KORCZAK’S TIMELINESS OF THOUGHT IN POLAND

ACTIVITIES AND EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS

EVENTS OF 2014

I. A yearly educational work in Janusz Korczak’s schools and institutions

1. Activities conducted within schools and institutions:
   - "The Days of Patron" celebrations held under the Association slogan,
   - Knowledge competitions about the Old Doctor, his life and work, art and literary competitions,
   - form tutor periods,
   - familiarizing students with literary works of Janusz Korczak within the library and Polish classes,
   - widening of libraries collections of items related to the Patron,
   - editing and posting articles about the Old Doctor in the schools’ newspapers,
   - student self-government activities including "Days of Self-Governance" and democratic elections for Student Council,
   - sporting events.

2. Cyclic initiatives held in the local environment:
   - preparing events promoting the schools’ achievements, including activities around the figure of Korczak, events engaging local environment, festivals,

"Spring Festival", Janusz Korczak’s Primary School in Nowa Ruda, 21st March 2014

"School Patrons Parade” – the presentation of Janusz Korczak as a figure during the colorful parade going from Wawel Royal Castle to the Main Square in Kraków, The Janusz Korczak Youth Culture Center in Kraków.

"No violence Day". The marching through main streets of Sokolowsk with baloons with children dreams written on them. The Janusz Korczak Primary and Kindergarten Educational Complex in Sokolowsk, 21st March 2014.
Regional Parade of Artistic Groups from Janusz Korczak Schools and Institutions from Lower Silesia, held 10th April under the name of „Talents gallery”. During the eight parade held in The Złotoryja Cultural and Recreational Center, six Korczak's institutions were presenting their achievements: The Primary School number 4 from Chojnów, The School and Educational Complex from Ząbkowice Śląskie, The Primary School number 1 from Sobótko, and – for the very first time – The Primary School from Gniewków, The Primary School form Oleszna and The Integration Kindergarten number 125 from Wroclaw

- organizing events that engage local environment by universities

The closure and summary of The “STOP THE VIOLENCE” Volleyball Contest, held 12th April 2014 in WSHE University of Humanities and Economics in Włocławek, including The Academic WSHE Association of Sports and The “Korczak Workshops” Academic Circle.

- organizing family events and festivals such as "The Family Days",

"Kids Fest" – family outdoor event: The Big Gala – shows of artistic groups from Youth Culture Centers based in Kraków. Family Art Competition.

- "Kite Festival", engaging schools and institutions from the Silesian District,
- Conducting "School Patron" section on schools’ and institutions’ websites.

II. OPEN COMPETITION FOR EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED IN COLLABORATION WITH CHILDREN AND YOUNGSTERS during the first half of 2014

The Laureates of the Competition were as listed below:
1. The Wincent Hipolit Gawarecki Primary School in Mała Wieś awarded for „UKU Skauting – let’s change the world with ukulele” project,
2. The Primary - Secondary School Complex number 7 in Radomsko awarded for "We like Korczak" project,

3. The Educational Complex in Kadłub awarded for "Around the menora – the story about the cultural heritage of Janusz Korczak's foster-children".

III. 25 LAT KONWENCJI O PRAWACH DZIECKA 25 YEARS OF THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

The 25th anniversary of adopting the Convention on the Rights of the Child by The United Nations General Assembly was commemorated by establishing November the month of celebration of the 25th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Due to this events and their importance for the protection of children's rights, the second edition of the open nationwide competition for educational projects has been opened. The competition is addressed to universities, schools, nongovermental organizations and it is focusing on projects with the participation of children and young people. and is entitled
"Can't leave the world as it is"

Prize-winners were selected by the Jury and by a public vote via the website PSK.

Realization of chosen project took place in Poland in November 2014:
- "I'm writing to you, sir doctor..." - The bp. Jan Chrapek's Association of Art Therapy KATARSIS, based in Przemyśl
- "Let's hold out our hands - the journey through children's rights" - Educational Complex For Children of Special Needs Number 2 in Elbląg
- "The world corrected - the school mural" - Janusz Korczak's Public Primary School in Jasienica
- "Let's study from Janusz Korczak" - The "Bądźmy razem" Association based in Kalisz

"Let's hold out our hands - the journey through children's rights" - Educational Complex For Children of Special Needs Number 2 in Elbląg

The mural placed on the wall of Janusz Korczak’s Public Primary School in Jasienica

"I'm writing to you, sir doctor..."
What's more, schools, schools, institutions, organizations working with Polish Janusz Korczak's Association took various initiatives of local range, in connection with celebration of the month of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Tarnów is launching the celebration of 25th anniversary of implementing of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

"Daisy" Kindergarten number 8 in Tarnów.

25th anniversary of implementing of the Convention on the Rights of the Child celebrated in Janusz Korczak's Primary School number 2 in Nowa Ruda.
IV. PARTNERSHIP FOR KORCZAK
In 2014 the Polish Janusz Korczak Association signed partnership agreements with: The State Ethnographical Museum in Warsaw and Korczak's Foundation.

On 14th of May 2014 a letter of intent was solemnly signed for partnership in improving dissemination in Poland and abroad knowledge of the life and achievements of Janusz Korczak (Henryk Goldszmit), as well as popularizing the idea of Korczak between The State Ethnographical Museum in Warsaw, represented by the Director of the Museum, Dr Adam Czyzewski, and the Polish Janusz Korczak Association, represented by Chairwoman, Barbara Janina Sochal.

V. The Varsovian Janusz Korczak Educational Award

The Varsovian Educational Awards for schools and institutions from Warsaw were awarded on 8th October.

VI. Conferences, seminars, symposia, debates

1. "Conflict management - peer mediation - challenges for Wroclaw"

On 24th of January 2014 experts from the House of Peace Foundation, together with researchers from the Department of Pedagogical Sciences DSW and representatives of the Polish Janusz Korczak Association debated about the models of conflicts resolution in local communities, on the basis of peer, neighborhood and family relations.

2. IV Pedagogical Symposium "Joint support for active operation - methods of working with children and adults"
The theme of the Symposium was the pedagogy of Janusz Korczak in the modern upbringing of the child. The presents methods of working with children with disabilities were also present, as well as selected methods of therapy of children and teenagers, practical methods of activation and integration of the group by the common play, movement and work, forms of supporting the mental development of adults and problems in shaping in adults the need of continuous improvement and lifelong learning. Like in previous years, the organizer of the symposium was Małopolska School of Economics in Tarnów and the Pedagogical Student Research Group "Paidagogos" from the Department of Educational Sciences, the 13th March 2014.

3. "Faces of Korczak" seminar

The Museum of History of Polish Jews in Warsaw was the venue of seminar, where the hosts, speakers and invited guests tried to answer the question: "What side of Korczak do we want to show after the Korczak Year?", "In what way do we want to show Korczak after the Korczak Year?", the 1st April 2014.

4. "The inclusive education" seminar in Geneva
The 6th International Seminar on Janusz Korczak was held in Geneva, and it was organized by the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Poland to the United Nations and International Janusz Korczak Association. The theme of the meeting was an analysis of the heritage and pedagogy of Janusz Korczak from the point of inclusive education, with particular reference to second article of the International Convention on the Rights of the Child. Polish Janusz Korczak Association was represented by Monika Modrzejewska, a member of the Board and a President of the Małopolska Circle, the 31st May 2014.

5. The debate "Pedagogy of Janusz Korczak in the perception of contemporary care and educational reality"

The debate took place on 26th June 2014 in The Janusz Korczak and Setafnia Wilczyńska Hall, based in the School of Humanities and Economics in Włocławek.

6. The conference "With incomprehensible love you can torture a child - the right should take it into custody".

The Joseph Rusiecki Higher School in Olsztyn, 11th December 2014

VII. Meetings, visits and trips

1. The meeting of members of The Polish Janusz Korczak Association and authors of „The Bankruptcy of little Jack” in The Lalka Theatre in Warsaw. A discussion with the authors of the play and the actors about the artistic signifance of the play, stage performance, on how the play was recepted by young audience, about the taste of being defeated and about the education economy issues.
2. The meeting with members of Svenska Korczaksällskapet Board

The meeting with our Swedish guests from Svenska Korczaksällskapet took place on 25th April 2014 in The Documentation and Research Center KORCZAKIANUM of City Museum of Warsaw. It was guided by Mrs. Marta Ciesielska, The Head of the Center.

3. The meeting with the Head of Bulgarian Janusz Korczak Association

On the 15th May 2014 in The Documentation and Research Center KORCZAKIANUM in Warsaw there was a meeting with Mrs. Rossitsa Simeneonova, the President of Bulgarian Janusz Korczak Association.

4. The meeting with students from British Columbia in Vancouver.
On the 3rd June 2014 in The Documentation and Research Center KORCZAKIANUM there was a meeting with Bożena Karwowska, PhD. (Associate Professor of Polish and Slavic Studies) and the group of students from British Columbia University in Vancouver (Canada). The meeting was organized accordingly with the international seminar „Witnessing Auschwitz: Conflicting stories and memories”.

5. Guests from the USA

On the 31st of August the Masovian Circle of Polish Janusz Korczak Association was hosting 31 sierpnia 2014 roku Korczak followers from the USA – Kurt i Nadline Bomze. Dr Kurt Bomze was the President of US Korczak Society for 17 years.

6. The meeting with students from Małopolska School of Economics in Tarnów

4th-5th August 2014, Warsaw

7. The meeting with youngsters from Jaroszów

On the 18th-19th September 2014 the group of 20 youngsters from The Primary and Kindergarten Educational Complex from Jaroszów was visiting Warsaw – the city of Janusz Korczak.
8. The meeting with children, parents and teachers from The „Daisy” Kindergarten number 8 in Tarnów.

The aim of the visit was to get to know the conditions, running and organization of the Kindergarten as long as forms and methods of working with the youngest pupils. Mrs. Małgorzata Kocik, the Head of the Kindergarten and the teachers were presenting the history of the institution and its achievements. 13th March 2014.

9. Children from "Caritas" and the Orphanage from Lubień Kujawski with the deputy Domicela Kopaczewska and representatives of the Science Club "Korczak Workshops" in Warsaw

Centre for Documentation and Research KORCZAKIANUM, the Branch of Museum of Warsaw, 27th October 2014

VIII. Patronage

1. Theatrical events

2. The Hymn of Janusz Korczak

Hymn of Janusz Korczak and the videoclip was created with the cooperation of students from the Pedagogy Faculty from Małopolska School of Economics in Tarnów and children from Public "Daisy" Kindergarten Number 8 in Tarnów. The recording of the video was made possible thanks to the help of many people sympathetic to us, including Tarnow musical group "Caution. Hedgehogs". The Hymn of Janusz Korczak inaugurated the celebrations of the 25th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Tarnów in 2014.

3. Conference under the auspices of PSK

- Conference of Małopolska School of Economics in Tarnów entitled "Children Rough Sleepers - Preventing homelessness of children"
- 3rd Festival of Psychology and Personal Development in Tarnów,
- Project SHARE POLAND IN THE BLOGOSPHERE implemented by the State Ethnographical Museum in Warsaw
- Project "WITH KORCZAK ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD" organized by the Sądecki Elektryk Association in Nowy Sącz,
- The project "Small, medium, large - Janusz Korczak lives among us", implemented by the Janusz Korczak Special Education Centre No. 1. in Kalisz.
IX. THE JUBILEES OF EDUCATIONAL COMPLEX FOR CHILDREN OF SPECIAL NEEDS NUMBER 2 IN ELBLĄG

On the 30th May 2014 in the Elbląg Library the special meeting was held. During this event the 60th Anniversary of Educational Complex for Children of Special Needs number 2 as well as the 35th Anniversary of naming the school Janusz Korczak’s was celebrated.

The society gathered around the Institution wrote: Educational Complex for Children of Special Needs number 2 in Elbląg is a part of a beautiful story, a great present, but also the future. That’s buildings, green spaces, specialized clinics, programs, projects, tasks, success. Is a reality that is created by people who have their daily, hard work trying to be worthy of the words of Janusz Korczak: “To be human means to have a crystal morality, unlimited tolerance, the passion reaching diligence, strive for continuous replenishment of his education, to help others”. Working with and for children was presented in a beautiful artistic dimension - specially prepared for the feast of musical theater program “How Korczak changed the course of my family”.

Korczak International Forum in Ukraine.

Colleagues from the Ukrainian Korczak Association celebrated the anniversary this year - held under the slogan "20 years of Korczak". On this occasion they invited PSK to the International Forum dedicated to the 25th anniversary of implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which was held in Kiev on 17-19 October 2014.
10th anniversary of the Janusz Korczak UNESCO Chair and Interdisciplinary Studies on Development and Welfare of the Child on The Maria Grzegorzewska Academy of Special Education in Warsaw.

The meeting was organized in cooperation with the Janusz Korczak Polish Association and took place on 13th December 2015, The Maria Grzegorzewska Academy of Special Education in Warsaw.

X. **Summer holidays with Janusz Korczak**

1. Summer holidays in Korczakowo
2. Nationwide Contest "Korczak on holidays" held under the auspices of the Polish Janusz Korczak Association, prepared by Primary School and Secondary School in Łąkie.

XI. Meetings of the Board, Presidents of Circles from all Poland as well as the members of the Audit Committee - discussing the plans and their implementation, discussions, exchange of experiences, workshops.

Lalka Theatre, Warsaw, the 5th April  2014

XII. Memorial sites

1. The patriotical-religious celebration in Treblinka

Trips being organized on the first Saturday in September and the patriotic and religious ceremony in Treblinka has become the tradition of Janusz Korczak Primary School in Jasienica. The ceremony are attended by delegations and students of neighboring schools carrying flagships, 6 September 2014.
XIII. Farewells

On the 4th June 2014 Bogusława Juskowiak suddenly left our Korczak's family. She was a member of the Presidium of the Janusz Korczak Polish Association, President of the Grater Poland Circle, for us she was BOGUSIA - colleague, friend, social worker, pedagogue who promotes and disseminates the ideas and work of Janusz Korczak threw everyday work, ub the creation of good practices.

On the 22nd of June 2014, after a serious illness,

JERZY ZGODZIŃSKI

left us, he was the creator of Korczakowo, counsellor of several generations of scouts and instructors, Knight of the Order of the Smile and Honorary Citizen of Zielona Góra, a member of the Presidium of our Association. He devoted all his life to children and young people, choosing Janusz Korczak for his patron and teacher.

Information gathered by:

Barbara Janina Sochal, President of the Polish Janusz Korczak Association

For more information about the Association please go to: www.pskorczak.org.pl