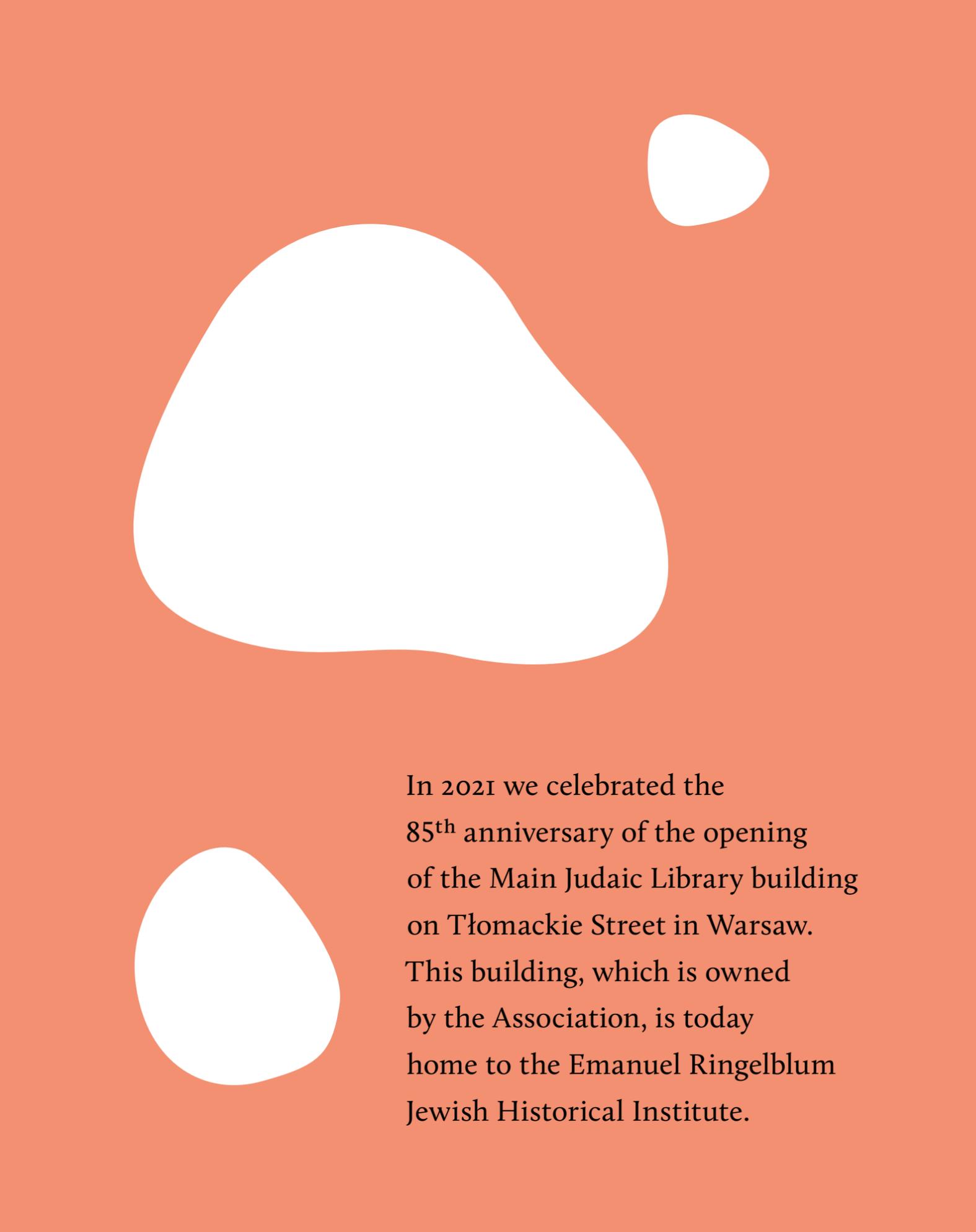


Report ——— 2021



ASSOCIATION OF  
THE JEWISH HISTORICAL  
INSTITUTE OF POLAND

The background of the left half of the image is a solid orange color. It features three white, irregular, organic shapes: a large one on the left, a smaller one at the top right, and another one at the bottom left.

In 2021 we celebrated the 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of the Main Judaic Library building on Tłomackie Street in Warsaw. This building, which is owned by the Association, is today home to the Emanuel Ringelblum Jewish Historical Institute.



# Annual Report of the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland

2021

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ASSOCIATION OF  
THE JEWISH HISTORICAL  
INSTITUTE OF POLAND

The Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland has been working since 1951 to commemorate the history and culture of Polish Jews and their contribution to world civilization. The Association raises funds and supports numerous important projects. It founded and co-financed POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews and supports the Emanuel Ringelblum Jewish Historical Institute.

Marian Turski and Piotr Wiślicki ↓



Dear Friends,

We welcomed 2021, hopeful that the newly available vaccines would bring an end to the pandemic and bring a return to normal. That path, it turns out, is neither straight nor short.

But we are not alone on this path. We have been meeting with many old friends, people we can always count on and with whom we could not meet for many long months due to the restrictions. We also met new friends, including new donors, who came to trust us and to support our work. We would like to express our special thanks to them.

International visitors began returning to POLIN Museum. Although we were closed for many weeks, attendance slowly increased thanks to the outstanding exhibition of the work of Wilhelm Sasnal, one of Poland's most highly esteemed contemporary artists. The exhibition addressed Polish memory of the Holocaust.

During the last year, we began working with the new leadership of the Emanuel Ringelblum Jewish Historical Institute. Together we completed construction of a new home for our most precious treasure, the Warsaw Ghetto Underground Archive.

The Association's Grants Committee, named after our late friend and Management Board member, Jan Jagielski, selected more than 50 organizations for support. Our new Grants Program will allow us to fund many local initiatives across Poland even more effectively.

We would also like to thank the new members of our Finance Committee. The knowledge and experience of these financial experts will help us manage our growing Endowment.

We also thank all of you for your support.

PIOTR WIŚLICKI  
Association President

MARIAN TURSKI  
Association Vice President,  
POLIN Museum Council President

ps: At the time that we prepared this report, we already knew about Russia's attack on Ukraine. We knew about the mass graves in Bucha and in other cities near Kyiv. We were witnessing the bombing of Mariupol and the fear in the eyes of hundreds of thousands of Ukrainians who had to flee their homes. We also saw the great commitment of all of Polish society to help the refugees. Now, in 2022, we are confronted by completely new and unexpected challenges. Alas, the demons of war have again seized Europe.



The Association

For 71 years, the Association has supported and promoted scholarly research on Jewish culture and history, conducted educational activities, and worked to foster tolerance.

The Association's diverse membership is bound together by a common mission — to preserve the thousand-year heritage of Polish Jews for future generations.

Main Judaic Library and Great Synagogue at the pre-war Tłomackie street ↓



## History of the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland

01

The Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland is the successor of the Central Jewish Historical Committee, established in 1944 as part of the Central Jewish Committee in Poland. After many years of effort, the Association was finally 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 civilization. For 71 years, the Association has supported and promoted scholarly research on Jewish culture and history, conducted educational activities, and worked to foster tolerance. The Association works with organizations with similar goals in Poland and around the world.

The Association 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. This idea has been supported by successive Polish presidents and governments, together with dozens of 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 January 25, 2005, the Association, Ministry of Culture and National Heritage, and City of Warsaw jointly established the Museum of the History of Polish Jews. According to the founding agreement, the public partners 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 almost 600 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 an additional PLN 20 million for the Museum's public and educational activities. We have continued to support the Museum since its opening, having raised more than PLN 30 million for that purpose.

The Association also supports a variety of other initiatives: each year we award several dozen grants to organizations working to preserve the cultural and material heritage of Polish Jews.



← Commemoration of Jews from Nowy Targ within a project "People, Not Numbers" by the Popiela Family Foundation "Centrum"

↓ Facade of the building at Tłomackie 3/5



↑ Wilhelm Sasnal touring around his exhibition *Such a Landscape* at POLIN Museum

In addition to raising funds for POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews, the Association supports the preservation and accessibility of a vast archive of materials dating from as early as the mid-17<sup>th</sup> 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 Warsaw Ghetto Underground Archive, which UNESCO has inscribed in its Memory of the World Register in recognition of its importance to humanity. In the moral sense, this legacy is the property of all Jews.

The Association believes that cooperation between the government and charitable organizations can deliver measurable effects in the protection of Jewish heritage. That is why it has made its collections and the historic building at Tłomackie 3/5 in which they are stored available to the Emanuel Ringelblum Jewish Historical Institute free of charge. The Association also works with the Institute on numerous joint projects, the most important of which is the Oneg Szabat Program. As part of it, the permanent exhibition about the Archive and its creators, *What We've Been Unable to Shout Out to the World*, opened in the Institute in 2017. The Oneg Szabat Program has international reach and is being developed continuously with the support of the Association.

The Association also supports a variety of other initiatives: each year we award several dozen grants to organizations working to preserve the cultural and material heritage of Polish Jews within our Grants Committee program.

Association Management Board members are volunteers. They not only represent the Association, direct its operations, and set new directions for its work, but most of all they devote their time and energy to achieving the Association's goal of protecting Jewish heritage in Poland.



## Governing Bodies of the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland

02  
—

### MANAGEMENT BOARD:



**Piotr Wiślicki**  
President



**Marian Turski**  
Vice President



**Joanna Fikus**  
Secretary



**Marek Nowakowski**  
Treasurer



**Dr. Kamila Dąbrowska**  
Member



**Dr. Zuzanna Hertzberg**  
Member



**Jan Jagielski**  
Member (until February 17, 2021)



**Dr. Maciej Kozłowski**  
Member



**Agnieszka Milbrandt**  
Member



**Alicja Mroczkowska**  
Member



**Prof. Dariusz Stola**  
Member (from March 31, 2021)



**Dr. hab. Jolanta Żyndul**  
Member

## AUDIT COMMITTEE:



Maciej Antosik  
Chair



Krzysztof Czajka-Kalinowski  
Vice Chair



Justyna Kobos  
Secretary



Zbigniew Sztranc  
Member (from January 5, 2021)

JAN JAGIELSKI  
GRANTS COMMITTEE:



Joanna Fikus  
Chair



Dr. Kamila Dąbrowska  
Member



Grzegorz Kołacz  
Member



Dr. hab. Artur Markowski  
Member

## FINANCIAL COMMITTEE:



Przemysław Schmidt  
Chair



Robert Koński  
Member



Andrzej Malec  
Member



Andrzej Rojek  
Member

## DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT:

Raising funds, donor relations, communication and cultivation,  
production of fundraising materials.



Bartosz Dymarek  
Acting Director of Development



Agnieszka Dulęba  
Deputy Director of Development



Aleksandra Maj  
Senior Fundraising Specialist  
(until October 31, 2021)



Anna Szcześniak  
Development Specialist  
(from March 1, 2021)

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT:

Conducting and managing the organization's finances, grants policy, HR matters, coordination of the work of all the bodies functioning within the structure of the Association.



Michał Majewski  
Director of Operations



Anna Moniewska  
Office Manager

In 2021 the Management Board held 17 meetings, at which it adopted 55 resolutions, and one Annual Meeting of Association Members.

As of December 31, 2021, the Association had 248 members, among them individuals from the worlds of academia, education and culture, and business.



JAN JAGIELSKI  
(1937–2021)



↑ Jan Jagielski with the POLIN Special Award 2016

An icon in Jewish tradition and later in the Judeo-Christian tradition is Ruth the Moabite, a woman from the “foreign tribe” of Moab. She married an Israelite and expressed solidarity with a tribe to which — as we would say today — she acculturated and to whose fate she bound her own life. She would be rewarded (by Providence, of course) by becoming the foremother of King David, and after many generations, Jesus.

I have known, we have known, someone in our circles who was the equivalent of Ruth the Moabite: Janek Jagielski. No, I’m not exaggerating. Every age has its heroes.

I was very close to him. (In fact, I think many people can say this, because Janek was a very open person.) It seems to me that he would come to me with secrets that he didn’t tell others. I say this only to confess that even so, I never had the courage to ask him whether there was a particular reason, a specific cause, for which a person “from a different mother” started to identify with Judaism.

With Ruth, we know the situation precisely: guided by mercy, she didn’t want to leave her Jewish mother-in-law alone to her fate. And Janek? Even though I was greatly interested, I never dared to ask him.

If somebody were to ask me what were the pillars on which the Jewish Historical Institute stood for decades, I would say without hesitation: on the archive, whose most important part is the Oneg Szabat team, and on the Documentation Department, which was organized by Jan Jagielski.

Always smiling, friendly to everyone, never complaining about anything; I never heard a bad word about anyone pass his lips. (Of course, he would wink knowingly, I won’t deny it.) He always got the highest number of votes in the secret elections to the Association Management Board — that’s another measure of the trust in him.

And outside the Institute and the Association, his greatest passion, in fact a part of his life, was Jewish cemeteries. Both those few that were rescued, and those — especially those — that were forgotten, neglected, abandoned, cluttered with trash. It was also his desire that he be laid to rest in the Jewish cemetery on Okopowa Street in Warsaw; actually, I don’t know anybody who knew this cemetery as well as he did. Fortunately, our Orthodox rabbis didn’t value the letter of the law over the spirit and agreed to respect the will of this exceptional Righteous man (though he was born too late to be certified as such).

My late wife, Halina Paszkowska-Penczyna, loved Janek. I can’t doubt that she was a great judge of people.

MARIAN TURSKI

Turski was recognized for calling on people to abandon their comfortable attitude of ambivalence and “doing nothing.”

Marian Turski with a Decoration of Honour for Services to the Republic of Austria ↓



## Awards and Distinctions

03

### MARCH

Marian Turski received the 2020 Fr. Stanisław Musiał Award. This honor recognizes contributions to Christian-Jewish and Polish-Jewish dialogue. Turski was recognized for calling on people to abandon their comfortable attitude of ambivalence and “doing nothing.”

### JULY

Dr. Werner Almhofer, the Austrian ambassador to Poland, presented Marian Turski with the Golden Decoration of Honor for Services to the Republic of Austria. In his speech, he noted that Austrian President Alexander Van der Bellen was the first to use the phrase “Auschwitz didn’t suddenly fall from the sky” in conversation with him, which inspired his later speech on the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz.

### AUGUST

The Grand Press Foundation presented Marian Turski with its Medal of Freedom of Speech, an award established to foster mature public debate and freedom of speech in Poland and to promote “wise words in the social space.” In his speech, Turski warned against the loss of media independence and reminded of the media’s influence on society.

↓ Fr. Stanisław Musiał Award Ceremony



## SEPTEMBER

The Association won the TOP Inwestycje Komunalne (TOP Community Investments) award for its role in building POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews, which was recognized as one of the 10 best investments of the past decade. Association Operations Director Michał Majewski received the award, which was presented at the 2021 European Economic Congress by the PTWP Group, which organized the Congress, and the Portal Samorządowy web portal.

## OCTOBER

Marian Turski unveiled a mural of his image on the wall of the International Youth Meeting Center in Oświęcim, as part of the House of Values project. The mural is by the Lublin artist Łukasz Majerowski. Earlier recipients of this honor include social activist Jurek Owsiak and actor Andrzej Seweryn.

TOP Inwestycje Kulturalne Award Ceremonies ↓



## Other events from the life of the Association



↑ Professor Dariusz Stola

## JANUARY

On January 27, we observed International Holocaust Remembrance Day. Marian Turski took part in a televised debate, *Holocaust Denial and Distortion*, with Professor Deborah Lipstadt and Professor Philippe Sands. The debate was organized by the United Nations, UNESCO, and the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance.

## FEBRUARY

It was with deep sorrow and regret that we learned of the death of Jan Jagielski, a member of the Association's Management Board, a long-time employee of the Jewish Historical Institute, and an outstanding researcher on the history and heritage of Polish Jews. We present Marian Turski's recollection of Jan on page 18–19.

## MARCH

Professor Dariusz Stola was appointed to the Association's Management Board to replace the late Jan Jagielski. Professor Stola is an outstanding historian of the history of Polish-Jewish relations. He served as Director of POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews from 2014 to 2019.



Laying of the foundation stone for the symbolic grave of the Oneg Szabat group on the Okopowa Jewish Cemetery in Warsaw ↑

#### APRIL

On April 19, we commemorated the 78<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the outbreak of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising. On this occasion, together with the Social Committee for Ringelblum Archive Monument Construction and Stacja Muranów the Association for Social and Cultural Initiations, we unveiled the Ringelblum Archive Monument at 28 Nowolipki Street in Warsaw. We also commenced work, together with the Jewish Community of Warsaw, on a symbolic grave for members of the Oneg Szabat group at the Okopowa Street Jewish Cemetery. Details about both projects are on page 74–75.

#### MAY

We created a state-of-the-art repository exclusively for the Warsaw Ghetto Underground Archive, an important stage in the multi-year project of modernizing the building of the former Main Judaic Library at 3/5 Tłomackie Street, today home to the Jewish Historical Institute. Details are on page 50.

The Association was invited to join the board of the newly created JCC Warsaw Foundation. The organization's purpose is to integrate the Jewish community, broadly understood, and its non-Jewish family members and friends by creating special programs and cultural events. Dr. Kamila Dąbrowska is the Association's representative on the board.

#### JUNE

Michał Majewski, the Association's operations director, was chosen for a second term as a member of the Polish Donors Forum, the country's largest association of independent and financially autonomous organizations providing donations to charitable causes. The Council's mission is to create supportive, transparent conditions for the development of grant-giving operations.

On June 20, Association members met for their Annual Meeting, during which they approved the financial and operations report for 2020 and changes in the organization's statute to allow the Association to create the organizational framework for building the Endowment Fund.

The Association of Jewish Veterans and Victims of World War II invited the Association to collaborate on the award of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising Medal, which recognizes contributions to Polish-Jewish dialogue and to the commemoration of the history and culture of Polish Jews.

To mark Marian Turcki's 95<sup>th</sup> birthday, the Association, together with the Wydawnictwo Czarne publishing house, published *XI Thou Shalt Not Be Indifferent*, a personal collection of Turcki's most important speeches. Details are on page 77.

Newly created Ringelblum Archive repository ↓







Statutory Activity

Dear Friends,

For POLIN Museum and the entire community gathered around this institution, last year was a time of ambivalence. Conflicting emotions were our constant companion: on the one hand, we worried about ourselves and our loved ones, and on the other, we could say that POLIN Museum came back to life. We were finally open most of the time and could carry out key projects, first and foremost the Daffodils Campaign, the Wilhelm Sasnal exhibition, *Such a Landscape*, and the Jewish Cultural Heritage project. We welcomed almost 200,000 visitors and reached a million more online thanks to our innovative offerings. Those are very good numbers considering the pandemic.

With the support of our friends from the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland, most of POLIN Museum's projects ran to a greater or lesser degree. *Such a Landscape* drew a record attendance of almost 76,000 visitors, a success made possible thanks to private donors and the Association's involvement. We are forever grateful for this. You are with us in good times and bad. We still have many plans and ideas, and with your support, we will be able to carry out our mission: to restore the memory of Polish Jews and build understanding between individuals and societies.

Dear Friends, I encourage you to read this document. In the following pages you will find the details of our common endeavors; I will not deny that we boast of our successes. But we are not braggarts; we simply want to show that an institution built with such great effort by so many wonderful people is working and constantly educating.

Once more, I would like to thank everyone who has supported us in this common endeavor, and I also encourage anyone who may be hesitating: working with POLIN Museum and the Association is one of the safest investments today. I promise that it will pay returns in projects that are good, necessary, and well-executed.

ZYGMUNT STĘPIŃSKI

Director, POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews



## POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews

01

From the day it opened, POLIN Museum has been appreciated and honored in the international arena, receiving numerous awards for its presentations, its use of the latest technologies, and for meeting the highest global standards for a history museum. The foundation of POLIN Museum is the Core Exhibition, which shows the often little-known history of Jewish presence in Polish lands. The exhibition was prepared by an international team of scholars, designers, and educators, under the auspices of the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland. The Core Exhibition educates visitors about the thousand-year history of Jewish coexistence in Poland.

Despite the pandemic, POLIN Museum succeeded in organizing many important events in 2021. In January, after several years of preparation, the *Legacy* gallery, an epilogue to the Core Exhibition, was inaugurated. It is accompanied by an expansive program of related events. In April, the Daffodils Campaign, commemorating the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising, achieved ever greater outreach online; the Association was a partner, as it has been every year. In June, we opened the temporary exhibition *Wilhelm Sasnal: Such a Landscape*, the first exhibition in Poland of this outstanding Polish contemporary artist for more than 10 years.

In November, the *Encounters with Modernity* gallery of the Core Exhibition was enriched by an exceptional painting, Maurycy Gottlieb's 1874 *Self-Portrait in Polish Nobleman's Dress*, which for more than 70 years was thought to be lost. It was auctioned for a record amount and transferred to POLIN Museum on long-term loan by an anonymous donor. POLIN Museum also invited visitors to various online and in-person events throughout the year, including meetings, films, and programs for families. Our online workshops for schools drew record attendance.

### The Community Council

The Museum Council is an advisory body for the Director of POLIN Museum. It was created in 2015 at the initiative of the Association. Council members include representatives of the Jewish community and of organizations who cherish the idea of preserving and disseminating the heritage of Polish Jews. The Council is a place of discussion and exchange of experiences. The main topic of the meeting in 2021 was the upcoming 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the outbreak of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising.

POLIN Museum projects carried out in 2021 with the support and collaboration of the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland and private donors recruited by the Association

I. CORE EXHIBITION AND COLLECTIONS



← We continued to seek donors for the final gallery of the Core Exhibition, *Polish Jews in the World*, an epilogue to the thousand-year history of Polish Jews. Collaboration among the Museum, the Association and the WWAA design bureau led to the creation of new animations, presenting the outstanding space of the gallery, and a short promotional film which is available through the QR code. We will continue to recruit donors in 2022.

PROJECT DONORS:

Taube Philanthropies; The Friend Family Foundation; Eric A. Benhamou; Koret Foundation; John (z"l) and Jill Freidenrich; Stuart and Josie Shiff; Franklin and Catherine Johnson; Cathy and Jim Koshland; Roselyne Chroman Swig; Victor Smorgon Charitable Fund



↑ Despite the ongoing pandemic and reduced number of visitors, particularly from abroad, more than 120,000 people visited the Core Exhibition in 2021. The *Legacy* gallery, an epilogue to the Core Exhibition, opened in January. It honors distinguished Polish Jews and their contribution to world cultures, while highlighting their connections to Jewish tradition and history. The 26 individuals featured in this gallery represent a wide range of fields — literature, theatre, film, and art, science, business, and politics, and many others. Their lives illuminate the history of Polish Jews, while the history of Polish Jews provides insights into their lives and achievements. Together they form a collective portrait of Polish Jews in all their diversity. The exhibition was accompanied by a rich online program, which included educational films, webinars, tours, and various other activities.

PROJECT DONORS:

Association Européenne du Musée de l'Histoire des Juifs de Pologne POLIN; Sigmund Rolat; David Berg Foundation; Linda Frum and Howard Sokolowski Charitable Foundation; Konrad Adenauer Foundation



Wojciech Weiss, *Stary Cmentarz Żydowski* (Old Jewish Cemetery) ↑



↑ Marek Szwarc, *Biegnący jelonek* (Running fawn)

↑→ The Association supported the purchase, conservation, and digitization of six works by Wojciech Weiss, a leading artist of the Young Poland period, which relate to Jewish history and heritage in Poland. Until now, POLIN Museum had only one item by this outstanding artist in its collection. Association support also made possible the conservation of *Running Deer*, a sculpture by Marek Szwarc, an important artist in the Yung-yidish movement. POLIN Museum began collecting his work in 2015. Association also supported the display of his metalwork in the *On the Jewish Street* gallery of the Core Exhibition.

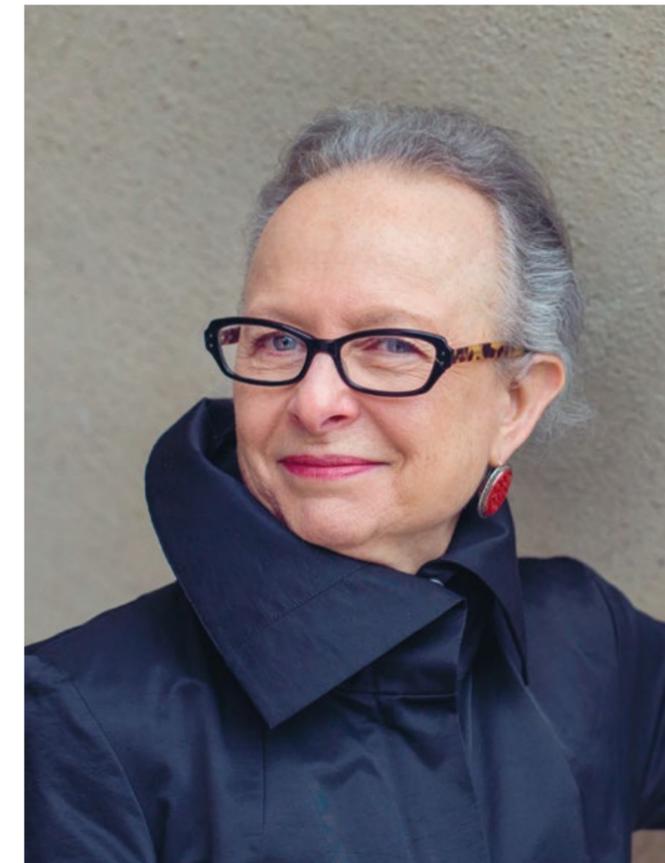
The POLIN Museum Development Fund, which was established by the Association, made these acquisitions possible



↑ The goal of “Show your love!” is to raise funds for POLIN Museum’s collection by providing opportunities to donate in support of a specific object. The project is also intended to raise awareness of POLIN Museum’s rich collections, only a small percentage of which can be shown in the Core Exhibition. We launched the project in December and are carrying it out in cooperation with POLIN Museum. Details about this initiative are on page 91.

→ Professor Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett, Ronald S. Lauder Chief Curator of POLIN Museum’s Core Exhibition, is engaged in all projects related to development of the Core Exhibition. As such, she is Chief Curator of both the *Legacy* gallery and the *Polish Jews in the World* gallery. In addition, she advises on POLIN Museum’s temporary exhibitions and supports POLIN Museum’s GEOP, TISH, and educational programs, as well as the Association’s fundraising efforts on behalf of POLIN Museum.

DONATION FOR THE POSITION OF CHIEF CURATOR OF POLIN MUSEUM’S CORE EXHIBITION:  
Ronald S. Lauder



## II. TEMPORARY EXHIBITIONS



↑ *Here Is Muranów*, on view from June 2020 to March 2021, presented the various historical layers of this Warsaw neighborhood and the fate of its residents, from its earliest beginnings to the present, with an eye to the future. Before World War II, Muranów was home to Europe's largest Jewish community. The Holocaust destroyed that world forever. Some of the residents died in the ghetto from hunger and disease; most perished in Treblinka; and the prewar Jewish district was razed to the ground after the German's

suppressed the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising. All that remained was an ocean of rubble. Today Muranów is home to people from all corners of Warsaw, Poland, and the world — and to POLIN Museum. *Here Is Muranów* was visited by 22,000 people. The curator was Kamila Radecka-Mikulicz, and the concept came from Professor Jacek Leociak.

PROJECT DONOR:  
Joseph Feingold



↑ *Wilhelm Sasnal: Such a Landscape*, on view from June 2021 to January 2022, presented the work of one of Poland's most outstanding contemporary artists. Curated by Adam Szymczyk, it was the artist's first solo show in Poland in more than ten years. This award-winning exhibition, which included works from the past 20 years, was a critical and popular success. Almost 76,000 people visited the exhibition, making it the most popular art exhibition in Poland in 2021, and almost 52,000 people took part in the accompanying program of events, in person and online. Those events reached a broad Polish and international audience. The guidebook created by the artist for visitors in the exhibition was also offered for sale. Filled with Sasnal's drawings and comments, the book offered the artist's personal tour of the exhibition. The print run of 6,000 copies enjoyed great popularity.

PROJECT DONORS:  
Jankilevitsch Foundation; SIGNUM Foundation

The preparation of *What's Cooking? Jewish Culinary Culture*, a temporary exhibition scheduled to open in March 2022, took place in 2021. The exhibition explores the history of Jewish culinary traditions in relation to religion, migration, and local contexts from antiquity to the present. It features many interesting original objects and works by contemporary artists. It is also accompanied by a printed and e-book catalogue in Polish and English and by a rich series of events.

PROJECT DONORS:  
Jankilevitsch Foundation;  
The Citi Handlowy Leopold Kronenberg Foundation

### III. CULTURAL EVENTS



↑ The fourth edition of the POLIN Music Festival was the first to be held completely online. The six concerts featured performances by Michael Guttman, Alexey Botvinov, Eric Himy, Ewa Leszczyńska, Maria Sławek, Marcin Zdunik, Mischa Kozłowski, the Sinfonia Varsovia orchestra's string quartet, and SONICO, one of the most interesting contemporary groups performing Argentinian tango. The fourth edition commemorated the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Mieczysław Wajenberg and the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Astor Piazzolla's birth, and also presented the music of violinist Bronisław Huberman, pianist Artur Rubinstein, and composer Henryk Wars, three luminaries featured in POLIN Museum's new *Legacy* gallery.

The festival was curated by Michael Guttman and Kajetan Prochyra. All the concerts were streamed on POLIN Museum's Facebook page and YouTube channel. Almost 20,000 people viewed the Festival during its first week. We encourage you to watch the concerts, using this QR code.

PROJECT DONOR:  
Jankilevitsch Foundation



↑ POLIN Museum, in cooperation with the Association, has been presenting the POLIN Awards since 2015 to individuals and organizations dedicated to protecting the memory of the history of Polish Jews. The winner of the 2021 award was Dariusz Popiela, an activist with Sądecki Shtetl and creator of the "People Not Numbers" project, which commemorates the names of more than 5,000 Holocaust victims from Krościenko nad Dunajcem, Grybów, Czarny Dunajec, and Nowy Targ. He received a monetary award of PLN 20,000. The jury also awarded honorable mentions of PLN 10,000 each to Urszula Antosz-Rekucka of Mszana Dolna, Urszula Rybicka of Wrocław, and Inga Marczyńska, who is active in the Małopolska and Podkarpacie regions. Antosz-Rekucka, a leader of dialog and community protection of monuments, is also the founder and president of the Mszana Dolna

Shtetl Foundation, which has been preserving the memory of the town's former Jewish residents for years. Rybicka, a commentator, critic, and educator, is president of the Żydoteka Foundation, a Polish service that she set up to present Jewish literature. Marczyńska, an artist and sculptor from Jasło, preserves memory sites, educates youth, and runs art workshops related to Jewish culture and tradition for children and youth. Thanks to her, Sala Korzennik and Rachela Pacher, two girls from Kołaczyce who were murdered in 1942 during the liquidation of the Jewish community of Jasło and the surrounding area, were buried in the Jewish cemetery in Tarnów and their memory restored after 79 years.

PROJECT DONORS:  
Jankilevitsch Foundation; Tomek Ulatowski;  
Odette and Nimrod S. Ariav Foundation;  
anonymous donor

## IV. EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS



↑ *Proof of Identity*, the directorial debut of Mikołaj Grynberg, an outstanding writer and photographer, presents moving conversations with Jews of various generations living in Poland today. They come from large cities and from provincial Poland and reflect a broad range of experiences and attitudes. They speak about their family histories, their present lives, and how they see the future. The film offers an intimate perspective on what it means to be Jewish in Poland today.

POLIN Museum commissioned *Proof of Identity* for the post-89 section of the Core Exhibition's *Postwar* gallery. The 10-minute version appears in the gallery. The full-length documentary is being shown widely on the TVN GO platform and channel TVN24, TVN History and TVN International.

PROJECT DONOR:  
Association Européenne du Musée  
de l'Histoire des Juifs de Pologne POLIN

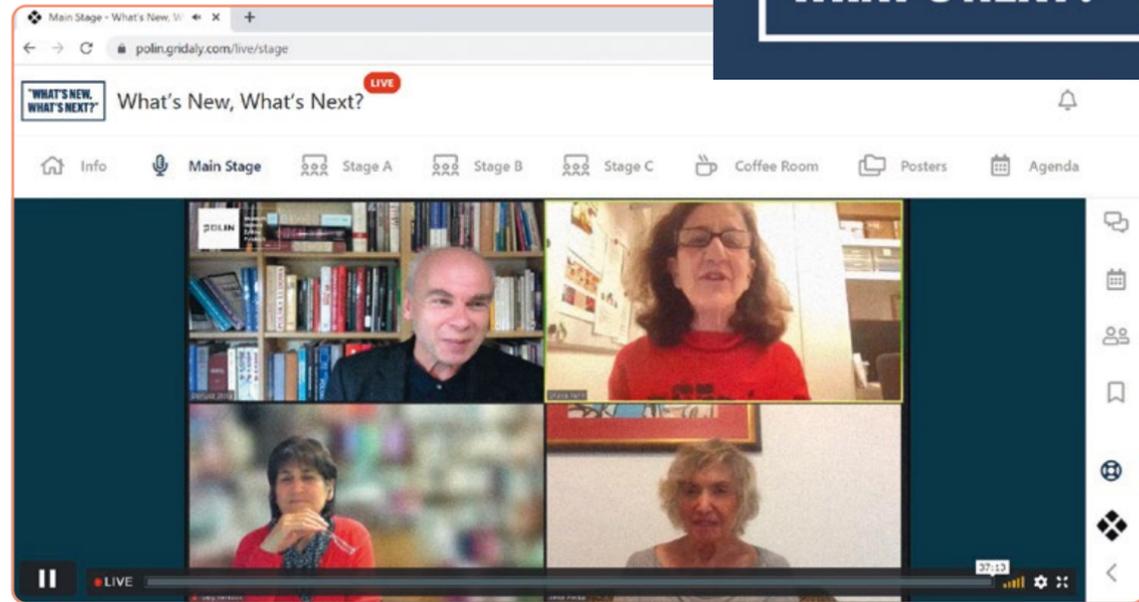


↑ POLIN Museum and the Grodzka Gate — NN Theatre Centre organized “In the Footsteps of Jews: The Lublin Region,” a series of five educational workshops for eight local secondary schools about the tradition and culture of Polish Jews in the region. The workshops introduced students to the multicultural past of the Lublin

region and cultivated an open attitude and curiosity about minorities. Thanks to the Ariav family's support, the project will run through 2024.

PROJECT DONOR:  
Odette and Nimrod S. Ariav Foundation

## V. SCHOLARSHIP, EDUCATION, AND RAISING AWARENESS



↑ The Global Education Outreach Program (GEOP) promotes Polish-Jewish studies internationally by supporting research and scholarly exchange. Due to the pandemic, the program was again carried out almost entirely online, which allowed scholars from around the world to take part. The international conference “What’s New, What’s Next? Innovative Methods, New Sources and Paradigm Shifts in Jewish Studies” (October 3–7, 2021), which was held online, drew 573 participants, including 151 speakers, from Europe, Israel, and the United States, as well as from India, Uruguay, and Rwanda. Sally Berkovic, Shana Penn, and

Irene Kronhill Pletka, funders of Jewish studies and Jewish museums, discussed the future of the field. Professor Dariusz Stola chaired this panel. Doctoral students from Poland and abroad attended nine meetings of the GEOP doctoral seminar. GEOP also organized interdisciplinary online workshops and special musical events for the broader public. Professor Antony Polonsky continued to moderate conversations about important new books on the history of Polish Jews.

**PROJECT DONORS:**  
Taube Philanthropies; William K. Bowes, Jr. Foundation



↑ POLIN Museum’s Resource Center serves those interested in their family history or wanting to explore the history of Jews from their hometown. The Center’s experienced staff support genealogical research and explain how to care for historical documents, photographs, and objects. The Center served visitors in person, responded to e-mail queries, and launched paid genealogical services in 2021.

**PROJECT DONORS:**  
Tomek Ulatowski and Ygal Ozechov;  
Taube Philanthropies; William K. Bowes, Jr. Foundation

## VI. PROMOTION OF POLIN MUSEUM



↑ During the pandemic, when POLIN Museum had to move its program’s online, the Association designated funds to help the Museum promote its offerings. Targeted marketing campaigns positioned POLIN Museum in the most popular search engines and expanded the Museum’s audience by tens of thousands. As a result, POLIN Museum not only served more people but also reached many who would have been unreachable in person.

Project financed from the POLIN Museum Development Fund created by the Association and from a Google grant for non-profit organizations

Originally part of the Great Synagogue complex on Tłomackie Street before the war, this building once housed the Main Judaic Library and the Institute of Judaic Studies.



## The Emanuel Ringelblum Jewish Historical Institute

02

The Emanuel Ringelblum Jewish Historical Institute is a world-renowned research center dedicated to the history of the Jews who lived for centuries in Poland and Central and Eastern Europe. For more than 70 years, it has been fulfilling its mission of collecting, documenting, and disseminating knowledge about the history and legacy of the thousand-year Jewish presence on Polish lands, with particular emphasis on events related to the Holocaust and its consequences. One of the Institute's most important tasks is to care for the Jewish legacy preserved in its archive: first and foremost, through comprehensive conservation of the Association's collections, including the Warsaw Ghetto Underground Archive, known as the Ringelblum Archive.

The Institute is also home to Poland's largest team of scholars working on Jewish heritage and the Yiddish language. Various divisions conduct research, work with the collections in the archive and library, and write about Jewish history and culture. The Institute organizes cultural projects, seminars, and educational meetings, runs a publishing house, and creates thematic exhibitions (artistic, photographic, historical, and related to Jewish holidays), as well as open-air exhibitions. In 2017, the Institute and the Association created the Oneg Szabat Program, whose mission is to increase awareness of the Ringelblum Archive around the world. The heart of the program is the exhibition *What We've Been Unable to Shout Out to the World*, which is dedicated to the Ringelblum Archive and the Oneg Szabat group.

The Ringelblum Archive is located in the historic building at 3/5 Tłomackie Street, which belongs to the Association; the Association allows the Institute to use the building free of charge. Originally part of the Great Synagogue complex on Tłomackie Street before the war, this building once housed the Main Judaic Library and the Institute of Judaic Studies. It is here that the Oneg Szabat group (Hebrew for Joy of Sabbath), which formed the underground archive, would meet in secret during the war. 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.

Dear Friends,

Promoting the heritage of Polish Jews in society's memory requires unceasing efforts. The Emanuel Ringelblum Jewish Historical Institute is engaged in this mission as a state cultural institution and the heir of postwar Jewish organizations in Poland.

Among our programs for commemoration, education, historical research, and promotion of knowledge about the history and culture of Polish Jews, a significant role is played by the Oneg Szabat program, launched jointly with the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland. The support of individual donors and institutions has been key to the program, particularly that of Taube Philanthropies and the Association, the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage, and non-profit organizations.

In 2021, the fourth year since its founding, the Oneg Szabat program carried out a series of exhibitions and scholarly, educational, and publishing initiatives. They serve to inform the entire world about the legacy of Emanuel Ringelblum, our namesake, and the group called Oneg Szabat, or Joy of Sabbath, which he founded. Despite the difficult conditions of the pandemic, our program has moved forward. At the same time, we know there is still much to be done.

We have managed to translate into English two more volumes of the full edition of the Ringelblum Archive. We launched the facility in which the original Archive documents are stored, ensuring the highest global standards of protection for the most valuable part of our collection. We introduced the Explainit audioguide for the permanent exhibition, which is dedicated to the Oneg Szabat group, *What We've Been Unable to Shout Out to the World*. The audioguide helps our guests, tourists, and guides discover more about the history of the Warsaw ghetto and the civilian opposition movement there. We lend our collections to museums in Poland and abroad and are also working on our first travelling Oneg Szabat exhibition, which should open in Munich in June 2023.

We gained thousands of new visitors on social media. We recorded another episode in the podcast series on the Archive and the Oneg Szabat group, with Rachela Auerbach as the hero. This podcast series is addressed to international audiences. The JHI's Research Department, with the participation of external

experts, is preparing an online encyclopedia of the Warsaw ghetto, an exhaustive source of knowledge about the Warsaw Jewish neighborhood. We are making the encyclopedia available on the Delet portal, which is the platform for our collections. We organized another two editions of the Academy for teachers and encourage people across Poland to discover Jewish heritage in Warsaw, as well as in their own cities and towns. Meetings with teachers have become an indispensable element of our offering.

I would like to thank all of the program's donors, creators, and collaborators. I encourage you to support the promotion of the Ringelblum group's achievements and those of the Jewish Historical Institute. It is because of you that memory can endure, and knowledge can flourish.

MONIKA KRAWCZYK

Director of the Emanuel Ringelblum Jewish Historical Institute



## ONEG SZABAT PROGRAM



The purpose of the Oneg Szabat program is to continue the mission of the people who created the Ringelblum Archive. In 2021 we focused primarily on developing our already extensive network of program participants and sought new ways to make our resources available.

We carry out the work of preserving and promoting the Ringelblum Archive as part of the Institute's research, archival, and conservation work and as the basis for our exhibitions and educational activities. We are supporting a translation of the full edition of the Ringelblum Archive, organization of cultural events, and making documents and studies about the creators of the Warsaw Ghetto Underground Archive available online.

The Oneg Szabat program's activities carried out in 2021 with the support and collaboration of the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland and private donors recruited by the Association

### I. PUBLICATIONS



↑ Last year two additional volumes of the Ringelblum Archive were translated into English — *Children: Clandestine Education in the Warsaw Ghetto* and *The Last Stage of Resettlement Is Death: Pomiechówek, Chełmno on the Ner,*

*Treblinka*. Work on the remaining translations continues.

PROJECT DONOR:  
Taube Philanthropies

## II. COMPLETION OF THE REPOSITORY

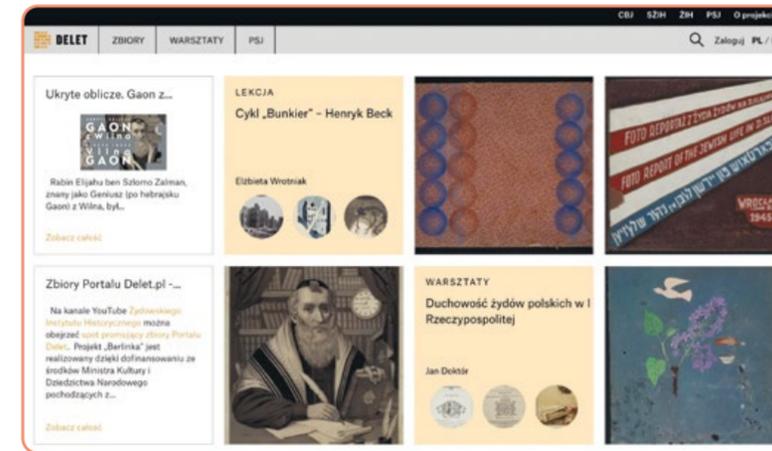


↑→ In 2021 we created the Ringelblum Archive repository, a unique storage space for special collections at the Jewish Historical Institute, thanks to which the materials gathered by the Oneg Szabat group are protected better than ever before. All the documents are now stored in accordance with the highest world standards of safety in a specially designed space.

PROJECT DONOR:  
Taube Philanthropies  
Cofinanced from the Association's funds



## III. DISSEMINATION



↑ Equally important for spreading knowledge about the mission and resources of the Ringelblum Archive was building and developing the online community around the Oneg Szabat Program and recording another episode of the podcast, whose heroine is Rachela Auerbach. We invite you to listen to it using the QR code.

↑ Because of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Institute's most important programs took place online. The Oneg Szabat group's work was made available through the Delet portal, whose resources are steadily increasing as digitization of AJHI collections in deposit of the Institute moves forward. We encourage you to visit the website using this QR code.



A multi-year interdisciplinary project, an online encyclopedia of the Warsaw Ghetto, is also being developed. After completing the work, in which outstanding researchers are engaged, the entire encyclopedia will be available on the Delet portal.

## IV. EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES



↑ We place great emphasis on educating the public about the Oneg Szabat group. As the heirs and guardians of the Warsaw Ghetto Underground Archive, we are eager to reach the largest possible audience in Poland and abroad.

In 2021, the Explainit audioguide was launched for visitors to the permanent exhibition, *What We've Been Unable to Shout Out to the World*, which features testimonies created by the Oneg Szabat group that offer a perspective on the fate of Polish Jews during World War II. Warsaw tour guides took part in dedicated trainings and were encouraged to tell visitors to the Polish capital about the Oneg Szabat group.

## V. SHARING THE COLLECTIONS



Marek Włodarski (Henryk Streng), *Żydzi muzykanci w obozie w Stutthofie* (Jewish Musicians in Stutthof Camp) ↑

↑ A lending program encompasses many objects that belong to the Association, are in the Institute's collection and are made available to foreign institutions: one of the boxes in which the first part of the Ringelblum Archive was hidden is now being exhibited in the Imperial War Museum in London. Objects will be exhibited in the museum's permanent collection until January 2023. We have once again lent to the Zekelman Holocaust Memorial Center in Farmington Hills, near Detroit, five objects from the Łódź Ghetto, which will be included in *The Girl in the Diary: Searching for*

*Rywka from the Lodz Ghetto*, an exhibition prepared by the Galicia Jewish Museum in Kraków, the third time these objects have been loaned for this exhibition in the United States. Three works by Marek Włodarski were lent to the Andrey Sheptytsky National Museum of Lviv for *Henryk Streng/Marek Włodarski and Jewish-Polish Modernism*, an exhibition organized by the Museum of Modern Art in Warsaw. The travelling Oneg Szabat exhibition will open at the NS-Dokumentationszentrum München. We are preparing the storyline and selection of objects to be loaned.



## VI. THE GENEALOGY DEPARTMENT



↑ Despite the pandemic, the Jewish Historical Institute's Genealogy Department has continued to help people research their family histories in Poland. Mostly working online, of necessity, did not diminish the effectiveness of the research. Thanks to their years of experience and access to Association collections on deposit

at the Institute, the genealogy staff was able to help people reconstruct family histories, discover traces of their ancestors' lives, and connect with relatives alive today in various parts of the world.

**PROJECT DONOR:**  
Taube Philanthropies

### DONORS TO THE ONEG SZABAT PROGRAM SINCE 2017:

- Ministry of Culture and National Heritage
- Ministry of Science and Higher Education
- Tad Taube and Taube Philanthropies
- Ledor Wador Foundation
- Koret Foundation
- Azrieli Foundation
- Gerald Schwartz and Heather Reisman Foundation
- Rozen Family Foundation
- Jewish Federation of Canada — UIA
- Freddy Hancock
- Hermione Foundation
- Claims Conference
- 61 donors who supported the project in memory of Halina Paszkowska-Turska
- Anonymous donors



Dear Friends,

Last year, 2021, was the second year of the pandemic. The previous year had already made us aware of our own fragility, mocking our plans; many of us found ourselves in a very difficult situation. Together with Kamila Dąbrowska, Grzegorz Kołacz, and Artur Markowski, with whom I work on the Jan Jagielski Grants Committee, we were worried about how all these wonderful, bold, engaged people, who make sure that in small, local communities the memory of their Jewish neighbors doesn't disappear, would cope. But 2021 demonstrated how they managed to adjust to the new, fluid reality exceptionally quickly and effectively. They organized Jewish culture festivals and educational projects, cleaned and signposted cemeteries, and commemorated Holocaust sites. They brought many of these activities online, which allowed them to reach a significantly broader audience, often scattered across Poland and the world. They taught all of us that strength lies in community, that together we can do more. They joined activities by their local communities despite the fears that were with all of us. In 2021, the Jan Jagielski Grants Committee supported 50 projects.

We also decided to slightly change the grant-awarding formula — hopefully to the benefit of all parties. Starting in 2022, we are implementing a more efficient system for grant applications and evaluation. We will describe the evaluation criteria and monetary awards precisely. We want to be as transparent and open as possible. We want funds to go to people whose projects are particularly effective in engaging local communities. We are confident that by restoring the memory of a diverse Poland, we will show what our country could look like in the future.

I would like to express great appreciation to all of our activists: you are changing the world, making it a better place. I would also like to encourage everyone who is engaged in similar activities to apply. Watch for the announcement of our next competition.

JOANNA FIKUS  
Jan Jagielski Grants Committee Chair,  
Association Management Board Secretary



## Jan Jagielski Grants Committee

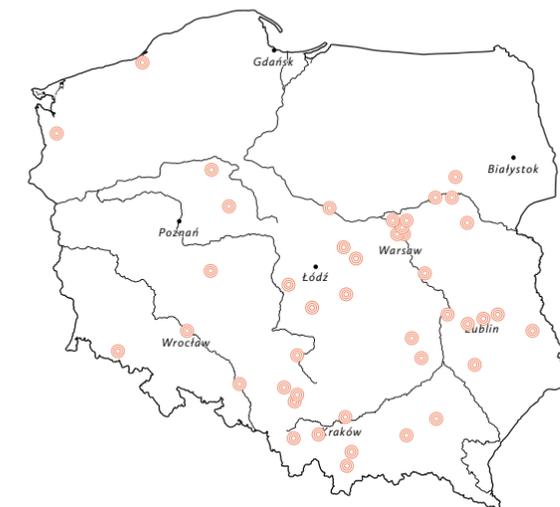
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The Jan Jagielski Grants Committee decides on awards of grants to organizations dedicated to the preservation and commemoration of Jewish history and cultural heritage in Poland. Grants are intended to assist people, usually operating far from big cities, who are trying to preserve, and above all to restore the memory and knowledge of a world that is no longer with us.

We are committed not only to supporting, but also to honoring people who together with their neighbors undertake what often seems impossible. We believe that providing funds for their activities helps them carry out their plans. The effects are visible on a national scale.

In 2021, we held two grants competitions; received 102 applications, and awarded more than PLN 250,000 to the 50 most interesting and valuable projects. The Committee communicated regularly with grantees about how to modify their projects so that they could realize their goals under pandemic conditions.

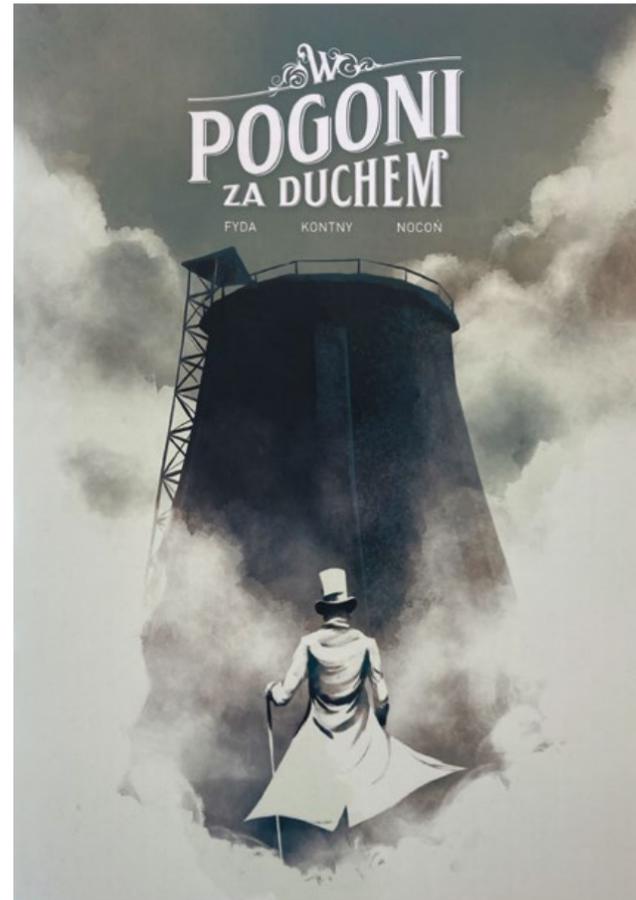
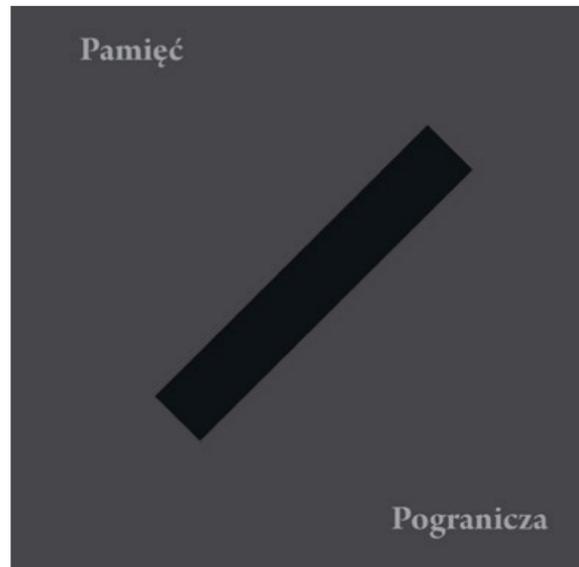
Additionally, participation in Stocznia Foundation workshops prepared the Grants Committee to begin restructuring the rules for how we operate and building a new strategy for the Association's Grants Program, the first effects of which will be seen in the grants competition announced in mid-2022.



Map of the projects supported in 2021 →

Grants awarded by the Jan Jagielski Grants Committee in 2021

I. PUBLISHING ACTIVITIES



↑ “Borderland Memory,” a project of the Brama Cukermana Foundation, aims to create an online publication about places related to the history of Jews in Upper Silesia and the Dąbrowa Basin. Using photography, witness testimony, interviews with inhabitants, historical descriptions, and archival and iconographic materials, the project creates a space for reflecting on a forgotten history rooted in the local context.

↑ The Iron Man Sports Association created a comic based on the realities of the town of Gogolin at the turn of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, when Leopold Cassirer, a Jewish businessman, was active. He was a founder of the lime industry in Gogolin and Upper Silesia. Written for youth, the comic shows the dynamic growth of the industrial settlement, construction of factories and railroads, and creation of a modern city. It tells a story of the coexistence of Germans, Poles, and Jews.



Happening commemorating children of Tomaszów ghetto ↑

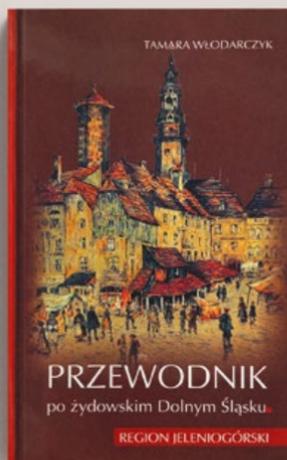


↑ Salomon, Mordechaj, Jenta, Miriam, Melech and Perla are among the many names of children born in Tomaszów Mazowiecki when the ghetto was operating. These children came into the world in homes, assisted by midwives, and sometimes in the Jewish hospital; sometimes mothers in labor ended up in the municipal hospital outside the ghetto. Pasaże Pamięci Foundation’s “Children of the Tomaszów Ghetto” project is recovering the names of the youngest Jewish children by preparing a bilingual publication dedicated to children born in Tomaszów in 1941–42.

The KARTA Center Foundation is working with the Jewish Historical Institute to publish the little-known memoir of the Lviv attorney Salomon Leder, which he wrote while in Israel in 1959–60. The memoir, which covers the period 1939–49, deals with the Soviet occupation of Lviv, the author’s arrest and imprisonment by the Soviets, his role in creating the Anders’ Army in the Soviet Union during World War II, his exile to a labor camp, his fight for repatriation to Poland, and his emigration to Israel.

↑ “Shlomo of Radzymin: the forgotten art of Shloyme Gilbert” commemorates a pre-war writer of poetry, stories, and drama. Born in Radzymin, Shloyme Gilbert worked exclusively in Yiddish. To make his art accessible to readers today, the Radzymin Municipal Public Library and municipality, are translating selected poems into Polish and then presenting them by actors from the Ot Tak Theater.

In 2020, Yochawed Rabinovitz, daughter of Masza Wronberg, asked the municipality of Jastków to help her search for traces of her ancestors. Unfortunately, no one was able to help her, and the story of her family was completely unknown. Embarrassment, but also curiosity, prompted many people to take up the search. “Masha, the Miller’s Daughter,” a publication project, will bring together materials related to the fate of the Wronberg and Erlich families, against the backdrop of the history of mills in the municipality.



↑ *A Guide to Jewish Lower Silesia: The Jelenia Góra Region*, a publication in the series by Tamara Włodarczyk on the Jewish heritage of this southwest Polish region, includes descriptions of Jewish historical sites and places connected to the history of Polish and German Jews in the Jelenia Góra region, as well as biographical sketches of outstanding figures related to this area.

Sokołów Jews who survived the war, like survivors from many other localities, wrote memoirs and recorded the histories of Jewish communities that disappeared. Their stories, written in Yiddish, have become a monument to these communities. *The Sokołów Podlaski memorial book* in five volumes is one of the most extensive, which is why the Gszarim Foundation is translating it in stages. They completed the second stage in 2021. The newly translated text sheds light on Jewish political life in the town and the activities of the religious, Zionist, and socialist parties.



↑ Sfera Harmonii Foundation published a translation into English and Yiddish of the full version of *Wajnbęrg's Warsaw*, a walking tour guidebook, which describes prewar Warsaw through the eyes of the composer and his family. Texts by Agnieszka Kuś, a scholar of Warsaw, reveal the disappeared world of Jewish theatres, cabarets, and buildings in the Northern District.



↑ Two books by Hanka Grupańska, a renowned writer of important books about the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising, are being translated into English for publication by Academic Studies Press in the United States: *Ciągła po kole. Rozmowy z żołnierzami getta warszawskiego* (Round the Circle. Conversations with the Soldiers of the Warsaw Ghetto) and *Odczytanie Listy. Opowieści o warszawskich powstańcach Żydowskiej Organizacji Bojowej* (Reading Out the List. Tales about the Warsaw Soldiers of the Jewish Fighting Organization). Both titles are foundational for Holocaust researchers and are frequently assigned in schools and universities.



↑ For their book *Izraelita Lubelski* (The Lublin Israelite), named for a 19th-century weekly, Grodzka Gate — NN Theatre Centre collected and edited selected correspondence that Lublin Jews sent to this publication from 1866–1906, and a complete essay by Henryk Lew, *O lecnictwie i przesądach leczniczych ludu żydowskiego* (On the medicine and medical superstitions of the Jewish people), which had appeared in installments in the magazine. The book is illustrated with little-known woodcuts of 19th-century Lublin based on the work of Aleksander Gierymski.

## II. COMMEMORATIONS AND PROJECTS RELATED TO CEMETERIES AND GRAVES



↑ Members of the Katz and Fridman families were murdered in a farm field in the village of Suskrajowice during the war and buried there. In 1986, a concrete slab was placed on their grave. Residents of the village still remember them and place flowers and candles on the slab. The “Świętokrzyski Sztetl” Museum and Education Center erected a stone obelisk as a more fitting memorial to those who were murdered.



↑ Poland is the site of hundreds, perhaps thousands of forgotten graves of Holocaust victims. Most such places are still unmarked, even though knowledge of them remains in collective memory. In response, the Zapomniane Foundation decided to place simple wooden markers on 25 wartime Jewish graves. The shape of these markers recalls the tombstones in prewar Jewish cemeteries.

“No More Killing Fields,” a project of Friends of Wojsławice Association, commemorates the place where the town’s Jewish residents were shot to death. The SS and gendarmerie executed a group of about 60 Jews in a meadow next to the local Orthodox church in October 1942. The victims included about 20 children. The monument, which saves the location from oblivion, is a fitting memorial to this tragic event.

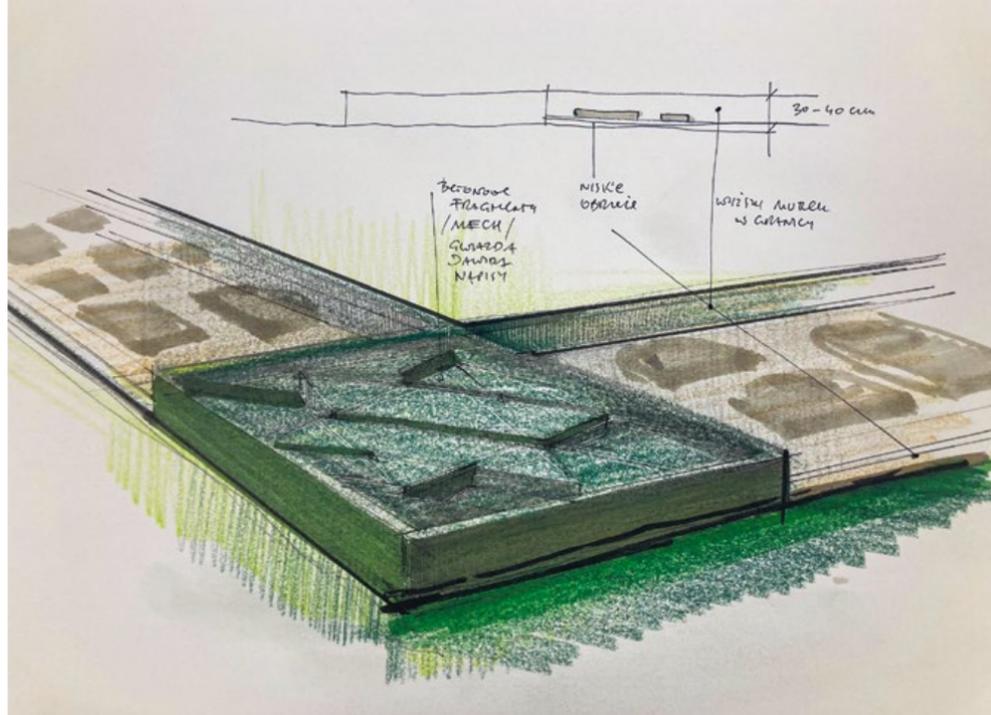


↑ The Popiela Family Foundation “Centrum,” erected a monument in the Jewish cemetery in Nowy Targ to commemorate the Jewish community murdered during the Holocaust. The monument, which names more than 2,000 victims, is part of their “People, Not Numbers” project. They also identified and preserved mass graves. Educational activities and lessons on the Holocaust were held for schoolchildren, who will care for the cemetery in the future.

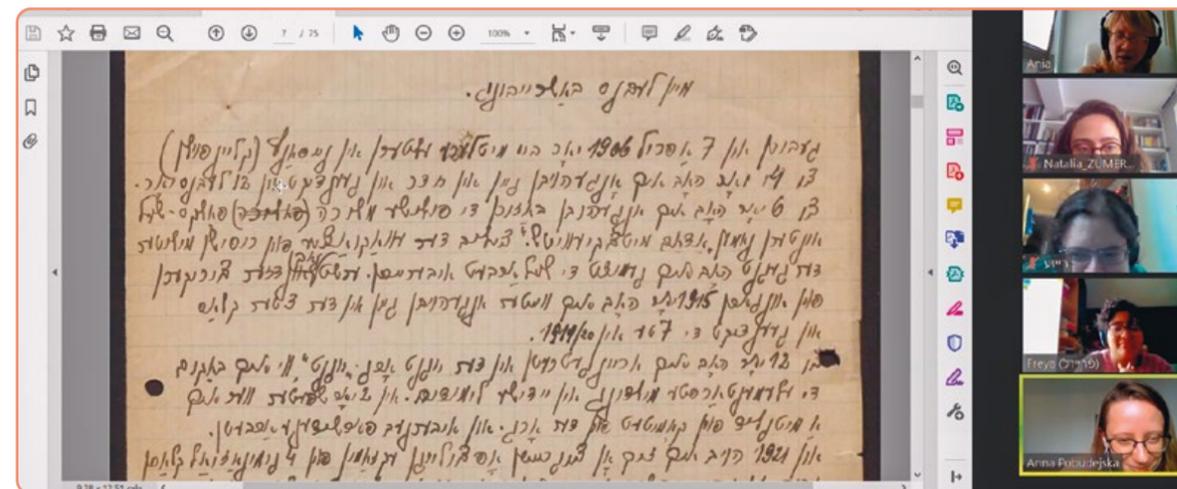
After the war, the only inhabitant of Mszana Dolna to survive the Holocaust, Jakob Weissberger, funded a monument to the Jewish community. Eighty years after the tragedy, the monument had deteriorated. The Mszana Dolna Shtetl Foundation decided to carry out a comprehensive renovation of the marker. The unveiling is planned for the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the murder of Mszana’s Jews in August 2022.

Inhabitants of Kcynia who still remember life before the war are fewer in number with each passing year. To make younger generations aware of the various cultures that once enriched the life in the town, the municipal government, together with the Kcynia Sound Archive, set up an informational plaque near the place where the synagogue stood before the Germans burned it down in September 1939. This initiative, which is part of the “Rescuing Memory of Kcynia’s Jewish Community” project, included walking tours in which local schoolchildren participated.

Trzemeszno municipality is undertaking an inventory of newly discovered tombstones that had been removed from the local cemetery. The tombstones are being cleaned and conserved before being displayed in the planned lapidarium.



### III. EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS

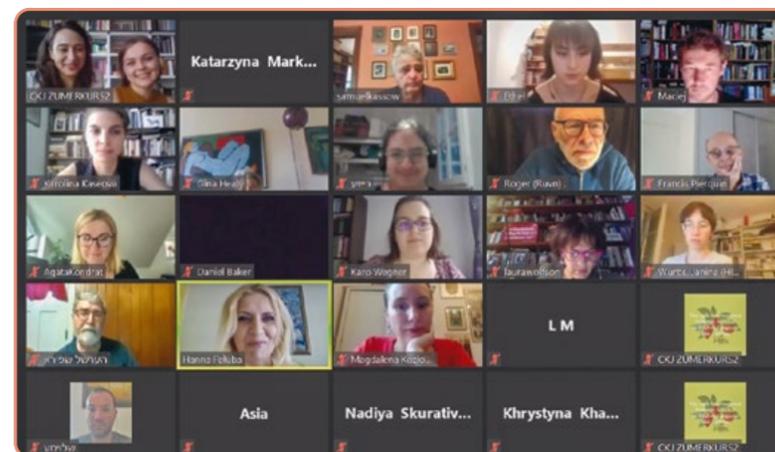


↑ “Rescue from Oblivion” is a multi-phase campaign by the Society of Friends of Janowiec nad Wisłą on behalf of the local Jewish cemetery. In 2021, they managed to carry out the first cleaning of the cemetery and the creation and unveiling of a commemorative plaque, the culmination of the March of Memory of Janowiec Jews organized as part of the Pardes Festival in Kazimierz Dolny.

The municipality of Brody plans a range of activities to protect the Jewish cemetery in the village of Zasieki. Work began with a renovation of the fence and will include educational activities for local residents.

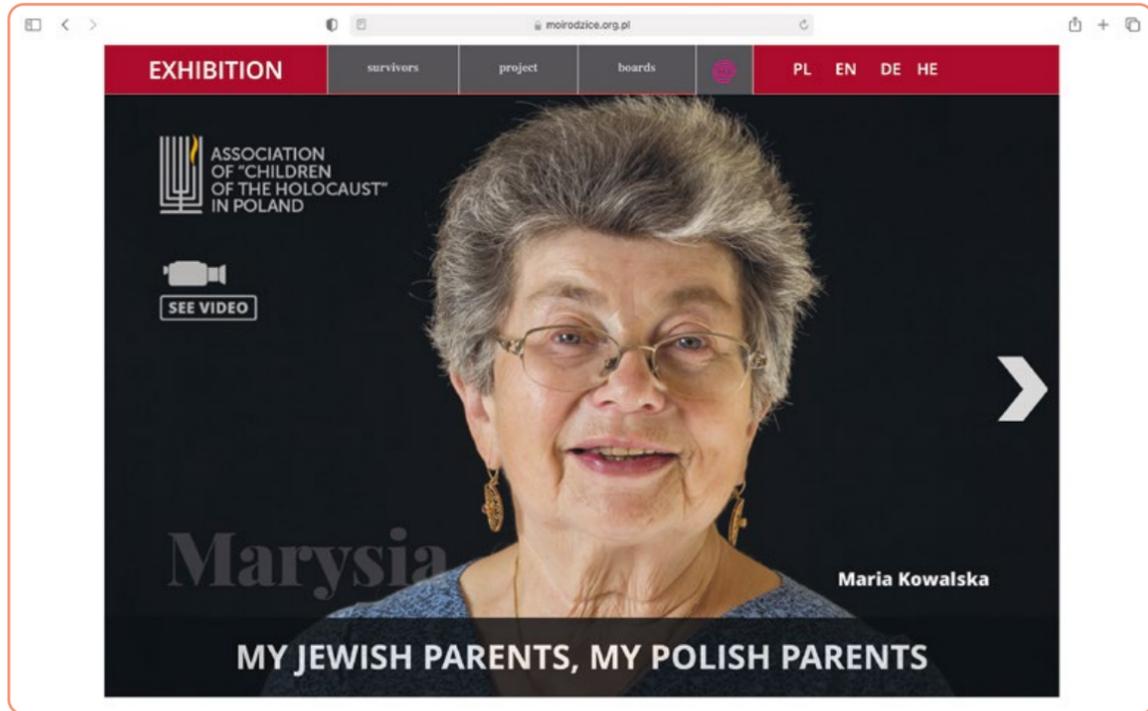
↑ “The Lapidarium in the Jewish Cemetery in Opatów,” a project of the Society of Friends of the Opatów Region, continues activities that began as far back as 1989. Their goal is to gather tombstones scattered in many places around the town and bring them to the cemetery. By building the lapidarium, they will restore dignity to the burial place of Opatów’s Jews and address the reprehensible legacy of the period when the cemetery was destroyed.

The Jewish cemetery in Bielsko-Biała was vandalized in summer 2021. Dozens of headstones were destroyed, including that of Wilhelm Freud, a relative of Sigmund Freud, father of psychoanalysis, and Antonina Wiener, grandmother of Professor Shlomo Avineri, a philosopher and political scientist, and former director-general of the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Jewish community in Bielsko-Biała is renovating the three ruined tombstones.



↑ The Shalom Foundation and the Jewish Theatre’s Center for Yiddish Culture organized the 19<sup>th</sup> International Summer Seminar in Yiddish Language and Culture. The event was devoted to local issues, ecology, Polish-Jewish sightseeing, and cuisine. There were language courses, which explored rarely discussed source texts, and thematic lectures and specialist workshops.

Today there is no educational program about the history of Jews in Lower Silesia. To raise awareness of Jewish culture and to educate young Wrocławians about the role of Jews in shaping the city of Wrocław, the Urban Memory Foundation is creating innovative scenarios for workshops and lessons for teachers and other educators.



↑ “My Jewish Parents, My Polish Parents,” an exhibition organized by the Children of the Holocaust Association that opened in March 2015 at POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews has traveled around the world. About 50,000 people have seen it. Before the pandemic, the online version of the exhibition was supplementary; during the pandemic, the website became the only way to make the exhibition available to the public. The Association supported the adaptation of the exhibition for mobile devices. To visit the website, go to this QR code.



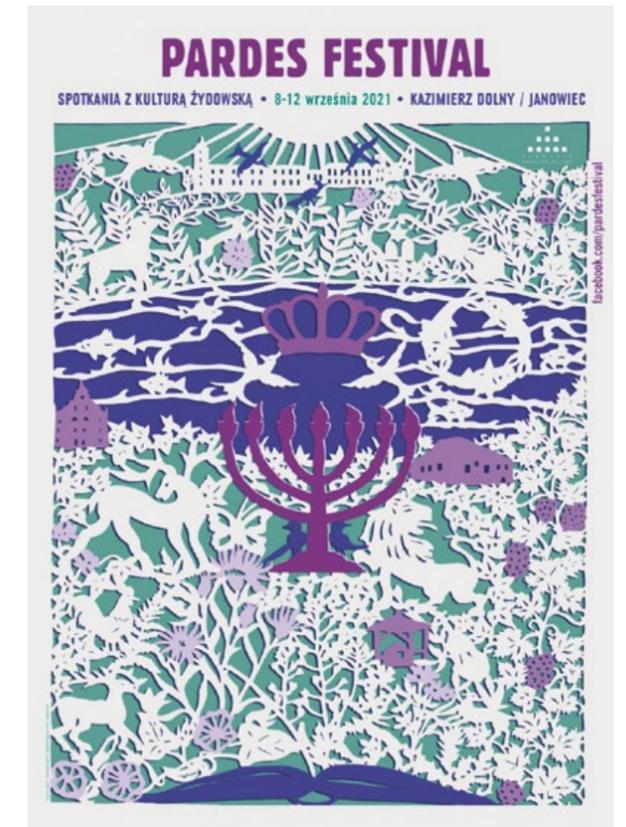
Koźmin Wielkopolski is home to one of the few Jewish cemeteries preserved in this region, with more than 300 tombstones. Despite its exceptional nature, this place is not well known, even among the town’s inhabitants. The Krotchwile Association, raises awareness among Koźminians of the rich, multicultural history of their town by showing a 2020 documentary film about the town’s last Jewish resident, Nathan Mośkiewicz, which was produced with the Association’s support. They have also prepared materials for local teachers about the town’s multicultural heritage.

Jewish life revolved around the Kielce synagogue, which was built in 1902. It survived the war, but was rebuilt in Neoclassical style. The Jan Karski Association, which undertook extensive historical research, not only recreated the original design but also created a 3D model of the synagogue, which forms the basis for a virtual walking tour.

## IV. CULTURAL EVENTS



↑ The Banina Foundation ran workshops on the history and culture of Polish Jews to help the public better understand the organization’s production of *Zagłada* (Holocaust), based on a work by Piotr Szewc. These activities became a point of departure for discussions with young people about the importance of remembering history, seeking your own identity, deepening your knowledge, and building ties in towns that have always been multicultural.



↑ Decades after World War II, memory and knowledge of Jewish Kazimierz Dolny, the multicultural heritage of the Lublin region, and a shared Polish-Jewish history are slowly fading. The Pardes Festival connects history to the present by raising awareness of traces of centuries of Jewish presence in the Lublin region. What has been suppressed from memory is alive in stones and in historical accounts. The ninth edition of the Pardes Festival was held in 2021.

The Bełżyce Castle Foundation, together with Grodzka Gate — NN Theatre Centre, mounted a production based on the 16th-century polemic between the learned preacher Jakub Nachman, known as Jakub of Bełżec, and the Lublin Socinian Marcin Czechowic, a theologian and religious poet. This polemic, *Odpis Jakuba Żyda ...* (Response of Jacob the Jew), is important because it is the first book known to have been written in Polish by a Jew.



↑ The third edition of the WE/YOU Jews of Katowice Festival, organized by the Katowice Miasto Ogrodów municipal cultural center, focused on the history and literature of the Polish-German borderlands, from the perspective of Ostjuden and Westjuden. Though culturally different, Eastern European and Western European Jews lived together in Katowice before the war. In addition to literary meetings related to the Polish-German borderlands and the Yiddish language, the program included a sound installation by Rafał Kołacki and educational workshops.

“The City’s Memory: A Performative Walking Tour and Site-specific Performance in the Urban Space” draws on the prewar multicultural history of Częstochowa, where more than 30,000 Jews lived before the war. The Performa Foundation aims to capture what is remembered today, when no clear symbols of the Jewish past remain in the urban space. This artistic work reveals what has been left behind in the urban tissue and memory of residents and raises awareness of the city’s multicultural history, including the presence of Jews.



↑ *Hear Krochmalna*, a sound story of the everyday life of residents of prewar Krochmalna Street in Warsaw, is based on recollections and articles from the prewar press. The production is a collaboration of the Kamienica Museum and the “Walizka” Culture Foundation.

“Postcard to Mietek,” a project of the Mieczysław Wajnberg Institute, aims to create a libretto for a musical work reflecting the spirit of the times marked by the war in Ukraine. The libretto will consist of selected texts from “Postcard to Mietek,” which will be edited by writer Sylwia Chutnik. Young Varsovian composers will compose the music. The work will premiere in front of the house at 66 Żelazna street in Warsaw, where Mieczysław Wajnberg was born.



↑ Akiba Rubinstein, Ksawery Tartakower, Paulin Frydman, and Dawid Przepiórka, the greatest chess players of the interwar era. It was thanks to them, among others, that the Polish representation won the gold medal at the 1930 Chess Olympics, a success that has never been repeated. The Gryf Szczecin Chess Club organized a tournament and workshops for youth, entitled “Jewish Artistry in the Sport of Chess in Polish Lands between the Wars.”

Jewish Culture Days, organized by the Municipal Library in Katowice, have earned a permanent place on the calendar of cultural events in Upper Silesia. The fourth edition was dedicated to the cultural heritage of Upper Silesian Jews. Popular and scholarly programs and theatre events introduced participants to the culture of Polish and German Jews who lived in Katowice before the war.

## V. FILMS



↑ Promotion of *Edge of Light*, a documentary film directed by Wojciech Szumowski, was supported by the Association. Produced by the Tygodnik Powszechny Foundation, the film documents how Dariusz Popiela has been restoring the memory of the Jews who once lived in Podhale. Popiela is a Polish kayaker and Olympian and the founder of the Popiela Family Foundation "Centrum."

How to portray emptiness? How to show synagogues that no longer exist? How to recount a forgotten history? How to recapture places of prayer? The many Jewish families that once lived in Middle Pomerania before 1945 are not the subject of Polish history books. *Emptiness and Light*, a film produced by the H. Rodkiewicz Dialog Theater of Proposition Foundation, attempts to answer these questions by presenting traces of Jewish culture in this region.



*Black skies: The Fate of Płock's Jews, 1941-1945*, a film project of the Nobiscum Foundation, commemorates the 81<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the liquidation of the Płock ghetto. The script is based on accounts by Płock residents, including Tema Lichtensztajn and Adam Neuman-Nowicki. The film tells the story of those who managed to survive the Holocaust. To view the film, go to this QR code.

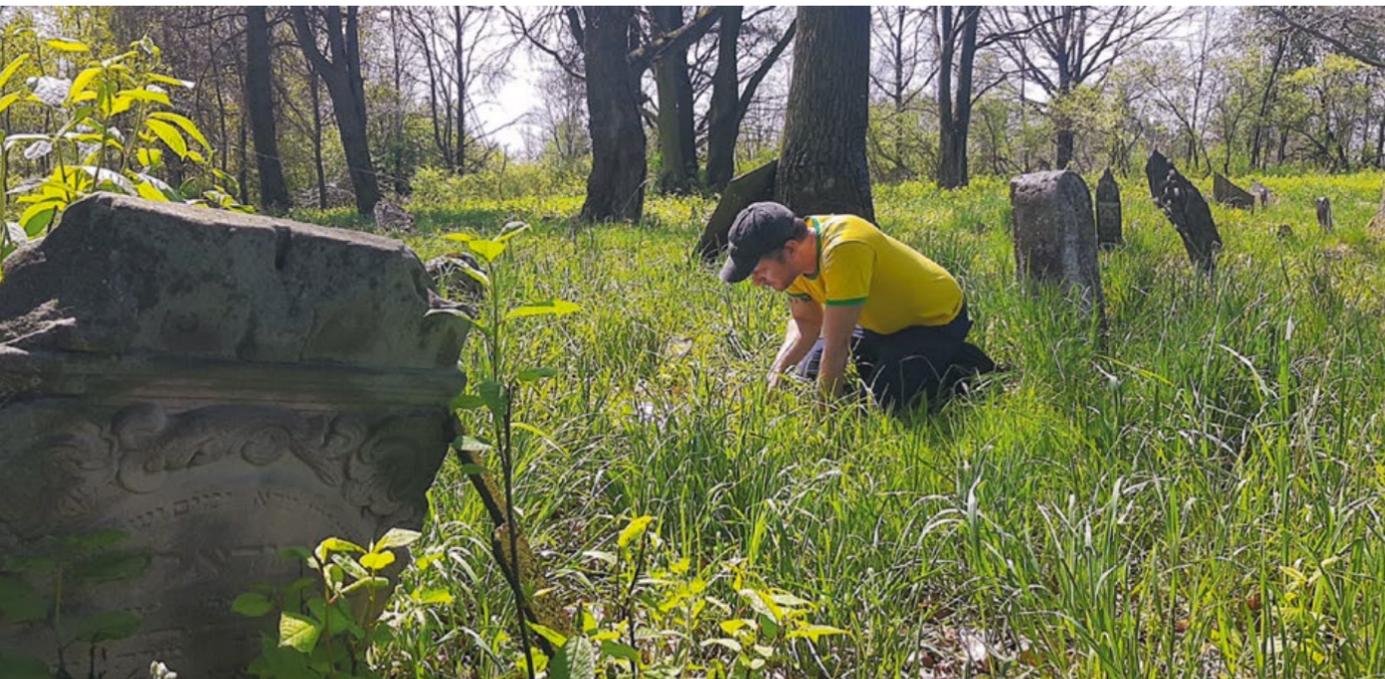
## VI. RESEARCH PROJECTS



↑ The Gliwicka 66 Association in Tarnowskie Góry inventoried 440 gravestones from the local Jewish cemetery. Descendants of the town's Jews can now find the graves of their ancestors, while the town's inhabitants, local activists, and researchers can learn about the history of their town.



↑ Documentation and preservation of the sukkah on the balcony of an apartment at 23a Reformacka Street in Chełm is a project of the Panorama of Cultures Foundation. The sukkah is a temporary booth. During Sukkot, the Feast of Tabernacles, the family would take their meals in the sukkah. As it is required that the sky be visible through the roof, Polish versions of the sukkah have a mechanism for opening the roof flaps.



The national conference “Jews and Judaism in Contemporary Polish Research,” organized by the Polish Association for Jewish Studies, is held every four years in Kraków. The eighth edition will take place in 2022. The conference features research conducted in Poland in the field of Jewish studies, broadly understood. Both experienced scholars and researchers at the beginning of their careers will take part in the event.

The Memory of Treblinka Foundation has been working on a database of the camp’s victims for several years. To add information about the people who died there, the Foundation is mining new archival sources. Their goal is to create the most complete list of the camp’s victims and at the same time a monument to the victims of Treblinka in the form of a *Book of Names*.

↑ In 2021, the Foundation for Documentation of Jewish Cemeteries in Poland inventoried more than 1,000 gravestones preserved in Jewish cemeteries in Wadowice, Skierniewice, and Łowicz. For the inventory, go to this QR code.



Tombstones from the cemetery in Bełchatów were used during and after the war as building materials and to reinforce the wooden bridge on Cegielniana Street. It was only in 2019, during roadworks, that hundreds of fragments were found. The Association of the Center for Jewish Research is inventorying these fragments and will make the results available on a dedicated website.



↑ One of the three Jewish cemeteries in Będzin, once known as the Jerusalem of the Dąbrowa Basin, is located on the side of Castle Hill. This cemetery was founded in 1831 and used for almost the entire 19<sup>th</sup> century. Today about 800 gravestones remain. Zagłębie Museum in Będzin read the tombstones and translated half of them. This material formed the basis for a temporary exhibition and lecture for local residents.

← Volunteers from the AntySchematy2 Foundation and Jewish Studies students at the Jagiellonian University inventoried 270 tombstones from the Jewish cemetery in Rygllice, each one a forgotten biography of a person who once lived there. The Association supported the preparation and publication of the documentation as a scholarly work commemorating the rich life of Rygllice’s Jews.

## VII. SPECIAL PROJECTS WHICH RECEIVED FUNDING IN 2021



↑ In 2021, we completed the design of a symbolic grave for members of the Oneg Szabat group at the Okopowa Street cemetery. Out of a group of dozens of people only three survived the war. The symbolic grave, designed by SENNA kolektyw, pays homage to the heroes of Oneg Szabat, whose burial places are unknown. The construction of the symbolic grave is planned for 2022.



←↑ On April 19, 2021, on the 78<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising, we unveiled the Ringelblum Archive Monument at 28 Nowolipki Street (earlier No. 68). This is where the Warsaw Ghetto Underground Archive, known as the Ringelblum Archive, was buried. The monument, which was designed by Łukasz Mieszkowski and Marcin Urbanek, was a collaboration between the Social Committee for Ringelblum Archive Monument Construction, Muranów Station, and the Association. The Association raised funds from more than 40 Polish and international donors in 2020–2021 and oversaw construction. We encourage you to watch a short film about the Monument, using this QR code.

**PROJECT DONORS:**

Oscar Kazanelson; Neocity Polska; Sigmunt Rolat; RONSON DEVELOPMENT; Piotr Wiślicki; Alster Brothers; Sigrid and Borno Janekovic; Mark Katzenelson; Keemple Polska; Marek and Agnieszka Nowakowscy; Rick Parasol; Andrzej Rojek; Sam and Tzipi Tramiel; Juliusz Windorbski; White Stone Development; Kristof Zorde as well as several dozen donors from Poland and abroad.





↑ During the construction of the Monument, which was overseen by a team of architects, we found many objects from the former Northern District — fragments of plates, flatware, and glass. We secured all the objects and transferred them to the Jewish Historical Institute. They will be displayed in a specially designed case in the Ringelblum Archive repository.



↑ *Holocaust: Studies and Materials*, annual, vol. 17, Polish Center for Holocaust Research, Institute of Philosophy and Sociology of the Polish Academy of Sciences. The scholarly publications of the Center for Holocaust Research are devoted entirely to subjects related to the Holocaust. They are addressed not only to Holocaust researchers but also to students and all others interested in the subject. The editorial staff, directed by Professor Dariusz Libionka and Professor Barbara Engelking, includes outstanding Holocaust historians.

PROJECT DONOR:  
Irene Kronhill Pletka



↑ To mark Marian Turski's 95<sup>th</sup> birthday, the Association, together with the Wydawnictwo Czarne publishing house, published *XI Thou Shalt Not Be Indifferent*. This book, a personal collection of Turski's most important speeches, includes those delivered on the anniversaries of the liberation of Auschwitz and the liquidation of the Łódź ghetto, the opening of POLIN Museum, and International Holocaust Remembrance Day at the UNESCO forum.

Financed from the Association's own funds

The Association of Jewish Veterans and Victims of World War II brings together the oldest generation of Jews alive today, those who survived the Holocaust. For many years, our Association has provided financial support for the organization's day-to-day operations. In 2021 we signed an agreement making us a partner in organizing the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising Medal, which is awarded for service to Polish-Jewish dialogue and engagement in commemorating the history and culture of Polish Jews.

Financed from the Association's own funds



# Fundraising

Dear Friends, Dear Donors,

When I look at the 2021 report, it is difficult to believe how we managed to carry out so many diverse projects. This was only possible thanks to our donors and our team. The Ringelblum Archive Monument in Muranów, the special repository for the Oneg Szabat Archive at the Jewish Historical Institute, the outstanding Wilhelm Sasnal exhibition at POLIN Museum, and Mikołaj Grynberg's film are just a few of these achievements.

These successes are undoubtedly a credit to the Association, our partners, and our donors — both those who have been with us for years and those who have just joined us.

I am happy that this was also a year of meetings — cautious, often in masks, but still in the real world, not only virtually. Such face-to-face meetings with donors remain our best fundraising tool, and I hope in 2022 there will be even more.

The year 2021 finished with one more success, a great one: in December, the Association signed an agreement with a new Distinguished Benefactor of POLIN Museum. You can read more about in the following pages. This gift will allow POLIN Museum to carry out many priority projects in the coming years.

The Development Department's work is teamwork, so in closing I would like to thank my team, which has put incredible effort into all the projects carried out in 2021. Moving into the new year with such support, I look with hope at the challenges ahead of us.

BARTOSZ DYMAREK  
Acting Director of Development



## Fundraising Report for 2021

01

The Development Department remains in daily contact with many donors around the world. Our tasks include:

- maintaining regular communication with donors and partners in Poland and internationally, despite the limits imposed by the pandemic
- intensifying outreach to our supporters through electronic newsletters and mailings and online programs
- applying for grants and administering them, including oversight of donor recognition in many forms: promotional printing, recognition on donor walls in the Museum building, in exhibition wall texts and catalogues, on our websites and social media, and in marketing materials
- searching for potential donors and developing proposals for them.

The Development Department creates brochures, presentations, invitations, operations reports, and programs for events, and manages the Association's website and Facebook profile. In 2021, we also coordinated the production of three promotional films.

In March 2021, Anna Szcześniak joined the Department, after four years at the Taube Center for the Renewal of Jewish Life in Poland. As Development Specialist, Anna is involved in all the Department's operational tasks. She coordinates collaboration with the Jewish Historical Institute on fundraising and with POLIN Museum on such projects as "Show your love!".



## WHAT WE RAISED IN 2021

In 2021, we raised a total of almost PLN 8 million:

### POLIN MUSEUM

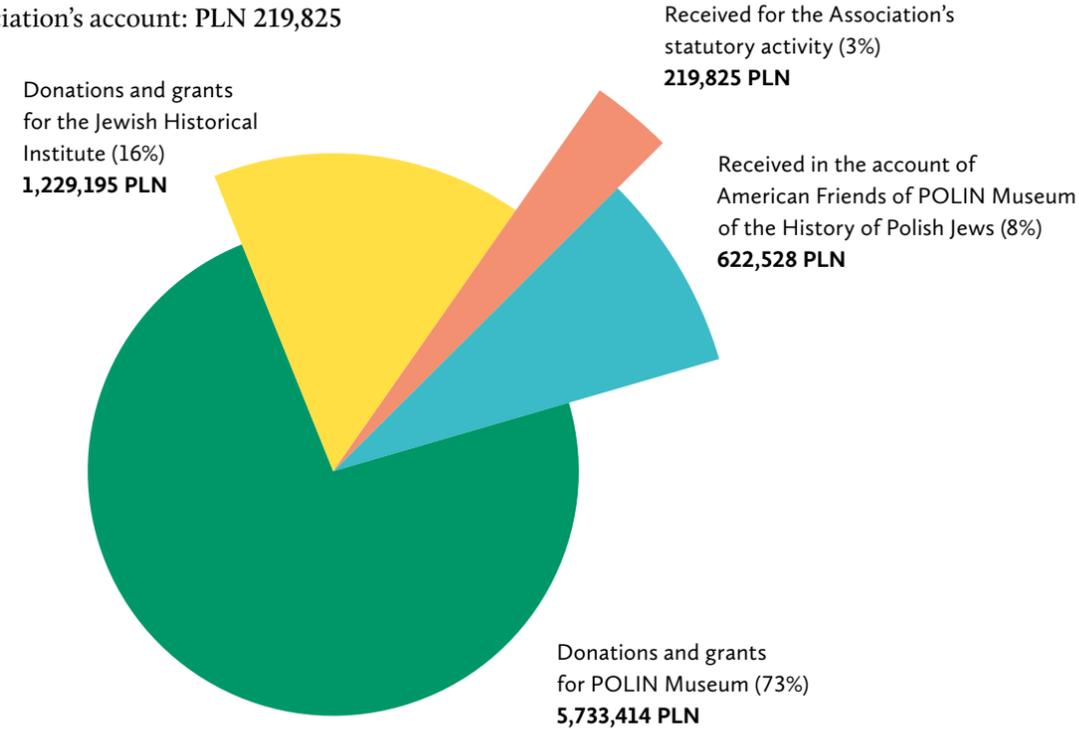
- received in the Association's account: PLN 5,733,414\*
- received in the account of American Friends of POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews and allocated in the United States for fundraising and promotion for POLIN Museum: about PLN 622,528\*\*

### EMANUEL RINGELBLUM JEWISH HISTORICAL INSTITUTE

- received in the Association's account: PLN 1,229,195

### OTHER STATUTORY ACTIVITIES OF THE ASSOCIATION

- received in the Association's account: PLN 219,825



\* includes funds designated for fundraising

\*\* 1 USD = 4.06 PLN (rate as per December 31, 2021)

## HOW WE COMMUNICATE



### ↑ Promotional and fundraising films.

In cooperation with POLIN Museum, we prepared two short promotional films, which will help us recruit donors for two key museum projects: a temporary exhibition about the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising in 2023 and the planned epilogue to the Core Exhibition, *Polish Jews in the World*.

**E-mailings and electronic newsletter for donors and members.** During the pandemic, electronic newsletters were a key tool for keeping our international group of recipients informed about the most important events and current situation of the organizations we support. In 2021, we prepared and distributed almost 50 newsletters and e-mails dedicated to POLIN Museum, the Oneg Szabat Program, and our other statutory activities.



### ↑ Association's 2020 Annual Report.

The Annual Report is an important fundraising tool: the transparent presentation of our finances and statutory activities, which attests to the effectiveness of the organization and its proper management, builds confidence among donors. Preparation of the report takes several months. The report is published in Polish and English.

**Social media.** The Association's Facebook page is the main source of news and information about our activities for many people. We increased the number of fans by more than 500 people and reached thousands more in 2021. The Association co-organized several events on Facebook. Information about them reached more than 50,000 people, and recordings of those events continue to be viewed.

**The Association's website** provides essential information about our activities for Association members, grantees, and donors. We encourage you to visit it regularly: [www.szih.org.pl/en](http://www.szih.org.pl/en).

# SPECIAL EVENTS FOR DONORS AND VIP VISITS



Cherrie Daniels, Special Envoy for Holocaust Issues ↑  
in Ringelblum Archive repository, July 2021

↓ Businesswoman from the RSA, Magda Wierzycka,  
with family and Marian Turski, August 2021



Steven Greenberg visit, October 2021 ↑



↑ Shana Penn and the Development Department, August 2021

An official ceremony in honor of Ariav family, October 2021 ↓



↓ Michelle Ores and Wiktor Markowicz, August 2021



Meeting with the representatives of SIGNUM Foundation on ↓  
occasion of the opening of *Wilhelm Sasnal: Such a Landscape*  
temporary exhibition, June 2021



Organizing visits to POLIN Museum and the Jewish Historical Institute is one of the most effective fundraising methods. Even the best online presentation cannot replace an in-person encounter with history at these outstanding institutions. The pandemic severely restricted visits, particularly by international guests. We are therefore even more gratified by the many meetings and visits that did take place in 2021. Lower infection rates and the vaccine rollout encouraged some donors to travel to Poland and visit POLIN Museum and the Institute. We are grateful to everyone with whom we could meet in person and hope for even more such meetings in 2022.

Among the special events that we organized at POLIN Museum with the participation of donors and friends was a special visit to *Such a Landscape*, guided by Wilhelm Sasnal, and an official welcome of the Odette and Nimrod S. Ariav Foundation to the ranks of Distinguished Benefactors of POLIN Museum.

## WORK WITH THE DONORS COUNCIL



The Donors Council was created in 2015 at the initiative of nine POLIN Museum Distinguished Benefactors. The Council advises the Association’s Management Board on POLIN Museum’s fundraising strategy and supports the Association in its contacts with Jewish communities abroad, opinion leaders, and potential new donors. Since 2016, the Donors Council has been financing the Association’s fundraising activities. This support is vital to our efforts to gather funds for POLIN Museum.

In July 2021 the Donors Council held its annual meeting online; all the members took part, together with representatives of the Association and the Museum. We presented a detailed report of our fundraising activities in 2021 and our plans for 2022.

**MEMBERS OF THE DONORS COUNCIL:**

- Tad Taube
- Sigmund Rolat
- Anita Friedman
- Irene Kronhill Pletka
- Ygal Ozechov
- Corinne Evens
- Andrzej Rojek

## A NEW POLIN MUSEUM DISTINGUISHED BENEFACTOR

*Eminent historian Professor Jakub Goldberg once said, “There is no history of Jews without the history of Poland, and there is no history of Poland without the history of Jews.”*

*I would add that there is no Polish identity without a Jewish identity, and no Jewish identity without a Polish one. The history of Polish Jews — its complexity and the value of its culture and civilization — and its tragic and dramatic moments, are fundamental to the memory and identity of that future generations will form.*

*But for that to happen, we need a common Polish and Jewish effort, our common responsibility. Thanks to POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews, we have an institution that protects this memory and fosters this identity at the highest global level, and thereby allows us to fulfill our duty.*

*I am full of respect for those who have made the idea of POLIN Museum a reality, the initiators, creators, and distinguished benefactors who put their ideals into practice on a daily basis.*

*I am happy that I can support POLIN Museum in its mission.*



**ROBERT WEREDA**  
POLIN Museum Distinguished Benefactor

Thanks to the initiative of Association President Piotr Wiślicki and with the support of the Development Department, a new Distinguished Benefactor of POLIN Museum, Robert Wereda, signed a donation agreement in 2021. This gift will support key projects planned for the coming years, especially in education.

## SPECIAL PROJECTS

In 2021, while we continued to work on projects already underway, we also initiated several new ones.

## CAMPAIGN DONORS:

- Tad Taube
- Sigmund Rolat
- Anonymous donor
- Sills Family Foundation
- Corinne Evens and Association Européenne du Musée de l'Histoire des Juifs de Pologne POLIN
- Louis and Anna Abrons Family Foundation
- Joel Citron
- Ruby Family Foundation
- Rodney Zimmel
- Małgorzata and Adam Weiss
- Julian Bussgang
- David Lubarsky
- Doris P. Haims
- Ira Handelman
- David Chesluk
- Jay Geller
- Marian Kornilowicz
- Marlene Pitkow
- Lynne Azarchi
- Anonymous donor
- Melissa Freedman

**POLIN Museum Emergency Fund Campaign.** Initiated in 2020, this campaign supported the Museum's budget during the pandemic, which severely reduced the Museum's earned income. This campaign, which concluded in 2021, raised more than PLN 800,000 from donors in Poland and abroad. Those funds provided support for projects that would otherwise have been delayed or cancelled and stabilized the Museum's finances. We would like to thank every donor who supported the emergency campaign during this difficult year.

We offer special thanks to our two Founding Benefactors, Tad Taube and Sigmund Rolat, who together donated more than half the amount raised.



Bartosz Dymarek and Edyta Pawlik, director of Jankilevitsch Foundation ↑

↑ **Naming of the *Legacy* gallery — Jankilevitsch Foundation and Smołokowski Foundation.** The Director of POLIN Museum, at the initiative of the Development Department, honored these two long-term museum donors by naming the new Legacy gallery for them. They signed a new donation agreement to support POLIN Museum in 2021–2024.

**The Association's Grants Committee.** Annual grants competitions targeting small, local initiatives working to preserve and remember the history and culture of Polish Jews have for some time been the third priority, after the Museum and Institute, in the Association's statutory activity. The Association is developing this program and raising additional funds to that end. The Development Department began seeking donors for this purpose in 2021 and will continue to do so in the coming years.



↑ **The Ringelblum Archive Monument in Muranów.** This project was supported by more than 40 donors. Management Board members helped us realize our goal of reaching the largest number of new donors in Poland, including several entrepreneurs from Israel doing business in Poland. The Monument project is a first step in building a lasting relationship with our new donors.

**Art auction to benefit POLIN Museum.** The Development Department and American Friends of POLIN Museum are organizing art auctions to raise funds for the Museum's programs. Works to be auctioned are being gifted by POLIN Museum donors and friends and by well-known contemporary Polish artists. Two leading auction houses, Christie's in New York and DESA Unicum in Warsaw, are working with us on these auctions. The first auction is planned for spring 2022.



**Oneg Szabat 2.0.** In 2021, we consulted with the Jewish Historical Institute on refreshing and modifying our joint program and outlined future plans in preparation for recruiting new donors and securing the project's future. The full translation of the Ringelblum Archive into English remains the project's highest priority.

← ↑ **Show your love!** This project aims to raise funds in support of POLIN Museum's collection of more than 14,000 objects, including art, photographs, documents, and religious and everyday artifacts. With a modest gift, an individual can embrace an object from the museum's collection. Launched at the end of December, the project has been warmly received. Offerings will be expanded in 2022 in response to growing interest in the project. To learn more, go to this QR code.



Dear Friends,

The year 2021, like the one before it, was for many of us a time of challenges and difficulties related to the pandemic, which is still present in our lives. But it was simultaneously a year of hope, with the appearance of vaccines and the prospect of less restricted meetings with family and friends. We are pleased that despite the difficult situation, thanks to good leadership and the support of our founders, donors, and friends, this was a successful year for POLIN Museum.

Our extensive program of online events, including those in English for international audiences, allowed us to maintain contact with people who could not visit the Museum in person. Our rich on-site program, including the hugely popular Wilhelm Sasnal exhibition, which was visited by almost 76,000 people, allowed us to rebuild a significant portion of the public we lost in 2020.

The Museum's efforts and its successes motivate us, American Friends, to press on with our work. Together with the Association, we initiated several fundraising projects in 2021, which I hope will soon bear fruit. As the president of an organization supporting the Museum, I am pleased to see the engagement of American Friends board members, who put their great experience and invaluable support to work in various areas of our activities.

I would like to thank the donors and friends of the Museum, the management and the team, and of course the Association's Management Board and its team for this successful year.

ANDRZEJ ROJEK

President, American Friends of POLIN Museum

Member, Donors Council

Member, Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland

Member, Financial Committee of the Association of the

Jewish Historical Institute of Poland



## Work with American Friends of POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews

02

American Friends of POLIN Museum raises funds for POLIN Museum and promotes the Museum in North America.

The Development Department works closely with the American Friends. We meet weekly online, collaborate on identifying new donors, and plan annual fundraising campaigns, including #GivingTuesday and the year-end campaign. We also develop special projects together, most recently the art auctions to benefit the Museum. We would like to thank Elizabeth Szancer, Victor Markowicz, and Roman Rewald for initiating and implementing this ambitious project. The "Show your love!" project also arose from conversations with the American Friends Board.

In 2021 the American Friends Board met twice, in June and November. Representatives of the Museum and the Association took part in both meetings.

We are grateful to our partners from across the Atlantic for their support and fruitful collaboration.

### BOARD MEMBERS:

- Andrzej Rojek — President
- Sigmund Rolat — Co-chair
- Victor Markowicz — Co-chair
- Roman Rewald — Treasurer
- David Goldman — Secretary
- Samantha Rolat Asulin — Member
- Anita Friedman — Member
- Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett — Member
- Cantor Joseph Malovany — Member
- Irene Kronhill Pletka — Member
- Shana Penn — Member
- Sylvia Safer — Member
- Rabbi Arthur Schneier — Member
- Elizabeth Szancer — Member
- Jerzy Warman — Member



## LIST OF ASSOCIATION DONORS IN 2021\*

## SUPPORT FOR THE ASSOCIATION'S STATUTORY ACTIVITY:

- Karol Chmielewski and Zuzanna Wiślicka
- Joanna Fikus
- Taube Center for the Renewal of Jewish Life in Poland
- Agnieszka Gul
- Marek and Małgorzata Nowakowski
- Irene Kronhill Pletka
- Marta Poślad
- Waldemar Prokop
- Sławomir Różański
- Jan Rutkowski
- Anna Tanalska-Dulęba
- Sam and Tzipi Tramiel
- Piotr Wiślicki
- Piotr Wołk Lewanowicz
- Maciej Zabojszcz
- Kristof Zorde and Nina Stiller
- KPMG
- 69 donors who gave 1% of their Polish income tax payment

## PRO BONO SERVICES IN SUPPORT OF THE ASSOCIATION'S STATUTORY ACTIVITY:

- DeBenedetti Majewski Szcześniak Kancelaria Prawnicza Sp. K.
- Weil, Gotshal & Manges

## SUPPORT FOR JOINT ACTIVITIES WITH POLIN MUSEUM OF THE HISTORY OF POLISH JEWS:

## DISTINGUISHED BENEFACTOR:

- Robert Wereda

## BUILDERS:

- Odette and Nimrod S. Ariav Foundation
- Ronald S. Lauder
- William K. Bowes, Jr. Foundation

## PARTNERS:

- Koret Foundation
- Jankilevitsch Foundation
- Tad Taube and Taube Philanthropies

## SUPPORTERS:

- Corinne Evens and Association Européenne du Musée de l'Histoire des Juifs de Pologne POLIN
- The Citi Handlowy Leopold Kronenberg Foundation
- Irene Kronhill Pletka
- Marek Roefler and family
- Sigmund Rolat
- Sills Family Foundation
- Tomek Ulatowski

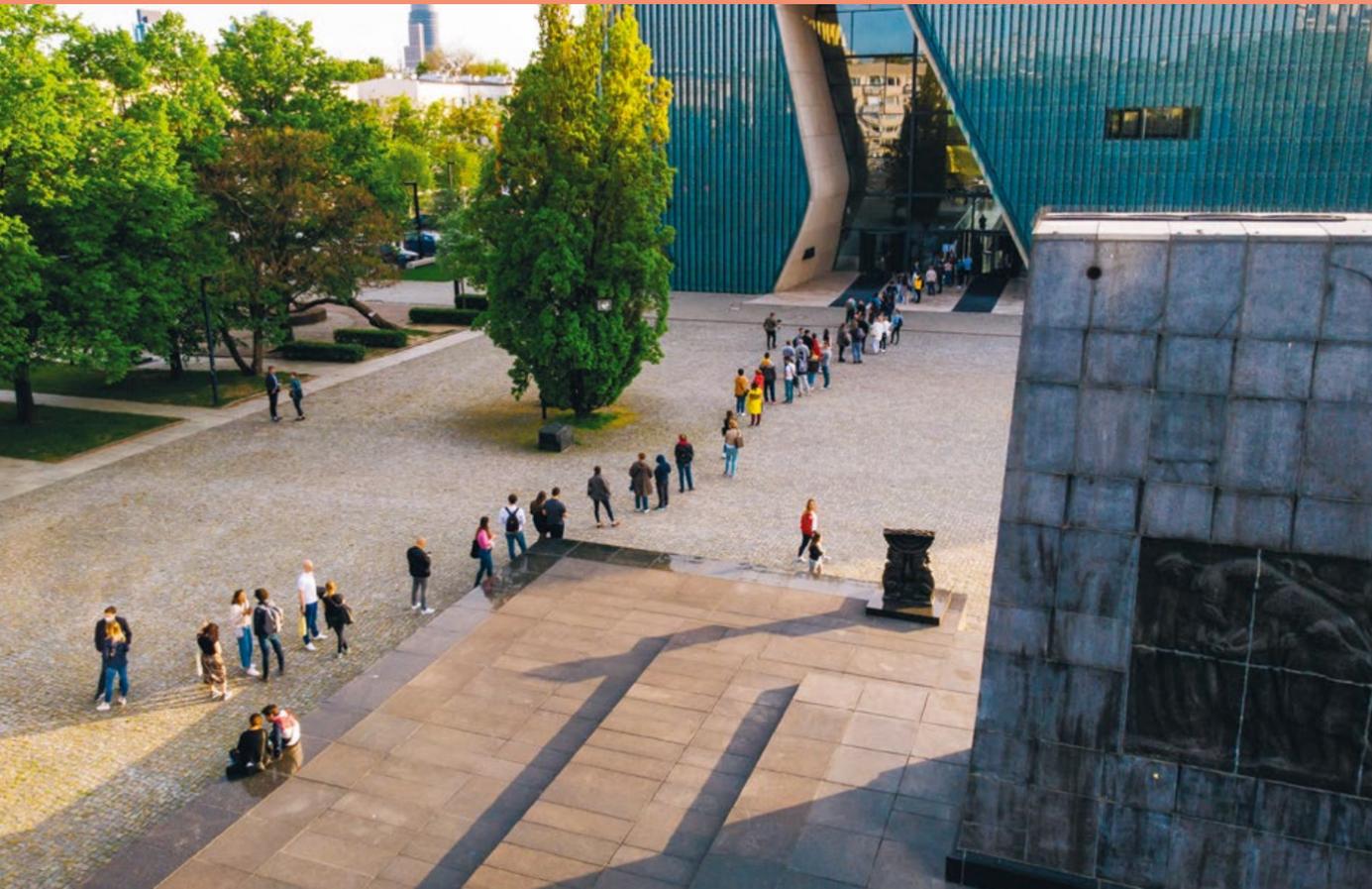
## FRIENDS:

- Anonymous donors
- Embassy of Canada
- Fay and Julian Bussgang
- Konrad Adenauer Foundation
- SIGNUM Foundation
- Dr. Joseph Geliebter
- Hilda Chazanovitz
- Patricia Kenner
- Stephen and Elizabeth Ann Kusmierczak
- Louis and Anne Abrons Foundation
- Sheila Lambert
- Victor Lamkay
- Fred Margulies
- Małgorzata and Grzegorz Markowscy
- Katarzyna Markusz
- Marek and Małgorzata Nowakowski
- Andrzej and Małgorzata Rojek
- Ruby Family Foundation
- Sylvia Safer
- David Sager in the name of Joseph Feingold
- Gordon and Carol Segal
- Roselyne Chroman Swig
- Elizabeth Szancer
- Małgorzata and Adam Weiss
- Sharon Zane

## SUPPORT FOR JOINT ACTIVITIES WITH THE EMANUEL RINGELBLUM JEWISH HISTORICAL INSTITUTE

- Tad Taube and Taube Philanthropies
- David Mouillé

\* All donors of PLN 500 or more supporting the Association's statutory activities by direct payments or through American Friends of POLIN Museum.





# Financial Report

Dear Friends,

I have thought for a long time about how to introduce the financial portion of this report. From the viewpoint of numbers and finances, this was one of the best periods in the Association's activities since the opening of the POLIN Museum's Core Exhibition. We raised a record level of funds for projects carried out jointly with the Museum, which painstakingly rebuilt attendance at its exhibitions. This success results in part from the opening of the new *Legacy* gallery, which showcases the impact Polish Jews on world culture, scholarship, and politics. In addition, we raised the largest amount ever for the Jewish Historical Institute, primarily to raise the standard of storage for the collections in our building, the former Main Jewish Library. The Grants Committee awarded more than a 250,000 PLN to support 50 smaller organizations across Poland dedicated to the heritage of Polish Jews. We also changed our statute in preparation for creating the organizational framework for our Endowment.

Although our successes in 2021 are indeed impressive, all of our activities were carried out in the shadow of the pandemic. It thwarted our plans more than once. Some projects had to proceed more slowly. The pandemic taught us not only humility and persistence in pursuing our goals, but most of all patience. All the more would I like to thank the Management Board, Audit Committee, Grants Committee and in particular all employees and co-workers of the Association team, who despite this adversity, contributed so much to our successes last year.

I write these words already knowing that 2022 is bringing us the most terrible images of war. As we work to remember the history of Polish Jews, we must not forget to help our neighbors — Ukrainians.

MICHAŁ MAJEWSKI  
Operations Director



## Financial Statement

01  
—

The Association's financial situation in 2021 was very good: significant funds were raised for joint projects with POLIN Museum and the Jewish Historical Institute.

The Association's priorities remain:

- supporting the activities of POLIN Museum through joint projects
- supporting the activities of the Jewish Historical Institute through joint projects
- supporting other organizations with funding through the Jan Jagielski Grants Committee.

These areas are reflected in the financial statements presented on the next pages.

↓ Roman Rewald



Legal services for the Association were provided by the law firms DMS and Weil, Gotshal & Manges.  
—  
Financial statement audits and tax advice were provided by KPMG.

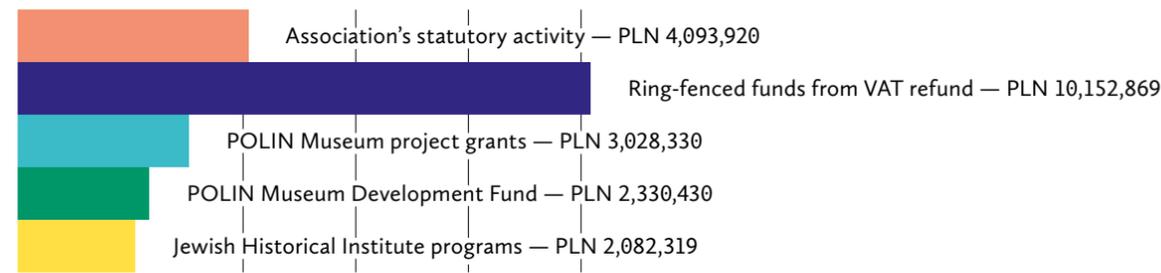
↓ Magdalena Małocha



**FUNDS ON THE ASSOCIATION’S ACCOUNTS AS OF JANUARY 1, 2021:  
PLN 21,687,868 INCLUDING:**

- PLN 4,093,920 for the Association’s statutory activity
- PLN 10,152,869 of ring-fenced funds from VAT refund, together with interest paid on short-term bank deposits of these funds
- PLN 5,358,760 for the support and joint implementation of POLIN Museum’s programs, including:
  - PLN 3,028,330 for POLIN Museum project grants
  - PLN 2,330,430 for the POLIN Museum Development Fund
- PLN 2,082,319 for the support and joint implementation of Jewish Historical Institute programs

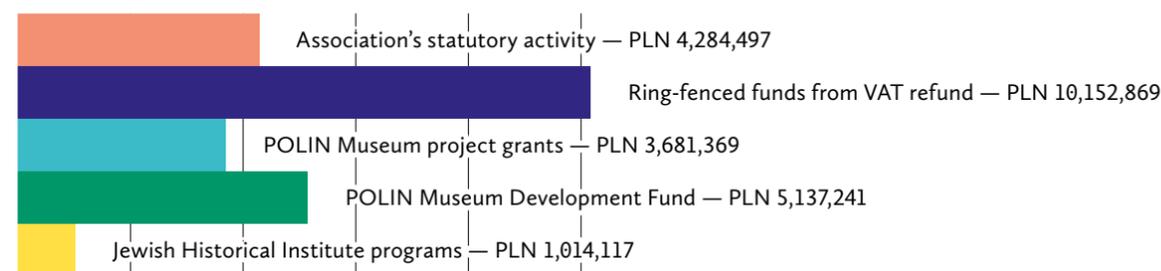
**Funds as of January 1, 2021**



**FUNDS IN THE ASSOCIATION’S ACCOUNTS AS OF 31 DECEMBER 2021:  
PLN 24,270,093 INCLUDING:**

- PLN 4,284,497 for the Association’s statutory activity
- PLN 10,152,869 of ring-fenced funds from VAT refund, together with interest paid on short-term bank deposits of these funds
- PLN 8,818,610 for the support and joint implementation of POLIN Museum’s programs, including:
  - PLN 3,681,369 for POLIN Museum project grants
  - PLN 5,137,241 for the POLIN Museum Development Fund
- PLN 1,014,117 for the support and joint implementation of Jewish Historical Institute programs

**Funds as of December 31, 2021**



**INCOME AND EXPENDITURES IN 2021 (PLN)**

	Opening Balance on Jan. 1, 2021	Income*	Expenses*	Balance on Dec. 31, 2021
<b>I. Statutory activities of Association (excluding pts. II, III and IV)</b>	<b>4,093,920</b>	1,829,756	1,639,179	<b>4,284,497</b>
<b>II. Ring-fenced funds from VAT refund</b>	<b>10,152,869</b>	0	0	<b>10,152,869</b>
<b>III. Support for POLIN Museum’s activities</b>	<b>5,358,760</b>	5,885,796	2,425,946	<b>8,818,610</b>
<b>IV. Support for Jewish Historical Institute’s activities</b>	<b>2,082,319</b>	1,552,620	2,620,822	<b>1,014,117</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>21,687,868</b>	9,268,172	6,685,947	<b>24,270,093</b>

\* Includes transfers between categories as agreed with partners and returns of unused funds.

Last year the Association increased both income and expenses, not only maintaining financial stability but also turning a profit, most of which is designated for joint projects with POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews in the following years. This would not have been possible without the support of our donors.

Anna Moniewska, Office Manager ↓

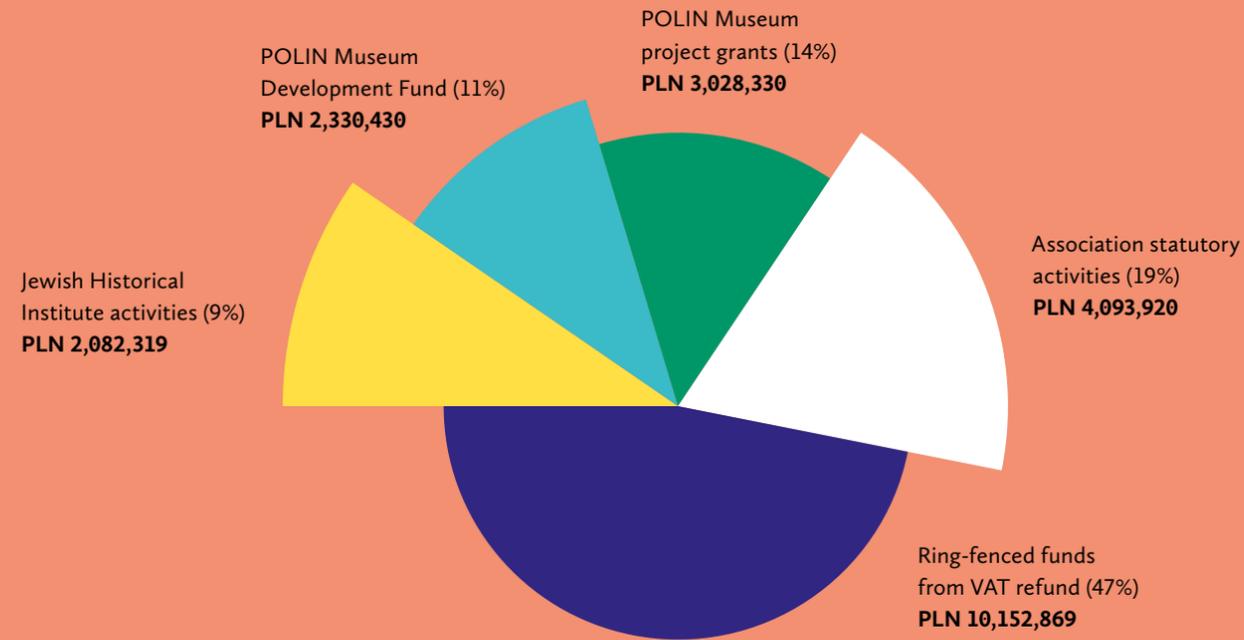


1 USD = 4.06 PLN  
(rate as per December 31, 2021)

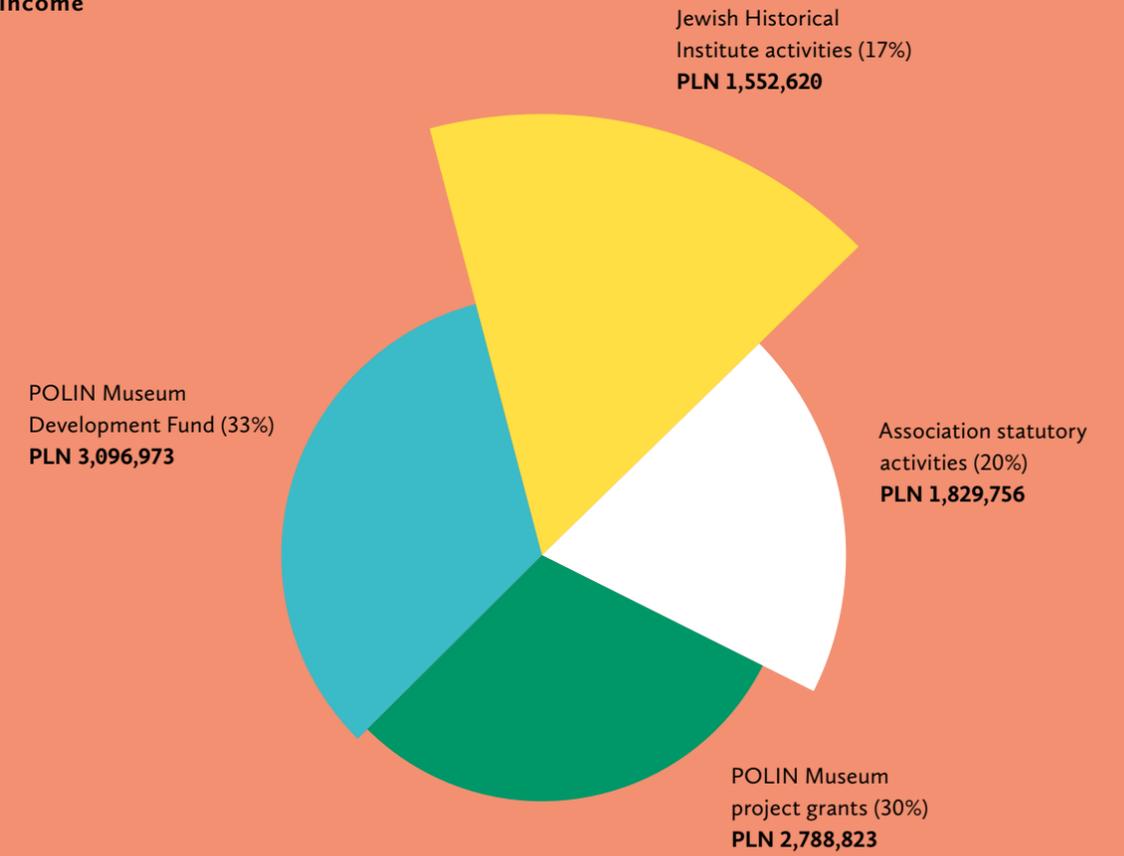
Accounting services for the Association were provided in 2021 by the Superata Sp. z o.o. accounting agency, which specializes in servicing non-government organizations.

# ASSOCIATION FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

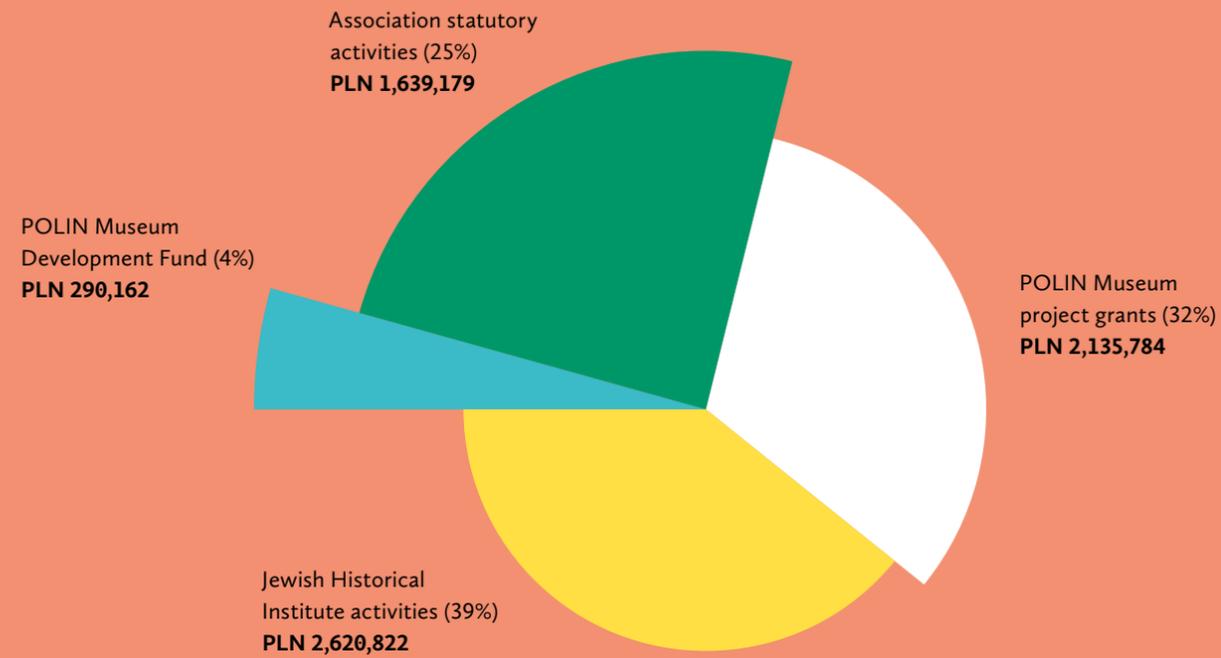
Balance as of January 1, 2021



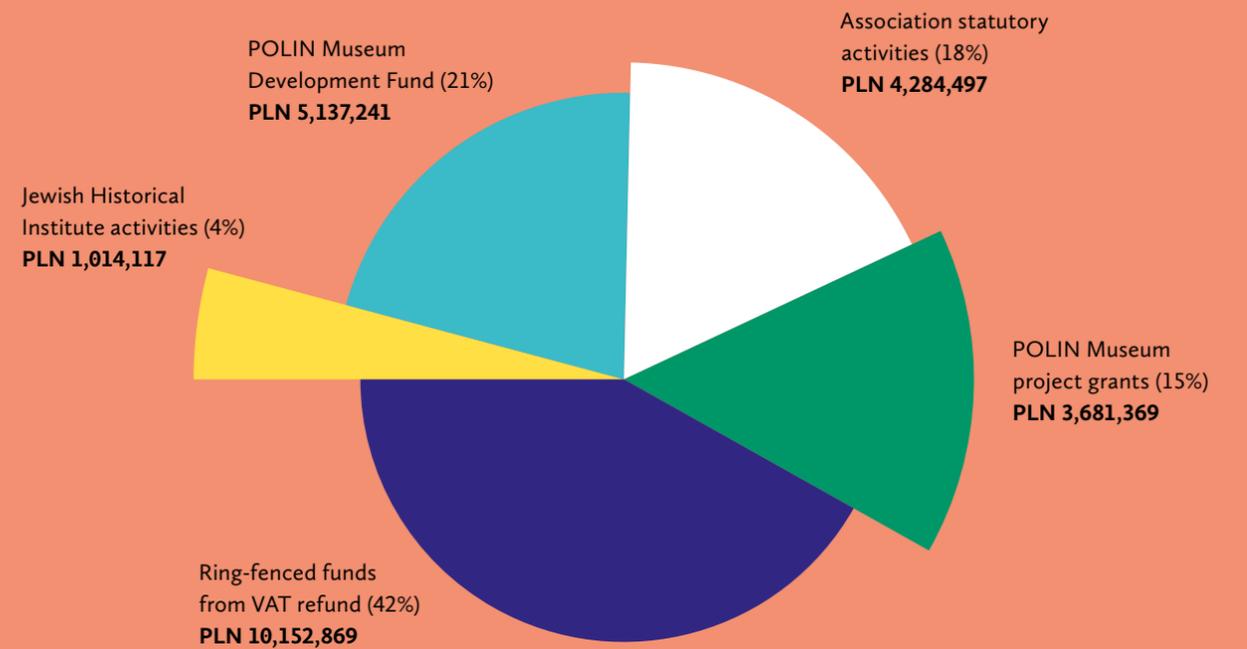
2021 Income



2021 Expenses



Balance as of December 31, 2021

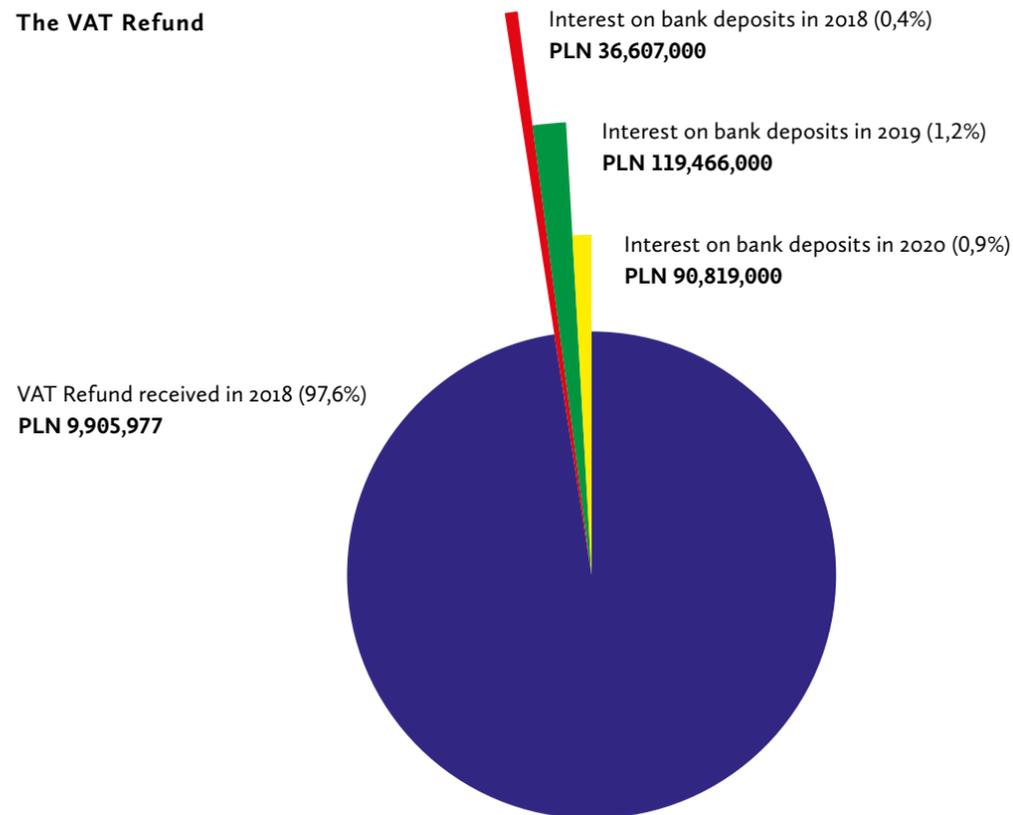


## LONG-TERM FINANCIAL SECURITY FOR THE ASSOCIATION

Unfortunately, the situation in the financial markets in 2021 did not allow us to earn income on the bank deposits where funds for the Endowment are kept. But the year was not lost. We amended the statute of our Association, which in 2022 will allow us to build an Endowment. The Endowment will guarantee the greatest possible safety of the accumulated funds.

In addition, the Finance Committee, which was established this year, worked with the Management Board on a “Framework for investing the main Endowment of the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland,” a document that serves as a kind of constitution for investing the funds. This document will be presented for approval at the 2022 Annual Meeting of Association Members.

### The VAT Refund



Dear Friends,

I have the honor of chairing the Financial Committee of the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland, whose members represent the world of finance. They include Robert Koński, Andrzej Malec, and Andrzej Rojek, all of whom are serving pro bono.

The Committee’s mission is to advise the Association on the best possible management of its financial resources, including the Endowment. This advice includes choosing an asset manager and selecting the best investment strategy. We established that for the Association, secure protection of its capital is far more important than risky profits. In a dynamically changing financial market, affected by inflation, crises, and war this will certainly be a great challenge. The Committee is an advisory one; the decisions will always be made by the Management Board after it receives our opinion. We pledge to you that we will make all efforts to fulfill our mission.

Thank you for the trust you have placed in us.

PRZEMYSŁAW A. SCHMIDT

Chair, Finance Committee



## INCOME AND EXPENDITURES IN 2021 (PLN)

	Opening Balance on Jan. 1, 2021	Income	Expenditures	Balance on Dec. 31, 2021
	A	B	C	D = A + B - C
<b>I. Association statutory activities (excluding points II, III and IV)</b>	<b>4,093,920</b>	<b>1,829,756</b>	<b>1,639,179</b>	<b>4,284,497</b>
1. Operating costs of statutory activity	.	.	329,920	.
2. Jan Jagielski Grants Committee	.	25,565**	250,450	.
3. Support for other organizations	.	116,370	120,030	.
4. Fundraising and promotion	.	833,936*	606,588	.
5. Other income and expenditures	.	853,885	332,191*	.
<b>II. Ring-fenced funds from the VAT refund</b>	<b>10,152,869</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10,152,869</b>
1. Interest on bank deposits	.	0	0	.
<b>III. Support for POLIN Museum's activities</b>	<b>5,358,760</b>	<b>5,885,796</b>	<b>2,425,946</b>	<b>8,818,610</b>
1. POLIN Museum Development Fund	.	3,096,973	290,162	.
2. POLIN Museum project grants	.	2,788,823**	2,135,784*	.
<b>IV. Support for the Jewish Historical Institute's activities</b>	<b>2,082,319</b>	<b>1,552,620</b>	<b>2,620,822</b>	<b>1,014,117</b>
1. Programs implemented with the Institute's own funds	.	50,000*	50,000	.
2. Programs implemented with project grants	.	1,502,620**	2,570,822	.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>21,687,868</b>	<b>9,268,172</b>	<b>6,685,947</b>	<b>24,270,093</b>

\* Includes transfers between categories as agreed with partners and returns of unused funds.

\*\* Includes returns of unused funds.



The annual financial and operational reports and the audit results are available at [www.szih.org.pl/en/about-us/reports](http://www.szih.org.pl/en/about-us/reports)

### I. Expenses related to the Association's other statutory activity (unrelated to POLIN Museum and Jewish Historical Institute):

#### 1. Operating costs of statutory activity

Daily functioning of the Association office, including wages, legal and financial services and audits, and costs of meetings and correspondence with Association members

#### 2. Grants Committee

In 2021, the Grants Committee awarded 50 grants for projects related to the history and culture of Polish Jews. See pages 56–73.

#### 3. Support for other organizations

In 2021 the Association supported projects of other organizations. See pages 74–77.

#### 4. Fundraising and promotion

Promotion of the Association, POLIN Museum, and Jewish Historical Institute; fundraising; reports. The Donors Council finances the Association's fundraising and promotion budget in the form of designated gifts. See pages 79–91 about the Association's fundraising activities.

#### 5. Other income and expenditures

Income designated for the Association's statutory activity, interest on bank deposits, costs of foreign-exchange conversion, and other expenditures not elsewhere classified, including transfers between categories

### II. Ring-fenced funds from the VAT refund and accrued interest.

Funds from the refund of value-added tax, interest on bank deposits

### III. Support for POLIN Museum's activities:

#### 1. POLIN Museum Development Fund

Projects carried out by POLIN Museum, solely or in cooperation with the Association or with Jewish organizations — financed by the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute's POLIN Museum Development Fund or by public funds. The projects are described on pages 32–43.

#### 2. POLIN Museum project grants

Designated funds raised by the Association for specific POLIN Museum projects. The projects are described on pages 32–43.

### IV. Expenditures related to Jewish Historical Institute's programs, including the Oneg Szabat Program.

Projects carried out jointly with the Jewish Historical Institute within the Oneg Szabat Program for which the Association received designated grants. These projects are described on pages 48–55.

We invite you to support the Association. Every gift is very important to us. Your donation allows us to support the programs of POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews, the Emanuel Ringelblum Jewish Historical Institute, and other Jewish organizations whose goal is to protect and promote the heritage of Polish Jews.

Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland

Account No. for PLN: PL 87 1240 6247 1111 0000 4975 6324  
Account No. for USD: PL 15 1240 6247 1787 0000 4980 0838  
Account No. for EURO: PL 92 1240 6247 1978 0000 4976 9920

BANK INFORMATION:

Bank Pekao S.A. 53/57 Grzybowska St. SWIFT code: PKOP PL PW  
00-950 Warsaw, Poland

Donations made in the USA are tax deductible.

For more information, please go to [www.szih.org.pl/en/how-to-support](http://www.szih.org.pl/en/how-to-support) available through the QR code or contact: [development@szih.org.pl](mailto:development@szih.org.pl)



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