



Embassy
of the Republic of Poland
in Washington

Washington DC, December 14, 2016

Jacek K. DUTKIEWICZ
President
Polish-American Society of Memphis

I would like to express my great appreciation to the Polish-American Society of Memphis for their continued work to tighten the bonds linking the Polish community in the Memphis metropolitan area with local Authorities and the various prominent cultural, educational and economical institutions such as the Memphis Convention and Visitors Bureau, the National Civil Rights Museum and the Greater Memphis Chamber of Commerce.

We are proud to note that the 2015 Salute to Poland at the City's signature event, Memphis in May International Festival, was a huge success and received recognition in *USA Today* as the best event of 2015 in the U.S. South. Much credit for this success was given to the Polish-American Society of Memphis and to the Embassy of the Republic of Poland in Washington, DC who worked hard to bring this event to Memphis. Great working relationships have been established and friendships forged between the organizers from Poland and the U.S.

We wholeheartedly support the Polish-American Society's effort to maintain and develop further these friendships and relationships between the people and organizations of both countries.

We appreciate the Society's engagement as well as that of prominent Memphis organizations into the collaborative initiative labelled "Memphis Festival in Poland" which is aimed at bringing Memphis to Poland. The objectives of this project are, on the one hand, to show the best of Poland to American people representing American cultural heritage and, on the other hand, to give an opportunity to American artists and educators to present Memphis as the world music capital and the U.S. South as a birthplace of the civil rights movement.

We recognize the Polish-American Society's leading role in this effort which is greatly appreciated both by the local, City of Memphis Authorities, and by American diplomats in Poland. This kind of activity also creates a very positive image of the Polish people living in the U.S. and of Poland as a close ally of the United States.



Piotr WILCZEK

Ambassador