

# Explore 1,000 Years of Jewish Life in Poland



MUSEUM  
OF THE  
HISTORY  
OF POLISH  
JEWS

OPENING 2013

[JEWISHMUSEUM.ORG.PL](http://JEWISHMUSEUM.ORG.PL)



*Celebrate the New Poland*





# Facts & Figures for the Museum of the History of Polish Jews

## MUSEUM RATIONALE

- Over the period of 1,000 years, Polish Jewry created a prodigious civilization that has shaped modern Jewish life and Western culture.
- More than 70% of world Jewry have ancestral roots in greater Poland.
- The Museum will be a nexus for all nationalities and religions to share the foundational experience of the Jewish people in the very place where their story unfolded.

## MUSEUM VISITORS

- The Museum will welcome 1 million visitors per year.
- In 2013, c.a. 250,000 Polish students and 70,000 Israeli, American, and European students will visit.
- Cross-cultural youth exchanges, internet-based educational programs, and mobile apps exponentially increase its global reach.
- Polish Intercultural Youth Encounters (PIYE) brings some 35,000 Israeli high school students to Poland each year for workshops and meetings with their Polish peers.

## SELECT PARTNERS

- Facing History and Ourselves
- Ministry of Education of Israel
- USC Shoah Foundation Institute
- U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum
- YIVO
- Day schools, high schools and universities worldwide

“The Museum of the History of Polish Jews will bring the richness of Jewish heritage to the millions who will benefit from seeing, hearing, and experiencing this epic and ongoing story.”

Hon. Tad Taube, Museum Distinguished Benefactor; Honorary Consul for the Republic of Poland; Chairman, Taube Philanthropies; President, Koret Foundation

## MUSEUM BUILDING

- The 138,000 square-foot building was designed by the Finnish architectural firm Rainer Mahlamäki and Ilmari Lahdelma, selected from an international architectural competition, one of the first of its kind in Poland.
- Built on the historic site of the Warsaw Ghetto, the Museum faces the Natan Rapoport Memorial to the Ghetto Uprising. The Museum is in dialogue with the Memorial, and together, the two complete the memorial complex.
- The Museum’s dramatic glass window is the largest in all of Poland.

## CORE EXHIBITION

- The Core Exhibition will fill eight galleries and over 43,000 square feet of space, more than a third of the entire Museum building.

## GWOŹDZIEC SYNAGOGUE

- The centerpiece of the Museum’s Core Exhibition is a reconstruction, 85% to scale, of the beautiful 17th century wooden Gwoździec Synagogue. It was built over two years by an international group of volunteers, who used the tools and techniques of the 17th century. “Learn by Building” is the Museum’s innovative approach to recovering heritage.

## EDUCATION AND TECHNOLOGY

- The Museum’s Educational Center will support school groups, teachers, and all audiences with special programming, curricula, teacher training, tours, workshops and seminars.
- The Museum is a “theater of history,” using sound, light, scenography, and film to engage visitors in the story.
- Under the guidance of Nizio Design International, the Museum fuses interactive, cutting-edge technology with world-class scholarship.

## A UNIQUE PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

- The Museum is the largest public-private enterprise in Poland and is estimated to cost \$110 million.
- Poland’s Ministry of Culture and the Municipality of Warsaw have committed the entire cost of the building, over \$60 million.
- The private partner is a Jewish non-governmental organization, the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland, which is responsible for raising the \$40 million to produce the Core Exhibition from private donors, foundations, corporations and the German Government. The Association oversees the Core Exhibition and all related content and programs.