

2009 ANNUAL REPORT



**OF THE
UKRAINIAN CONGRESS COMMITTEE OF AMERICA**

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UCCA: REPRESENTING AND SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1940

On the eve of its 70th anniversary, the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA) has much to be grateful for and proud of. As a not-for-profit community-based organization, the UCCA has been successfully representing the interests of the Ukrainian American community since 1940.

Since its founding, the UCCA has been instrumental in disseminating information about the history and plight of the Ukrainian nation, by actively implementing both local and international projects and educating U.S. legislators on issues important to Ukraine and the Ukrainian American community. Moreover, working through its various committees, the UCCA coordinates the Ukrainian School System, publishes the only English-language scholarly journal, *The Ukrainian Quarterly*, distributes humanitarian aid through its Council on Aid to Ukrainians, and produces feature films on topics once banned by Soviet authorities, to name a few.

The UCCA has also taken an active role in the events unfolding in Ukraine, particularly since its independence in 1991. It has successfully carried out numerous civic education programs and sent multiple delegations of International Election Observers to monitor both the presidential and parliamentary elections in order to help secure a democratic foundation for the future of the Ukrainian nation.

Presently, the UCCA has a National Office in New York City, a public relations bureau in Washington DC and over 70 branches throughout the United States. Together with its staff and hundreds of volunteers nationwide, the UCCA successfully accomplishes many projects.

The UCCA National Office has prepared this report to highlight the work we have accomplished in 2009. The work of our organization is varied and extensive, but we hope this Annual Report will provide you with an overview and give you an appreciation of the work the UCCA has done to represent the interests of our community and Ukraine.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT...



As we embark on a new decade let us reflect on the words of former U.S. President Richard Nixon, “A man who has never lost himself in a cause bigger than himself has missed one of life's mountaintop experiences. Only in losing himself does he find himself. Only then does he discover all the latent strengths he never knew he had and which otherwise would have remained dormant.”

How appropriate such words are on the eve of UCCA's historic 70th anniversary, for it was our forefathers who, losing themselves in their cause, found the strength and determination to lay the foundation for the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America. Because of their prudence, perseverance, and powerful vision they called the first Congress of Ukrainians in America with the hope that it would flourish and endure. They're efforts were not in vain. Today, the UCCA remains the largest Ukrainian community umbrella organization in the nation.

If it's inspiration we need, we only have to turn to their shining example to find the strength we need to continue this sacred cause – to ensure that Ukrainian Americans everywhere have the freedom to express their culture, celebrate their history and embrace who they are.

On the eve of UCCA's 70th anniversary, let us not only rejoice in our accomplishments and successes, but also contemplate the future and the challenges that lay ahead. It is incumbent for all Ukrainian Americans to believe in their cause, for... **GREAT DEEDS REQUIRE GREAT EFFORTS!**

HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2009...A YEAR OF REFLECTION AND NEW BEGINNINGS

UKRAINIAN WORLD CONGRESS...UNITING THE DIASPORA

As a founding and integral member of the Ukrainian World Congress (UWC), the UCCA actively participates in the work of the UWC. On August 20th, the Ukrainian World Congress (UWC) convened its annual two-day meeting at the Lviv Polytechnic National University in Lviv, Ukraine, where reports were rendered from the UWC's Executive Board, UWC's Councils and Commissions and international member organizations. UCCA's President, Tamara Olexy reported on the work of the UCCA over the past year. Detailed reports can be found on the UWC's website at the following address: http://ukrainianworldcongress.org/Richni_Zahalni_Zbory2009/Zvity/index_ua.html

The meeting's agenda also included discussion on future cooperation between the UWC and Ukraine, and the cooperation between the UWC and the Ukrainian national representatives and the European Congress of Ukrainians. Delegates also heard the Auditing Committee's report and ratified the UWC proposed budget for 2010.



UWC Annual Meeting Participants

During the annual meeting, members of the UWC were pleasantly surprised by a visit from Ukraine's Prime Minister, Yulia Tymoshenko, who took time out of her scheduled working visit to Lviv to address the UWC. The Prime Minister thanked the Ukrainian diaspora for all the work they have done on behalf of Ukraine, and assured the delegates that the future of Ukraine is within Europe and that she would not allow Russian to become the second state language. Moreover she announced that 47 million hryvnia will be allocated through different ministries in 2009 for developing closer ties with the diaspora. That same evening the Prime Minister invited the UWC's Board of Directors to a special dinner at Lviv's famous Vysokiy Zamok. In an informal, relaxed atmosphere, Ms. Tymoshenko spent three hours answering questions posed by Ukraine's diaspora. UCCA's President, Tamara Olexy addressed the issue of future monument dedicated to the victims of Ukraine's Holodomor and expressed her desire that the government of Ukraine honor its promise of erecting a monument in Washington, DC.

50th Anniversary of Bandera's Murder

During the weekend of October 17-18, hundreds of Ukrainians from around the world gathered in Munich, Germany to mark the 50th anniversary of Stepan Bandera's murder. The commemoration began at Munchen-Waldfriedhof Cemetery, where Ukrainians solemnly walked in procession led by Toronto's Baturyn Marching Band to the gravesite of one of Ukraine's most devoted heroes and patriots. In the rain, amongst the dozens of wreaths, a Panakhya was held in memory of the leader of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists. In the evening, guests were invited to a special concert held to honor Ukraine's hero.



L to R: Panakhya in memory of Stepan Bandera; UCCA Board Members; Gravesite of Stepan Bandera in Munich Germany

UCCA LAUNCHES WEBSITE AND LINKS ON FACEBOOK AND TWITTER...

As part of the Executive Board's ongoing initiative to modernize the work of the UCCA, and to mark its 70th Anniversary of service to the Ukrainian American community, the UCCA launched its new and improved website in October. After many long months and lots of hard work, the UCCA's website is now user-friendly and offers a picture gallery, including archival photographs as well as current ones, and live, streaming news from Ukraine. All monthly Bulletins, press releases, Action Items and "Ukraine in Brief" publications are available in a timely manner for our users.

Additionally, there is contact information and links to UCCA Branches, Member Organizations and information regarding the UCCA's Executive Board, history, mission, and accomplishments. There is also a special resource section for our branches and members, highlighting various topics of importance. The new website offers interested visitors an opportunity to join the UCCA. With the addition of a calendar of events, members and non-members alike can keep abreast with the latest initiatives of the UCCA around the country, while enjoying up-to-the-minute news from Ukraine and the UCCA National Office and UNIS.

The second phase of our website design will be launched in 2010 and will enable our members to pay their annual membership dues (UNF) on-line, shop for all available UCCA publications and items, as well as subscribe to *The Ukrainian Quarterly*. The website is a work in progress and we always welcome your comments and suggestions on how we can improve it.

We would like to thank our Credit Unions for their financial support, which made this new website possible, as well as our webmaster, Andre Olexy, who spent many hours designing and updating the site.

In addition to keeping up with the latest events on the new website, you can continue to follow UCCA news on our Facebook and Twitter accounts at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Ukrainian-Congress-Committee-of-America/64377182594> and <http://twitter.com/UkrCong>.

UCCA MEETS WITH NEWLY APPOINTED U.S. AMBASSADOR TO UKRAINE

On November 24th, four days following his confirmation as the United States' next envoy to Ukraine, Ukrainian American community organizations were privileged to meet with Ambassador John Tefft. Warmly greeting the community representatives and providing some opening remarks, the Ambassador explained that his goal was to hear the concerns of our community about the plight of U.S.-Ukraine relations. After initial introductions, the community representatives mentioned various issues of concern: USAID projects in Ukraine; the U.S.-Ukraine Strategic Partnership Commission; upcoming presidential elections and international election monitoring; unity of the Ukrainian churches and interjection from foreign churches; the fight against corruption; energy reform and diversification of the energy sector; and reforms associated with NATO's Annual National Program. Each topic prompted a dialogue with the newly confirmed ambassador.

After more than an hour-long discussion, the community representatives thanked the ambassador for his time and expressed their sincerest wishes for his future endeavors in Ukraine. In commenting on the meeting, UCCA President Tamara Olexy noted: "Ambassador Tefft is knowledgeable of the region and, in particular about the current political situation in Ukraine. Our forthright discussion today was a unique opportunity to share our concerns with him and develop a working relationship. We look forward to our community's cooperative efforts with the ambassador while he is stationed in Kyiv."



Ukrainian American Community Leaders with Ambassador John Tefft (7th from left)

The meeting with Ambassador Tefft was initiated and organized by the UCCA. Present at the State Department meeting were also Lawrence Silverman, Director, Office of Ukraine, Moldova, and Belarus Affairs; Mark Bocchetti, Deputy Director, Office of Ukraine, Moldova, and Belarus Affairs; and, Elisabeth Zentos, Ukraine Desk Officer.

HOLODOMOR – UKRAINE’S GENOCIDE OF 1932-1933

The Holodomor is an extremely important issue for the UCCA. Over the years, the National Office, UNIS, UCCA branches and member organizations have worked diligently to expose the true nature of the Holodomor by educating the general public through various means. Below are just a few initiatives embarked on during 2009.

ST. PATRICK’S CATHEDRAL

In what has become an annual commemoration at St. Patrick’s Cathedral for the Ukrainian Genocide, UCCA President, Tamara Olexy opened the program stating, “The torment that these victims endured is now over, their crying has ceased—yet their story endures ... On this 76th anniversary year, let us pledge here—within this great Cathedral—to continue our work on behalf of the innocent victims of Ukraine’s Genocide of 1932-1933, and in their name and memory educate the public about this heinous crime against humanity. Perhaps that is their [the victims’] message to us today – to spread the truth to the world in the hope that such crimes never happen again.”

President Barack Obama’s statement was read by William Pope, Senior Advisor for Europe at the U.S. Mission to the United Nations.



Left to Right: Senator Charles Schumer (D-NY); UCCA President T. Olexy; William Pope

Sen. Charles Schumer (D-NY) was the highlight of the event with his stunning comments: “10 million people died - more people died in the Ukrainian Holocaust than in any other, past or present. It was the greatest killing of a people because of their nationality that man has ever known.” Sen. Schumer thanked the community for annually commemorating the victims of the Holodomor, and expressed his gratitude for being invited, stating that it is his desire to speak out every year as this Ukrainian tragedy is extremely important. He concluded his statement with a message of hope and perseverance...“Today the Ukrainian community lives despite Stalin’s efforts. We see it everywhere. We see it in a free and democratic Ukraine and we must never let Russia remove that freedom from Ukraine, by any means. The U.S. must stand with Ukraine to keep it free...I am so proud that there are so many Ukrainian Americans here in New York and I am equally proud that the community has been replenished by the new waves of immigrants... So we say to the evil tyrants, we say to Stalin, you may have tried to annihilate the Ukrainian people, but the Ukrainian people live. God bless them.”

As in previous year, Ukraine’s diplomats – The Honorable Oleh Shamshur, Ukraine’s Ambassador to the U.S. and The Honorable Yuriy Sergeyev, Ukraine’s Permanent Representative to the UN -- stood in solidarity with our community and actively participated in our national memorial service. Mr. Edwards, producer of the recently released film “The Living” also spoke at the gathering. Concluding remarks were provided by His Grace Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka of the Ukrainian Catholic Church.

Holodomor Exhibit in the United Nations

On November 23rd, in the presence of many UN diplomats, UCCA New York City Branch’s archival photo exhibit dedicated to the *Holodomor* of 1932-1933 in Ukraine opened at the United Nations. The event hosted by Ukraine’s Permanent Mission to the United States also honored the distinguished legal scholar, Raphael Lemkin, and the courageous journalist Gareth Jones. HE Yuriy Sergeyev opened the evening by paying tribute to the millions of innocent victims who perished during the *Holodomor* and thanked the diplomats for their “solidarity, sympathy and participation.”

Ivanka Zajac, President of the UCCA NYC Branch, briefly relayed the horrors of the *Holodomor* before describing the exhibit which used recently released photos from the KGB archives. The exhibit was “prepared to

expose the true nature of the totalitarian Soviet regime which resulted in the 1932-1933 famine.” The 12 panels are “displayed in chronological order to provide the viewer with an overall picture of the motives and methods used to kill up to 10 million innocent men, women and children... We hope that this educational exhibit will shed light on one of the darkest pages of Ukraine’s history.” The UCCA NYC Branch’s *Holodomor* exhibit was on display in the Kuwait Boat Area, the main diplomatic entrance of the United Nations Headquarters, through December 4th.

Yonkers pushes to have the *Holodomor* included in the NYS School curriculum

On December 17th Educators for the Study of the Ukrainian Genocide Holodomor-Famine of 1932-1933, chaired by Oksana Kulynych, and members of the Yonkers UCCA Branch met with NY State Senator Oppenheimer at her district office, to discuss the inclusion of the *Holodomor*, into the curriculum of the New York State school system. The community representatives stated that the *Holodomor* is a significant world event whose ramifications reach into the present. Without studying it, one cannot possibly understand the events taking place in Eastern Europe at the present time let alone the history of the 20th century. New York State has a substantial population of Ukrainian heritage, many of them your constituents, whose lives have been impacted by these tragic events. They deserve the right to have their children taught about it in our schools.



Community members meet with New York Senator Oppenheimer

The group did not ask for new legislation, stating that there is existing legislation on the books, namely the Education Law, Section 801, which needs to be amended to address the inequity by adding the phrase the Ukrainian Genocide-Holodomor of 1932-1933. They asked the Senator to help them in seeking justice and equity and in educating NY students so that they have the knowledge and tools to prevent future atrocities and tragedies. The meeting was also attended by Diane Ward, education consultant for Senator Oppenheimer.

The Ukrainian Community and the Washington Connection...

The year 2009 brought a new dynamism and political landscape to Washington, DC. Out went eight years of the George W. Bush Administration and in came a new team of government officials following the election of President Barack Obama. What began as a pragmatic outlook on U.S. foreign policy was soon weighted-down by Vice President Biden’s remarks at a Munich security conference where the infamous Russia “re-set” strategy/policy was announced. That phrase became the cornerstone of many of the Ukrainian National Information Service’s (UNIS) activities in Washington, DC throughout 2009.

Beginning with our community’s concerns, UNIS organized its annual advocacy event in Washington, DC, entitled “Ukrainian Days.” Nearly two dozen participants from throughout the United States representing many of the Ukrainian communities as far away as California and Massachusetts came to Washington in March 2009 to advocate our concerns about the enhancement of U.S.-foreign policy towards Ukraine, so as not to get lost in the “re-set” button with Russia. The successful program resulted in a myriad of future activity within the U.S. Congress highlighting U.S.-Ukraine relations.

Several of the more important observances in Washington were associated with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). 2009 marked the 60th anniversary of the security alliance, of which a statement issued by the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America was distributed to Members of Congress. Notwithstanding the overall importance of the anniversary date, 2009 also marked the 10th and 5th anniversaries, respectively, of the first and second rounds of NATO expansion to countries of the former Warsaw Pact – Poland, Hungary, and the

Czech Republic (first round) and Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Slovakia, Romania, Bulgaria, and Slovenia (second round). The Ukrainian National Information Service, as part of the larger Central and East European Coalition (CEEC), sponsored a congressional reception on Capitol Hill to commemorate the anniversaries. The following dignitaries presented their remarks: Sen. George Voinovich (R-OH); Rep. John Shimkus (R-IL); Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski; as well as, the U.S. ambassador to NATO, Kurt Volker.

UNIS' cooperation with the Central and East European Coalition was evident in a multitude of events and meetings with Washingtonian officials. Prior to President Obama's summit meeting with Russian President Dmitry Medvedev in July 2009, the CEEC held a briefing session in Congress relating our concerns regarding Russia's increased levels of economic and political influence on its neighbors. The main speaker of the briefing session was Sen. John McCain (R-AZ), who firmly supported the territorial integrity and independence of the countries in Central and East Europe. With the CEEC's support, a letter was sent to President Obama requesting he visit Ukraine during his European trip in July 2009, which took him to Moscow and Italy for the G-8 Summit.

Political discourse and dialogue with senior Administration officials was key to the success of many of UNIS' activities in 2009. Along with the CEEC, UNIS participated in high-level meetings at the National Security Council promoting a strong Ukraine agenda for U.S. foreign policy. These meetings involved discussion of Vice President Biden's trip to Ukraine in July 2009; the revamped missile defense shield agreement; Membership Actions Plans (MAP) for Ukraine and Georgia; as well as a host of other reform efforts of a bilateral and multilateral nature.



Left to Right: Ukrainian Days participants at the future site of the Holodomor Memorial; CEEC meeting with NSC Staff

Many of UNIS' activities in the U.S. Congress are coordinated with the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus (CUC). The Caucus was formed in 1997 under the initiative of UNIS and a result of its close relationship with various congressional offices. Since then, it has been a wealth of support and a promoter of U.S.-Ukraine relations. In 2009, UNIS' work with the CUC was instrumental in holding a briefing for congressional staffers with the former U.S. ambassador to Ukraine, William Taylor. Other activities included a meeting with Ukraine's Minister of Economy Bohdan Danylyshyn and correspondence to the Obama Administration requesting President Obama visit Ukraine, and to Speaker Nancy Pelosi to meet with Ukraine's Speaker of the Parliament, Volodymr Lytvyn.

Changes not only took place in Washington with the election of a new President, but also occurred in Ukraine. After more than three years, U.S. ambassador to Ukraine, William Taylor, was rotated out of Ukraine and replaced by Amb. John Tefft. A career foreign service officer, Amb. Tefft was the presiding ambassador in Georgia during Russia's invasion of that country in 2008. Having established a relationship with Amb. Tefft in his previous position as Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Eurasian Affairs in 2004-2006, UNIS offered formal testimony to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee supporting the Administration's nomination of Amb. Tefft. Prior to his departure to Kyiv in December 2009, UNIS organized a meeting with the newly-appointed ambassador and representatives of major Ukrainian American organizations.

The defining moment of U.S.-Ukraine relations transpired in December 2009 when the two countries signed a Charter on Strategic Partnership. This document also established a commission of various working groups to coordinate many of the aspects enumerated in the Charter agreement. Though UNIS was not directly associated with the parameters established in the Charter, UNIS' role since its signing has been of advocacy and promoting congressional and think-tank support for the Charter's many attributes. The Ukrainian community plays a crucial role in the promotion and advocacy of the Charter on Strategic Partnership between Ukraine and the

United States, as it reflects on an array of reform issues in Ukraine that our community has consistently supported: free and open media; a thriving civil society; the battle against corruption; and cultural and educational exchanges.

Our work in Washington, DC would not be possible without the support and contributions of the Ukrainian American community. In 2009, the Chicago Friends of UNIS held a fundraiser, with the participation of Amb. William Taylor, for the operational costs associated with the Ukrainian community's advocacy office in Washington. Thanks to the generosity of the Chicago community, UNIS is able to fulfill its mission representing the concerns of the community and advocating enhanced relations between Ukraine and the United States.

UCCA's COUNCIL ON AID TO UKRAINIANS (CAU)

The CAU, created in 1989, has focused primarily on aid to Ukraine and Ukrainians through educational publications and humanitarian assistance. In 2008, CAU assisted the flood victims in western Ukraine and Ukrainians living in Kazakhstan by conducting a fundraising drive to build a church in Astana.

After many long years of hard work, in 2009, the CAU launched a new program, the Gulag Project. The CAU has begun receiving lists of former Soviet Gulag prisoners from the Karaganda KGB archives. These lists, which include full names, dates and places of birth are now being published in the National Tribune newspaper, and will be available on the UCCA website shortly. The CAU asks that if you locate the names of your relatives among those published, and need help in obtaining further information about them, please contact the Chair of the CAU, Ivan Burtyk at (973) 779-4063.

UCCA FILM COMMITTEE

The UCCA Film Committee was established in 1994 to support both the arts and media development in Ukraine by illuminating chapters of Ukraine's history buried by Soviet historians. To date the UCCA has released three feature films: "Assassination: An Autumn Murder in Munich"; "The Undeclared"; and most recently, "Metropolitan Andrei." After a successful screening tour of "Metropolitan Andrei" in 2008, the film committee has made available on DVD the UCCA co-sponsored feature film. The 125 minute film, in Ukrainian with English subtitles, can be purchased at the UCCA National Office for \$25. The basis for this film, is the life and work of a renowned historical figure and church leader, Metropolitan of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, Andrei Sheptytsky (1865-1944).

The Film Committee is also pleased to announce that on February 3rd, our partner, Ukrainian film director, Oles Yanchuk won the first prize of Henri-Langlois (the European nomination) for his film "Famine '33" at this year's Vincennes Cinema Festival in France. Congratulations Mr. Yanchuk!

UCCA BRANCHES...News from the front lines...

NEW UCCA BRANCH FORMED IN RIVERHEAD

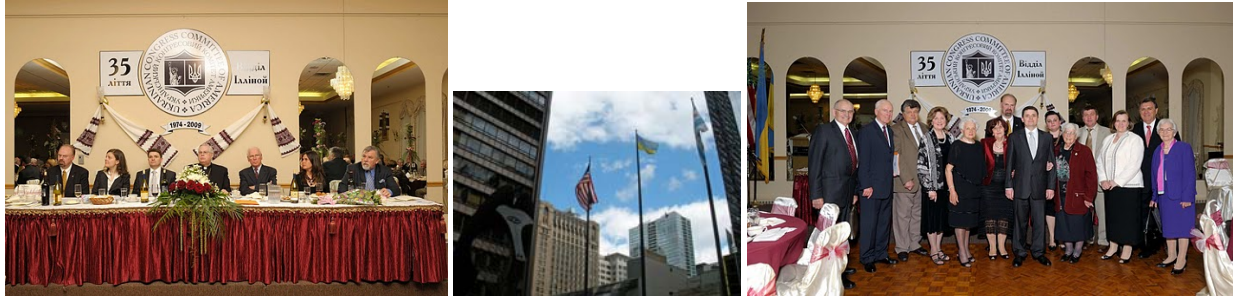
On March 29th, the UCCA witnessed an event in Riverhead, Long Island, NY, that does not occur very frequently -- the founding of a new UCCA Branch. Over 65 members of the local community of Eastern Suffolk County gathered at the Church Hall of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church to participate in the inaugural meeting.



Community members and guests gathered for the inaugural meeting of the UCCA Riverhead, NY Branch
Father Vasyl Kornitsky, Pastor, commenced the founding meeting with moving prayers after which a Presidium of the meeting was elected. Greetings were delivered by UCCA President, Tamara Olexy; UNA President and Chair of UCCA's National Council, Stefan Kaczaraj; and, long-time UCCA Executive Board member and former president of the Long Island-Hempstead UCCA Chapter, Andriy Szul. UCCA looks forward to a long and fruitful relationship with Riverhead!

UCCA ILLINOIS Celebrates 35th Anniversary

On Saturday, May 2nd, an Anniversary Banquet and Dance at the Ukrainian Cultural Center in Chicago was held to celebrate the Illinois Division's 35 years of community and political activism in Illinois. Over the past 35 years UCCA-IL has become one of the most active branches of UCCA due to the dedicated leadership and vision of former presidents Dr. Julian Kulas, Mychajlo Panasiuk, Dr. Myroslav Charkewycz, Orest Baranyk and current President Pavlo Bandriwsky.



L to R: Head Table at the 35th Anniversary Celebration; Ukrainian Flag raised over Daley Plaza; Members of Illinois Branch

Committed to UCCA's mission of supporting cultural, educational and humanitarian activities that emphasize the Ukrainian American heritage and providing support for Ukraine's newly developing democracy, UCCA-IL produces cultural and educational programs to mark historic Ukrainian events. These programs include: an annual November Uprising of 1918 concert; a January 22, 1918-1919 Acts of Independence and Unification luncheon and community service awards presentation; Battle of Kruty presentations for Ukrainian American youth groups and Saturday schools, a Sviato Shevchenko concert to celebrate the life's work of Taras Shevchenko, and the annual Ukrainian Flag Raising program at the City of Chicago's Daley Plaza in commemoration of Ukrainian Independence Day.

One of the most anticipated UCCA-IL programs of the year is the two-day UCCA-IL Ukrainian Days Festival held at Smith Park near Chicago's Ukrainian Village. It is one of the largest Ukrainian festivals in the United States and draws over 13,000 visitors.

NEW YORK CITY BRANCH CONTINUES TO FLOURISH

The New York City Branch dedicated much of its time and effort to exposing the truth about Ukraine's Genocide of 1932-1933, by taking an active role in the annual Commemoration at St. Patrick's Cathedral, organizing an archival photograph exhibit displayed at the United Nations, and screening the independent film "Holodomor: The Movie." Yet, the UCCA branch has not limited itself to events related to the Holodomor. In addition to these events they have actively committed themselves to educational, cultural as well as fundraising efforts. Throughout the year they organized various events including: a community meeting with Ukraine's new Consul General, Serhiy Pohoreltsev; a requiem service to mark the 50th anniversary of Stepan Bandera's murder; a protest demonstration before the German Mission to the UN in defense of John Demjaniuk; and, screened the film "Comeback" about finding one's identity and heritage through music. Additionally, branch members participated in numerous events throughout the year, including: the annual St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church Festival, during which they sold their new "Ukraine" tote bags, the 60th anniversary of the Belarusian American Association, the fundraising luncheon for the Ukrainian Catholic University, to name a few.



L to R: UCCA members at: Holodomor movie Fundraiser; Holodomor Exhibit at the United Nations; "Comeback" Movie Screening

To encourage new membership, the NYC Branch also held a "Kick off the Summer" Wine and Cheese Open House, which proved to be a big success pulling in additional members into their ranks. They are hoping to make this an annual event.

A Sincere Thank You goes out to all the members of the UCCA Executive Board, National Council and UCCA Branches, for their continued guidance and cooperation. Without their support and hard work the various UCCA projects would never have been so successful. Let us continue to work together for the greater good of our community and Ukraine!

Slava Ukrainiyi!

The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, Inc. (UCCA)

is a non-partisan, not-for-profit organization as defined under Section 501 C (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

All donations to the UCCA are tax deductible.

For more information about the UCCA, please visit our website at www.ucca.org