



## PROCLAMATION

### Polish American Heritage Month: October 2026

October is national Polish-American Heritage Month, a celebration of Polish Heritage founded in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1981, to bring attention to the many notable and important contributions by Poles and Polish Americans to the United States of America and the World.

Columbia Heights through the Sister Cities International organization was able to establish a sister city in Lomianki, Poland over thirty years ago. This all-volunteer group has been dedicated and active ever since a task force of community members was called together by its late Founder, Dolores Puente Strand, in late 1989 after receiving approval from then Mayor Dale Hadtrath.

Our Sister Cities' members have been true in spirit and in good deeds honoring the original goals of the organization: promoting educational, humanitarian, civic and cultural activities. Additionally, several of our members are also official members of Polish American Cultural Institute of MN (PACIM) and participate in their events and activities.

Every September, since 1993 the people of our sister city, Łomianki, Poland gather at the War Cemetery in Kielpin to honor and remember the soldiers who fought in the Second World War, the Warsaw Insurgents, and the Allied Pilots who helped the insurgents when a US Air Force plane was shot down. This commemoration has been taking place for over 30 years, and this past year members of our Sister City welcomed dignitaries from Poland and the Minnesotan Polish Community to unveil and dedicate a sister memorial here in Columbia Heights, in Huset Park.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that I, Amáda Márquez Simula, Mayor, do hereby proclaim the month of October 2026 to be Polish American Heritage Month.

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Amáda Márquez Simula  
September 28, 2026