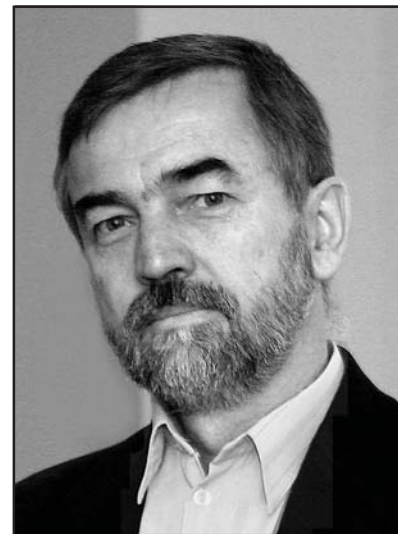


ACPC Cultural Achievement Award

Szymon Tolak



Szymon Tolak was born in Warsaw on March 8, 1953. In 1984 he was granted a Masters Degree in the History of Philosophy by the Catholic University of Lublin, Poland. In 1988 he immigrated to the USA and was granted citizenship in 1999. He was involved in Boston Polonia social activities since coming to the USA. As a member of Our Lady of Czêstochowa Parish in South Boston he was elected a member of the Parish Council for 6 years, also worked as a member of Polish Saturday School advisory board. He created the first website for Polonia of Boston and Eastern Massachusetts (www.polboston.com) in 2004, is a contributor to "White Eagle", Polish-American biweekly magazine, and the PAP website for Polish World Diaspora "Polonia dla Polonii". Since 2003, he has been a member of the Board and since 2006 elected vice-President of the Polish Cultural Foundation in Boston.

In 2006 he initiated and took part in the Boston Polonia marching protest and demonstration in front of the Boston Town Hall against City of Boston Mayor Thomas Menino's decision to remove Andrzej Pityński's monument "the Par-

tisans" from the historical and prominent Boston recreational park "Boston Common". In 2009 he participated in the creation of a new plaque in Marblehead, Massachusetts commemorating the arrival to America of Gen. Casimir Pulaski in 1777. Since 2013 he has been involved in activity of the "Gazeta Polska" Club in Boston, as a member and has represented the Boston "Gazeta Polska" Club in the First American Congress of "Gazeta Polska" Clubs of Canada and USA, in American Czêstochowa (Doylestown, Pennsylvania) in February 2014.



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