



THE MUSEUM OF THE HISTORY OF POLISH JEWS

For more than 1,000 years, Poland was the center of the Jewish Diaspora and home to the largest Jewish community in the world. An estimated 70 percent of American Jews trace their ancestors to Poland, yet they and many Jews worldwide know little about the culture and civilization that flourished prior to the Holocaust.

The Museum of the History of Polish Jews is the first and only museum to focus solely on this remarkable legacy. Located on the historic site where the Warsaw Ghetto once stood, this major new Jewish institution opens its doors for a preview in April 2013 and is preparing for its grand opening in early 2014. As the Museum takes its place on the world stage, it will become an architectural landmark, multifunctional educational and cultural center, and unique global resource through online and other programs extending beyond its walls.

In addition to honoring history, the Museum will support today's Jewish community in Poland and Jews everywhere in reclaiming a precious legacy in which they can take great pride. It will also enable the people of Poland and visitors from throughout Europe to reconnect with a part of their past that was nearly destroyed.

CORE EXHIBITION – A JOURNEY OF A THOUSAND YEARS

The Core Exhibition is the heart of the Museum and was created by an international team of experts from Poland, the United States and Israel, along with the Museum's curatorial team headed by Prof. Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett. Eight galleries, occupying more than 43,000 square feet, offer an innovative exhibition that will become an unmatched resource for dynamic educational, cultural and research programs.

The journey begins in an evocative forest – a place of legend, imagination, sounds, voices and magic. Visitors will encounter a replica of the roof of the now lost 17th century wooden synagogue from Gwoździec, along with its ornamented ceiling, recreated using traditional materials, methods and tools. They will walk down a bustling inter-war street, strolling past shops, theaters and cafes lined with political posters. And they will leave with a deep personal understanding of a people and civilization that is a foundational element of Western culture.

The Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland is solely responsible for the implementation and financing of the development and production of the Core Exhibition.



The POLIN ACADEMY SUMMER SEMINAR (PASS)
On-site study program for North American educators
at the Museum of the History of Polish Jews
Warsaw, Poland

Thousands of Jews who trace their ancestry to Poland are expected to visit the Museum, but will need assistance in reconnecting with their heritage. To assist them in exploring and understanding its resources, we have prepared a program especially for American educators and created customized educational tours designed to address the informational needs of North American Jewish visitors.

The Polin Academy Summer Seminar (PASS) is designed for North American teachers and educators from Jewish educational institutions. We invite you to the Museum of the History of Polish Jews for an on-site orientation to our educational offerings and strategies. We especially encourage people involved in Jewish heritage education and those who prepare groups to visit Poland to apply.

PASS will be conducted in collaboration with the group of educators attending a training program for the Museum's future staff, known as the Polin Academy. This is a unique learning opportunity for both North American educators and the Museum's Education Centre to share experiences and create educational strategies that will most effectively disseminate the wealth of knowledge contained in the Museum's resources to North American visitors.

PASS will take place in two, one-week sections during July and August 2013. In each section, 20 North American educators and 10 Polish educators will collaborate on the development of visitor access-points and curricular materials especially for North American visitors.

Participants in PASS will:

- Gain a unique experience in the newly-opened Museum
- Create educational opportunities for North American tour groups to the Museum
- Learn about the potential of incorporating the Museum's materials for school curricula
- Interact with Polish educators and share experiences

The program includes:

- Presentation of the Museum and its future Core Exhibition and galleries
- Workshops, lectures and discussions
- Tours of historic sites in Jewish Warsaw
- Visits to the site of the former death camp in Treblinka

Dates: July 21-28 (1st section) / August 4-11, 2013 (2nd section)

Deadline for applications: March 8, 2013

Cost: The entire cost of PASS in Poland is subsidized by the Museum of the History of Polish Jews – including accommodations, meals, seminar materials and local transportation. Participants are expected to cover only the cost of their international travel to Warsaw. Participants may apply at the Museum for a Travel Grant to partly cover the expenses for travel.

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More information on: www.jewishmuseum.org.pl (tab: Education)