

The Washington Business Week Program Presented In Gdynia, Poland, August 2009

In partnership with the **Seattle-Gdynia Sister City Organization**, the **Mayor's Office of Gdynia**, **Washington Business Week (WBW)** and **Corporations in the Pacific Northwest Region** we are taking the **Washington Business Week** program to students in **Gdynia, Poland** from **August 15-22, 2009**.



Mikolaj Sinica (upper middle) from Poland with his company at the student "Tradeshow", PLU '08.

HISTORY OF WBW AND THE SEATTLE-GDYNIA SISTER CITY ORGANIZATION

Since 1976, **Washington Business Week** has inspired Washington State students to recognize their potential as successful employees, employers and community members. During WBW Programs, business volunteers mentor high school students for an entire week as they compete for profit and gain critical skills essential for today's global economy. Learn more at wbw.org.

Through a four year partnership with the **Seattle-Gdynia Sister City Organization**, a handful of students from Poland have attended **WBW Programs** each summer. The Polish students shared their experience and enthusiasm with educators and government officials upon their return to Poland. In 2008, a formal request was issued from the **Gdynia, Poland Mayor's** office inviting WBW to Poland.

BENEFITS OF BRINGING WBW TO POLAND

This is an amazing opportunity for all involved. Students, volunteers and business partners will have a unique opportunity to teach about free enterprise, practice diplomacy, and form new personal and professional relationships abroad. The participating Polish students and educators will learn about the practice of capitalism beyond classroom theory. In Poland, they view this collaboration as sharing America's long history of *free enterprise* and *democracy* with their region, and hope to establish a long-term relationship with Washington Business Week and the sponsoring corporations.



Official letter from the Mayor of Gdynia, Poland...

As an open and modern city, we are well aware of the importance of educating young generations and we therefore heavily invest in the development of the school system and continually improve our education offered.

I have the pleasure to inform you that I fully support this undertaking and find the idea of a 2009 Business Week organized in Gdynia for Polish students very exciting. I am deeply convinced that this intensive one week summer programme will not only help students to learn business principles needed in their future professional life but will also contribute to the development of other useful life skills like negotiation and communication.

We will be honoured to assist you with this project and will do our best to make it a real success.

*Yours Sincerely, Wojciech Szczurek, PhD
May 27, 2008*



Seattle-Gdynia Sister
City Organization



Stephen A. Hyer, Executive Director
(253) 815-6900 steve@wbw.org

Janice Jaworski, Seattle Sister City Organization
(206) 365-2198 janicejaworski@comcast.net