

# PROCLAMATION

## DAY OF REMEMBRANCE: TYMOTEUSZ KARPOWICZ JULY 1, 2025

**WHEREAS**, Tymoteusz Karpowicz (1921–2005) was a celebrated Polish poet, playwright, translator, literary theorist, and educator whose pioneering work helped shape the modernist movement in 20th-century Polish literature; and

**WHEREAS**, born in 1921 near Vilnius and later active in post-war Poland, Karpowicz's refusal to conform to the restrictive mandates of socialist realism and his profound engagement with language, identity, and human thought established him as a powerful literary voice of moral courage and intellectual depth; and

**WHEREAS**, Karpowicz emigrated from Poland in 1973 and continued his literary and academic work in the United States, serving as a professor of Slavic and Baltic literatures at the University of Illinois at Chicago and enriching the cultural landscape of the Polish-American community; and

**WHEREAS**, after a distinguished career in both Poland and the United States, Tymoteusz Karpowicz spent his final years in Oak Park, Illinois, where he passed away in 2005, leaving behind a legacy of poetic innovation and resistance to political oppression; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Oak Park values the diverse lives, voices, and histories that shape our community, and takes pride in honoring the life and contributions of Tymoteusz Karpowicz as a resident whose intellectual and artistic legacy continues to inspire across generations and borders.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I**, Vicki Scaman, President of the Village of Oak Park and the Board of Trustees, do hereby proclaim **July 1, 2025** as the **Day of Remembrance: Tymoteusz Karpowicz** in the Village of Oak Park, and encourage all residents to reflect on the enduring power of literature, the importance of cultural freedom, and the lasting contributions of those who enrich our community through art and thought.

**DATED** this 1st day of July, 2025.

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Vicki Scaman  
Village President

ATTEST:

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Christina M. Waters  
Village Clerk