



# MILWAUKEE ETHNIC NEWS

PUBLISHED BY URBAN ANTHROPOLOGY, INC.

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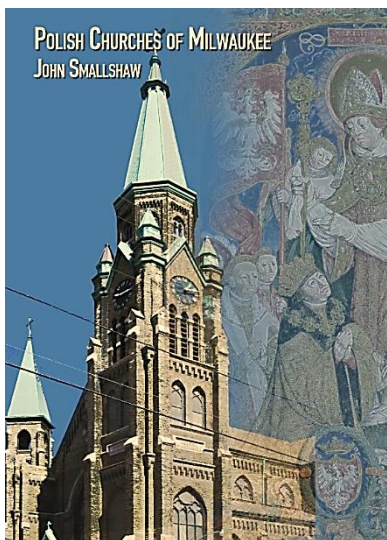
## Local ethnic events in March and April

### *About Milwaukee Ethnic News*

*Milwaukee Ethnic News* is published bimonthly by Urban Anthropology Inc. and is managed by volunteer anthropologists. The purpose of the newsletter is to offer ethnic organizations and individuals the opportunities to share news and information about their cultures. The newsletter does not receive funds from any external source. See more information on last page.

*Most \$10 and under; many free*

## Book out this month on Milwaukee Polish churches



*Polish Churches in Milwaukee* makes its debut in March, 2025. Author John Smallshaw describes the movement of the European Poles into Milwaukee and the ways they developed faith communities in their new home. Featured churches and religious institutions include Saint Stanislaus, the Basilica of St. Josaphat, Saint Hedwig, Saint Hyacinth, Saint Vincent de Paul, SS Cyril and Methodius, Saint Casimir, Saint Mary of Czestochowa, Saint John Kanty, Saint Adalbert, Saint Barbara, Blessed

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*Continued on page two*



# Ethnic events in March and April

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## African American

### AMERICA'S BLACK HOLOCAUST MUSEUM

*When?* Tue.s through Sat.s. *Where?* 401 W. North Ave. *Description:* Seven history galleries that tell the story of the Black Holocaust in chronological order from life in Africa before captivity to African American life today. *Admission:* Free to \$5.

### GROUP TOUR WISCONSIN BLACK HISTORICAL CENTER

*When?* Mornings beginning at 9am, reserve at website. *Where?* Wisconsin Black Historical Center, 2620 W. Center St. *Description:* Opportunity to see exhibits on African American history in Wisconsin. [www.wbhm.org/Home.htm](http://www.wbhm.org/Home.htm). *Admission:* 0-\$5.

## Irish

### ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

*When?* Mar. 15, Sat. starts at noon. *Where?* Begins at N. MLK Dr. and W. Wisconsin Ave and ends at Water St. and Highland Ave. *Description:* Parade of marching bands, Irish dancers, floats, Irish dignitaries. *Admission:* Free.

### PRE-ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE PARTY

*When?* Mar. 14, Fri. 5:30-9pm. *Where?* Lucky Clover Irish Pub, 1048 N. MLK Dr. *Description:* Shamrock kick-off party. *Admission:* Unk.

## Italian

### FREE MOVIE

*When?* Mar. 14 Fri. 7:00 to 8:00pm. *Where?* Italian Community Center, 631 E. Chicago St. *Description:* Movie Cabrini in memory of Pauline Canestra. *Admission:* Free.

### FREE MOVIE

*When?* Apr. 11, Fri. 7:00 to 8:00pm. *Where?* Italian Community Center, 631 E. Chicago St. *Description:* Movie not yet known. *Admission:* Free.

## Jewish

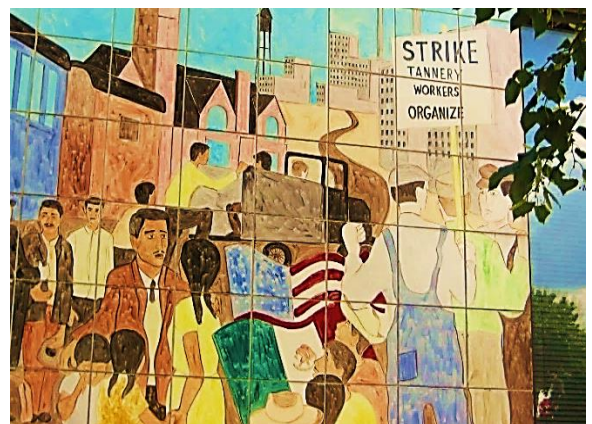
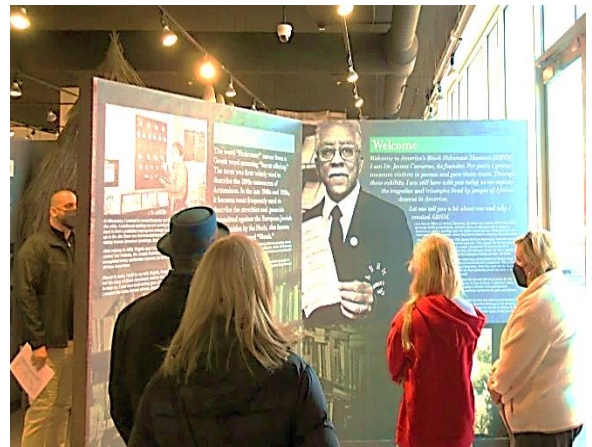
### COMMUNITY FREE DAY

*When?* Mar. 27, Thu. 10am to 7pm. *Where?* Jewish Museum Milwaukee, 1360 N. Prospect Ave. *Description:* Choices of Consequence exhibition (see full description later in this newsletter). *Admission:* Free to Milwaukee residents.

## Latino

### WALK THROUGH MILWAUKEE'S LATINO HISTORY

*When?* Daily, 10-4pm. *Where?* United Community Center, 1028 S. 9<sup>th</sup> St. *Description:* Opportunity to learn about Latino history by visiting tannery and foundry exhibits (see below), photos, and art inside the UCC building, and historical murals on two sides of Bruce Guadalupe School next door (see to the right). *Admission:* Free.



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# Ethnic events in March and April

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## LATINO ARTS CONCERT

*When?* Mar. 7, Fri. 7pm. *Where?* United Community Center, 1028 S. 9<sup>th</sup> St. *Description:* La Perla: Often referred to as the 3 Colombian drum witches, La Perla is a one-of-a-kind percussion and vocal trio consisting of three of Bogota's best young musicians. *Admission:* Get tickets at <https://www.latinoart-sinc.org/performances/la-perla/>.



## Polish

### LENTEN FISH FRIES

*When?* Friday nights March 7 through April 18. *Where?* Polish Center of Wisconsin, 6941 S. 68<sup>th</sup> Franklin. *Description:* Three pieces hand breaded or baked cod, French fries, Polish pierogies, coleslaw, marble rye bread, tartar sauce. *Admission:* \$18 per plate.



Photo courtesy of Flickr.com

## Interesting facts about Milwaukee's ethnic groups

1. Since the late 1800s the Irish have dominated Milwaukee politics. In fact, during one 50-year period over 100 political leaders, city department heads, judges, and union bosses came from one Irish neighborhood.
2. Freeway building and urban renewal in the 1950s/1960s displaced these Milwaukee ethnic groups: African Americans (near downtown, lost over 8,000 homes), Puerto Ricans (near downtown, lost all homes), Italians (Third Ward, lost most homes). Other ethnic neighborhoods were partially razed (Irish, Polish).
3. Some ethnic groups nearly always settle next to each other in cities (including Milwaukee) because of common cultural practices. One of the most obvious is the Poles and Mexicans.
4. The Greeks were an early target of the KKK.
5. In the past 20 years, Orthodox Jews have one of the largest growth rates in the City of Milwaukee.
6. There are over 250 ethnic organizations in Milwaukee County. This number includes those with websites and/or are registered as corporations in Wisconsin. There are probably over 100 more that don't make these criteria.
7. More than 30 percent of the Milwaukee Hmong practice ancestor worship.
8. German architects built the most notable buildings in Milwaukee (e.g., City Hall, the Basilica of St. Josaphat, Turner Hall).
9. Singing societies are most common among the Welsh and the Latvians.
10. Poetry is the most commonly practiced art form among Milwaukee's Yoruba (from Nigeria).

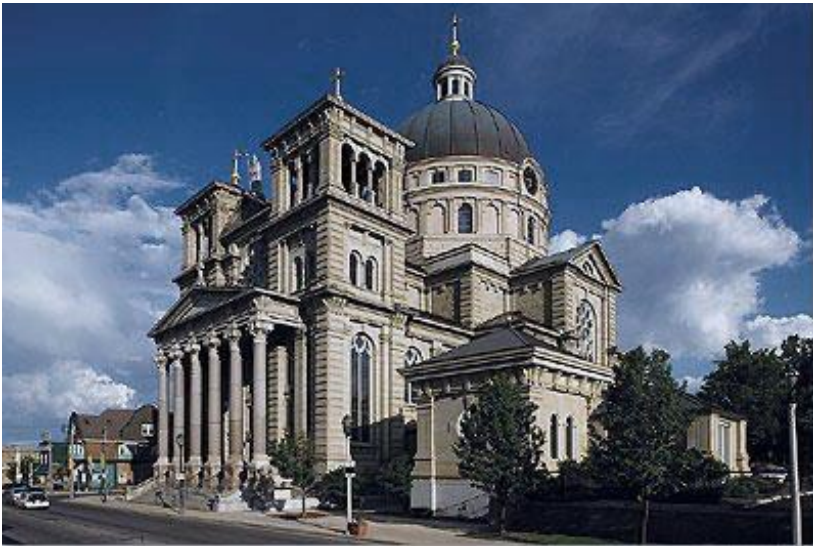
# Book out on Polish churches in Milwaukee

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Sacrament, Saint Alexander, Saint Helen & Saint Ignatius Loyola, Saint Mary Magdalen & Saint Paul, Holy Name of Jesus PNCC, Protestant Polish churches, and St. Joseph Orphanage & St. Adalbert Cemetery.



*Saint Stanislaus*



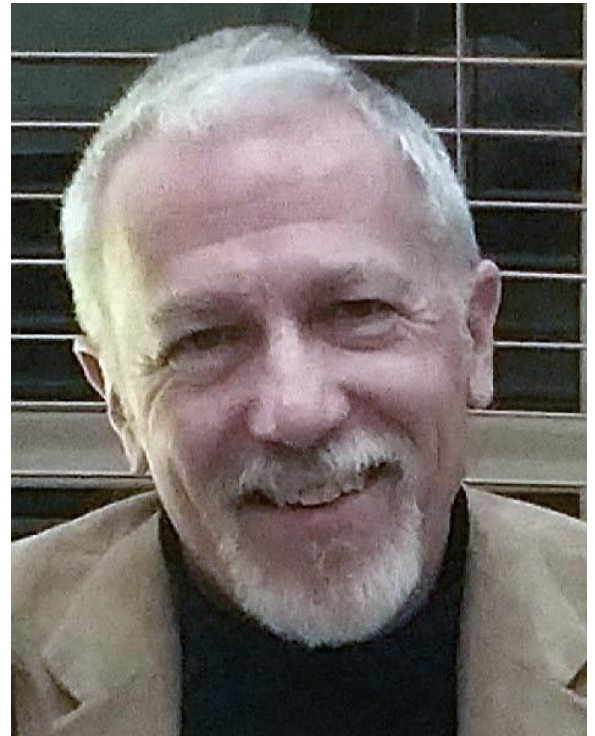
*Basilica of St. Josaphat*

## About the author

John Smallshaw spent much of his youth in Wauwatosa, where he learned of the migration of the European Poles to the Milwaukee area. He dated and later married a Polish woman. John described his inspiration to write the book on Polish churches when he was encouraged by his future wife to visit Saint Stanislaus parish and viewed the beautiful mosaic of Our Lady of Czestochowa.

John's work in international sales took him abroad, where he and his family lived in Europe for eight years and Asia for five.

He learned to speak German, Spanish, French, and basic Mandarin Chinese.



John Smallshaw was a regular contributor to the journal of the American Breweriana Association. He won an achievement award in 2004 for his literary contributions.

## Book synopsis

In 1795 the country of Poland ceased to exist. It had been partitioned between Prussia, Austria-Hungary and Imperial Russia. The occupying powers all took steps to eliminate the Polish language and culture and integrate the inhabitants into their respective empires.

So, when Poles answered the calls for political freedom and gainful employment was offered in Milwaukee in the late nineteenth century, most came with the intention of returning home once Poland regained her freedom. Preserving their Polish identities and passing them on to their children therefore became a top priority for the immigrants. And despite laboring in steel mills, machine shops and tanneries for pennies a day they were able through incredible personal sacrifice to build magnificent churches and schools in Milwaukee to preserve their Catholic faith, language and culture. Those churches still stand today; this is their story.

The book is available for purchase at <http://www.mecahmilwaukee.com/>.



# Comparing ethnic dishes and eateries in Milwaukee over decades

*From turn of the twentieth century to today*

The book, *Milwaukee Fine Dining \*2014 \*2016: A snapshot of culinary and ethnic preferences over time* (Jill Florence Lackey), compared fine hotel menus a century apart. The book was made possible by an unusual find. During the summer of 2015, a Milwaukeean named Luis Rubio found a very old journal hidden away in the attic of the south side home he'd lived in for over 20 years. He took the faded journal to the Old South Side Settlement Museum on 7<sup>th</sup> St. and Lincoln Ave. where staff from Urban Anthropology Inc. examined it. The journal turned out to be a record of 471 hand-written, daily menus of the Plankinton House Hotel just before it was razed in 1915.

## The Plankinton House Hotel



The Plankinton House Hotel (see above) was built in 1887 on the site of the old American House Hotel, which burned down in 1861. The site of both of these hotels is today the Plankinton Arcade in the Grand Avenue Mall. Owned by prosperous meat packer, John Plankinton, the hotel was one of the finest of its time, with five stories, a restaurant and tea room, and business facilities for conferences.

## The opportunity

The journal presented the staff at Urban Anthropology Inc. an opportunity to present historical information on fine dining choices before the First World War, and to compare these choices to those in contemporary hotels in Milwaukee. Looking at the Expedia rating system for today's hotels, it appeared that the Plankinton amenities would have earned the hotel some place between a three- and five-star rating. Hence, in 1916 the staff catalogued the menus of three- to five-star hotels within

blocks of the Plankinton's location. Those selected were the Pfister, Plaza, Hyatt Regency, and Athletic Club hotels.

In addition to culinary contrasts, the staff compared the dishes by ethnic designations. Were there notable differences in the ethnic designations of the foods listed at the two venues? Absolutely. See the table on the following page.

## Dominant ethnicities



There were clear differences in the ethnic designations that dominated the food listings at the hotels. At the Plankinton House Hotel, nearly half (49 percent) of all foods with ethnic labels were French. This may have been true of most fine dining establishments early in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, as French cuisine was often the standard by which all other fine cuisine was judged. Scholars have struggled with why this was the case for generations—some arguing that it's because of the meticulous preparation involved in French cuisine, others pointing to the recipes developed in courts of great French monarchs, and others citing its refined use in placating diplomats from France's border nations.

In America, possibly the most well-known TV chef in the 20<sup>th</sup> century was Julia Child, author of *Mastering the Art of French Cooking*, (1961). Her syndicated TV shows on French culinary arts aired from the early 1960s to 2000.

The Plankinton listed a wide variety of French dishes. Examples of those recorded more often in the Plankinton House Hotel menus were beef bourguignon, ratatouille, consommés, crepes, moules marinières, and fricassees.

Also not surprising, the ethnic cuisine listed second most often (15 percent) at the Plankinton was German. In 1913 and 1914

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# Comparing ethnic dishes and eateries

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<i>Ethnic foods</i>	<i>Percentage of ethnic designations—Milwaukee Plankinton House Hotel</i>	<i>Percentage of ethnic designations—Milwaukee contemporary hotels</i>
German	15%	2%
French	49%	5%
Mexican	2%	34%
Indian (Asian)	1%	2%
Italian	9%	20%
Creole	4%	0
English	6%	2%
Russian	1%	0
Irish	2%	0
Chinese/"Mongol"	1%	7%
Scottish	1%	0
Spanish	3%	0
Polish	1%	0
Portuguese	<1%	0
Greek/Mediterranean	1%	5%
Oceanian	<1%	0
Middle Eastern	1%	9%
African	<1%	0
Hungarian	<1%	0
Turkish	<1%	0
Dutch	1%	3%
SE Asian	<1%	1%
Caribbean	1%	0
Belgian	<1%	0
Philippine	<1%	0
Welsh	<1%	0
Japanese	<1%	9%
South American	0	2%

Milwaukee was still the "German Athens" of the United States. Germans were the largest ethnic group in the city and German pride was still strong before World War I. The war with Germany would later create some backlash against Germans locally and elsewhere.

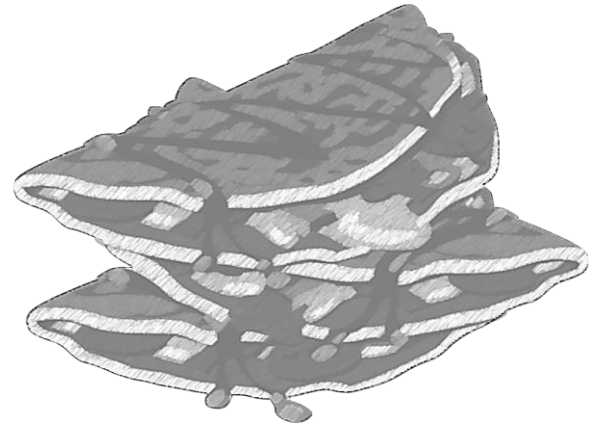
Examples of German dishes listed frequently on the Plankinton House Hotel menu were spätzle, sauerkraut, bratwurst, sauerbraten, wiener schnitzel, and apfelkrapfen.

And what kind of ethnic cuisine is most often listed at the contemporary Milwaukee hotels? It's Mexican. Mexican offerings comprise just over one-third (34 percent) of all recorded ethnic dishes at the contemporary hotels.

South of the border cuisine has become extremely popular in the United States since the 1970s. In addition to its flavor and piquancy, Mexican food is relatively easy to prepare and there's no shortage of Mexican chefs and cooks in the Milwaukee area. While Mexican cuisine may not carry the prestige that French

once did, most fine dining menus in Milwaukee offer a number of Mexican listings—especially as appetizers or condiments.

Examples of Mexican listings in the contemporary hotel menus include quesadillas, salsa, jalapeño relish, tortillas, and chipotle aioli.



The second most frequently recorded ethnic cuisine at the contemporary hotels was Italian, comprising one-fifth (20 percent) of all their ethnic listings. Italian dishes were also offered often at the Plankinton. However, at the Plankinton Hotel, most of the listed Italian dishes were pastas and at the contemporary hotels, most of the listed Italian dishes were sandwiches.

Examples of Italian listings at the contemporary Milwaukee hotels included smoked Italian sausage sandwich, polenta, mascarpone arancini, Caesar salad, and a variety of paninis.

## Ethnic range

Most readers would think that the greater varieties of ethnic dishes were found in the contemporary hotel menus, but this was not the case. The contemporary hotels list foods of only 12 different ethnicities, while the Plankinton House listed foods of 27 different ethnicities.

What would account for this? The era between 1910 and 1920 was called the "hyphenated decade." This is because immigration was at an all-time high at this time, bringing in mostly central, southern, and eastern Europeans to Milwaukee and to America. New flavors abounded chiefly from countries such as Poland, Hungary, Portugal, Spain, Italy, Greece, and Russia. Foods from these areas were added to those of the Northern and Western European dishes that reflected the

Continued on page seven

# Comparing ethnic dishes and eateries

Continued from page six

ethnicities of the greater Milwaukee area of the time, including Germans, English, Irish, French, Belgians, Dutch, and Scots.

Jump ahead 100 years and the Milwaukee landscape is quite different. The largest immigrant groups to Milwaukee have become Latinos (mostly Mexicans) and Asians (mostly Hmong and Burmese). Asian and Latino foods comprised over half (55 percent) of all the ethnic dishes in 2016 at the contemporary hotels, compared to about 6 percent of the total at the Plankinton House. But at the contemporary hotels, the European variety was all but lost. There were no listings for recognizable Welsh, Russian, Irish, Belgian, Spanish, Polish, Scottish, or Portuguese dishes.

But how do the menu listings of Milwaukee's contemporary hotels compare with the current non-hotel ethnic eateries in the city?

## Milwaukee's ethnic eateries



As of 2025, the city's Yellow Pages and ethnic restaurant sites list 226 non-ethnic restaurants and delis. This compares to 347 ethnic eateries. As with the contemporary hotels, the largest number of ethnic restaurants and delis are Mexican (83). Due no doubt to the late 20<sup>th</sup> and early 21<sup>st</sup> century popularity of pizza, Italian eateries are the second most common among ethnic offerings in the city. This also pushes the Western European grouping of ethnic eateries to 109, rivaling the Latino grouping at 105. However, unlike the Plankinton Hotel, French offerings number a mere 5. The third largest overall grouping is Asian.

The book, *Milwaukee Fine Dining \*2014 \*2016: A snapshot of culinary and ethnic preferences over time* can be purchased at <http://www.mecahmilwaukee.com/>.

## Prevalence of ethnic/non-ethnic eateries in Milwaukee in 2025

Non-ethnic	226
Mexican	83
Italian	78
Chinese	23
Greek	19
Japanese	17
Other African	9
German	9
Other Latin	9
Irish	8
Indian	8
Thai	7
American Cajan	7
Vietnamese	6
Other Asian	6
Puerto Rican	6
American Creole	5
French	5
Arab/Middle Eastern	5
Korean	4
Spanish	3
Dutch	3
Somali	3
American Southern	2
Ethiopian	2
Egyptian	2
Argentine	2
Polish	2
English	2
American Jewish	2
Peruvian	1
Brazilian	1
Dominican	1
Salvadoran	1
Serbian	1
Scottish	1
Pakistani	1
Hmong	1
Turkish	1
Brazilian	1

## Poetry book on Milwaukee is on the horizon

*Work expected to be out in mid-2025*

The work will include poetry on topics such as:

- Milwaukee neighborhoods
- Major historical events
- City streets and parks
- Milwaukee heroes and villains
- City “characters”
- Milwaukee special events
- Lost communities
- City businesses, churches, organizations, past and present
- Major sports
- Area ethnic groups

See sample page to the right

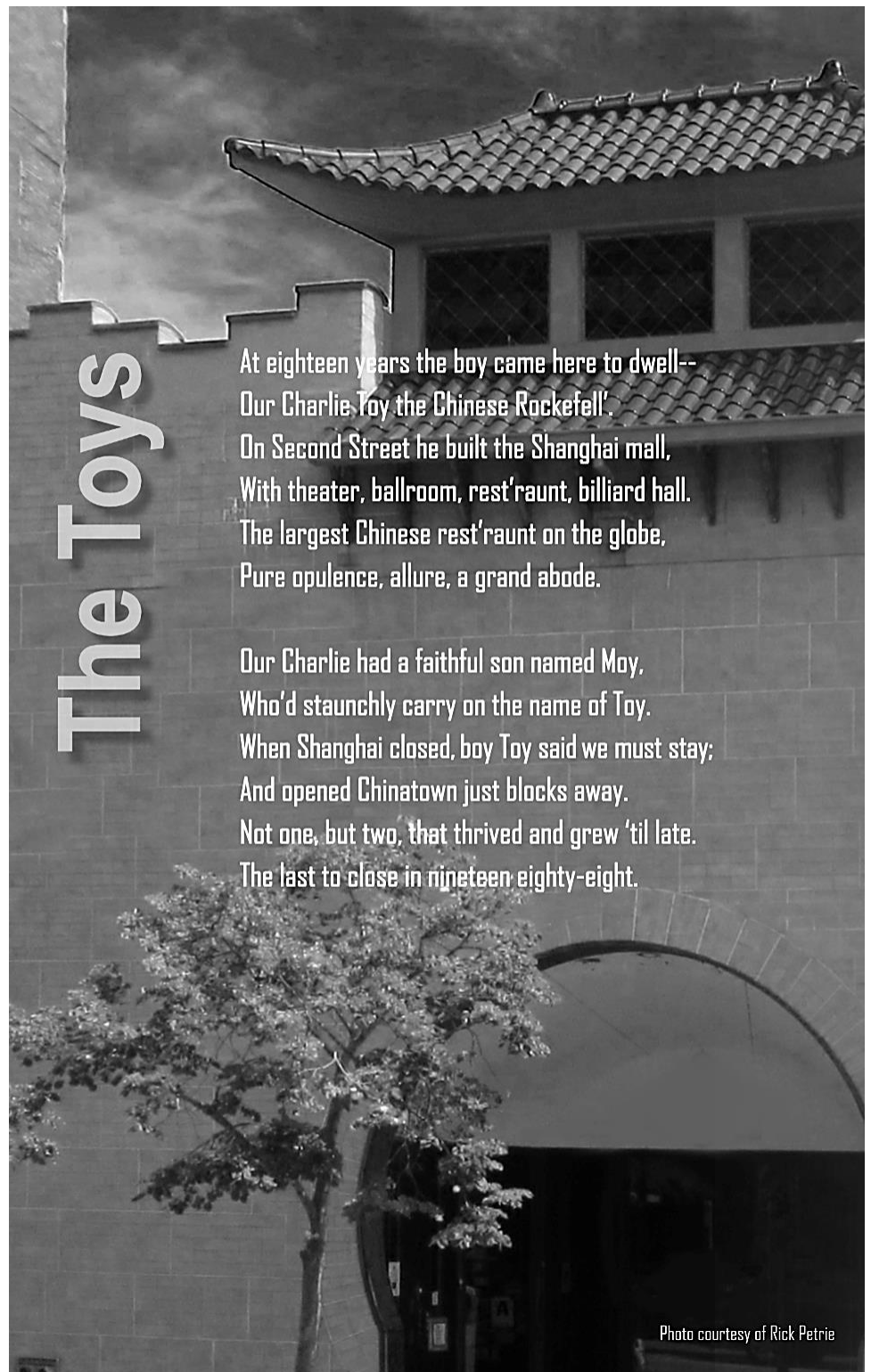
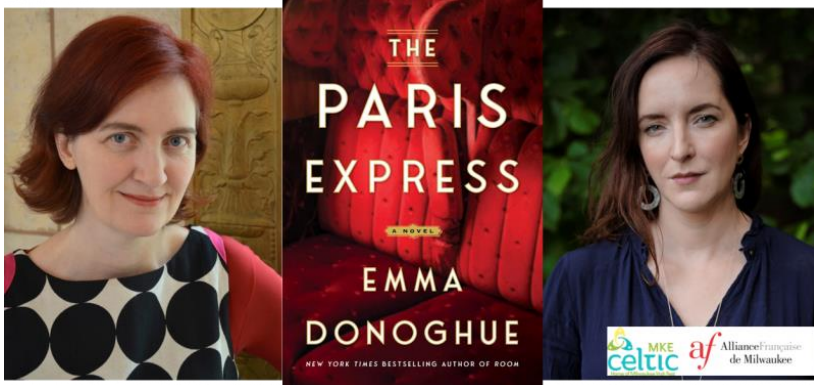


Photo courtesy of Rick Petrie



# af Alliance Française de Milwaukee



## Emma Donoghue

author of *The Paris Express* in conversation with Rebecca Makkai at  
CelticMKE

1532 Wauwatosa Ave in Wauwatosa  
Monday, March 31, 6:30 pm

Boswell Book Company and CelticMKE present a special, ticketed evening with Irish author Emma Donoghue, whose novels include acclaimed titles such as *Room*, *Haven*, and *The Pull of the Stars*.

Tickets for this event cost \$35 and each includes admission and a hardcover copy of *The Paris Express*. Get tickets at:  
<https://www.etix.com/ticket/p/54148715/emma-donoghue-the-paris-express-conversation-with-author-and-book-signing-milwaukee-celticmke-center>



## Pink Martini Featuring China Forbes

30th Anniversary Tour  
Monday, March 3, 2025 at 7:00 PM  
Pabst Theater, 144 E Wells St., Milwaukee, WI 53202

Get tickets at: <https://www.pabsttheatergroup.com/events/detail/pink-martini-2025>

## Ongoing Events

Casse-croûte: Meets every Wednesday on Zoom and in person at the AF on the first Wednesday of the month from 12 p.m. - 2 p.m. Contact AnneL@AFMilwaukee.org for link and information.

Catholic Mass in French: Sundays at 12:30pm at Holy Family Parish in Whitefish Bay. For more information, visit <http://frenchmassmke.wordpress.com>

French Conversation Group in Mequon: Meets on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month at Panera in Mequon from 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Contact [Kathy.nieman@frommfamily.com](mailto:Kathy.nieman@frommfamily.com) for more information.

Rive Gauche Radio Show: The Alliance's own radio show every Tuesday from 6 - 6:30 p.m. on 104.1 FM or online at: [www.riverwestradio.com/show/rive-gauche](http://www.riverwestradio.com/show/rive-gauche).

# Choices of consequence: Denmark and the Holocaust

**Jewish  
Museum Milwaukee**



**February 14 to May 25, 2025**



During WWII countries, policies, and populations across Europe were complicit in aiding the Nazis' 'Final Solution' plan for ridding the continent of Jews. While the world was aware of the Jewish plight, refusals to expand immigration quotas and antisemitism severely limited the options and odds of escape and survival. Denmark's response served as an exception. The events and actions that saved roughly 95% of Danish Jewry will be brought to light through artifacts, personal accounts, and an anchoring photographic series, *Resistance and Rescue*.

*Resistance and Rescue* includes 37 photographs by Judy Glickman Lauder, who spent years using her camera to witness the sites, stories, and people who experienced the Holocaust. Glickman Lauder recounted her 1990s photography project:

*"I was asked to go to Denmark to locate and photograph many Danish World War II rescuers and survivors and to record their stories visually. It was a privilege and honor having contact with these heroic, courageous, and modest human beings."*

Designed to highlight the choices available to governments to be upstanders in the face of prejudice and discrimination, this exhibit demonstrates the importance of governmental policy in the protection of its people. Additionally, it spotlights a history of allyship and advocacy for the Jewish people by non-Jews, and explore the power of photography to record and reveal historical truths.

*Choices of Consequence* also includes a selection of images from the Danish Rescue Museum archives, documents and artifacts from the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, and will highlight the narratives of specific Danish individuals and events.

**Get tickets at [Jewish Museum Milwaukee Online Registration System](#)**

## **Jewish Museum Milwaukee**

**1316 N. Prospect Avenue  
Milwaukee, WI 53202**

**HOURS:**  
**Monday through Thursday,**  
**10am to 5pm**  
**Closed Saturday**

**Sunday 12pm to 4pm**



# Ethnic activities for families to do at home

## *Ethnic stories/games/meals*

This featured website delivers stories for the entire family on ethnic groups across space and time. Spend a day (or ten) with any of the offerings summarized in the following pages. Each story (appropriate for children 8 to 14), is accompanied by a recipe of the featured group and a game and art project associated with the story. The narratives were created over a 20-year period by the cultural anthropologists at Urban Anthropology Inc. and are based on scholarly research. Families can learn while being entertained.

Go to <http://teacheraidsforkidsmilwaukee.com/> then click on Kids Across Time & Space or Holidays Across the Globe

### The Stories: Summaries

#### Africa

**Berbers of Morocco:** A tale of a Berber girl living in the Atlas Mountains of Morocco, how her family members worked to support the household, and the near crisis that developed when her brother wanted to move permanently to Spain.

**South Africa:** A fictionalized account of the decade when the segregated system of apartheid ended in South Africa and how the time is commemorated by the nation's Day of Reconciliation (story presents much food for discussion and is designed for more mature children).

**African Turkana:** The tribulations of an African boy reaching manhood who needed to acquire sufficient bride wealth in order to marry in the future, the pastoralist society he lived in, and the unexpected ways that his education came to his aid. A story about the benefits of learning.

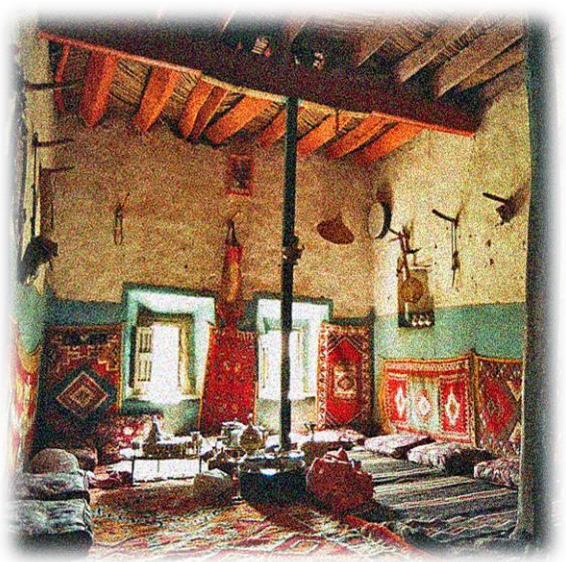
**African Ibo:** A story of a ten-year-old boy living in Africa around 1800, his vibrant village life, his age grade activity, and the constant threat he faced of being kidnapped into slavery.

**Nubia/Kush:** The tale of a fifteen-year-old girl living in the black African Kingdom of Kush in the 8<sup>th</sup> century BC, her trip into Egypt, her cultural shock in seeing the Egyptian transformation of an old friend, and her eventual acceptance of difference.

#### Europe

**Greece:** A story of a spoiled teenage boy living in Greece in ancient times, his Olympian experiences, and how a performance of the great Greek drama *Antigone* helped him come to his senses.

*Continued on page twelve*





# Ethnic stories (summaries)

Continued from page eleven

**Wales:** A fictionalized account of a self-involved American youth who goes to witness the youth national cultural festival in Wales and comes away thinking he might be able to use his gifts in more community-serving ways.

**Germany:** A tale of a German family struggling to keep the Christmas spirit and German Christmas customs while the family children misbehave. German Christmas customs solve the family problem. A good story for the very young.

**Spain:** A fictionalized account of a Romani (“gypsy”) girl living in Madrid, Spain, the cultural values and problems she faced, and her secret life as a criminal with her older brothers. A story that asks when or if the ends justify the means.

**Rome:** The experience of a teenage boy living in a Roman province in 64 AD, his ancestors’ enslavement, the introduction of Christianity to the area, and the deeds of Emperor Nero.

**Jews of Poland:** The account of a young Jewish girl on the eve of the Holocaust, her daily life in the shtetl, the family’s religious traditions, and their eventual demise.

**England:** The tribulations of a young boy in Medieval England from a mixed ethnic family who must leave his home at an early age to be trained for the knighthood.

**Italy:** A story of a teenage orphan girl living in Florence Italy at the height of the Renaissance, her experiences growing up in a humane orphanage, and the choice (among three options) she must make for her future. (Very interactive.)

## Eurasia

**Soviet:** A fictionalized account of a teenage girl living under Communism in the USSR in the 1930s, her daily life, and the conflict she faced over loyalty to her family vis-a-vis loyalty to the Communist government.

**Ottoman:** A tale a teenage boy living in the Ottoman Empire in the late seventeenth century, his cultural environment, his opportunities, his yearnings, and how he achieved balance between his own desires and helping his family.

## Asia/Oceania

**Hmong:** A story about a young Hmong boy in a refugee camp in the 1970s, his people’s involvement in the Vietnam War and its aftermath, how he and his people recorded their history on story cloths, and his eventual immigration to the US.

Continued on page thirteen





# Ethnic stories (summaries)

Continued from page twelve

**Siberia:** A tale of a college-bound girl living in a reindeer-herding family in Siberia, the changes that took place when her environment was no longer under Soviet control, the options that the girl was considering for her future career, and the ways that each of these options might impact her traditional people.

**Burma/Myanmar:** A fictionalized account of a young boy of the Mon ethnic group living in war-torn Burma (now Myanmar) in the late 1940s, the school that villagers organized to teach Mon culture, ethnic strife, the boy's attempts to convince his uncle to return from his refugee status in Thailand, and what eventually happened to his village and school. A story about ethnic intolerance.

**China:** A poignant story about the life of a young girl in China in the early Middle Ages, Confucian values, and the role of filial piety in the household.

**India:** A tale of an eight-year-old girl living in India in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, her world under the Mughals, her family's involvement with the British East India Company, and her dread of being married off at a very young age.

**Iran:** A fictionalized account of a young Iranian man in a Shi'a Muslim family who is about to learn the spirit of Ramadan.

**Japan:** The story of a Japanese teenager in the 1920s whose life is charted out for him as a family heir within his lineage—an "other-oriented" role that creates a family link between the past and the future. He experiences culture shock when he visits the United States with his father and makes friends with an American sailor who takes him out for a night of 1920s frolicking and questions the young man's Japanese values.

**Bali:** A fictionalized account of a Balinese boy in the early 1950s, his struggle with hyperactivity, the Balinese culture of performance, and the way the boy's mother helped her son by involving him in performance art.

**Trobriand Islands:** The tale of a teenage girl living in the Trobriand Islands in 1918, her islands' culture, and how she attempted to attract the man of her dreams through "beauty magic."

## Latin America

**Brazil:** A story of a Brazilian teenager, his slave ancestry, life in a Rio *favela*, and the sacrifices he made to restore his mother's pride. A story about poverty, pride, and family love.

**Costa Rica:** A fictionalized account of a young boy in the 1820s whose family had immigrated to Costa Rica from Spain, the

Continued on page fourteen





# Ethnic stories (summaries)

Continued from page thirteen

family's adoption of a young Indian/African orphan, the boys' adventures visiting the rainforest, and their ultimate adventure in search of purported treasures left behind by (now extinct) indigenous people.

**Maya:** The story of a Maya boy living in the seventh century, his trip into a forbidden cave, the myth of the Hero Twins, and the boy's eventual rite of passage into manhood.

**Mexico:** A tale of a teenage Nahua Indian girl living in Tepoztlan, Mexico in 1948, the expectations placed on her by her culture, her dreams of living in the United States, and how all this changed when she was befriended by young woman archaeologist from the Great Plains of America. This is a story of "the grass is always greener" turned on its head.

**Puerto Rico:** A fictionalized account of twin girls living in Puerto Rico, the circular migration of their family between their village in Puerto Rico and New York City, and the ultimate decision the family would have to make about permanent residence in New York or their home village. A story of tension between upward mobility and home and family.

## North America

**Muskogee Creeks:** A tale of a teenage Muskogee Creek girl living through the era of Indian Removal, her village life and matrilineage, Creek spirituality, and her family's decision to avoid the Trail of Tears by emigrating to Texas.

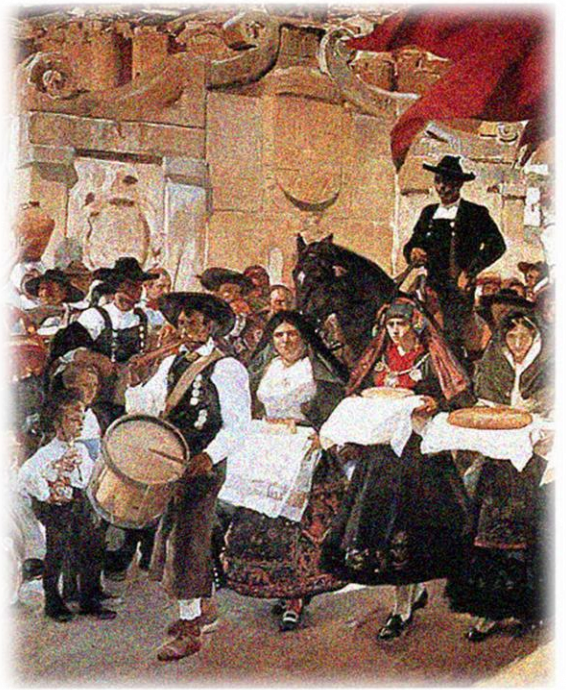
**Appalachia:** The story of a ten-year-old girl living in the Appalachian Mountains in 1790, the migration of populations following the Revolutionary War, the plight of mixed-race populations, and a look back at the colonial experience.

**U.S. Slavery:** The fictional account of a young girl born into slavery, how she and her family members made themselves too valuable to their slave overseers to be separated by a slave auction, the Emancipation Proclamation, and the girl's later career as a free woman.

**Acadia:** A tale of a teenage Metis girl living in Acadia, her community's expulsion from their land, and her family's second home.

**Inuit:** A fictionalized account of a young Inuit girl living a nomadic life with her family in the Arctic Circle in the 1970s, her life at seasonal sites, the cultural expectations she lived with, and how she overcame jealousy of a younger sibling.

Continued on page fifteen





# Ethnic stories (summaries)

*Continued from page fourteen*

**U.S. Great Depression:** A story of a young girl living in Nebraska during the dust bowl years of the Great Depression, her steadfast support for her poor family, her daily work load, and an older brother who'd left home for world travel in the abundant 1920s and his reaction to finding his family in dire circumstances.

**Hopi:** A fictionalized account of a Hopi boy who welcomes his ancestral spirits back to his reservation town.

**American Puritans:** A story of a boy living in a strict 17<sup>th</sup> century Puritan household, how he overcame his idleness in order to use Puritan reason to fight slavery in the Colonies.

**Northwest Coast:** The tale of a twelve-year-old Native boy living in the Northwest Coast of North America in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, his world of art, the cultural tradition of the potlatch, and his antics trying to outsmart his ceremonial roles.

## Milwaukee

**African America Milwaukee:** A fictionalized account of an African American girl living in Milwaukee, the loss of her Bronzeville community, her migration to and from Milwaukee, her movement into the Civil Rights Movement and local fair housing marches, and her struggles to keep her new home in Sherman Park.

**Irish in Milwaukee:** A fictionalized account of a young Irish boy whose family settled in the Third Ward in the late 1800s, his aspirations to become a fireman, the scorn he faced from friends for setting his hopes too low, and his ultimate redemption when a fireman from the Ward saves the city of Milwaukee from burning down.

**1950s Milwaukee:** A story of a girl living in Milwaukee in the prosperous 1950s and how she and her age mates were influenced by the growing material culture of the day. A story about the influences of popular culture on gender roles.

**Polish Milwaukee:** A fictionalized account of a young Polish boy living on Milwaukee's south side in the early 1940s, his daily life in a Polish flat, his faith community at the Basilica of St. Josaphat, and what he learned one month about how his meals were prepared.

Go to <http://teacheraidsforkidsmilwaukee.com/> then click on Kids Across Time & Space or Holidays Across the Globe



*Kids across Time & Space (KaTS)*  
**Online cultural stories for  
youth**



Over 30 stories, written by cultural anthropologists, of less than 15 minutes each in length, are featured in the KaTS program, and are written for children aged 8 to 14. The stories take place between 700 BC to current times and span all global areas. Each story includes notes for parents or teachers, a game, art projects, recipes, and pre/post test questions. The free website is at [www.teacheraidsforkidsmilwaukee.com/KaTS\\_main.html](http://www.teacheraidsforkidsmilwaukee.com/KaTS_main.html)

### List of stories (presented chronologically)

Nubia/Kush: The cultural pride of Khikhy. **Greece: Kyros' love of power.** Roman Empire (Lazicum): Rufus and world of change. **China: The dilemma of Pang.** Maya classical: Can Pacal become a man? **England Medieval: The tribulations of William.** North-west Coast: The foolishness of Sa'laLEla. **India: The dread of Elina.** Italy Renaissance: Francesca's difficult decision. **American Puritans: The reason of Jeremiah.** Ottoman Empire: The Yearning of Yusuf. Acadians: **The relocation of Alma.** Appalachian Melungeons: Martha's family secret. **African Igbo: The dangerous life of Ngozi.** Costa Rica: The great adventure of Tomas. **Creek Indians: Sehoy's fate.** US slaves: The education of Dori. **Milwaukee Irish: Patrick's dream.** Trobriand Islands: Ilabova's transformation. **Japan: The culture shock of Ichiro.** Soviet Union: Natasha's predicament. **US Depression: The devotion of Barbara.** Poland Jews: Rachel's last days. **Milwaukee Polish America: Stefan's goose.** Mexico (Tepoztlan): The dissatisfaction of Zaniyah. **Bali: The hyperactivity of Nyoman.** US Milwaukee: Beverly, the first "material girl." **Burmese Mon: Zeya's school.** Inuit: Allaq's jealousy. **Milwaukee African American: Ruby's lost childhood.** Hmong: Moua Lia's assignment. **Brazil: The dignity of Manoel.** Siberia: Tonya's future. **Gitanos/Spain: Nina's secret life.** Puerto Rico: The twins must decide. **Moroccan Berbers: Aisha's household.** African Turkana: Ekwee's transaction.

*Milwaukee's Cultural Connect online*  
**Ethnic education for  
youth**



The Cultural Connect program (CC) began as a series of documentaries based on the 12-year ethnic study conducted by 70 cultural anthropologists in Milwaukee. The documentaries appeared locally on television on PBS and and/or on the MATA channel.

Later these documentaries were included in an 8-unit youth program in over 20 schools and each unit was conducted by anthropologists of the same ethnic background as the unit being presented. Over the years, more components of this program were developed.

**Now the program is available at no charge at**  
[www.teacheraidsforkidsmilwaukee.com/CC\\_main.html](http://www.teacheraidsforkidsmilwaukee.com/CC_main.html)

### Program description

Cultural Connect is designed for middle and high school age youth and their teachers (or program coordinators) who want to learn more about Milwaukee ethnic groups. The units include documentaries of approximately a half-hour in duration, teachers' guides, games, pre/post surveys, and talking point resources. Groups featured include Milwaukee (1) African Americans, (2) Puerto Ricans, (3) Irish, (4) Germans, (5) Hmong, (6) American Indians, (7) Mexicans, and (8) Poles. Each video documentary is hosted by an anthropologist of the ethnic group featured and includes the voices of key informants of each group.

A bonus unit is provided on the Milwaukee homeless population.



**Now live**  
**Website on 190 Milwaukee neighborhoods**



**Links on each neighborhood include:**

- 6 to 35 pages of information
- Brief neighborhood description
- Population-focused history (including ethnic roots)
- Snapshots of commercial districts of the past
- Quotes from residents
- Quotes from oral histories (where available)
- Low cost nearby outings for families
- Demographics of current neighborhood
- Photos of neighborhood

*The website currently includes ALL 191 of the neighborhoods. Each week two new information will be added.*

<http://neighborhoodsinmilwaukee.org/>

**The website is  
participatory inviting you  
to add more information  
on your own neighborhood**

**Website on over 50  
Milwaukee ethnic  
groups  
has launched**



Between 2000 and 2012, anthropologists at Urban Anthropology Inc. conducted a rigorous study of over 65 ethnic groups in the Greater Milwaukee area. This study resulted in two books—one academic and one for lay audiences. Now it has become a website.

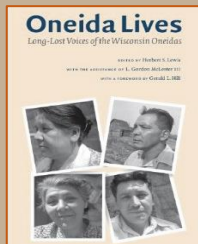
**Links on most ethnic groups includes:**

- Local history in the Greater Milwaukee area
- Major practices
- Quotes from the 2012 ethnic study
- “Meet your ethnic neighbors” feature
- Ethnic businesses
- Ethnic events and holidays

[www.ethnicmilwaukee.com](http://www.ethnicmilwaukee.com)

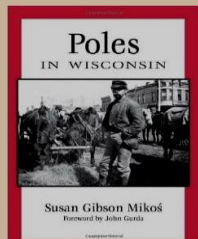
# Ethnic Wisconsin in books

## NON-FICTION



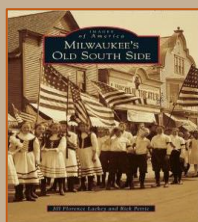
In this intimate volume edited by Herbert Lewis, the long-lost voices of Wisconsin Oneida men and women speak of all aspects of life: growing up, work and economic struggles, family relations, belief and religious practice, boarding-school life, love, sex, sports, and politics. These voices are drawn from a collection of handwritten accounts recently rediscovered after more than fifty years, the result of a WPA Federal Writers' Project undertaking called the Oneida Ethnological Study (1940–42) in which a dozen Oneida men and women were hired to interview their families and friends and record their own experiences and observations.

[www.nebraskapress.unl.edu](http://www.nebraskapress.unl.edu)



In this all-new addition to the People of Wisconsin series, author Susan Mikos traces the history of Polish immigrants as they settled in America's northern heartland. The second largest immigrant population after Germans, Poles put down roots in all corners of the state, from the industrial center of Milwaukee to the farmland around Stevens Point, in the Cutover, and beyond. In each locale, they brought with them a hunger to own land, a willingness to work hard, and a passion for building churches.

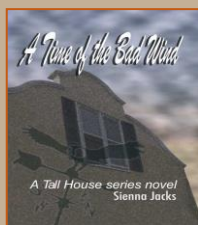
[www.wisconsinhistory.org/whspress](http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/whspress)



The Old South Side has always welcomed ethnic groups. In the late 1800s, the area was developed by immigrant Poles who became the dominant population for over 100 years. While other Milwaukee ethnic neighborhoods gradually dissipated in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century because of assimilation pressures, freeway building, or urban renewal, the Old South Side remained solidly Polish. A survey nearly a half century later revealed that people of 110 national backgrounds now lived in the area.

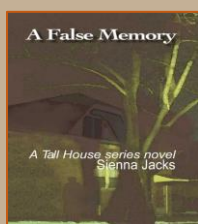
[www.arcadiapublishing.com](http://www.arcadiapublishing.com)

## FICTION

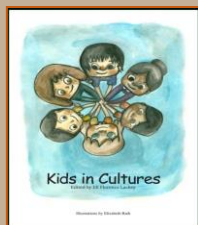


"My dear Meyer," chided the old historian, "why should anyone be surprised by shootings at the Tall House? Have you looked into its past?"

The young anthropology intern was more than willing to look. Meyer Hoffmann's voracious curiosity led him on a course of inquiry about the Tall House, those who'd lived there, and the neighborhood itself. As zealous Meyer uncovered information about the Tall House's history, he blundered to false conclusions as often as he stumbled onto correct ones. The only thing Meyer knew for certain was that everything about these shootings connected to forced ethnic migrations of the past. Yet no one—not the guests, not the neighbors—acted very concerned about these shootings. After all, weren't they designed to be victimless? Perhaps, initially. But that changed. [www.MECAHMilwaukee.com](http://www.MECAHMilwaukee.com)



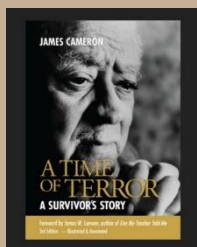
When the family of Leroy Cyrus decided to board him at the sumptuous Tall House, the resident social justice workers didn't know how to respond. Cyrus, now demented, was once a person of interest in the murder of the best friend of the Tall House's proprietor, Sherilyn Riddle. She questioned whether it was ethical to interrogate a man with Alzheimer's disease. One boarder that had no problems with the ethics of this investigation was anthropology student, Meyer Hoffmann. He'd do whatever was necessary to solve this and possibly related murders. But the question was—how can he know if the information he gleaned from Cyrus was true, fabricated, or based on false memories? [www.MECAHMilwaukee.com](http://www.MECAHMilwaukee.com)



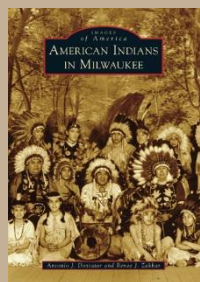
*Kids in Cultures* educates (while entertaining) children on key concepts of diversity, including culture, ethnicity, and multicultural societies. Kids learn about these concepts through stories of children in various eras and cultural settings in SE Wisconsin. The authors are authorities in their fields. Stories include "Mammoth meat," "Barbara Smith is German?" "Showing up is important: A Hmong virtue," "Firefly nights: An urban Oneida story," "Snow falls in Bronzeville," and "The Braves take the World Series: A Polish and Mexican story." [www.MECAHmilwaukee.com](http://www.MECAHmilwaukee.com)



## Ethnic Wisconsin in books, continued

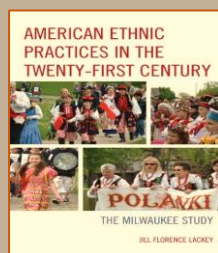


*A Time of Terror: A Survivor's Story* by James Cameron is the *only* account ever written by a survivor of a lynching. Thanks to America's Black Holocaust Museum and its parent organization, the Dr. James Cameron Legacy Foundation, the book is now available again to a general audience. This new edition includes five never-before-published chapters, photographs, and information for students and teachers. The Foundation will also properly preserve and store Dr. Cameron's original manuscript. [www.atimeofterror.info](http://www.atimeofterror.info); get book at <https://tinyurl.com/timeofterror>



*American Indians in Milwaukee* tells the story of tribes in Milwaukee from the time of its 'founding mother' through Indian removal in the 1830s through Indian return through years of activism and the development of the Indian Community School, Potawatomi Bingo and Casino, and Indian Summer Festival. *American Indians in Milwaukee* by Antonio J. Doxtator and Renee J. Zakhar | Arcadia Publishing Books

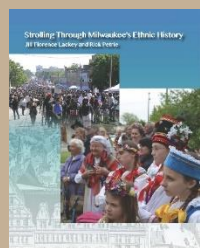
RECOMMENDED BY CHOICE JOURNAL! \_\_\_\_\_



*American Ethnic Practices in the Early Twenty-first Century: The Milwaukee Study* is a work based on a twelve-year research project conducted by Urban Anthropology, Inc. The qualitative study examined current strength of ethnicity and the contributions that ethnic practices have made to the wider society. The work takes a new approach by focusing on ethnic practices. The most prominent findings in the book were the ways that community-building activities of ethnic groups contributed to the wider society, and how this, in turn can help restore a needed balance between individualism and collectivism in the United States. [www.lexingtonbooks.com](http://www.lexingtonbooks.com)

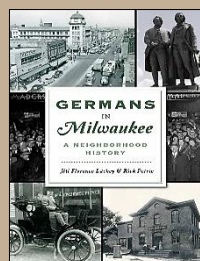
[ingtonbooks.com](http://www.lexingtonbooks.com)

### NEWEST \_\_\_\_\_



*Strolling Through Milwaukee's Ethnic History* is the follow-up book to the academic text above, but is written for a lay audience. The book takes readers on actual "strolls" through Milwaukee streets and neighborhoods where each ethnic group left their marks. They are fun and educational tours for families and classrooms.

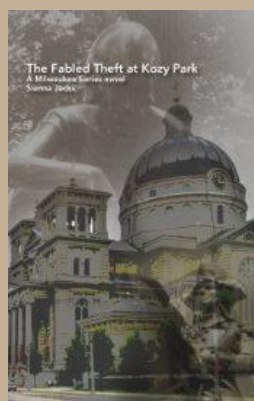
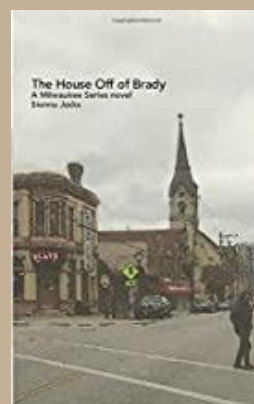
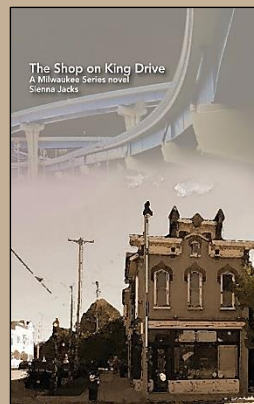
<http://mecamilwaukee.com/>



*Germans in Milwaukee: A neighborhood history*, by Jill Florence Lackey and Rick Petrie documents the German presence that still exists in Milwaukee neighborhoods, including place names to parklands to statuary, and through the memories of local residents—some 1,200 who contributed interviews to the authors' organization, Urban Anthropology, Inc.

[www.arcadiapublishing.com/Products/9781467147286](http://www.arcadiapublishing.com/Products/9781467147286)

## Mystery novels to support ongoing work of Urban Anthropology Inc.



The author of the Tall House mystery series, Sienna Jacks, has created a series of novels that take place in Milwaukee neighborhoods. The first offering takes place on Brady Street, the second in the original Bronzeville neighborhood, and the third in Lincoln Village.

As a former resident in numerous Milwaukee neighborhoods, Dr. Jacks will be donating most of her royalties for the ongoing work of Urban Anthropology Inc.

Order at

<http://mecamilwaukee.com/Fiction.html>

### Work of Urban Anthropology (UrbAn):

Milwaukee neighborhood website  
Milwaukee ethnic website  
Milwaukee educational website  
*Milwaukee Ethnic News*  
*Milwaukee Neighborhood Forum*  
15 Milwaukee documentaries

*UrbAn is an all-volunteer organization*

# Publisher focuses on ethnic Milwaukee

*Presents opportunities for local writers*



*Milwaukee Ethnic Collection of Arts and Humanities (MECAH Publishing) recently opened in Milwaukee. Its goals are to:*

- Interest readers in the cultural diversity of Milwaukee and its surrounding communities.
- Produce products that fit one or more of these arts and humanities: history, anthropology/archaeology, folk art, art history, museums, literature (including poetry and fiction), language, architecture, and religion.
- Target the products to lay audiences of all ages (e.g., non academic).

*Products that relate to urban centers of southeast Wisconsin and highlight cultural diversity will be considered, and can include any of the following:*

- Nonfiction books (e.g., small museums in southeastern Wisconsin, the history of Pentecostal churches in Milwaukee).
- Fiction books (e.g., a mystery set in Milwaukee, a book for young people with a local immigration theme).
- Documentaries (e.g., the Irish of southeastern Wisconsin; a reproduction of a play with a Milwaukee theme).

## MECAH Publishing

*Milwaukee Ethnic Collection of  
Arts and Humanities*

**MECAHMilwaukee.com**

# The work of Urban Anthropology



Urban Anthropology Inc. (UrbAn), the publisher of this newsletter, is an organization of cultural anthropologists dedicated to the celebration of cultural diversity and developing assets in Milwaukee neighborhoods. Among its accomplishments in the past 2.5 decades are the following:

- 12-year study of 65 ethnic groups in the Greater Milwaukee area, resulting in multiple youth and adult programs and two books.
- Oral history covering over 100 Milwaukee neighborhoods, resulting in website, multiple programs, and three books.
- 14 documentaries, based on the above studies.
- 100 life histories of the Milwaukee homeless, resulting in Marquette curriculum and documentaries
- Over 30 programs to beautify and improve Milwaukee neighborhoods
- Training of over 120 anthropology interns in grassroots research
- Publication of bimonthly, *Milwaukee Ethnic News*.
- Website of 190 Milwaukee neighborhoods (see page 11).
- Website of aids for teaching cultural diversity to students, based on past UrbAn youth programs.
- Publication of bimonthly *Milwaukee Neighborhood Forum*.
- Three plays on Milwaukee history
- Study on immigration and work ethics.



## *Milwaukee Ethnic News*

*Milwaukee Ethnic News* is published bimonthly by Urban Anthropology Inc. and is managed by volunteer anthropologists. The purpose of the newsletter is to offer ethnic organizations and individuals opportunities to share news and information about their cultures. The newsletter does not receive funds from any external source. The editor is Dr. Jill Florence Lackey.

### Subscriptions

The newsletter is emailed to anyone wishing to receive it. People subscribing themselves and their friends went from 48 in June, 2012 to over 1,000 currently. If you wish your email or that of a friend to be added to the subscriber list, send the email addresses to [JFLanthropologist@currently.com](mailto:JFLanthropologist@currently.com).

### Submitting stories

*Milwaukee Ethnic News* is interested in stories from individuals, businesses, and organizations that have an ethnic appeal. These can be stories about an immigrant family, special ethnic events, or ethnic issues that need to be aired as guest editorials. Stories that show interethnic cooperation are most welcome.

Stories must be between 100 and 400 words. Some editing will be done to match our style guidelines and spatial constraints. We will write the stories for you if you simply send us a list of the information that you want included. A photo of less than 2 MBs is always required for a story to be published. Please do not refer us to websites to collect information or photos. If we write your story from the general information you send, we do not send proofs for approval.

Stories are always due on the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding a publication month. At times later submissions may be allowed (ask first). Publication months are July, September, November, January, March, and May. Please send your stories to [JFLanthropologist@currently.com](mailto:JFLanthropologist@currently.com).

### Editorials

*Milwaukee Ethnic News* occasionally prints editorials or opinion pieces that deal with ethnic topics. Guest editorials are also welcome, but need prior approval to be published.



## Ethnic Documentaries from Urban Anthropology Inc.

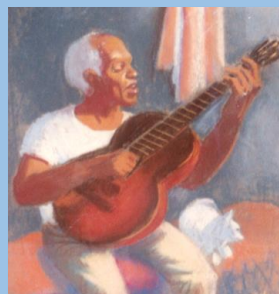
### **The Kaszubs of Jones Island: The People That Nobody Knew**

*Story of a fishing community that once thrived in the middle of an urban center, and then disappeared.*

### **Urban Indians and the Culture of Collective Action**

*The cultural practices and local contributions of North American Indians in Milwaukee.*

### **African Americans and the Culture of Contribution**



*The fall of Bronzeville and the contributions of African Americans in the city of Milwaukee.*

### **The Amazing Adaptation of the Urban Hmong**

*When thousands of Hmong came to the United States, they made an incredible adaptation to a complex society, while keeping their own cultural practices alive.*

### **The Varieties of Latino Experience**



*This documentary focuses on the diversity (as well as similarities) among various Latino groups in Milwaukee.*

DVDs are \$25.00 each. All are based on studies done by cultural anthropologists. To order go to [www.urban-anthropology.org/Paypalorders.html](http://www.urban-anthropology.org/Paypalorders.html)