

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen of
the Polish Canadian Jazz Society,

We cannot hide our delighted surprise at hearing the news we received from you.

We unfortunately did not have the opportunity to meet with all of you during our stay in Vancouver. We were there for only a short time and our competition schedule was tight. We were however able to meet with members of the Polish-Canadian community in Vancouver, who welcomed us very warmly.

We met a lot of friendly people, who welcomed us and hosted us on a few occasions.

Apart from 'differentiating' ourselves in the competition, we brought back to Poland a lot of new friendships and good feelings. We would like to also include you in the group of wonderful people because you decided despite everything that you wanted to help a person you had never met. That says a lot about people, about their good heart... thoughts and desire to help someone close to them... in Poland that is now a rarity. We truly appreciate that our son is considered an artist, musician, and pianist outside of our country. The economic situation in Poland we don't have to explain to you... it is tough... the education of a child with disabilities is a nightmare.

We (our family) are not giving up and are doing what we can and going as far as we can go. As you can see we are managing but these are not only our efforts. Assistance and supportive words from others have helped us greatly. Your efforts are also very helpful. Maksymilian is in his second year of learning "piano technique" from a very good teacher. Despite finishing the First Degree of the School of Music, there are great gaps in his 'technique' of playing. He is catching up although it is not easy now considering his health problems, of which blindness is the least troublesome, as no one is willing to teach him. When such a teacher is found that is already a big success.

The 950,00 Polish Zlotys which you have managed to raise and donate to us will be used for further piano lessons for Maks.

Maksymilian regrets that he could not meet with the Society because jazz is a category of music with which has recently been fascinated. Maybe someday it will happen or maybe he will be famous already and then we will come visit you. We are trying to support and help him so that his music (life, dreams and passion) could last as long as possible. Considering he has friends and such support, maybe it will happen. He is also working very hard to achieve his musical goals. He shows his gratitude to you all by giving concerts and delighting his audiences.

With great respect,

Maksymilian and Bogdan Chlewinski

PS

We thank you from our hearts for remembering and supporting Maksymilian.