

EDUCATION AND CULTURE SHAPE NEW GENERATIONS

Szamotuly is a town with long cultural traditions. It was here, where the rich culture of Wielkopolska with its characteristic garments, dances, songs, legends, beliefs, rites and habits has preserved for the longest time. The folk group Szamotuly, initiated by Marianna Orlik and lead by Janina Foltyn, has been cherishing this tradition for decades. The present cultural life develops thanks to such institutions as Szamotuly Culture Centre or Museum-Górka Castle. All the institutions organize numerous cultural events attracting many tourists. There are many concerts and festivals connected with the works of the famous composers who come from Szamotuly, among others Waclaw from Szamotuly – court musician of the king Zygmunt August, Xavery and Philip Scharwenka – famous pianists and composers from the turn of 19/20th century, renowned at their times in Europe and all over the world. The memory about the distinguished citizens of Szamotuly has been cultivated by the yearly Meetings of Choirs Świat Waclawa z Szamotul (The World of Waclaw from Szamotuly) as well as Philip and Xavery Scharwenka Music Festivals.

Szamotuly Culture Centre gathers children, young and adult enthusiasts in numerous groups, sections, workshops and clubs. Every week the Centre organizes concerts which present various types of music as well as many outdoor events in summer. The idea of the return of sculpture meetings met with great interest. The first meeting named Wielki powrót



rzeźb (Great Return to Sculpture) took place in 2011 after a thirty-year break. It resulted in decorating Sienkiewicz Park with numerous sculptures. The meetings take place every year. Every year at the beginning of September the town is overtaken by rock music enthusiasts who take part in the national rock groups competition SzOK&Roll. The event was initiated in 2011. The Culture Centre makes use of the former Franciscan monastery for interesting artistic activities. In summer concerts take place in the virydary. The Centre has also introduced street art in the town. The frontage of the cinema has been decorated with a mural depicting Marilyn Monroe and Charlie Chaplin. At the end of 2012 Szamotuly Culture Centre introduced digital movie in Halszka cinema in Szamotuly. The cinema interior was redecorated and a new projector with 3D technology was installed. The Alla Breve Choir conducted by A. Wargula requires recommendation. Public Library promotes reading.

The tradition of education in Szamotuly is dated back to the 15th century when a parish school was founded. Today in the town and the commune there are numerous education institutions from kindergartens, primary schools, junior and senior high schools to the University of the Third Age. The educational offer is complemented by the Music School of the first and second level, Public Music Circle and some private companies teaching foreign languages.

Kino „Halszka” / Halszka Cinema (fot. H. Żłobiński)

Koncert kołęd w Szamotulskiej Kolegiacie / Carols Concert in the Szamotuly Collegiate (fot. P. Michalak)