



European Museum Academy

PRESS RELEASE

EUROPEAN MUSEUM ACADEMY PRIZE AWARDED TO POLIN, WARSAW, POLAND

In 2010 the European Museum Academy has established the European Museum Academy Prize with the aim of recognising the outstanding results of organisations, researchers and cultural institutions in creating pioneering museums or producing studies and carrying on projects of European relevance which are destined to influence the development of museological discourse at the international level.

Polin meets the criteria for this prize at its maximum. It is not just an excellent museum but a state of the art cultural institution which reaches diverse publics all over the world. That is why it deserves the title of a 'Total Museum'. The diversity and variety of its activities and the scope of its aims and goals makes it a unique institution with a worldwide impact. The institution meets the criteria for the European Museum Academy Prize perfectly.

Apart from its impressive so-called **Core Exhibition** - a journey through the 1,000 year history of Polish Jews in acts and scenes in eight chapters on a surface of 4,200 m² - the institution presents a lot of important side-elements.

The Resource Center

The Resource Center provides free access to Polish and international databases dedicated to Jewish history and genealogy, including My Heritage, USC Shoah Foundation, the Central Judaica Database etc.

The Virtual Shtetl

This portal contains information about 2,000 towns inhabited by Jews in the territories of Poland, Belarus, Ukraine, Lithuania and Russia with details on synagogues, cemeteries and so on. It is a social network created by thousands of users and contributors worldwide.

The Global Education Outreach Program

The mission of this program is to promote Polish-Jewish studies internationally. It supports fellowships, seminars, lectures, research workshops, conferences and publications.

Museum on Wheels

Polin has set up a travelling exhibition 'Museum on Wheels' about the history and culture of Polish Jews. It visits 47 towns all over the country. Each town can adapt it to its own history.

The EMA Prize is not necessarily presented every year and is given by the Board of EMA on the basis of proposals submitted by its Pool of Experts, National Representatives, International Supporters or other groups that are involved in EMA activities. In 2011 the Prize was awarded to the Galileo Museum, Florence, Italy and in 2013 to the Foundation Europeana, The Hague, The Netherlands.

The Prize ceremony will take place during the Annual General Meeting of the Europeana Network Association in Riga, on 8 November 8, 2016.

www.europeanmuseumacademy.eu