

UCCA HONORS JANUARY 22ND AND 100 YEARS OF UNITY

For over a century, January 22nd has remained one of the most important dates in the recent history of the Ukrainian people. On this date in 1918, Ukraine's independent government - the Central Rada - issued its Fourth Universal, declaring the full and unqualified independence of Ukraine. This was followed a year later with the "Act of Union" (*Akt Zluky*), merging the Ukrainian People's Republic (UNR) and the Western Ukrainian People's Republic (ZUNR) into a single sovereign and independent state of the Ukrainian people. Later still, Ukrainians united in human chains on this date in 1990 and again at the start of the 21st century. Most recently, 3 Euromaidan activists were shot dead on January 22, 2014, the first recorded assassinations on Kyiv's Independence Square since the start of the Revolution of Dignity.

As we approach the 5th year of Russia's war against Ukraine – a daily violation of Ukraine's sovereignty – the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA), the largest representation of Americans of Ukrainian descent, continues the decades-long Ukrainian-American legacy of recognizing this significant date in history - Unity Day.

UCCA will never forget the struggles and sacrifices of our forefathers committed in the name of freedom, recognized through January 22nd community events, memorial actions and numerous local, state and federal proclamations initiated by UCCA since our founding in 1940. As the Ukrainian nation and all Ukrainians mark this 100th anniversary of Unity, may we always remember that unity is the foundation of our independence.

Slava Ukrayini!

CONGRESSMAN QUIGLEY APPOINTED CO-CHAIR OF CUC

Following the retirement of the co-founder and long-time Co-Chair of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus (CUC), Rep. Sander Levin (D-MI), the CEC appointed Rep. Mike Quigley (D-IL) on January 15th, as its new co-chair. Rep. Quigley has been a staunch advocate of the Ukrainian American community issues and has traveled to Ukraine. For his support, Rep. Quigley received the Friend of UNIS award in September 2014. UCCA welcomes Congressman Quigley as the new Co-Chair and looks forward to working with him to strengthen US-Ukraine relations. UCCA also sincerely thanks Congressman Levin for his years of service and support!

UCCA WELCOMES TOMOS FOR UKRAINE

On January 6th, on one of the most important feasts in Eastern Orthodoxy – Theophany - the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople officially recognized the autocephaly of the Orthodox Church of Ukraine.



The decision to recognize Ukraine's desire for an autocephalous church on January 6th will for centuries share the symbolic message of Theophany: the celebration of the baptism of Jesus Christ in the River Jordan, a ritual act of blessing and regeneration, paired with the spiritual regeneration of the Ukrainian nation, historically baptized in the waters of the Dnipro River over 1,000 years ago. After centuries of struggle, the historic act of handing over a Tomos manifests the goal many never thought would happen in their lifetime: a single, united Orthodox Church of Ukraine, a true blessing for Ukrainians around the world.

The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA), the largest representation of Americans of Ukrainian descent, expresses gratitude on behalf of the community it represents to the worldwide leader of the Orthodox community, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople, for granting the Tomos of Autocephaly to the Orthodox Church of Ukraine, and congratulates all Ukrainians of faith with this truly historic achievement.

GENEROUS DONATIONS TO UCCA

UCCA would like to acknowledge the generous donations received in January in response to our 2018 End of Year Appeal to support the work of UCCA.*

\$6,937- Estate of Maria and Kornel Wasyluk

\$5,000 - SUMA Yonkers Federal Credit Union

\$2,000 - Ukrainian National Association

\$1,000 - Anna Kalynych, Irene Komarynsky, Emil Melnyk, Walter Pastuszczyzn,

\$500 -Stephan Tymkiw

\$200 – \$499

Adrian Dolinsky, Orest Hrycyk, George & Vera Kap, Bishop Basil Losten, Maria McCutchan, Pawel Peryn

\$100-\$199

Stephen & Daria Babsky, Edward Bartosiewicz, Thomas Bocon, Roman Brygider, John Butry, Walter Clebowich, Katria Czerwoniak, Mykola & Orysia Dobrykewych, Daria Dykyj, Larissa Hogan, Bohdan Kopynec, Vladimir Kowaliwskyj, Jaroslaw Kozak, Myhal, Marta Pereyma, Bohdan Pokora, Polish Historical Society, Adrian Prus, Irene Pyskir-Bilak (in memory of Roman Bilak), Ihor Struynsky, Orest Wasyliv, Michael Wichkowsky, Jarema Wolosenko

Up to \$99

Mary Andrach, W. Ardykowsky, Yvonne Bilak-Krause, Geraldine Czebinia, George & Christine Drebych, Ganna Dusyak, Zenon Fedorowycz, Borys & Eugenia Fessak, Yuriy Fizer, Mykola Haliv, Alexander Humen, Edward Hysyk, Bohdan Kaczor, Anna Klokiw, Arcadia Kocybala, Victor Konyago, Maria Koval-Melnykovich, Vladimir & Larissa Kozak, Yuri Krukowsky, Daria & Taras & Andrew Laszyn, Maria Malaniak, Peter Matwjejko, Peter Meczniak, George Misnick, Michael Moczula, Vera Obuszczyk, Boris Onufreiczuk, Lubomyr Pawlowch, Jaroslaw Pelenski, William Pich, Anna Pizzuto, Yuliya Rimsky, Lubomyr Rokycky, Michael Roscishewsky, Walter Safian, Stefania Semuschak, Vera Sendzik, Ilia Shevchuk, Ihor Shust, Lesia Sikorskyj, Skirka Living Trust, Michael Skomsky, Taras Slevinsky, Anna Smolij, George Soltys, Jaroslaw & Svitlana Starozytnyk, Taras Tkaczyk, Nadia Trojan, Joseph Turkoc, Ukrainian American Citizens Club Carteret, NJ, Walter & Maria Uzdejczyk, Walter & Mary Voinov, Marianna & Wictoria Wakulowski, Julia & Peter Wislocki, Lydia Woloshyn, Gregory & Marianne Woloszyn, Jaroslaw Wolowodiuk, Nadia Worobij, Stephanie Zajac, Anna Zerebynsky.

UCCA would also like to thank all those that donated through our UCCA Facebook Page and through Network for Good.

**Donations received as of January 23, 2019*

UCCA CALLS FOR NATIONAL DAY OF MOURNING/REMEMBRANCE

To honor the memory of the Heavenly Hundred, Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA) is calling on the community to mark the 5th anniversary with a National Day of Mourning/Remembrance.

UCCA is urging our community to hold memorial activities - requiem services, candlelight vigils, and the like - on or around February 20th, the "Day of the Heavenly Hundred Heroes" as decreed by presidential order, to remember those brave heroes whose lives were tragically cut short five years ago.

This group of protestors, who have been dubbed The Heavenly Hundred, were killed in clashes with security forces in Kyiv on February 20, 2014. Protesting human rights and fundamental freedom abuses, and the backsliding of Ukraine's pro-European course, they took the fate of their country in their own hands. Their sacrifice is a reminder of the Ukrainian nation's eternal aspirations for freedom.

"It is with great reverence that we mark the fifth anniversary of the Heavenly Hundred. They were heroes who gave their lives in defense of Ukraine, and I invite/urge the entire community and all those that share our grief to join UCCA in this solemn observance," stated UCCA President Andriy Futey.

DEADLINE APPROACHING TO SERVE AS UCCA ELECTION OBSERVER

UCCA will once again be fielding a delegation of International Election Observers to monitor the March 31st Presidential Elections in Ukraine.

For anyone interested in volunteering to serve as a member of UCCA's Election Observer Mission, applications can be found on UCCA's website at www.ucca.org. The deadline for submission is March 10th!

For further information about UCCA's EOM, please visit the UCCA's website at www.ucca.org or contact the National Office, either by email at ucca@ucca.org or telephone at (212) 228-6840.