# POLISH HEROES: Those Who Rescued Jews

# A PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION

FEATURING PHOTOGRAPHS BY CHRIS SCHWARZ

# October 29-December 5, 2008

KORET PAVILION AT THE ZIFF CENTER
HILLEL AT STANFORD UNIVERSITY
565 MAYFIELD AVENUE

(near the corner of Mayfield Avenue and Campus Drive East)



#### **OPENING RECEPTION**

Wednesday, October 29, 5-7 pm

Guided Tour, 5:30 pm Welcome Remarks, 6:15 pm



#### PROGRAM EVENTS AT KORET PAVILION

# Wednesday, November 12

ADVANCED SCREENING 5-7 PM
In the Name of Their Mothers
The Story of Irena Sendler
With filmmaker Mary Skinner

# Wednesday, December 3

LECTURE PRESENTATION 5-7 PM
Karski's Testimony—Hoover
Institution's Collection of his Papers
Zbigniew L. Stanczyk
European Collection Specialist,
Hoover Institution



JOINT EXHIBITION AT HOOVER INSTITUTION, TOWER ROTUNDA

October 27-February 2, 2009

Jan Karski: Righteous Among the Nations

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (650) 736-1199



#### CO-SPONSORS

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#### THE MEMORY OF THE RIGHTEOUS

### By Konstanty Gebert

THE TALMUD, IN A WELL-KNOWN PASSAGE, teaches that, when Cain killed Abel, he killed not only his brother, but also all his yet-unborn descendants. For "he who kills one life is considered as if he had destroyed an entire world," and therefore "he who saves one life is regarded as if he had saved an entire world." This Talmudic quotation, which is part of the Yad Vashem diploma awarded to the Righteous, should be treated literally: not only those Jews who have been personally saved by the Righteous owe them their lives, but all of their descendants as well.

Thousands upon thousands of Jews worldwide are alive today because one day, decades ago,

someone had decided to risk their life to protect a hunted individual from the most implacable killing machine the world had ever known. The heroism the Righteous had displayed was limited in time; our gratitude, however, can know no limits. It will remain for as long as the Jewish people exist.

I stand in awe of their sacrifice, and have immense gratitude to those who, like the organizers of this exhibition, make their acts known to the world. The memory of the Righteous is indeed a blessing.

Konstanty Gebert, one of Poland's leading intellectuals, directs the Taube Center for the Renewal of Jewish Culture, in Warsaw.

### **JOINT EXHIBITION**

"JAN KARSKI, RIGHTEOUS AMONG THE NATIONS: ITEMS FROM THE HOOVER INSTITUTION ARCHIVES"
Tower Rotunda, Hoover Institution 434 Galvez Mall, Stanford October 27, 2008–February 2, 2009



Jan Karski was a member of the Polish underground resistance during WWII. He worked as a secret courier to the Polish government in exile and the Western Allies, reporting on

the situation in Poland, particularly the plight of the Jews during the destruction of the Warsaw Ghetto and in the concentration camps.

#### **ADVANCED SCREENING**

"IN THE NAME OF THEIR MOTHERS"
The Story of Irena Sendler
With filmmaker Mary Skinner
Koret Pavilion at the Ziff Center
565 Mayfield Avenue, Stanford
Wednesday, November 12, 5–7 pm

Irena Sendler, a modest Polish Catholic social worker, organized the rescue of thousands of Jewish children from the Warsaw ghetto during WWII. Together with other Poles, she formed



the wartime Council to Aid the Jews (code name: Zegota). "In the Name of Their Mothers" tells the remarkable story of Sendler and other Polish heroes who risked their own lives to save the lives of others.

# Polish Heroes: Those Who Rescued Jews

A Tribute to the Righteous Among the Nations, featuring those who live in the Krakow region today.



# **OPENING RECEPTION**

Wednesday, October 29, 2008 • 5−7 PM

5:30 PM, GUIDED TOUR

Shana Penn, Executive Director,

Taube Foundation for Jewish Life & Culture

6:15 PM, WELCOME REMARKS

**Tad Taube**, Honorary Consul for the Republic of Poland Chairman, Taube Foundation for Jewish Life & Culture

## SELECTIONS FROM THE JOINT EXHIBITION

"Jan Karski, Righteous Among the Nations: Items from the Hoover Institution Archives"

Nick Siekierski, Assistant Archivist for Exhibits & Outreach, Hoover Institution



Polish Heroes: Those Who Rescued Jews was co-curated by the Auschwitz Jewish Center (www.ajcf.org), the Galicia Jewish Museum (www.galiciajewishmuseum.org) and the Polish/American/Jewish Alliance for Youth Action (PAJA, www.pajanow.org). The exhibition features photographs by the late photographer Chris Schwarz, the founder of the Galicia Jewish Museum.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HONORARY CONSUL

I AM PLEASED AND DEEPLY HONORED to support this important project in recognition of "Polish Heroes: Those Who Rescued Jews." This is more than an exhibition of beautiful photographs, though it is that, too. It is more than a timely tribute to the hundreds who risked their lives to save thousands. Indeed, it is a rare opportunity to bring light to one of the darkest periods of history the world has ever known—the Nazi Holocaust of the Jews. By risking their lives to save Jewish children from the iron grip of this unfathomable terror, these Polish men and women acted with untold courage for unsung deeds. It is now time to tell their stories and sing their praise.

—Tad Taube Honorary Consul for the Republic of Poland in the San Francisco Bay Area

#### **CO-ORGANIZERS**



#### GALICIA JEWISH MUSEUM

Located in the old Jewish quarter of Krakow, the Galicia Jewish Museum celebrates the Jewish culture of Galicia and commemorates those killed in the Holocaust, presenting Jewish history from a new perspective. In its mission to enrich the communities of the world in the understanding of the history and culture of the Jewish people of Galicia, the Museum commissions and curates exhibitions, creates educational programs and publications, and provides a forum for multi-cultural dialogue and understanding of Jewish history and culture for audiences from around the world.



#### Auschwitz Jewish Center

The Auschwitz Jewish Center is the only remaining Jewish presence in Oswiecim, the town renamed Auschwitz during the war. The Center's mission is to provide a place to learn about the vibrancy of lewish culture and Polish-Jewish life before WWII, and to exist as a haven to memorialize the victims of the Holocaust.



#### POLISH/AMERICAN/JEWISH ALLIANCE FOR YOUTH ACTION

The Polish/American/Jewish Alliance for Youth Action (PAJA) is a non-profit educational organization whose mission is to help develop a generation of young people from Poland, America, Israel, and elsewhere with an understanding of their common heritage and the tools they need to work for a better future.

#### **CO-SPONSORS**



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