



# MILWAUKEE ETHNIC NEWS

PUBLISHED BY URBAN ANTHROPOLOGY INC.

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## The Status of Ethnicity in Milwaukee

### Milwaukee Inter-ethnic Forum

In June 2012 a Yahoo Groups forum was organized to connect ethnic leaders and active participants in ethnic activities to each other. Currently representatives of Latino, Polish, Jewish, African American, Arab, French, German, English, and pan-African groups are participating on-line.

Anyone wishing to join can contact Yahoo Groups and search for the Milwaukee Ethnic list, and then sign on.

*UrbAn's Twelve-Year Study Shows Strength of Ethnicity*



### Another year of success for Polish Fest



Polish Fest held its 31<sup>st</sup> Annual festival June 15-17, 2012 at the Henry Maier Festival Park. In a continued effort to share Polish culture, history, arts and education to those in the Milwaukee and surrounding communities, Polish Fest had a

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Between 2000 and 2012, anthropologists at Urban Anthropology Inc. (UrbAn) conducted a study of 56 ethnic groups in the

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## *Ethnic study*

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greater Milwaukee area. Findings suggest that ethnic practices did not disappear, as had been predicted by those advocating the “melting pot” ideology, where members of ethnic groups were expected to assimilate and disappear into a larger Anglo-based society. Contrarily, the study showed that over 250 ethnic organizations are currently active in the greater Milwaukee area alone.

### **Book on the Way**

UrbAn is currently completing a book for Lexington Press on this study that will be out in 2013. The book will demonstrate how ethnic practices improve American society by balancing out the interests of the individual with the interests of the collectivity. In everyday terms, this means that ethnic activities result in more educated, participatory, nurturing, and perhaps tolerant citizens.

## **New Members Sought**

The KRAKOW POLISH DANCERS of MILWAUKEE COUNTY is very interested in NEW MEMBERS!! It is time to REFRESH and build ANEW and consider the accomplishments of our past and strive for the FUTURE. Our mission is very steadfast with a sincere commitment to our youth, young adults, and community. Our award winning non-profit charitable/educational organization was established September 7th, 1967, this marking our 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

The KRAKOW POLISH DANCERS of MILWAUKEE COUNTY is internationally acclaimed as a troupe that "specializes in the artistry, character and style of the American/Pol."--Official Cultural Ambassadors from Wisconsin to Poland, Holiday Folk Fair and WI International Institute Representatives Toledo International Festival and featured throughout the Midwest, Hawaii, Washington D.C., New York City and England, The Netherlands, Germany, Bavaria, Austria, France, Switzerland, Italy and Australia.

Our company offers equal opportunities to all individuals and welcomes prospective members age 9 and up. NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY. Membership is decided on the ability and compliance with our policies and procedures and commitment to family values, our community and our Krakow Mission.

Rehearsals are on Wednesday from 6:45-9:00 P.M. at Collins-Meyer-Knutson 2304 VFW Clubhouse at 2900 West Lincoln Avenue, Milwaukee, WI.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Annette M. Kuligowski, Founder/Executive Director; 5391 South 45th Street-Greenfield, WI 53220; TELEPHONE: 414-421-5750; EMAIL: [AMKuligowski1@aol.com](mailto:AMKuligowski1@aol.com)

## **Inter-ethnic Festival**

*Gathering by the Waters honored Natives, Poles, and Mexicans*



On Saturday, May 5 over 850 people assembled to honor the three populations most responsible for settling and contributing to the Old South Side. The event included a procession of ethnic participants, bands, free ethnic food, and ethnic demonstrations. A group of southside organizations and ethnic clubs sponsored the day.

### **Gathering to Become Bi-annual Event**

Because of the success of the event and the sense of shared community it embodied, Gathering by the Waters will be held every other year in October, beginning 2014. October is an auspicious time for all three ethnic groups: It marks Indian summer, it is Polish Heritage Month, and it is the time of the early Dia De Los Muertos parade (see article to follow).

## *Dia de los Muertos*

It all started in 2009 “I was into my third Ofrenda/Altar art show at the Latino Arts, Inc.,” began Celeste Contreras, organizer of Milwaukee’s Dia de los Muertos/Day of the Dead Parade Project. “And it was not enough for me. So I thought, 'Wouldn't it be

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## Dia Parade

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cool to have a parade here in Milwaukee in honor of the people in our lives who have lost their lives.?"

By summer of 2010 the idea of the parade started to come to life. Meetings, emails, groups, and schools were interested. Because Walker's Point and Walker Square Neighborhoods both host Día de los Muertos Ofrenda/Altar shows for Day of the Dead, Celeste Contreras decided to have the parade between both galleries to promote their shows.



It all fell into place and the Día de los Muertos Parade Project Milwaukee is now entering its third year. The project has hosted many groups from Milwaukee, including, the Ballet Folklorico Hermanos de Avila, Bruce Guadalupe School via their art teacher, Jacobo Lovo and music teacher, Dinorah Marquez, Walker's Point Center for the Arts, Latino Arts, Inc., Milwaukee Public Theatre, Mivoz.com, numerous local Artists, Alverno College and UW-Milwaukee college students, plus teachers, students, parents, activists, and community members.

## Do You Have an Ethnic Story or Event?

The next edition of Milwaukee Ethnic News will be published on September 1. If you have a news item that you wish to publicize at that time, call Jill Florence Lackey at (414) 271-9417 or, better yet, email Dr. Lackey at [JFLanthropologist@sbcglobal.net](mailto:JFLanthropologist@sbcglobal.net). A story cannot exceed 250 words and should include at least one color photograph. Do not email anything over 2 MGs, however.

## Hillel Milwaukee Raffle

Here's your chance to win one of four fabulous prizes and support a great cause! The drawing will take place August 1, 2012.

**First Prize:** One week stay for up to 4 people in a one-bedroom suite villa at the Coral Princess Hotel and Resort in Cozumel, Mexico (Dec. 15-22, 2012).

**Second Prize:** Two airline tickets to fly anywhere in the continental U.S.

**Third Prize:** One full color Kindle Fire.

**Fourth Prize:** Four tickets to a Milwaukee Brewers vs. Chicago Cubs game at Miller Park on Wed., Aug. 22 at 1:10 pm.

Tickets may be purchased on our website: <http://www.hillelmilwaukee.org/home/studentlife/eventsregistration/FundraisingRaffle.aspx>

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*Hillel Milwaukee is a Jewish resource for college students and young adults in the Milwaukee area. We offer a diverse array of programs and events during the school year.*

## La Causa's New Athletic Field Broke Ground

La Causa, Inc. and its charter school, K5-8th grades, officially "broke ground" on its new athletic field on Thursday, May 31st. La Causa's UPS Athletic Field will be located just southwest of the Charter School at 1643 S. 2nd Street, and will provide needed green space and a safe environment for kids to reach for their highest potential integrating physical activity and overall healthy lifestyles. La Causa is proud to partner with UPS Foundation, the project's lead donor.

"UPS is pleased to be able to invest in healthy kids in Milwaukee through La

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# La Causa Ground Breaking

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Causa. This field will serve as a backdrop to instill healthy lifestyles and make memories happen through organized games of soccer as well as impromptu games of catch and tag. Youth thrive when they are active,” said Andy DeLeon, of UPS. Mr. DeLeon is also a proud member of La Causa’s Board of Directors.

More than 650 students will benefit from La Causa’s UPS Field. “The La Causa Eagles will have a home base for soccer teams; a place where children and families can enjoy all that sports offer our children,” said George Torres, President & CEO of La Causa. “UPS is a generous benefactor, a strong partner and advocate for children and families.”

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*The mission of La Causa, Inc. is to provide children, youth, and families with quality, comprehensive services to nurture healthy family life and enhance community stability. Core services focus on education, child abuse prevention and social services providing valuable assistance to vulnerable families.*



*Pictured Left To Right: Captain Anthony Moffett--Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office, Roscoe--Milwaukee Admirals, Steve Sperka--Northwestern Mutual, La Causa Charter School Student and Eagle Soccer Team Member, Andy DeLeon--UPS, George Torres--La Causa, Inc. President & CEO, Maria Ayala-Smith--La Causa Charter School Principal, Oscar Tovar--Mayor Tom Barrett's Office, Thomas Harris--County Executive Chris Abele's Office, and Bango--Milwaukee Bucks.*

## American Indian Stories

### *Cardinal Stritch University hosts American Indian Leadership Program's Panel on Leadership and Family on July 11*

A high profile panel of American Indian leaders from Wisconsin will be sharing their stories and experiences at “Living Leadership: American Indian Family Journeys”, a special event scheduled for July 11, 2012 at the Cardinal Stritch University’s main campus in Milwaukee.

The family panel will include guest speakers Potawatomi Tribal Chairman Gus Frank and his nephew Mike Goodrich, General Manager of Potawatomi Bingo Casino; Ernest L. Stevens, Jr., Chairman of the National Indian Gaming Association and his wife Cheryl Stevens, Director of the grants department at the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin; Nate Nez, Tribal and Regional Coordinator for the Wisconsin Dept. of Veterans Affairs, and his 18-year old son Travis Nez, who was recently elected to the Price County Board of Supervisors.

For the past year the American Indian Leadership Program at the Cardinal Stritch Leadership Center has nurtured a dialogue with members of the American Indian community in Milwaukee and outreached to Wisconsin tribal communities. The program is funded by the Forest County Potawatomi Foundation and the Greater Milwaukee Foundation.

To R.S.V.P. for the event call the American Indian Leadership Program at 414-410-4576 or email at [khill@stritch.edu](mailto:khill@stritch.edu)

## Polish Fest Recap

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multitude of offerings over the weekend, including guests from Canada, Poland, Las Vegas, Florida and Seattle.

The Cultural Village featured a photographic exhibit from the Galicia Museum in Krakow titled *Polish Heroes: Those Who Rescued Jews*. There was also a Polish Military memorabilia exhibit, which displayed uniforms from the 17<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> century. There were speakers at the Polish Forum: John Gurda and Neal Pease spoke on Milwaukee's Polish Community and Poles in WWII.

The five stages of entertainment ranged from polka (of course) to rock, contemporary, folk, cultural and a children's stage. Artisans travelled to display arts and crafts, and vendors offered a nice variety of products—many of which were Polish in nature, either having been imported or depicting Polish emblems.

Unique to the ethnic festival world is the imported beer from the homeland. Tyskie beer was shipped by boat and arrived in time for opening day.

There was something for everyone, which was evident in the number of attendees that attended this year.

Says Festival Director Jane Riley Best: "I can tell you that all of us at Polish Fest are looking forward to all of the other upcoming events that our colleagues have to share, as well."



707 W. Lincoln Ave. Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53215 (414) 271-9417  
Email [RickPetrie@gmail.com](mailto:RickPetrie@gmail.com) Home of the award-winning Old South Side Settlement Museum

## Play on Fair Housing Marches Set for November

Urban Anthropology Inc. is producing a play on the housing marches that is based on oral histories of the Bronzeville and Polonia neighborhoods. The play will be performed initially on November 3, 2012 at the Basilica of St. Josaphat that is located across the street from the destination of the major march of this era.



A synopsis of this play follows.

During the turbulent year of 1967, two fictionalized families struggle with an appropriate response to the upcoming fair housing march to Milwaukee's Kosciuszko Park. A southside family wants to hold on to their Polish neighborhood that has recently lost housing as a result of freeway construction, but sees race becoming the operative theme in the opposition. On the north side, a Black family that has also lost housing during freeway construction, questions whether they should risk participation in the potentially violent march. The events are narrated by General Thaddeus Kosciuszko whose monument symbolizes the Polish presence on the south side. As he speaks, the audience learns the *historic* Kosciuszko—not the one both sides conceptualize.

The play challenges many commonly held ideas about race, culture, and neighborhood.

To purchase tickets, consult the website [www.brownpapertickets.com](http://www.brownpapertickets.com).