

## ACPC Distinguished Service



### Marcin Chumiecki

Mr. Chumiecki has worked tirelessly to promote the Polish Mission of the Orchard Lake Schools, and was instrumental in the reinvention and establishment of The Polish Mission in its modern day form at the Orchard Lake Schools. Even though the historic campus of the Orchard Lake Schools traces its origins back to the nineteenth century, it was not until 2007 that the Polish Mission was

formally established as an independent department. To this day the Orchard Lake Schools remain dedicated to faith, heritage, and tradition.

To speak of the reason and purpose of The Polish Mission is to understand the personal mission of Mr. Chumiecki: *"...To preserve and promote Polish and Polish-American culture, tradition, and history for present and future generations. The Polish Mission organizes programs, courses and events that highlight Polish and Polish-American culture and accomplishments, and ensures a repository for artifacts, archival materials, works of art, and publications."*

Under the leadership of Marcin Chumiecki, a passion for all things Polish is brought to visitors to the Orchard Lake Campus, as well as all of southeastern Michigan. Further, Marcin serves as an Ambassador of the Polish Mission to important cultural, political and economic institutions and events in the United States and around the world. In just a few short years, Mr. Chumiecki has established the P.A.R.I. Genealogy Center at The Polish Mission where hundreds of families have been able to discover their ancestry and reach into the past to embrace their Polish heritage. In addition, Mr. Chumiecki has modern-

ized the prestigious *Galeria*, and established formal museum protocols for donated art and artifacts, allowing The Polish Mission to become the leading collections repository in North America.

With the blessings of The Orchard Lake Schools leadership, Chumiecki has boldly embraced the United States Community and beyond in promoting Polish culture, economics, and worldview. A sampling of his projects include:

- Visit and lecture from Lech Walesa, former President of Poland, Solidarity leader and Nobel Peace Prize Winner
- Visit by Dr. Piotr Cywinski, Executive Director, Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum, resulting in exclusive formal partnership
- Visit by Professor C. Pierre Zaleski, President of the Polish Library in Paris, France.
- Development and expansion of the only Polish-American Robotics team in the US.
- Formal Endorsement by Polish Ambassador Ryszard Sniepf of Polish Mission operations.
- Representation of the Polish war effort to the Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum.

While Mr. Chumiecki has photographed and met with hundreds of U.S. and world leaders, he remains humbly dedicated and passionately focused on the "mission" of The Polish Mission. Mr. Chumiecki has a broad vision for what the Polish Mission is becoming: the center of Polish Culture not just in Southeastern Michigan, but the leading such center in the United States. To that end, he has assisted the Orchard Lake Schools in the building of the new *Galeria*, to present, preserve, and protect historic works of art. He has initiated an aggressive program to catalogue, preserve and protect literally thousands of historic treasures from Polish people — many of whom gave their lives in this noble cause to preserve Polish history.

**Congratulations and Best Wishes to**

**Marcin Chumięcki**

on receiving well deserved

**2014 ACPC Distinguished Service Award**

**Keep up the Good Work as The Leader of The Polish Mission**

at

**The Orchard Lake Schools, Orchard Lake, Michigan**

**Halina Konwiak – President, Polish Home Army Veterans (A.K.)**