



2017 Kosciuszko Bicentenary Program (Preliminary)

The year 2017, the 200th anniversary of Thaddeus Kosciuszko's passing, has been proclaimed by the Polish Parliament as the "Kosciuszko Year"; the bicentennial will be celebrated in association with UNESCO

Schedule of Events

Competitions

Entries Open for all Kosciuszko Bicentenary International Competitions on **February 4th, 2017** (Kosciuszko's birthday)

More than \$A10,000 in prize money as well as consolation prizes are on offer in two age groups, high school students and adults, for original works in:

- Graphic arts
- Music
- Poetry/Literature

Entries Close **July 31, 2017**

Each entrant will receive a souvenir DVD of the best works submitted

* Jury Verdict announced **October 3, 2017** in Sydney during a gala at NSW Parliament House

* *Kosciuszko Heritage Inc (KHI) of Australia, supported by the Kosciuszko Foundation of New York and the Polish Kosciuszko Foundation of Warsaw has empanelled an outstanding international jury to evaluate all submissions*

Kosciuszko Bicentenary Commemoration schedule will also include:

March 24 – 25, 2017 - Kosciuszko academic conferences at Krakow Polytechnic.

Distinguished KHI member Prof. Andrzej Kozek will deliver his paper "*Kosciuszko's Last Will – from the Australian perspective*".

April 2017 - production and distribution of the Russian version of the documentary "*Kosciuszko: Poland Will Yet Dance Again*". This film, produced by Kosciuszko Heritage had its Polish and English version premieres in Sydney in 2015 and 2016.

July 2017 – Filming in Australia of the "*Mound to Mountain Skiing Expedition*" Participants include Kosciuszko Mound Museum President, Professor Mieczyslaw Rokosz together with a 3 person delegation from the Museum

August 2017 – the distinguished international jurors continue to evaluate competition submissions

September 2017 – Kosciuszko Film Marathon will be screened at Polish Clubs around Australia combined with an "*Audience Award*" exhibition selected Graphic Arts competition entries

October 3, 2017 – Jury verdict announced at NSW Parliament House theatre.

Followed by a Kosciuszko Film Marathon including the Australian premiere of the of **the American film** “*Kosciuszko: A Man Before His Time*” dir. By Alex Storzynski; **the Australian film** “*Kosciuszko: Poland Will Yet Dance*” dir. By Ernestyna Skurjat-Kozek, **the TVP Polish film** “*His name is Poland*” dir. By Lucyna Smolinska and M. Sroka, and **the archival Polish movie** (1929) “*Kosciuszko’s first Love*” dir by J. Orshon.

As well as performances by Two (Australian) Competition winners and an Exhibition of the awarded graphic arts items.

October 9 – 15, 2017 – KHI Australia delegation visits Krakow and takes part in the Kosciuszko Bicentennial celebrations organized by the Kosciuszko Mound Museum. The delegation will consist of three members of KHI and 2 Ngarigo Aborigines representing the traditional owners of the Mt Kosciuszko region. *The Kosciuszko Mound Museum* also offers a week stay in Krakow for 2 competition entrants selected by the Jury.

October 28-29th, 2017 – A Weekend in the Snowy Mountains. All welcome to enjoy the *Kosciuszko Festival* in Jindabyne, featuring a Film Marathon in local cinema; Polish-Aboriginal Fraternity Flights over Mt Kosciuszko organised jointly with the Jindabyne Aero Club; concerts starring Aboriginal artists & folkloric ensembles; an exhibition of selected graphic art entries at the *Jindabyne Visitors Centre*.

The Polish Embassy is organising a function in honour of local council authorities, *Kosciuszko National Park* management and Ngarigo elders.

November 2017 – Publicising and popularising of the winning submissions of the Kosciuszko Bicentenary International Competitions

Production of a Competition Souvenir DVD containing selected competition submissions.

December 3rd, 2017, Official close of the Kosciuszko Year during the annual “*Polish Christmas in Darling Harbour*” festival featuring a delegation from Poland (*Polska Fundacja Kosciuszkowska*); performances by Aboriginal and competition winner artists; a Telebeam presentation of the Competition graphic entries.

DVDs & publications will be available for purchase at the KHI stall.

This Preliminary Kosciuszko Bicentenary Program is authorised by the **Thaddeus Kosciuszko Bicentennial Celebrations Committee (Australia)**. The Committee, established on November 3rd 2016, is led by Richard Broinowski, former diplomat, presently President of NSW Australian Institute of International Affairs; Dr Ernestyna Skurjat-Kozek, President of Kosciuszko Heritage Inc., Margaret Kwiatkowska, Vice President of the Polish Community Council of Australia; Adam Gajkowski, member of the Polonia Consultative Council to the Speaker of the Polish Senate, Stan Karczewski, et al.

This Program is subject to grants being forthcoming.

ESK, 10th November 2016.