Ghetto Archive, which UNESCO inscribed in its Memory of the World Register in recognition of its importance to humanity.

The Association also supports the Emanuel Ringelblum Jewish Historical Institute. During the fall of 2017, the Institute celebrated its 70th anniversary. We have been connected throughout those years. The Jewish Historical Institute, established in 1947, is the successor to the Central Jewish Historical Commission, which was established by the Central Committee of Jews in Poland in 1944. During the early 1950s, employees of the Institute helped to create the Association. Today we continue to work together to preserve and share the Association’s collection.



← Documents from the Ringelblum Archive



← ↑ Conservation of documents in the Conservation Laboratory of the Jewish Historical Institute

The Association shares its collections and the historic building at 3/5 Tłomackie Street with the Jewish Historical Institute. The Association also collaborates with the Institute on various projects, the latest of which is the Oneg Shabbat program, the centerpiece of which is the recently opened permanent exhibition, *What We’ve Been Unable to Shout Out to the World*, about the Ringelblum Archive and its creators.

The Association awards grants each year to organizations that preserve the thousand-year cultural and material heritage of Polish Jews. Coming from diverse backgrounds, members of the Association, a voluntary association, are united in their commitment to preserve the legacy of Polish Jews for future generations.

In 2017:

The Management Board met 13 times
and passed 66 resolutions.

The General Assembly of the Association's
members held its annual meeting.

There are 221 members of the Association
as of 31 December 2017.

MANAGEMENT OF THE ASSOCIATION:

- Piotr Wiślicki — President
- Marian Turski — Vice President
- Jan Doktor, PhD — Secretary
- Jan Jagielski — Treasurer
- Joanna Fikus — Member (since 6 June 2017)
- Prof. Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett — Member (until 1 June 2017)
- Michał Majewski — Member (until 8 February 2018)
- Agnieszka Milbrandt — Member
- Krzysztof A. Rozen — Member

AUDIT COMMITTEE:

- Marek Nowakowski — Chair
- Piotr Rytka-Zandberg — Vice Chair
- Małgorzata Tarnowska — Secretary



→ Farewell to Kalina Gawlas, long-term associate of the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland and POLIN Museum, and member of the Association's Audit Committee (2013–2015), May 2017

Management

02

MANAGEMENT BOARD



Piotr Wiślicki
President



Marian Turski
Vice President



Jan Doktor, PhD
Secretary



Jan Jagielski
Treasurer



Joanna Fikus
Member



Prof. Barbara Kirshenblatt-
Gimblett, Member



Michał Majewski
Member



Agnieszka Milbrandt
Member



Krzysztof A. Rozen
Member

AUDIT COMMITTEE



Marek Nowakowski
Chair



Piotr Rytka-Zandberg
Vice Chair



Małgorzata Tarnowska
Secretary

The Grants Committee issues an annual call for applications for projects that preserve and revive the heritage of Polish Jews and present their contributions to world culture. The Grants Committee recommends candidates to the Management Board for approval and oversees final reports from grantees.

GRANTS COMMITTEE:

Michał Majewski — Chair (until 11 January 2018)

Joanna Fikus — Chair (since 25 January 2018)

Jolanta Żyndul, PhD — Member

Alicja Mroczkowska — Member

Jan Doktor, PhD — Member

Two departments coordinated the Association's activities in 2017.

THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE
AND ADMINISTRATION:

Sławomir Różański and Daria Kurkus — manage the Association's finances, grants policy, and human resources, and coordinates the work of the Management Board, Audit Committee, and Grants Committee.

THE DEPARTMENT
OF DEVELOPMENT:

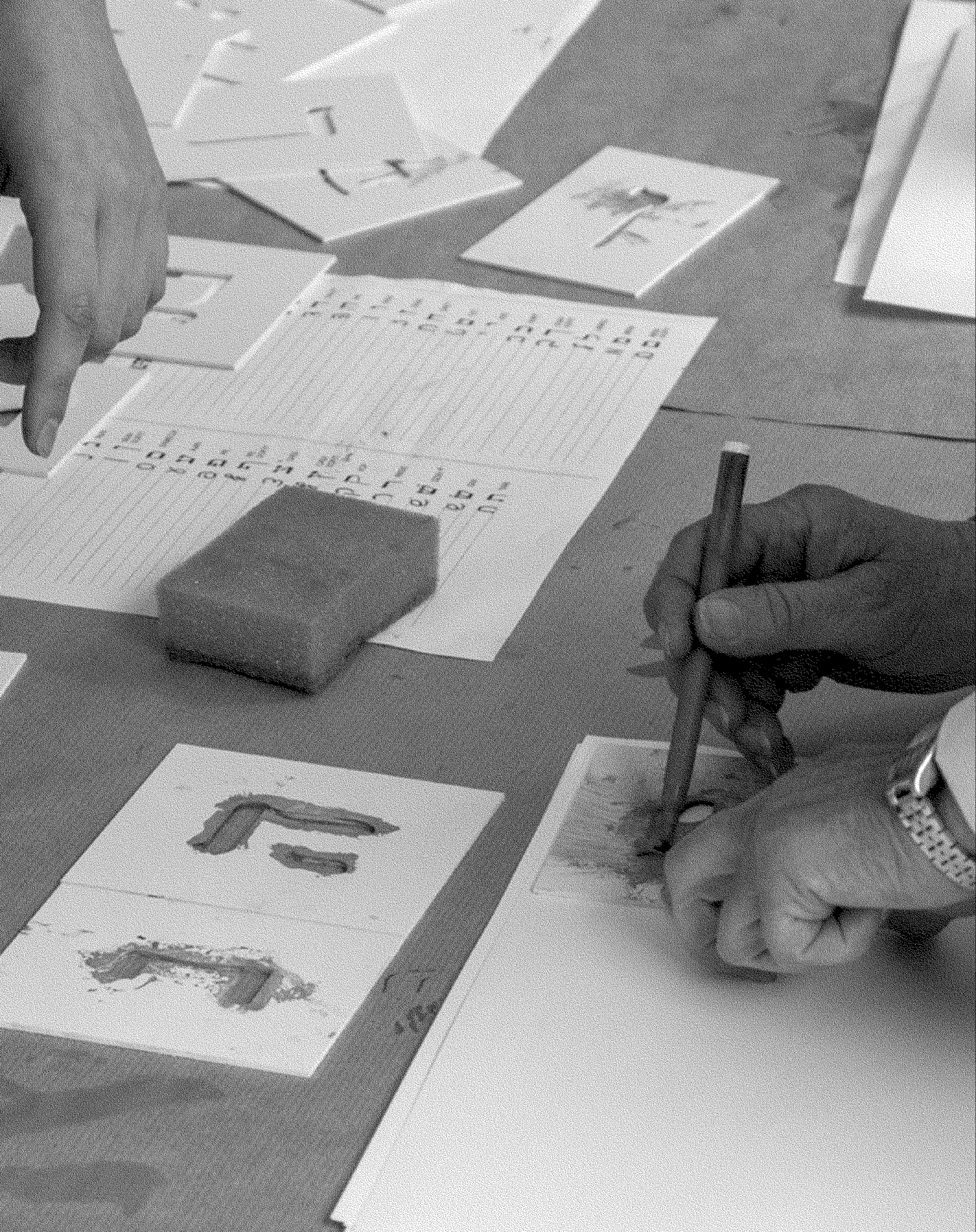
Marta Wróbel, Bartosz Dymarek, Elżbieta Kossowska — are responsible for fundraising, including communication with donors, public relations, and the production of fundraising materials.

The Association was recognized in the 2017 *Top Communal Investments* contest for its role in initiating and cocreating POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews, the first institution in Poland to be formed jointly by the government, local authorities, and a nongovernmental organization. Sławomir Różański accepted the award on behalf of the Association. The award was presented during the 6th European Economic Congress Gala in Katowice.



→ Wioletta Paprocka-Ślusarska, City of Warsaw, and Sławomir Różański, Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland, at the European Economic Congress Gala in Katowice, May 2017

Statutory Activity





The Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland continues to support the programs of POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews and the Emanuel Ringelblum Jewish Historical Institute. It also raises funds and awards grants to other organizations for educational, cultural, academic, and exhibition projects.



The cooperation between POLIN Museum and the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland is exemplary. The Association's regular support enables POLIN Museum to carry out many vital educational and cultural projects, create outstanding temporary exhibitions, and enlarge its collection. Thanks to the Association, POLIN Museum has established an excellent rapport with Jewish milieus in Poland and abroad.

Judging by our experience to date, it is safe to say that the public-private partnership upon which the Museum was founded works perfectly to secure the steady and sustained development of our institution.

PROF. DARIUSZ STOLA

Director, POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews



2017

POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews

01

Facing the Monument to the Ghetto Heroes on the site of the Warsaw ghetto and the prewar Jewish neighborhood, POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews completes the memorial complex. The mission of the Museum is to recover and transmit the history of Polish Jews in the spirit of mutual understanding and respect.

At the heart of the Museum is its multimedia narrative exhibition, a theatre of history. Created by an international team of scholars, curators, and designers, the core exhibition presents the thousand-year history of Polish Jews from 965 to the present in eight galleries. Recipient of the 2016 European Museum of the Year Award and 2016 European Museum Academy prize, POLIN Museum has been recognized internationally as setting a new standard for history museums.

The core exhibition is the basis for the Museum's educational, cultural, and artistic programs. As of November 2017, POLIN Museum has attracted over 2.4 million visits since it opened its doors in April 2013.

→ Night of Museums at
POLIN Museum, May 2017

21



In 2017, the Museum’s founders — the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage, the City of Warsaw, and the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland — established a new statute for POLIN Museum, which regulates the functioning of the institution and confirms the rights of the founders. Based on the founding agreement of 25 January 2005, the new statute identifies the following key rights of the founders:

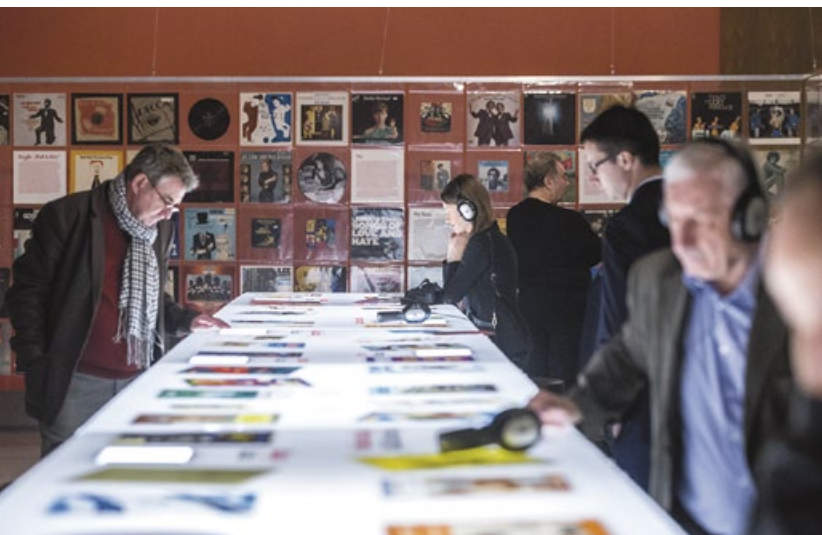
- The Director is appointed or dismissed by the Organizer that manages the register to which POLIN Museum belongs (Ministry of Culture and National Heritage) in agreement with the other Organizer (City of Warsaw), and after obtaining the consent of the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland.
- Deputy Directors may be appointed or dismissed by the Director with the consent of the Founders.
- Members of the Museum Council are appointed and dismissed by the Organizer that manages the register to which POLIN Museum belongs (Ministry of Culture and National Heritage) in agreement with the other Organizer (City of Warsaw), and after obtaining the consent of the Association, provided that:
 - five members of the Museum Council are appointed from among candidates chosen by the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage
 - five members of the Museum Council are appointed from among candidates chosen by the City of Warsaw
 - five members of the Museum Council are appointed from among candidates chosen by the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland.
- The organizers may merge, divide, or liquidate POLIN Museum after obtaining the consent of the Association, on the terms and in the manner set forth by binding laws and regulations.
- An amendment to this statute shall require unanimous consent of all the Founders.

Community Council

In October 2015, at the initiative of the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland, the Director of POLIN Museum established a Community Council, which is made up of representatives of Jewish organizations. The Council is led by Piotr Wiślicki, President of the Association. The Council is a forum for discussion, building relationships, and sharing experiences among those committed to preserving and promoting the heritage of Polish Jews. The creators of the Museum have always intended it to be a place where various Jewish circles would come together. The Council met twice in 2017 to discuss plans for POLIN Museum and cooperation with other organizations.



← ↗ POLIN Museum core exhibition



← ↑ *Jukebox, Jewkbox! A Jewish Century on Shellac and Vinyl*

POLIN Museum's temporary exhibitions in 2017:
Jukebox, Jewkbox! A Jewish Century on Shellac and Vinyl (3 February–29 May 2017) and *Blood: Uniting & Dividing* (12 October 2017–29 January 2018)

REPORT

2017

↓ → *Blood: Uniting & Dividing*



POLIN Museum projects supported by the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland and private donors in 2017



↑ *Jukebox, Jewkbox! A Jewish Century on Shellac and Vinyl* presented a history of the gramophone, 20th-century popular music, and the contributions of Jewish producers, composers, and artists. Visitors listened to Yiddish theatre

music, movie soundtracks, musical theatre songs, jazz, folk, punk, and cantorial music. Thanks to the gramophone, recorded music became popular in Jewish homes.



↑ *Blood: Uniting & Dividing* presented the history of blood as a symbol in Judaism and Christianity. POLIN Museum enriched the exhibition, which originated at the Jewish Museum London, by elaborating Polish and Christian contexts and adding contemporary art, including *Blood Cinema* by Anish Kapoor, the first time his work was exhibited in Poland, and works by Piotr Uklański, Moshe Gershuni, Bogna Burska, Dorota Buczkowska, and Eliza Proszczuk. About 45,000 people visited the exhibition, making it the most visited temporary exhibition at POLIN Museum to that point. More than 3,800 people took part in events accompanying the exhibition.

We would like to thank Grzegorz Jankilevitch and the Jankilevitch Foundation for their support of the exhibition and its accompanying programs.

PATRON OF THE EXHIBITION: Wydawnictwo Zwierciadło
SUPPORT: David Berg Foundation and Sills Family Foundation

The Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland also supported the development of two exhibitions that will open in 2018. *Estranged: March '68 and Its Aftermath* (9 March–21 September, 2018) commemorates the 50th anniversary of the events of March 1968.

This exhibition and the program of events that accompanies it explore the causes, progression, and effects of the state-sponsored antisemitic campaign that led to the last mass emigration of Jews from Poland — and relevance of those events today. The exhibition gives voice to the March '68 generation through written and video testimonies, memorabilia, photos, and documents that speak to their traumatic experiences. More than half the Jews living in Poland at the time left. In the words of Zygmunt Stępiński, Deputy Director of POLIN Museum: “The backdrop of the exhibit is the political situation in Poland, yet the focus is not on the struggles for power or the student strike. The focus is on the fate of Polish Jews who were expelled from Poland after the events of March '68.”

PATRON OF THE EXHIBITION: European Committee for the Support of POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews
SUPPORT: Taube Philanthropies and William K. Bowes, Jr. Foundation — Global Education Outreach Program, Neubauer Family Foundation, Sills Family Foundation, David Goldman and Debbie Bisno — Fellowships at Auschwitz for the Study of Professional Ethics, Marek and Agnieszka Nowakowski, Andrzej and Małgorzata Rojek, Jerry Wartski and family, Paul Goldner and Sandy Soifer



← Dr. Anita Friedman, Executive Director of the Jewish Family and Children's Services, encouraged POLIN Museum to publish Rywka Lipszyc's diary in the original Polish. Photograph from the exhibition *The Girl in the Diary* at the Galicia Jewish Museum, Kraków, July 2017

↑ The Association supported the publication of the diary of Rywka Lipszyc, a 14-year-old girl in the Łódź ghetto. Her densely written student notebook was found in spring 1945 in the ruins of one of the Auschwitz-Birkenau crematoria. In 2017, with the assistance of POLIN Museum, Rywka's diary, which had been widely translated, appeared for the first time in its original language, Polish, with the title *Dziennik z getta łódzkiego*. This diary is of inestimable value, not least because it is a rare example of Holocaust testimony from a religious girl. POLIN Museum prepared educational resources and workshops for teachers to support the use of the diary in Holocaust education in Polish schools.

The publication of the diary and educational program were supported by the Koret Foundation and Jewish Family and Children's Services (JFCS) of San Francisco, Peninsula and Marin & Sonoma Counties.

Virtual Shtetl proudly declared: "Dear Readers! Here we give you the new version of Virtual Shtetl. This is a truly exceptional moment, because major transformations of a large website happen once in a decade, at most." The upgrade and migration of the system's data, which took almost two years, was supported by donors and the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland. Virtual Shtetl was created in 2008 and given to POLIN Museum by the Association in 2012, which allowed the portal to greatly expand its resources. Today Virtual Shtetl consists of about 200,000 items, including news, photos, genealogical records, interviews, essays, maps, photographs, and videos. The site has more than 28,000 registered readers and millions of visitors.

The upgrade of Virtual Shtetl was supported by Tomek Ulatowski and Ygal Ozechov.



↓ Seven-branched candelabrum, a reference to the menorah in the Tabernacle and Jerusalem Temple. Object from POLIN Museum's collection acquired in 2017.

↑ The Association has been helping POLIN Museum develop its collection of art and artifacts. Our highest priority is to replace objects in the core exhibition on loan from other institutions with original objects from POLIN Museum's collection. Several valuable ceremonial objects were acquired in 2017.

The purchase of these artifacts was supported by the Koret Foundation, Lynne E. Goldberg and David M. Gross, and Ronald S. Lauder.



↑ The Association also supported *In King Matt's Poland: The 100th Anniversary of Regaining Independence*, an exhibition based on Janusz Korczak's popular children's book. The exhibition team has been developing the exhibition content and design and editing the exhibition catalog. The exhibition opens in November 2018.

EXHIBITION SUPPORT: Jankilevitch Foundation, Jewish Federations of Canada—UIA



↑ Each year since 2015, POLIN Museum and the Association have presented the POLIN Award to an individual or organization that has made an outstanding contribution to the preservation and memory of Jewish heritage locally. The award is presented at a gala, during which the Association also honors our donors and partners, who have played such an important role in the success of POLIN Museum.

The winner of the third annual POLIN Award was Joanna Podolska, director of the Marek Edelman Dialogue Center in Łódź, where she has been organizing cultural and educational events and supporting the publication of works related to the Łódź ghetto and Łódź Jews for many years. Podolska received a sculpture by Barbara Falender and a financial prize. The jury, chaired by Marian Turski, also awarded distinctions to Dariusz Paczkowski and Ireneusz Socha. The Special Award was given to the Association of “Children of the Holocaust” in Poland, under the leadership of Joanna Sobolewska-Pyz.

Financial awards were funded by Tomek Ulatowski and Ygal Ozechov, POLIN Museum’s Distinguished Benefactors. The POLIN Award Ceremony was supported by the Jankilevitsch Foundation.



↑ The POLIN Museum Resource Center assists visitors interested in genealogy and local history by providing free access to one of the largest collections of databases related to Jewish history and genealogy. The Center’s expert staff helps visitors discover their family histories, find missing relatives, and identify the names of towns where they once lived. Thanks to the Association’s financial support in 2017, the Resource Center could train additional staff, expand its collections to include oral history interviews, organize genealogy workshops, and raise awareness of this field.

The Resource Center’s 2017 activities were supported by Tomek Ulatowski and Ygal Ozechov, as well as through the GEOP program, which is funded by the Taube Foundation for Jewish Life & Culture and the William K. Bowes, Jr. Foundation.



The Visual History Archive, created by the USC Shoah Foundation, features the largest collection of video testimonies of survivors and witnesses of genocide. Thanks to the financial support of the Association and the Koret Foundation, POLIN Museum could purchase lifetime access to this collection on the ProQuest platform. ProQuest offers, in addition to the Holocaust testimonies, 90,000 authoritative sources, six billion digital pages, and the world’s largest collection of dissertations and unique digitized historical collections from libraries and museums internationally. This is an extraordinary resource for POLIN Museum and for the visitors and scholars that it serves.

↑ The Global Education Outreach Program (GEOP) supports a doctoral seminar, postdoctoral fellowships, distinguished international lectures, research workshops, international conferences, and publications. GEOP’s mission is to support the development of Polish-Jewish studies in collaboration with scholars and institutions of higher learning in Poland, North America, Israel, and other countries. GEOP organized *Museums and Their Publics at Sites of Conflicted History* in March 2017. This an interdisciplinary conference brought together about 220 scholars and professionals from over 25 countries. A publication based on the conference is in preparation.

The Global Education Outreach Program (GEOP) is supported by the Taube Foundation for Jewish Life & Culture and the William K. Bowes, Jr. Foundation.



↑ Most of POLIN Museum's family programs take place at "King Matt's" Family Education Area. Children are introduced to the history and culture of Polish Jews with age-appropriate tools and language. Learning is combined with creative play and a family atmosphere. Almost 13,000 people took part in POLIN Museum's family program in 2017.

"King Matt's" Family Education Area programs were supported by the Parasol Family Foundation Trust and by Boeing.

The Greenberg Family International Internship Program, a scholarship program for international students to develop their professional skills at POLIN Museum, welcomed a new cohort in 2017. Interns deepen their knowledge of the history of Polish Jews and of their contributions to European and world heritage at a world-class museum.

Baron & Gefilteria: The Return of Forgotten Food, a culinary initiative, partnered two New York experts, Liz Alpern and Jeffrey Yoskowitz (The Gefilteria), with Polish chef Aleksander Baron. Together they brought the flavors and aromas of Ashkenazi cuisine to life. Visitors took part in meetings, debates, and culinary workshops, which culminated in a supper for over 100 people at POLIN Museum. Menora, a branch of POLIN Museum on Grzybowski Square, hosted culinary workshops led by celebrated Polish chefs.

This project was supported by the North American Council for the Legacy of Polish Jews.



↑ Israeli students visited Poland and Polish students visited Israel as part of the 11th edition of the Polish-Israeli Youth Exchange (PIYE). This year's theme was the search for roots and discovering one's family history.

PIYE, a joint initiative of POLIN Museum and the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland, is supported by Tomek Ulatowski and Ygal Ozechov.



↑ POLIN Meeting Point — Summer Education School brings together students from Poland, Israel, Germany, and Ukraine. In 2017, they explored the issue of intercultural dialogue during lectures, seminars, and excursions.

POLIN Meeting Point is supported by the Nissenbaum Family Foundation's Educational Fund.



↑ This year **Museum on Wheels** traveled to seventeen towns with population under 50,000 across the length and breadth of Poland and organized over 50 local events, including workshops, excursions, and lectures. Museum on Wheels, the only mobile educational project to present the history of Polish Jews on such a wide scale, engages activists and institutional partners in preserving the memory of local Jewish communities.

Museum on Wheels was partially supported in 2017 by the Koret Foundation in honor of Tad Taube.

POLIN Museum's Education Center prepared a special educational packet for North American Jewish educators to enhance their visit to the core exhibition. A selection of sources, worksheets, maps, and diagrams, as well as multimedia presentations, helped them use the core exhibition as a reference point for teaching the history of Polish Jews.

All of these projects were supported by donors and the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland.



↑ Junior high school students from Bełżyce took a guided tour of the core exhibition and participated in educational workshops.

POLIN Museum continued training Hebrew-speaking guides in cooperation with Israel's Ministry of Education to provide guided visits to the core exhibition in Hebrew for Israeli visitors. In total, 88 Israeli guides participated in seminars; 12 Museum employees took a Hebrew-language course; 75 Polish teachers visited Israel; and 15 Israeli teachers visited POLIN Museum.

Project for junior high school students from Bełżyce and the Israel initiative were supported by Nimrod S. and Odette Ariav 'Cygielman'.

POLIN Museum projects supported by publicly funded grants and developed in cooperation with Jewish organizations



↑ **Diversity Education: Activities for Students and Teachers** is a joint effort of the Association and POLIN Museum, with the support of the Kronenberg Foundation at Citi Handlowy. Working with Israel's Ministry of Education, we organized workshops at the School Complex in Kosów Lacki for Polish and Israeli students, a meeting for 50 Polish local government representatives with the Chief Rabbi of Poland, Michael Schudrich, and the Chief Rabbi of Kraków, Eliezer Gurary.

In commemoration of the 74th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising, POLIN Museum and the Association organized a concert by Sinfonia Varsovia, conducted by Jerzy Maksymiuk. The highlight of the evening was the premiere of Maksymiuk's composition *A Lonely Star over Be'er Sheva*.

This was an extraordinary year for the Jewish Historical Institute and the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland. To celebrate the 70th anniversary of the founding of the Institute, we inaugurated and raised funds for the Oneg Shabbat program. We opened *What We've Been Unable to Shout Out to the World*, a landmark exhibition of original documents from the Ringelblum Archive. We issued several publications, including the Polish edition of the Ringelblum Archive, and organized a jubilee ceremony for friends from Poland and abroad. Together, we are guarding our greatest treasure, the Warsaw Ghetto Underground Archive. The next step is to translate the Archive into English and open it to the world.

PROF. PAWEŁ ŚPIEWAK

Director, Emanuel Ringelblum
Jewish Historical Institute



The Emanuel Ringelblum Jewish Historical Institute

02

The Emanuel Ringelblum Jewish Historical Institute, a preeminent research center dedicated to the history of Jews in Poland and in Central and Eastern Europe, has been collecting, documenting, and publishing in this field for seventy years. The Institute is home to the largest academic team in Poland dealing with the Holocaust, a particular focus of its work, Jewish history and heritage, and the Yiddish language. In addition to supporting research, the Institute organizes cultural projects, seminars and educational meetings, runs a publishing house, and creates themed exhibitions in its building as well as outdoors that draw from its collections of art, photography, and documents.

In November 2017, thanks to the joint efforts of the Institute and the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland, the exhibition *What We've Been Unable to Shout Out to the World* was opened. For the first time, original Ringelblum Archive documents are on display. We have also completed the publication of the full Polish edition of the Archive in 37 volumes.

The Jewish Historical Institute and the Ringelblum Archive, the Warsaw Ghetto Underground Archive, are located in the historic building at 3/5 Tłomackie Street, which belongs to the Association. The Association permits the Institute to use this building free of charge. It is here that the Oneg Shabbat group, which formed the underground archive, used to meet in secret. This building, originally part of the Great Synagogue complex on Tłomackie Street before the war, once housed the Main Judaic Library and the Institute of Judaic Studies. The building, which survived the destruction of the Great Synagogue at the end of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising, still bears traces of fire on the historic main hall's floor, a memorial to those tragic events. The building was refurbished in 2016, and "Main Judaic Library" was inscribed on its facade, in Polish and Hebrew. The complete renovation of the historic portion of the building was achieved in cooperation with the Association in 2017.

The Oneg Shabbat Program



**ONEG
SZABAT**

The Oneg Shabbat program was carried out jointly by the Jewish Historical Institute and the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland. The aim of the program is to raise awareness of the Warsaw Ghetto Underground Archive, provide access to the documents, and commemorate Emanuel Ringelblum and the Oneg Shabbat group.

This ambitious program, which marks the 70th anniversary of the Jewish Historical Institute, was launched on 18 September 2017, on the 71st anniversary of the unearthing of the first part of the Archive, and will run through 2025.

The centerpiece of the Oneg Shabbat program is *What We've Been Unable to Shout Out to the World*, a new permanent exhibition of the original documents, which are being shown to the public for the first time in over seventy years. The exhibition presents the story of the most important testimony from the Holocaust period, focusing on those who created the archive and on how the documents were collected, buried in the ground, and discovered after the war.

The exhibition was curated by Prof. Paweł Śpiewak and co-curated by Anna Duńczyk-Szulc.

The Oneg Shabbat group has preserved the memory of the Jews imprisoned in the Warsaw Ghetto and their murder in the death camps. They fought the Germans through intellectual resistance and unrelenting work. In recognition of the value of the Ringelblum Archive for humanity, UNESCO inscribed the Archive in the Memory of the World Register in 1999.

The Jewish Historical Institute and the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland established the Oneg Shabbat program to raise awareness of the Archive and its creators and continue the mission of Emanuel Ringelblum and the Oneg Shabbat team.

JOLANTA HERCOG
Deputy Director,
Jewish Historical Institute

KRZYSZTOF A. ROZEN
Member of the Board, Association of the
Jewish Historical Institute of Poland





↑ Prof. Paweł Śpiewak, during the 70th anniversary of the founding of the Emanuel Ringelblum Jewish Historical Institute. First row, third from right: Jolanta Hercog, Agnieszka Rudzińska, Piotr Wiślicki, November 2017

Promoting the Ringelblum Archive

The Institute's Education Department has prepared workshops for Polish students and an Oneg Shabbat Ambassadors program for international students. Workshops, meetings, and discussions with our educators expose students to the story and contents of the Warsaw Ghetto Underground Archive and prepare ambassadors to spread the word about Oneg Shabbat at their home universities.

In the autumn of 2017, the research staff of the Institute, led by Prof. Andrzej Żbikowski, began work on an encyclopedia of the Warsaw Ghetto, which will be based on accounts and documents from the Ringelblum Archive. Scholars will develop entries on living conditions and terror in the ghetto and reconstruct its topography and street grid. This is a massive multi-year research program.

In addition, the Association and the Institute created a crowdsourcing platform to raise awareness, interest, and funds for the Oneg Shabbat program. The crowdsourcing platform, onegszabat.org, was launched on 18 September 2017, on the 71st anniversary of recovering the first part of the Ringelblum Archive. The platform, which will run through 2025, encourages users from across the globe to make donations in support of the conservation, digitization, and translation into English of the Ringelblum Archive. The platform is in Polish, English, and Hebrew.

Information about the Oneg Shabbat program reached over 21 million people in 2017 thanks to the crowdsourcing platform, Facebook page, postings on the websites of the Institute and the Association, and coverage in the Polish and international press.



Dissemination of the preserved documents

In 2017, a team of Polish translators, editors, historians, sociologists, and linguists, led by Prof. Tadeusz Epstein as academic editor, completed several years work on the full 37-volume edition of the Ringelblum Archive. The first volume of the English translation, *Warsaw Ghetto. Everyday Life*, edited by Dr. Katarzyna Person, was published.

At the Institute's digitization studio, experts scanned documents from the Archive, which can now be accessed through the Web portal Delet (door, in Hebrew). Account holders and researchers can access to a unique collection of Jewish art and documents collected by the Oneg Shabbat group. They can create lessons and organize workshops and tours online using interactive tools. This multi-stage project extends from 2016 through 2018.

The Delet Web portal is a project of the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland and the Jewish Historical Institute, with the support of the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage of Poland, as part of Digital Culture 2016–2018.

Commemorating the creators of the Archive

The Main Judaic Library building, where the Oneg Shabbat team would meet during the war, survived the destruction of the Warsaw ghetto. It currently houses the Jewish Historical Institute and the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland. It is here that the Warsaw Ghetto Underground Archive is kept in special cabinets.

In 2017, the Association and the Institute renovated the main hall and a large part of the building.

AUTHORS AND COORDINATORS OF THE ONEG SHABBAT PROGRAM: Jolanta Hercog and Krzysztof A. Rozen

COORDINATION COMMITTEE: Prof. Paweł Śpiewak, Piotr Wiślicki, Jolanta Hercog, Krzysztof A. Rozen

ONEG SHABBAT PROGRAM TEAM: Anna Duńczyk-Szulc, Sławomir Różański, Agnieszka Rudzińska, Dr. Katarzyna Person, Małgorzata Krzanowska, Krzysztof Czajka-Kalinowski, Anna Plewicka-Szymczak, Anna Majchrowska, Agnieszka Kajczyk, Aleksandra Sajdak, Marta Wróbel

Oneg Shabbat program donors: anonymous donor, Azrieli Foundation, Jewish Federations of Canada—UIA, Freddy Hancock, Hermione Foundation, Koret Foundation, Ledor Wador Foundation, Rozen Family Foundation, The Gerald Schwartz & Heather Reisman Foundation, Taube Philanthropies, 28 donors who contributed via PayPal, 61 donors who contributed in memory of Halina Paszkowska-Turski



2017

Opening of the permanent exhibition and international conference



↓ From left: Prof. Paweł Śpiewak, Agata Kornhauser-Duda, President Andrzej Duda, Senator Anna Maria Anders, Minister Wojciech Kolarski, Marian Turski, Piotr Wiślicki, Krzysztof A. Rozen



The Jewish Historical Institute celebrated its 70th anniversary on 14–15 November 2017 with a conference entitled *70 Years of the Jewish Historical Institute*, under the honorary patronage of the President of the Polish Academy of Sciences, Prof. Jerzy Duszyński.

The permanent exhibition opened on 14 November 2017 at the Jewish Historical Institute. In attendance were President of the Republic of Poland Andrzej Duda, First Lady Agata Kornhauser-Duda, members of the Polish government, diplomats, and representatives from Jewish communities in Poland and abroad. President of the Association Piotr Wiślicki emphasized the role of the Association as a guardian of the memory of Polish Jews:

“Will our work at the Association ever end? No, never. Can our offspring ever stop caring for the legacy of their ancestors? Never. The generations that follow will take over the role as guardians of memory. What we have here in this building is the legacy of the murdered family of three million Jews. And everyone must know that this treasure is here at 3/5 Tłomackie Street in Warsaw, Poland. It belongs to all Jews, but it is assigned to this building for safe-keeping. We are its proud guardians, and we count on your help and support in caring for it.”

A ceremony and tour for members of the Polish Jewish community preceded the official opening of the exhibition. This event was supported by the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute.

Passionate people are trying to restore the memory of Polish Jews in many places throughout Poland. They are often the only guardians of our heritage in those places. Their creativity, however, is often limited by a lack of financial resources. To address this need, the Association established a Grants Committee and charged it with recommending financial support for organizations preserving the history and culture of Polish Jews.

The Committee's priority is projects in local communities, where Jewish history may be lost if not for a plaque, monument, educational project, or Jewish culture festival. The Committee also encourages applications for the translation and publication of books related to the memory of a local Jewish community, especially memoirs written after the Holocaust about their authors' prewar towns.

The Grants Committee received 30 applications in 2017 for publications, films, and research projects and recommended 16 projects for support, for a total of PLN 135,000.

MICHAŁ MAJEWSKI

Chair, Grants Committee



Report from the Grants Committee

03

The objective of the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland is to preserve the memory of Polish Jews. Achievements are difficult to measure or quantify, but this is a purpose worth the unconditional dedication of time, energy, and work.

Such artistic, cultural, educational, literary, and commemorative activities restore and strengthen memory in places where memory has faded. Thanks to the thousands of participants in projects supported by the Association, generations to come will recall the Jewish communities of their towns.

In 2017, the Association provided financial support for the following 16 projects.

↓ Participants in the Szczekociny Jewish Culture Festival, *Yahad-Together*, at the monument commemorating the Jewish community of Szczekociny, June 2017



Grants awarded by the
Grants Committee in 2017



↑ Participants in the 2017 Szczekociny Jewish Culture Festival *Yahad–Together* met at the Jewish cemetery for the tenth time to commemorate past Jewish residents of Szczekociny through prayer and an artistic installation. Jewish music filled the air during the Szczekociny Remembrance Concert later that day. The Association of Friends and Graduates of Szczekociny High School organized the festival.

↑ The Krotochwile Association organized the *Simchat Chajim Festival* (Hebrew: Joy of Life) in Jarocin, Krotoszyn, and surrounding towns. The festival included over 50 events: exhibitions, film screenings, meetings, debates, lectures, concerts, educational and culinary workshops, an organ concert, and even a bike rally. Participants loved the bike rally so much that Polish Television voted it the “Wielkopolska Regional Event of the Season.”



↑ The 15th Warsaw Jewish Film Festival was not only a showcase for films, but also an opportunity to meet directors, screenwriters, actors, and producers from around the world. The top awards went to *Scaffolding*, the story of Asher, a 17-year-old boy who discovers a world beyond his family’s home, and *Levinsky Park*, about Tel Aviv as seen through the eyes of an asylum seeker from Darfur. Kamera Dawida WJFF Foundation made the awards.

The 15th International Summer Seminar in Yiddish Language and Culture, organized by the Shalom Foundation, offered lectures, discussions, and workshops with native Yiddish speakers. Courses on Yiddish language and literature ran for two to three weeks. Yiddish specialists from Poland and abroad staffed the program.



↑ The cultural richness, beauty, and *genius loci* of the town of Kazimierz Dolny make it an ideal location for the *Pardes Festival — Encounters with Jewish Culture*. The Granary of Culture Foundation organized a program of concerts, lectures, tastings, film screenings, and guided tours. As one participant commented just after the date of the next festival was announced, “I really want to be in Kazimierz during the Festival of Jewish Culture, I am reserving a hotel right now!”



↑ *Capital of the Polish Language Festival* in Szczepieszyn was part of the *Restoring Memory* project. Meetings with authors Mikołaj Grynberg, Mariusz Szczygieł, and Hanna Krall, whose *The Phantom of Pain* was one of the bestselling books at the festival's bookstore, were complemented by culinary workshops with Maryla Musidłowska. Fundacja Sztuki Kreatywna Przestrzeń organized the festival.

Ekspedycja An-skiego we wspomnieniach is a translation from Yiddish to Polish of Abraham Rechtman's memoir of his experiences during Sh. An-ski's ethnographic expedition to Podolia and Volhynia between 1912 and 1914. Rechtman takes readers on a remarkable journey around regional towns, where he interviews locals and collects their folklore. The book and interactive map are available free of charge on the Sh. An-ski Association website www.anski.org.

The Jan Karski Society in Kielce published *Kielce Memories* by Rafael Blumenfeld. Translated from Hebrew, this memoir regarding the fate of Jews from Kielce after the Second World War is one of the few Jewish testimonies about the Kielce pogrom. Rafael last saw his closest relatives just before they were transported from the Kielce ghetto to Treblinka in August 1942. He was at the Sachsenhausen camp until the end of the war. After returning to Kielce, he worked as a teacher with a group of 35 young Jews at 7 Planty Street. During the pogrom, he was wounded, and his five students were murdered.

Hebrew Letters, a coloring book, introduces the Hebrew alphabet and engages the reader with games and activities based on the letters. Once completed, this book becomes a mini-dictionary of Hebrew terms, which also appear in Latin letters the way they sound. The Moses Schorr Foundation, which created this alphabet book, declares: "Play is education, and education is play — the more play, the more education."



← Detail: cover of *Sokolów: My Destroyed Town*, 1946

↑ *Sokolów: My Destroyed Town* was first published in 1946 in Buenos Aires. This memorial book is the memoir of Perec Granatsztejn, who emigrated from Poland to Bolivia and then to Argentina in 1939. He published his books in Yiddish, the language spoken by Jews in his hometown, but completely unheard there today. This memoir, now translated into Polish and published by the Gszarim Foundation, is an exceptional resource for local residents interested in the history of their town and its Jewish residents. The full translation is available online at www.sokolow.jewish.pl.

Mordkhe Tsanin's *Iber shteyn un shtok — a rayze iber hundert khorev-gevorene kehiles in Poyln* (Over Stone and Branch — A Journey Across One Hundred Destroyed Jewish Communities in Poland) was translated from Yiddish to Polish by Monika Adamczyk-Garbowska. Tsanin escaped from occupied Poland to British Mandate Palestine, where he served as a correspondent for the *Forverts*, a Yiddish daily in New York. The *Forverts* sent him to Poland in 1947 to document material traces of Jewish life in towns and cities across the country. This book, which compiles his correspondence, expresses outrage at the neglect and disintegration of Jewish material heritage. Archival photographs from the period have been added to the Polish translation, which will be issued by Nisza Publishing.



↑ A group of schools in Dobra (Turek county), a true School of Dialogue, is recovering the history of Jews in their town. They have been cleaning the Jewish cemetery and recording interviews with people who remember the German occupation. The book *From Dobra to Chełmno* is a history of local Jews. The students also prepared the ground beneath a lapidarium in the Dobra Jewish cemetery for a plaque listing the names of those who perished.



↑ Kurów residents commemorated the Jewish community of their town by creating a place of remembrance dedicated to the Jews who were deported in 1942 to the Sobibór death camp and the Kurów citizens who hid Jews in an effort to save them. The town's mayor emphasized the significance of the monument during the unveiling: "This commemoration was very important for us. This year is the 75th anniversary of these dramatic events, when 2,500 Jews from Kurów, our neighbors, were deported by the Germans to death camps. Jews made up over half the residents of Kurów before the war."

In 2017, the Zapomniane Foundation began the memorialization of the mass graves of Holocaust victims from Wąwolnica, Karmanowice, and Rogalów. Their message: "Every place that we visit has its story. We know some of these stories better, but have only pieces for others. We will try to tell you all of them."

The Foundation for the Documentation of Jewish Cemeteries documents inscriptions on hundreds of thousands of tombstones scattered in almost a hundred Jewish cemeteries across Poland. They photograph tombstones, transcribe and translate inscriptions, and record the geographical coordinates of each tombstone. In 2017, they added tombstone inscriptions from the Jewish cemetery in Starachowice to their collection, which is freely accessible online.

The Documentation of Monuments of Jewish Culture and Places of Remembrance in Poland, a thirty-year project of the Jewish Historical Institute, consists of 45,000 identification cards, 40,000 photographs, and meters of documents in files and folders. The Institute added about 3,000 photographs documenting the state of monuments, memorial sites, and Jewish cemeteries in Poland to their online collection in 2017. Additional resources will be added in the coming years.



Special projects supported financially by the decision of the Management Board of the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland

↓ Team of the Polish Center for Holocaust Research, Institute of Philosophy and Sociology at the Polish Academy of Sciences



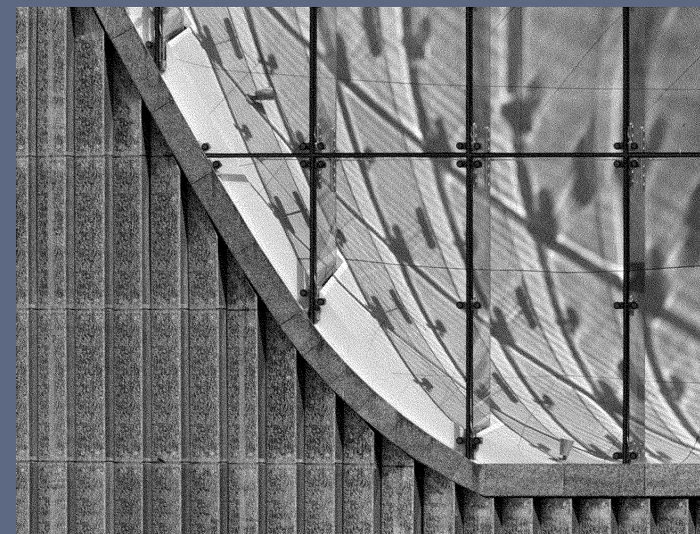
↑ *Restoring the Jewish Cemetery in Szczepieszyn* is a project of the Association of the Second Generation — Descendants of Holocaust Survivors in Warsaw, working together with the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland. This project is dedicated to cleaning and conserving the historic Jewish cemetery in Szczepieszyn.

Studia Judaica, vols. 40 and 41, was published by the Polish Association for Jewish Studies (PTSŻ). This biannual periodical, edited today by Prof. Marcin Wodziński, began publication in 1997. Articles cover a broad range topics, including Jewish history, literature, linguistics, archeology, culture, and religion.

↑ *The Holocaust: Studies and Materials*, vol. 13, was published by the Polish Center for Holocaust Research, Institute of Philosophy and Sociology at the Polish Academy of Sciences, a leading center of Holocaust studies in Europe. Prof. Barbara Engelking heads the editorial team of eminent historians.

Cofinancing of the statutory activity of the Association of Jewish Combatants and Victims of World War II

Fundraising



We would like to thank all the donors who collaborate with the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland in support of the activities of POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews and the Emanuel Ringelblum Jewish Historical Institute. Your trust is our greatest asset. Thanks to you, POLIN Museum can offer the world extraordinary programs, and the Jewish Historical Institute can preserve and share the priceless collections of the Association, chief among them the Ringelblum Archive. Thanks to you, the Association, on the recommendations of the Grants Committee, can support local cultural centers, associations, and organizations throughout the country that are working to preserve the heritage of Polish Jews. Together, we can change the world — patiently, step by step, project by project. We trust that you will stay with us in the coming years. There is so much more to do.

On behalf of our team,

MARTA WRÓBEL
Director of Development



Department of Development Activity Report

01

In 2017, the Association's Department of Development raised funds for the statutory activities of the Association, first and foremost, the programs of POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews and the Emanuel Ringelblum Jewish Historical Institute.

The Department of Development maintains ongoing communication with several hundred donors:

- regular communication with Distinguished Benefactors and donors of POLIN Museum, and coordination of the POLIN Museum Donors Council
- finding potential donors and developing proposals for cooperation
- regular application for grants, administration of grants, and reporting
- organizing presentations of our programs, in Poland and abroad
- honoring donors on promotional materials and donor walls
- organizing delegations of donors and potential donors to POLIN Museum.

→ POLIN Museum donors and representatives of the Association during the 2017 POLIN Award Gala. From left: Marta Wróbel, Piotr Wiślicki, Ygal Ozechov, Tomek and Żanna Ulatowski, Nimrod, Agata, and Avi Ariav, November 2017





↑ From left: Zuzanna and Józia Chmielewski, Shana Penn and Tad Taube, Distinguished Benefactor of POLIN Museum, June 2017



↑ Representatives of the Jewish Community Federation of San Francisco, the Peninsula, Marin and Sonoma Counties, October 2017

In 2017 the Department of Development coordinated more than forty VIP visits.



↑ Sigmund Rolat, Distinguished Benefactor of POLIN Museum, October 2017



↑ From left: Helise Lieberman, Director of the Taube Center for the Renewal of Jewish Life in Poland, Piotr Wiślicki, President of the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute, the Wojcicki family from San Francisco, and Prof. Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett, June 2017

2017

The Department of Development devotes much of its work to publishing brochures, presentations, invitations, reports on activities, newsletters, and prints, and to managing the website and a Facebook page.

During the first half of 2017, the Department of Development supported the Jewish Historical Institute in the implementation of the Oneg Shabbat program. In July 2017, the Association and the Institute appointed a separate team for the Oneg Shabbat program, headed by Krzysztof A. Rozen, a member of the Association's Board, and Jolanta Hercog, Deputy Director of the Institute. During the second half of the year, the Department of Development focused on raising funds for other statutory activities of the Association.

Three people work in the Department of Development, which cooperates with two consultants in the United States. The Department of Development's work is supported by the Association's Department of Finance and Administration, which oversees the preparation of financial and grant reports, and contracts.

Below is a detailed report on the work of the Department of Development in 2017.

↓ Małgorzata and Andrzej Rojek, donors of POLIN Museum with Ewa Wierzyńska and Ewa Junczyk-Ziomecka, representing the Jan Karski Educational Foundation, October 2017



↓ Department of Development team. From left: Marta Wróbel, Elżbieta Kossowska, Bartosz Dymarek



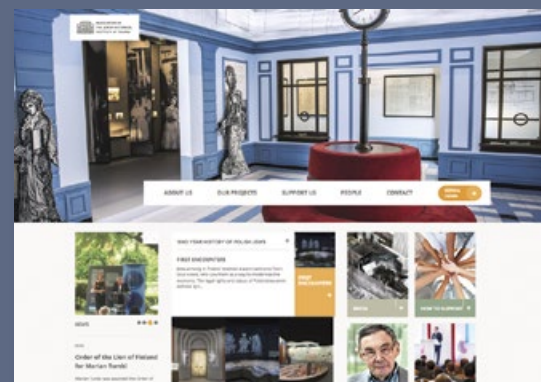
Publications, promotional materials, communication with donors



2015–2016 report of the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland, in both Polish and English editions

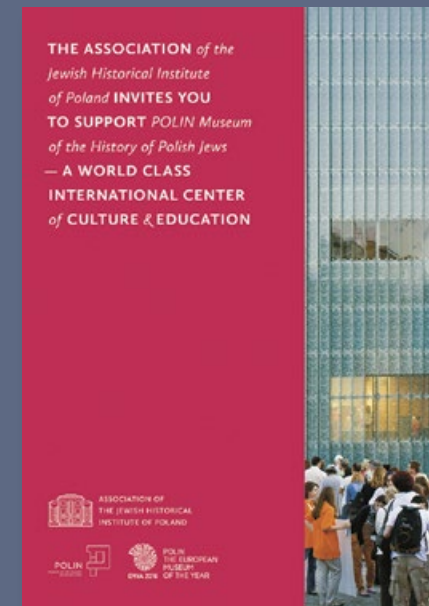


Publication and distribution of three editions of an e-newsletter, presenting the latest achievements of POLIN Museum and the Oneg Shabbat program

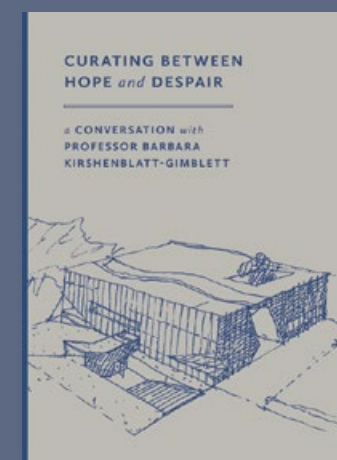


Ongoing management of the website (59 news items in Polish and English) and of Association's Facebook page

Pledge Card — a solicitation for financial support



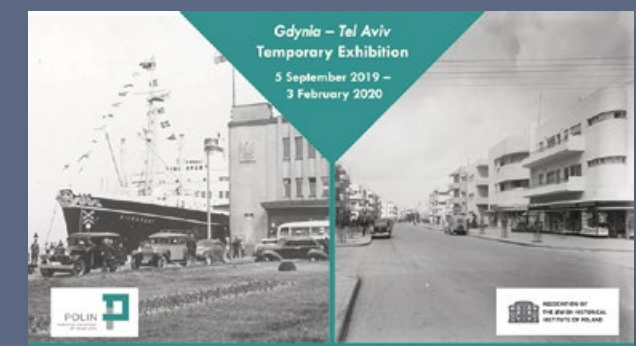
POLIN Museum fundraising brochure



Invitations to special events hosted in the United States



Preparation of electronic holiday greetings from the Association for Purim, Pesach, Rosh Hashanah, and Hanukka



Preparation of several offers to support various events and projects of POLIN Museum and the Jewish Historical Institute



Preparation, printing, and mailing of 2,500 end-of-year letters to donors and potential donors in the United States (including an updating of the mailing list)

Special events in Poland

Temporary exhibition openings at POLIN Museum offer an opportunity to welcome and thank donors and to encourage them to continue to support our activities. In 2017, donors supported *Jukebox*, *Jewkbox!: A Jewish Century on Shellac and Vinyl*, which opened in February, and *Blood: Uniting & Dividing*, which opened in October.

Cooperation with POLIN Museum on openings includes:

- preparing the list of Association donors, partners, and special guests
- communicating with donors and taking care of them during the opening
- honoring donors in the materials accompanying the exhibition.

Since 2015, the Department of Development has organized **an annual meeting of the Donors Council**. In July 2017, this meeting took place during the last weekend of the Kraków Jewish Culture Festival. Marta Wróbel, Director of Development, reported on the fundraising activities financed by members of the Donors Council, as well as plans for the following year. The donors decide on whether to continue to fund the following year’s fundraising activities and at what level.

The goal of the Donors Council is to advise the Association’s Board and the Department of Development on strategies for raising funds for POLIN Museum. The Donors Council was founded by nine POLIN Museum Distinguished Benefactors: Tad Taube, Sigmund Rolat, Victor Markowicz, Corinne Evens, Anita Friedman, Irene Kronhill Pletka, Gideon Nissenbaum, Ygal Ozechov, and Tomek Ulatowski.

2017 POLIN Awards Gala

The POLIN Awards Gala is entirely financed by funds raised from donors by the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland.

Cooperation with POLIN Museum on the organization of the POLIN Awards Gala includes:

- communicating with and taking care of invited donors, partners, and special guests during the Gala
- honoring donors in the materials accompanying the Gala, both in a short film showing POLIN Museum’s activities that year and in printed materials.

↓ Katarzyna Wąs, President of Zwierciadło Foundation, representing Grzegorz Jankilevitsch and Zwierciadło Group, sponsors of POLIN Award Gala, November 2017



↑ 2017 POLIN Award Gala. From left: Joanna Podolska, winner of the award; Ygal Ozechov, sponsor of the financial award, Distinguished Benefactor of POLIN Museum; Marian Turski, Chair of the Competition Jury; Tomek Ulatowski, sponsor of the financial award, Distinguished Benefactor of POLIN Museum; and Dariusz Stola, Director of POLIN Museum



↑ Members of the Donors Council and their delegates with representatives of the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland during the annual meeting of the Council, Kraków, July 2017

Fundraising Activities in the United States

Expanding its fundraising efforts in the United States in 2017, the Association contracted Lynda Kraar, a consultant responsible for increasing the number of POLIN Museum donors in the United States, especially on the East Coast.

We organized **three fundraising events in the United States** in April, September, and December 2017. Such events usually include a lecture or presentation by Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett, Chief Curator of POLIN Museum's core exhibition, in a private home or other setting. The host invites potential donors and individuals who could promote the Museum in their communities. Our goal is to expand our network, encourage people to visit POLIN Museum, and inspire them to become involved in the Museum's projects. We would like to thank Michelle Ores and Charles Schorin, Jerry Wartski and his family, Eva Hussain, and Rabbi Steven Weil for their hospitality and support.

Coordinating these events included:

- preparing and mailing printed materials (invitations, a program of events, and pledge cards)
- preparing and mailing promotional materials
- coordinating activities with associates and event hosts in the United States, including the supervision of the guest list
- follow up, including thank you notes, phone calls, and individual meetings.

Trips Abroad — Meetings with Donors in the United States

We try to meet with POLIN Museum donors in the United States at least once a year. We organized two such trips in 2017.

Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett held several individual meetings in April in California, where she represented the Association and POLIN Museum at the annual Fammy Awards Gala in San Francisco. The San Francisco Jewish Family and Children's Services (JFCS) honored Distinguished Donor Tad Taube at this event with the Distinguished Humanitarian Service Award for Lifetime Achievement for his work over the past forty years.

In September, Marta Wróbel, Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett, and Lynda Kraar held several meetings in New York City with donors and potential donors. The aim was to present the current activities and key projects of the Association and POLIN Museum, raise funds for them, and introduce Lynda Kraar, the Association's fundraising consultant in the United States.

→ Guests of the fundraising event organized by Jerry Wartski with his family and Eva Hussain, Polaron, in Sen Sakana, a restaurant in New York, September 2017

↓ Fammy Awards Gala in San Francisco. Standing from left: Shana Penn and Jeffrey Farber. Seated from left: Dr. Misha Galperin, Prof. Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett, and Suzie Katz, April 2017



International VIP Visits to the POLIN Museum

The Department of Development treats international VIP visits as important opportunities to develop an inspiring relationship with potential donors. Visitors who are moved by the experience — the site, the building, the core exhibition, and a warm welcome — are more likely to become donors and join the ranks of our ambassadors. We prepare the program for each visit with great care — the best guide, meetings with a representative of the Association and the Museum, genealogical support at the Resource Center, a catered lunch, and printed materials. In 2017, the Department of Development coordinated more than forty VIP visits.

↓ Visit of Ivanka Trump to POLIN Museum and the Monument to the Ghetto Heroes, July 2017



Grants and Administration

The ongoing management of databases, preparation of grant applications, timely submission of reports, archiving of correspondence, and the coordination of other aspects of our activity are tedious and time consuming, but essential to effective fundraising. In 2017, we prepared 15 grant applications and reports, shipped hundreds of pounds of promotional materials, sent e-newsletters to over 1,000 recipients, mailed 2,500 donation solicitations, and prepared dozens of letters.

Special Projects

During the first half of 2017, the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland supported the Oneg Shabbat program in cooperation with the Jewish Historical Institute.

Support included:

- coordination of the signing of donation contracts with the Jewish Federation of Canada—UIA
- preparation of proposals for a naming opportunity for the main hall of the historic building at 3/5 Tłomackie Street, which was sent to several donors
- development of the www.onegszabat.org crowdsourcing platform (January–June 2017) The platform, which was launched in September 2017, aims to raise awareness, interest, and funds for the Oneg Shabbat program from donors across the globe.

Initiated in 2017, the **Endowment Campaign** represents a major new stage in the Association's fundraising for POLIN Museum. The goal is to raise USD \$50 million to secure the long-term sustainability of the Museum and its programs. During 2017, the Department of Development consulted donors, lawyers, and organizations with experience running international endowment campaigns. We will officially launch the campaign in 2018 with a mailing to current and potential donors.

Honoring Donors

The Department of Development continues to develop ways to honor donors in POLIN Museum. They include:

- confirming the recognition formulation with donors
- honoring donors in print and electronic media
- honoring donors at special events
- annual update of the Donor Wall at POLIN Museum
- conceptual design of a new space for honoring donors to the Legacy and Endowment campaigns, in consultation with POLIN Museum.



↑ Prof. Dariusz Stola, Director of POLIN Museum, and Piotr Wiślicki, President of the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland, at the Donor Wall

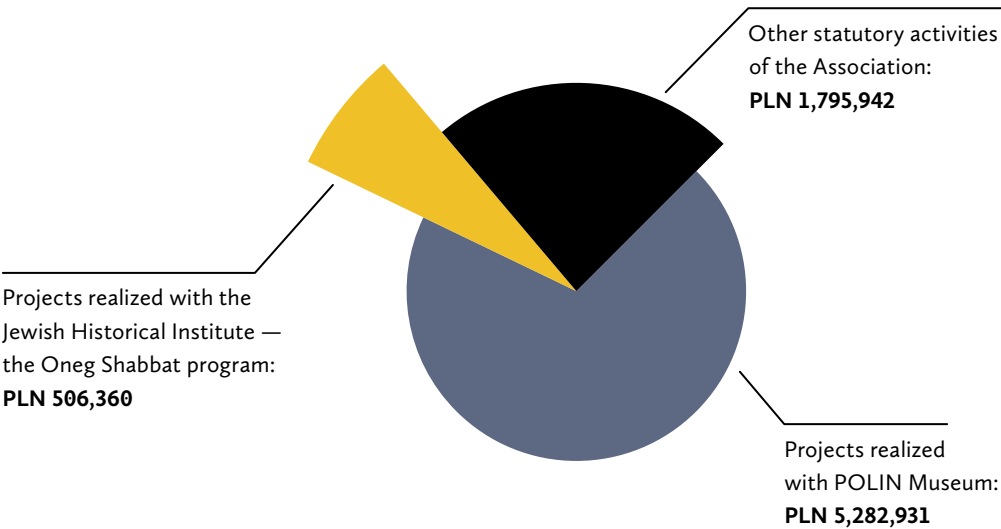


← Design for an installation honoring the donors to the Legacy and Endowment campaigns by HLV & Bad Design Katarzyna Kunkel and Kuba Tkaczyk

Financial Summary

The Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland received PLN 7.6 million from 206 donors (see chart below). The significant increase in number of donors is due mainly to the introduction of crowdsourcing campaigns that encourage small online donations and the English-language e-newsletter distributed by the Department of Development.

Income from donors in 2017



In 2017 we also accomplished:

- USD \$180,000 in support of the temporary exhibition *In King Matt’s Poland: The 100th Anniversary of Regaining Independence*, carried out with POLIN Museum
- USD \$62,000 dedicated to Martha Argerich’s concert at the POLIN Music Festival in February 2018
- USD \$47,000 for the purchase of Judaica for the core exhibition. This gift was made to the North American Council for the Legacy of Polish Jews, our 501(c)(3) partner in the United States. The objects will be transferred to the Museum in 2018.

In 2017, Tad Taube established the Taube Legacy Endowment. A USD \$3 million bequest supports the POLIN Museum Endowment. This bequest will support two major programs at POLIN Museum:

- USD \$2 million for the Taube Scholars Program, which will support both an international annual conference at POLIN Museum that attracts world-renowned scholars, and the participation of POLIN Museum scholars at international conferences
- USD \$1 million for the Taube Family Mayer Kirshenblatt Art Collection, which will support exhibitions, publications, and educational and public programs based on the paintings by self-taught artist Mayer Kirshenblatt. When matching funds have been raised, USD \$300,000 of the bequest will be released, and the project will be launched.

A USD \$2 million grant to the Jewish Historical Institute will support:

- the renovation of the building at 3/5 Tłomackie Street, which has been the seat of the Emanuel Ringelblum Jewish Historical Institute and the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland since the war, and which is owned by the Association
- the English translation of the Ringelblum Archive, the underground archive of the Warsaw Ghetto, which will provide wider access to these materials internationally
- for the Institute's general operations.

We are very grateful to Tad Taube for his extraordinary generosity and for making the first POLIN Museum Endowment Campaign gift.



List of Association
Donors in 2017

IN SUPPORT OF THE ASSOCIATION’S STATUTORY ACTIVITY *:

- Corinne Evens
 - Fellowships at Auschwitz for the Study of Professional Ethics
 - Kronenberg Foundation — Citi Handlowy
 - Nissenbaum Family Foundation
 - Jan Grabowski
 - Koret Foundation
 - KPMG
 - Monica and Victor Markowicz
 - Ministry of Culture and National Heritage of the Republic of Poland
- Marek and Agnieszka Nowakowski
 - Ygal Ozechov
 - Irene Kronhill Pletka
 - Sigmund Rolat
 - Tad Taube and Taube Philanthropies
 - Tomek Ulatowski
 - Piotr Wiślicki
 - 16 donors who donated through PayPal
 - 71 donors who donated 1% of their income tax

SUPPORT OF THE ASSOCIATION’S STATUTORY ACTIVITY THROUGH
PRO BONO SERVICES *:

- DeBenedetti Majewski Szczesniak
- Weil, Gotshal & Manges

SUPPORT FOR ACTIVITIES WITH POLIN MUSEUM *:

- Nimrod S. and Odette Ariav ‘Cygielman’
 - David Berg Foundation
 - Foundation for the Preservation of the History of Jewish People in the Pale of Settlement
 - Koret Foundation
 - Ronald S. Lauder
 - Nissenbaum Family Foundation
 - Parasol Family Foundation Trust
 - David Goldman, Debbie Bisno, and Fellowships at Auschwitz for the Study of Professional Ethics
 - David M. Gross and Lynne Goldberg
 - Jankilevitsch Foundation
- Jyl Jurman
 - Joseph Moinian
 - Neubauer Family Foundation
 - Marek and Agnieszka Nowakowski
 - Andrzej and Małgorzata Rojek
 - Sills Family Foundation
 - Julia and Stanley Skalka
 - Sandy Soifer and Paul Goldner
 - Taube Foundation for Jewish Life & Culture
 - Jerry Wartski and Family
 - William K. Bowes, Jr. Foundation

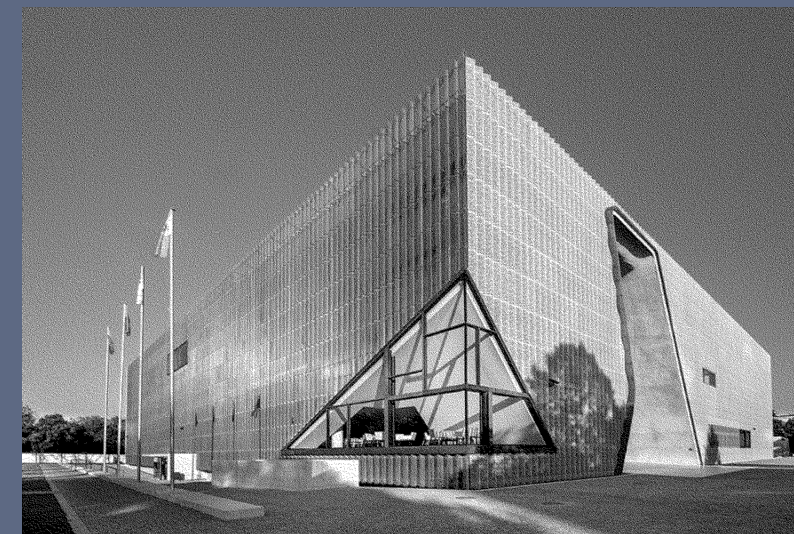
SUPPORT OF ACTIVITIES WITH THE JEWISH HISTORICAL INSTITUTE*:

- Anonymous Donor
 - Azrieli Foundation**
 - Jewish Federations of Canada—UIA
 - Rozen Family Foundation
 - The Gerald Schwartz & Heather Reisman Foundation**
- 28 donors to the Oneg Shabbat program, donating through PayPal
 - 61 donors to the Oneg Shabbat program, donating in memory of Halina Paszkowska-Turski

* Listed in alphabetical order
** Donation through the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland, paid directly to the Jewish Historical Institute



Finances



We consider financial transparency of paramount importance, which is why so many people have entrusted us with their donations.

As I prepare this financial report, I bid farewell to the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute. I would like to take this moment to thank everyone I have met while working at the Association over the last five years. It has been a great pleasure to collaborate with you on such important and inspiring projects.

Remember that I'm still with you, now as a member of the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland. I would like to wish my successor, Michał Majewski, the Association's new Operations Director, much success.

SŁAWOMIR RÓŻAŃSKI
Director of Operations



Financial activity in 2017

Since the completion of the POLIN Museum capital campaign, the Association has focused on:

- supporting and participating in POLIN Museum projects
- supporting and participating in Jewish Historical Institute projects
- supporting projects that fulfill the Association's statutory goals, especially those recommended by the Grants Committee.

The above activity is reflected in the financial data presented below.

KPMG has been auditing the financial statements of the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland since 2008.

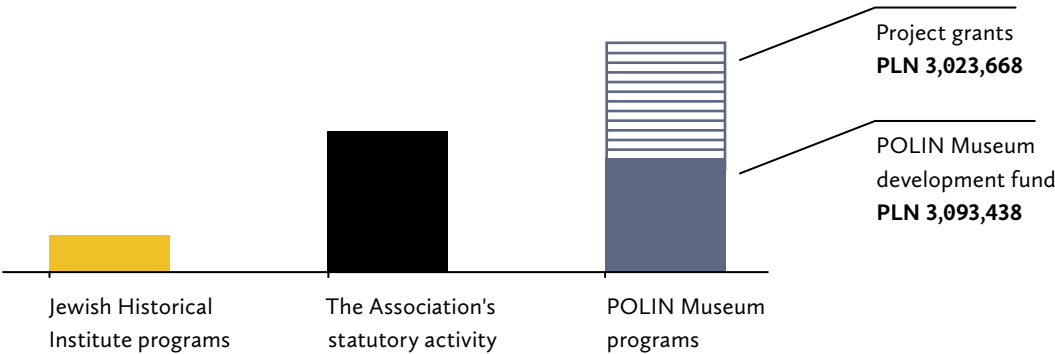
—
Annual financial statements and audit results are available on the Association's website www.szih.org.pl/en

→ Department of Finance and Administration team:
Daria Kurkus and Michał Majewski, new Director of Operations of the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland as of 1 February 2018



THE ASSOCIATION ENTERED THE 2017 REPORTING PERIOD
WITH FUNDS OF PLN 10,829,550:

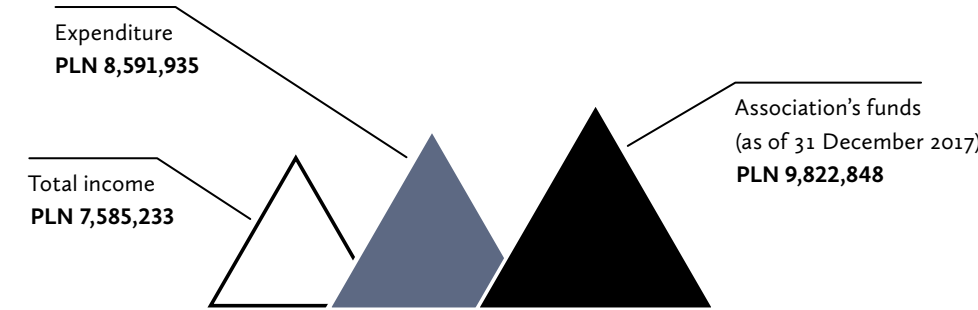
- PLN 3,717,983 for the Association’s statutory activity
- PLN 6,117,106 for projects with POLIN Museum including:
 - PLN 3,023,668 for project grants
 - PLN 3,093,438 for the POLIN Museum development fund
- PLN 994,461 for projects with the Jewish Historical Institute.



Total income during the reported period was PLN 7,585,233 and total expenditures were PLN 8,591,935.

AT THE CLOSE OF THIS PERIOD (31 DECEMBER 2017),
THE ASSOCIATION’S FUNDS TOTALED PLN 9,822,848 OF WHICH:

- PLN 3,704,195 for the Association’s statutory activity
- PLN 5,966,034 for POLIN Museum programs
- PLN 152,619 for Jewish Historical Institute programs.



Expenditure and income for 2017

	Opening balance on 1 Jan. 2017	Income	Expenditure	Balance on 31 Dec. 2017
	PLN	PLN	PLN	PLN
I. Statutory activities of the Association (excluding pts. II and III)	3,717,983	1,795,942	1,550,414	3,704,195
Adjustment of opening balance	-259,316 *	.	.	.
II. Support for POLIN Museum	6,117,106	5,282,931	5,434,003	5,966,034
III. Support for the Jewish Historical Institute	994,461	506,360	1,607,518	152,619
Adjustment of opening balance	259,316 *	.	.	.
TOTAL	10,829,550	7,585,233	8,591,935	9,822,848

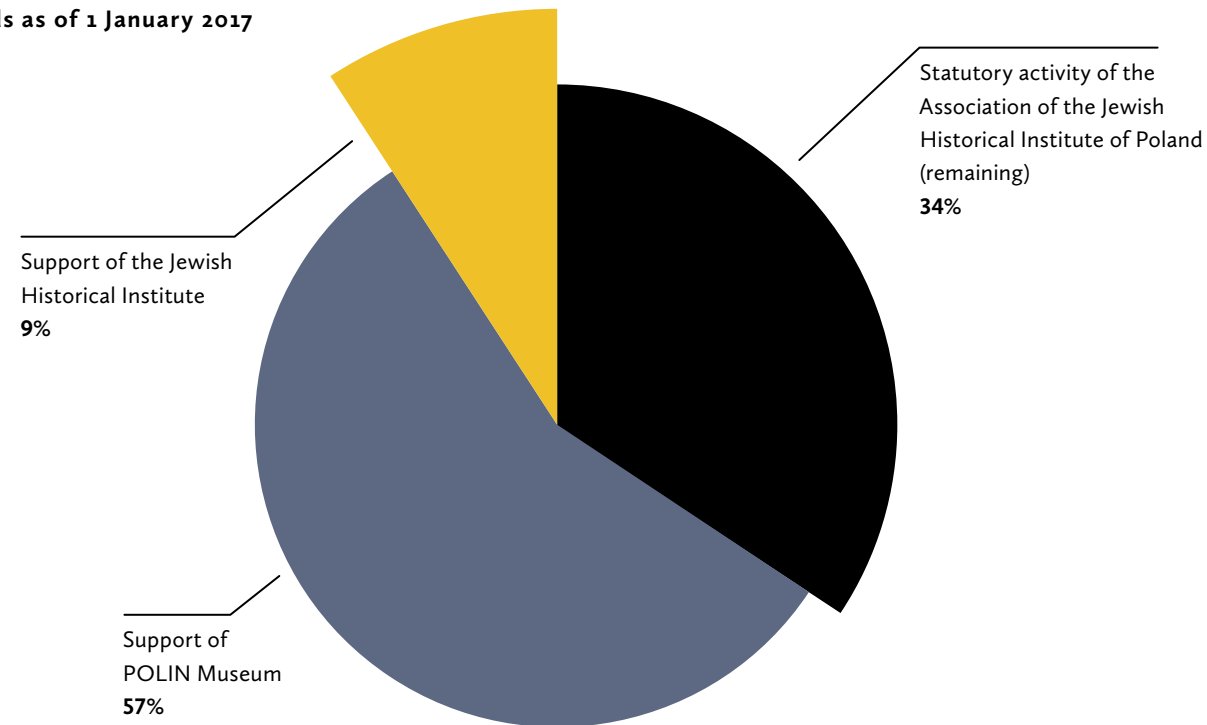
* Adjustment resulting from the Association’s decision to allocate more funds to the Jewish Historical Institute

Allocations for the Association’s statutory activity and for POLIN Museum’s programs remained almost unchanged, while allocations for the Jewish Historical Institute’s programs decreased by almost PLN 850,000 because the Association had allocated a larger amount to the Institute in 2016 to support the preparation of an intense program of activities in 2017.

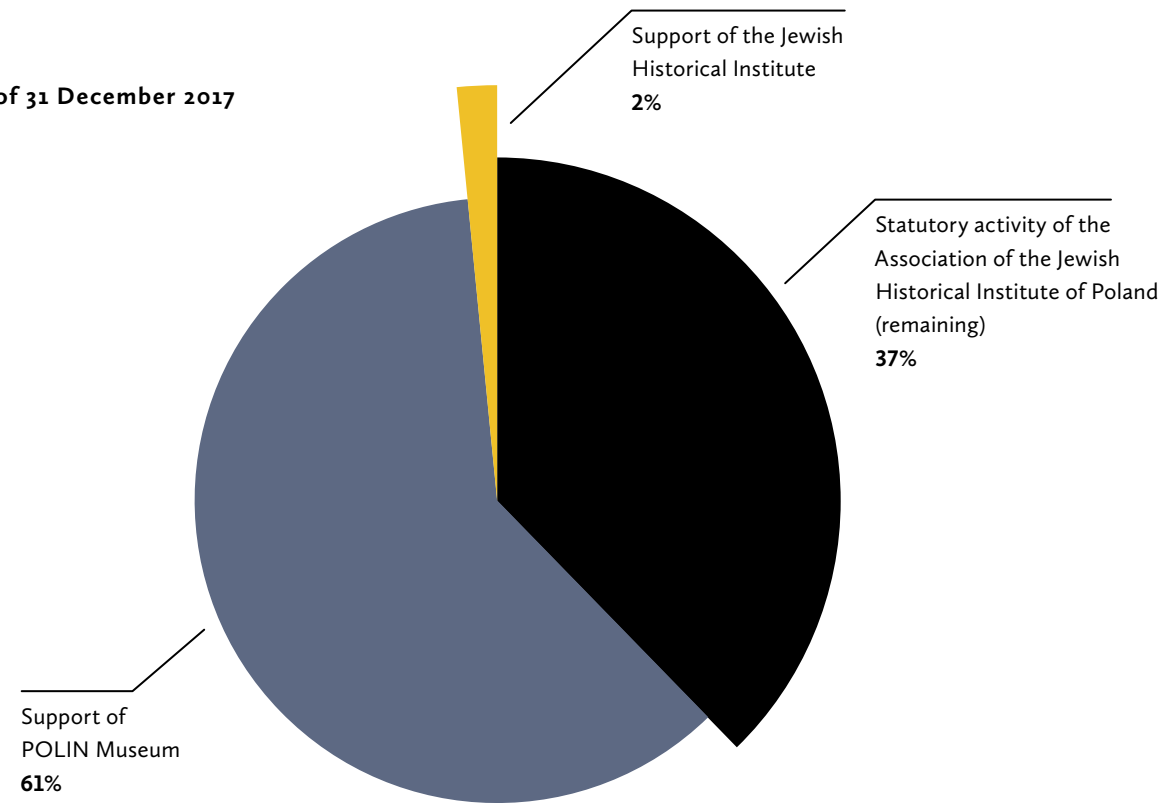
The Institute’s crowning achievements in 2017 were the new permanent exhibition of the Ringelblum Archive and publication of the remaining volumes of the full Polish edition of the Ringelblum Archive. During 2017, the Association accomplished additional USD \$2 million for programs to be carried out with the Jewish Historical Institute. These funds will be transferred in installments during 2018–2021.

The financial situation of the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland has remained stable, even with an increase in the number of projects and the related increase in spending.

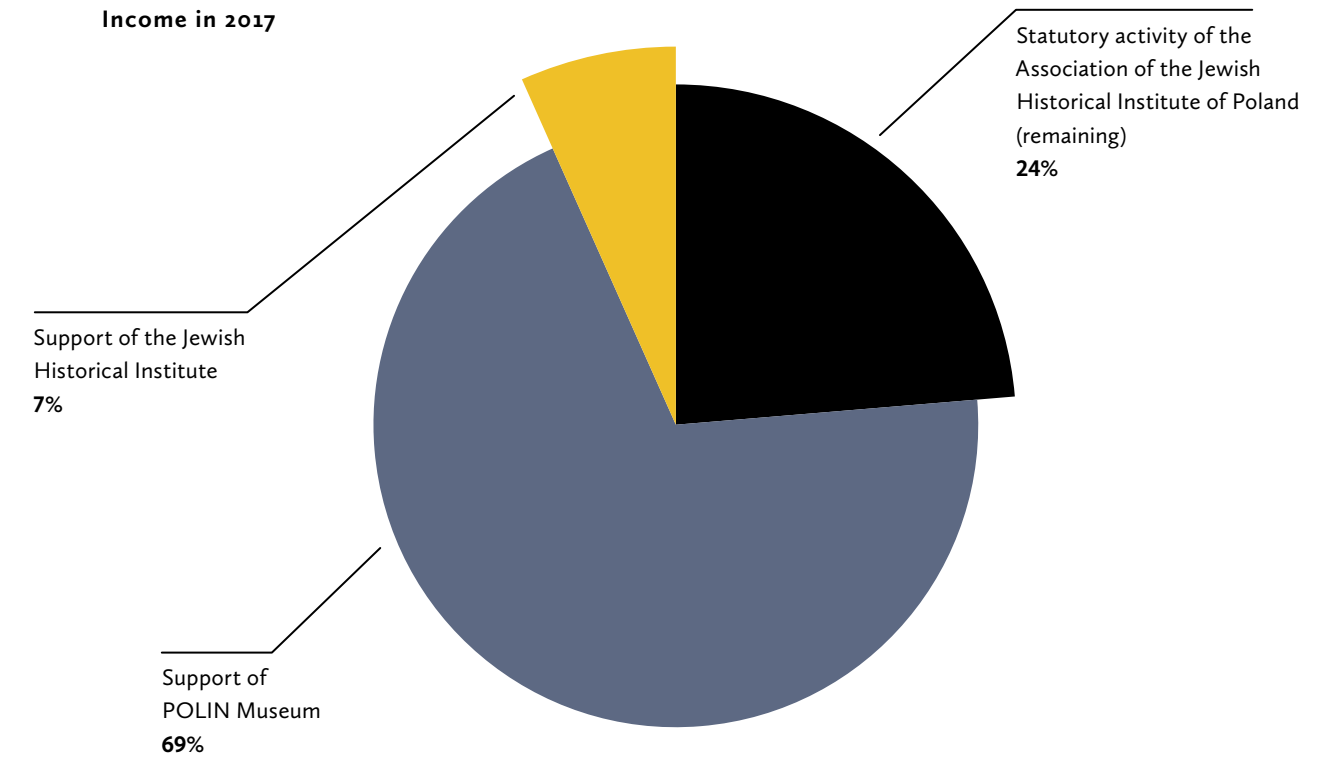
Funds as of 1 January 2017



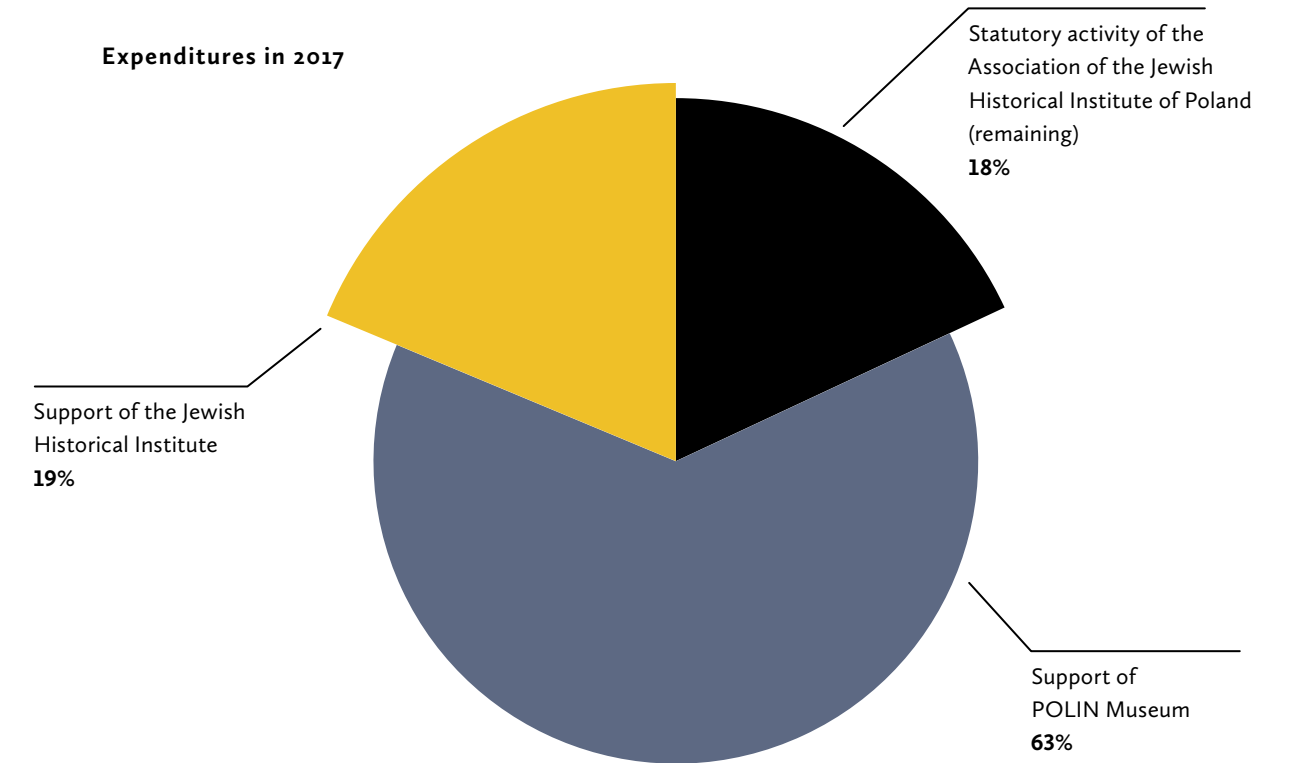
Funds as of 31 December 2017



Income in 2017



Expenditures in 2017



Expenditure and income for 2017

	Opening balance on 1 Jan. 2017	Income	Expenditure	Balance on 31 Dec. 2017
	PLN	PLN	PLN	PLN
	A	B	C	D = A + B – C
I. Statutory activities of the Association (excluding pts II and III)	3,717,983	1,795,942	1,550,414	3,704,195
1. Adjustment of the opening balance	–259,316 *	.	.	.
2. Administrative costs	.	.	355,730	.
3. Grants Committee	.	6,580 **	135,000	.
4. Support for other organizations	.	3,497 **	69,500	.
5. Fundraising and promotion	.	1,484,413	990,184	.
6. Other income and expenditures	.	301,452	.	.
II. Support for POLIN Museum	6,117,106	5,282,931	5,434,003	5,966,034
1. Projects supported by publicly funded grants, and developed in cooperation with Jewish organizations	.	79,159	104,903	.
2. Targeted projects	.	5,203,772	5,329,100	.
III. Support for the Jewish Historical Institute	994,461	506,360	1,607,518	152,619
1. Adjustment of opening balance	259,316 *	.	.	.
2. Institute projects, including the Oneg Shabbat program	.	506,360	1,607,518	.
TOTALS	10,829,550	7,585,233	8,591,935	9,822,848

* Adjustment resulting from the Association’s decision to allocate greater funds to the Jewish Historical Institute
** Income resulting from the return of unused grant money

I. Expenses for other statutory activities of the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland (not related to POLIN Museum and the Jewish Historical Institute):

- 1. Administrative Costs**
Day-to-day running of the Association office, including remunerations, costs of meetings and the General Assembly, costs of correspondence with the Association’s members
- 2. Grants Committee**
Grants to organizations recommended by the Grants Committee (see page 46)
- 3. Support for other organizations**
Grants made directly by the Management Board (see page 51)
- 4. Fundraising and promotion**
Expenses related to fundraising activities, reporting, and production of promotional materials for the Association, POLIN Museum, and the Jewish Historical Institute. The fundraising and promotion budget is financed by members of the Donors Council (see page 66).
- 5. Other income and expenditures**
Income for the Association’s statutory activities and expenses not included above, including interest on bank deposits

II. Expenses in support of POLIN Museum:

- 1. Projects supported by publicly funded grants and developed by POLIN Museum and the Association in cooperation with Jewish organizations** (see page 35)
- 2. POLIN Museum projects**
Restricted funds for specific POLIN Museum programs (see page 26)

III. Expenses incurred by the Jewish Historical Institute, including the Oneg Shabbat program (see page 38)

We invite you to join us in preserving and commemorating the history and culture of Polish Jews and their contributions to world culture. Every donation matters! With your help, the Association will continue to support POLIN Museum, the Jewish Historical Institute, and many other organizations in Poland.

Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland
Account no. PL 87 1240 6247 1111 0000 4975 6324

For tax-deductible donations in the US and further information, please contact: development@szih.org.pl

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היסטאָרישער HISTORICAL
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Opening photos:
p. 6–7: Main Judaic Library and Great Synagogue of Warsaw at Tłomackie Street; p. 16–17: Education workshop, Simchat Chajim Festival, Synagogue in Jarocin, May 2017; p. 52–53: Glass façade of POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews (detail); p. 70–71: POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews

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