



Miami, 4 February 2017

In honor of Lady Blanka Aldona Rosenstiel

The history of the Polish flag is a story of courage. It's a story of battles won by Polish armor under Red and White banners. It's the story of the first European constitution. Throughout it's a story of fighting for freedom and the survival of the nation state and its values, which from the very beginning shaped the Polish state. Varied fortunes occurred to Poles under the white and red flag. Among them were moments of glory, moments of great struggle, and long periods of hardship to make the red and white colors mean the same for future generations as they meant to their ancestors. The tribulations of the sovereign, who is obliged in those difficult moments to maintain and preserve national identity was to keep the red and white flag flying. What is this flag? Why is it important? What does it represent? It's a symbol of independence, survival and valor of the nation. That nation, that proved its right to exist on the map of Europe.

To keep the flag flying was the continuous goal of the last President in Exile, Ryszard Kaczorowski. He was a man of honor who proved many times with his life that Poland was preserved, not only through grand strategies but through a combination of patient, everyday commonplaces. This is what shaped the body of the modern Republic.

To keep the flag flying means to be proud of being Polish. It means to love the homeland. It means at all times to keep foremost the welfare of the country and its people.

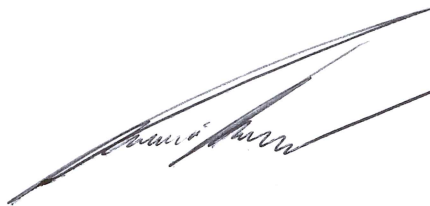
In this respect the message of President Kaczorowski was carried out in exemplary fashion by Blanka A. Rosenstiel. This Polish lady, not only embodies the ideals of what it means to be of Polish descent—she is not simply faithful to the red and white—but most of all through her energy and through her actions she has contributed to making Poland celebrated in the United States. She has continually promoted Poland. She has tirelessly built the reputation of Polish culture. That is in history, in art and in political discourse. She may hold the official post of honorary consul, yet, may I say, that would be hard to find a better and more engaged ambassador anywhere in the world.

Lady Blanka is a true symbol and avatar of what it means to be Polish in its most pristine and comprehensive sense. She is a one woman institution on this side of the Atlantic. Very often her private endeavors are more influential than those of official bodies. She is a person who has given abundantly of her soul and spirit in order to serve her native land. She is, if you will, a kind of Polish Iron Lady. She has never rested on her laurels. She has never said, „I have done enough.” She maintains a passion within that enables her to unite others in pursuing a common goal.

And so without further ado, we honor her for:

- promoting Poland’s rich cultural heritage on these shores, remembering Poland’s revolutionary role in shaping the United States,
- promoting the scientific and artistic achievements of Polish Americans,
- popularizing the music of Frederic Chopin among young American pianists,
- creating Polish chairs at the Institute of World Politics in Washington,
- creating the Blanka Rosenstiel Lecture Series in Poland,
- contemporary exhibitions of Polish and Polish-American art and showings of Polish films,
- and lastly for organizing this charity ball year in and year out for the last 45 years, a gala celebrating Polish achievements within the international and American Polish elite.

I have the honor now of presenting this award to Lady Blanka A. Rosential, **honorary consul of the Polish Republic, founder and director of the American Institute of Polish culture and founder of the Chopin Foundation in Miami with the Wprost Eagle as Ambassador of Polishness**



Michał Maciej Lisiecki  
Publisher and President  
PMPG Polskie Media,  
„Wprost” i „Do Rzeczy”

**The WPROST EAGLE** is an award for companies, local governments and prominent personalities.

*This is in honor of those who make a special contribution to the development of the economy of a region or the country as a whole. They are those who care day by day for the Republic, not only with great works and deeds, but also in seemingly insignificant matters, which are by increment, the vital actions that inform the state of today's Poland.*

**The WPROST EAGLE** is inspired by a prize received by the publisher of "Wprost", Maciej Michał Lisiecki, from the Institute of President Ryszard Kaczorowski for everyday actions, which prove that by doing business you can keep the red and white flag flying high, be a patriot and improve the situation of the Polish nation. This symbol of distinction is the emblem of the Polish State - the image of the White Eagle - which hung at the seat of the President and the Government of the Second Republic from 1945 at 43 Eaton Place in London, the so-called. "Castle."