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**AHF eNews, January 2011** [[Download the PDF](#)]

**Your membership and support makes this all possible. Help us!** We are all volunteer, non-partisan, and need your support to continue to serve the community as we have done since 1906. In this new year, please consider how much your membership helps our community. In unity we find strength... [join and support your AHF](#) !

- [AHF Issues its First Statement on Hungarian Media Law:](#) "A Rush to Judgment: The Reaction to the Hungarian Media
- [Heti Válasz broadens discussion](#) on Hungarian media law by adding another perspective from AHF.
- **Alert!** [AHF Disaster Relief Fund](#) surpasses \$225,000.00! But the effects of flooding and Toxic Sludge are NOT OVER!! See how your support is helping the victims.
- [Báthory Award](#) for American Hungarian Federation President Frank Koszorus, Jr.
- [AHF participates in 9th MÁÉRT](#) (Magyar Állandó Értekezlet or Hungarian Permanent Conference) in Budapest
- AHF participates in the fifth Hungarian-Americans Together ([HATOG](#)) conference
- [AHF Honors the heroes of the 1956](#) Hungarian Revolution
- DVD RELEASE of 8-time-award-winning documentary [Torn from the Flag!](#)
- [AHF helps plan CEEC Advocacy Day](#) in US Congress, drafts human / minority rights Policy Brief
- AHF supports [Hungarian School in tiny Hungarian Village](#) in Slovakia
- [AHF donation to the Rákóczi Szövetség](#) (Rakoczi Foundation) supporting ethnic Hungarian communities in the Carpathian Basin.
- [1956 National Memorial](#) - A continuing call for support and donations to finally have a fitting national memorial in the nation's capital!

### **2011 Membership!**

<< [JOIN US](#) >>

AHF is an all-volunteer, non-partisan, independent, 501(c)(3) educational and charitable organization focused on common ground issues. Serving the community since 1906, we need your support! *Only in unity can we find strength!* [[join and support us!](#)]

### **Additional Features**

- [Looking Back: AHF History](#)
- [Featured Member](#)
- [Featured Book or Article](#)
- [Upcoming Events](#)
- [AHF / Amazon Store - Buy Products Online!](#)
- [>> AHF News Archive](#)

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## The 1907 Kohányi Szózat (Appeal)

### AHF Headlines



#### 1/11/2011 - AHF Issues its First Statement on Hungarian Media Law: "A Rush to Judgment: The Reaction to the Hungarian Media Law."

Freedom of the press is a cornerstone of democracy and liberty. The unprecedented rush to judgment and vitriolic media coverage of the Hungarian media law seems to have been based on a partial understanding of the law itself and, in some cases, appears to be motivated by bias or political considerations.

[\[Read more\]](#)



MTI and other media outlets also covered AHF's statement, "Objektív véleményalkotásra szólít fel az Amerikai Magyar Szövetség médiaügyben."

[\[tovább\]](#)

“Amerika egy millió magyarja, nemcsak hogy követeljük, de keressük is visszük azt, hogy Magyarország népének ugyanabban a szabadságban, ugyanabban az igazságban, ugyanabban a jólétben legyen része, mint a mely szabadság, igazság, es jólét abban az Amerikában van amelynek lakószai, polgárai vagyunk.”

“We, America’s 1 million Hungarians, do not just demand, but will work to ensure that the people of Hungary may partake in the same freedom, the same justice, the same prosperity as we, citizens of

America, partake.”

- Kohanyi Tihamer, AHF President, 1907

**Strength can only be found in unity!** [Please join and support](#) your AHF

[\[Click\]](#) to Help Our Community Now!



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## HetiVálasz.hu

01/04/11 - **Hungarian Media Law:** In view of all the critical media play, moderate weekly Heti Válasz broadens discussion on Hungarian media law by adding another perspective. **The Hungarian National Media and Infocommunications Authority releases English version of Media Law.** It is available for download. [\[read more\]](#).



**FELHÍVÁS! ALERT!**  
**SUPPORT THE AHF  
DISASTER RELIEF FUND!**

**Environmental Disaster in Hungary!**  
**Governor Pataki Designates AHF as one of three**



**organizations to receive donations for the “Red Sludge” fundraising effort -**

At the request of Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orbán, former New York Governor George Pataki is spearheading



11/7/2010 - **Báthory Award for American Hungarian Federation President Frank Koszorus, Jr.** On the recommendation of the Bolyai Committee

(BKB), the Hungarian National Council of Transylvania (EMNT) bestowed the Bathory Award upon 15 awardees, including Frank Koszorus, Jr., President of the American Hungarian Federation.

[\[read more\]](#)



11/5/2010 - **AHF participates in 9th MÁÉRT** (Magyar

Állandó Értekezlet or Hungarian Permanent Conference) in Budapest. Made up of organizations representing ethnic Hungarians who live outside of the borders of Hungary, MAERT hadn't met in over 6 years due to the lack of support from the former Socialist government. AHF President Frank Koszorus stated "I am especially proud that our Federation publicly and vigorously objected to the termination of the Conference." [\[read more\]](#)



10/25/2010 - **AHF participates in the fifth Hungarian-Americans Together (HATOG) conference**, held in Chicago, October 9-10,

2010. Thirty-five Hungarian-American leaders of 22 organizations from eight states participated. The Conference aims to build a network of communication and collaboration among Hungarian organizations in the United States and to develop a strategy for saving and strengthening our Hungarian heritage and culture. [\[read more\]](#)



10/23/2010 - **AHF Honors the heroes of the 1956 Hungarian Revolution**, the first tear in the Iron Curtain. Hungarians from all walks of life rose up against

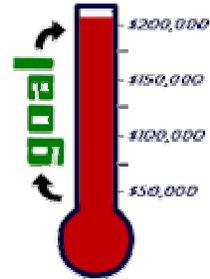
insurmountable odds to fight the brutal Soviet-installed Hungarian communist government. Thousands died fighting, others tortured and

efforts to raise money to assist the victims of the toxic "Red Sludge" disaster in Hungary.

[\[CONTRIBUTE to the Governor's efforts\]](#)



**The 2010 AHF Disaster Relief Fund has raised over \$225,000.00 to help victims of devastating flooding and Toxic Sludge in Hungary!**

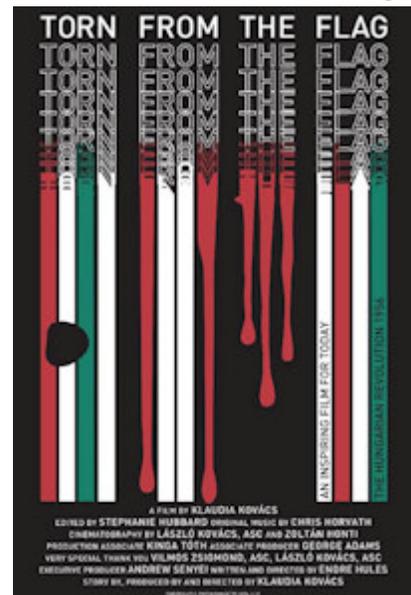


The American Hungarian Federation joined forces with its sister organization in Hungary, the Amerikai Magyar Klub, under its "Amerikaiak a Magyarokért Közhasznú Alapítvány," to raise funds to help families affected by devastating flooding. **Do your part and add your name to the Wall of Honor** [\[Read more and DONATE\]](#)



**Announcements and Upcoming Events**

**We are thrilled to announce the DVD RELEASE of 8-time-award-winning documentary TORN FROM THE FLAG!**



executed, while 200,000 were forced to flee. 2010 marks the 54th Anniversary of the Hungarian Revolution. President Obama issues statement. AHF sponsored a historical display and showed the Walter Cronkite film chronicling those hopeful turned tragic days. AHF Executive Chairman Bryan Dawson gave a presentation on "why Hungary." AHF thanks the HRFA Kossuth House in Washington, D.C. [[read more](#)] about 1956.

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9/23/2010 - **AHF helps plan CEEC Advocacy Day in US Congress, drafts human / minority rights Policy Brief...** The Central and East European Coalition (CEEC) held its Fall

Advocacy Day - an all-day event during which the members visited scores of Congressional offices, including the Senate Foreign Relations Committee (SFRC), to discuss key policy issues relating to Central and Eastern Europe such as human and minority rights concerns relative to Hungarians in the region, U.S. assistance, Russia's influence, NATO and energy security, and visa matters. [[read more](#)]

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8/21/2010 - **AHF supports Hungarian School in tiny Hungarian Village in Slovakia.** The school is located in a little ethnic Hungarian village of under 800 people, Vaján (or

Vojany in Slovak after annexation following the [Treaty of Trianon](#)) in the Kassa District (Kosice) of Slovakia. [[read more](#)]

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**Klaudia Kovacs' multi-award-winning sociopolitical historical documentary is about the international decline of communism and the 1956 Hungarian Revolution. *Torn from the Flag* was the last film of legendary cinematographer László Kovács.** As Klaudia and krew continue their '56 AROUND THE WORLD campaign, the public-use DVD continues to be available for rental in the USA, Canada and now in Australia and New Zealand for educational screenings. (Kindly note that private/personal-use DVDs may not be used for group/public screenings.)

[[Buy or Rent](#)] this historic film, movie posters, post cards, and invite the producer to your event! [[read more](#)]

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**Washington, DC - Wednesday, 2/9, 7:00 pm**

The Ambassador of Hungary requests the pleasure of your



company at a concert celebrating the 200th anniversary of the birth of Hungarian Composer and Pianist Ferenc Liszt by the Hubay Concert Ensemble Embassy of Hungary 2950 Spring of Freedom Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20008 R.S.V.P. by February 4 (202) 362-6730/201 E-mail: [rsvp.was@kum.hu](mailto:rsvp.was@kum.hu)

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**Washington, DC - Sunday, January 23 at 11 am** the Hungarian Reformed Church of Washington, DC will celebrate an ecumenical religious service together with the St. Stephen of Hungary Catholic Community. Chapel of the Wesley Theological Seminary 4500 Massachusettes Ave. NW



8/15/2010 - **AHF donation to the Rákóczi Szövetség (Rakoczi Foundation)** supporting ethnic Hungarian communities in the Carpathian Basin. The donation was targeted at providing scholarships and other support to students and

families in Slovakia. Anti-Hungarian practices in Slovak state school registration and the Slovak Language Law forbidding the use of Hungarian in official business make it difficult for these historic communities to preserve their over 1000-year-old heritage. **Support Us !** [[read more](#)] (includes 2009 Annual Report / Beszámoló (magyarul))



Continuing News: **AHF continues call for support of a 1956 Statue for the Nation's Capital...**AHF's 1956

Commemoration Committee is seeking your help to erect a statue in Washington, D.C. devoted to the heroes of the Hungarian Revolution. The AHF

plan calls for an actual-size statue to be placed prominently in Washington while we raise funds for its bronze replacement. Seen here with his prototype design is renowned sculptor Gyuri Hollosy, who was responsible for the Boston Liberty Square memorial. At the recent Capitol Reception honoring 1848, Congressman Tom Lantos mentioned his intent to place a 1956 memorial in Washington. We must ensure this remarkable design is selected! [[read more](#)]

**AHF Store on**  **amazon.com**

Help AHF by purchasing all your products using the AHF Amazon Store! You pay nothing more and AHF earns a small percentage:

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**ONGOING Washington, D.C. - Péter Bacsó Film Club, Tuesday's, 7pm**

Embassy of Hungary  
2950 Spring of Freedom Street, N.W.,  
Washington, D.C. 20008

Dress code: Casual

For further information:

[www.huembwas.org](http://www.huembwas.org)

R.S.V.P. by (202) 362-6730/201

or email: [rsvp.was@kum.hu](mailto:rsvp.was@kum.hu)

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**Open Call - International Artists in Residencies, Budapest 2011**  
**Deadline: February 6, 2011**

The Hungarian Multicultural Center, Inc. ® (HMC), 501(c)(3), is a Dallas, TX/Budapest, Hungary based non-profit organization. The HMC invites interested visual artists, writers, performers to submit application for its residency program in Budapest, Hungary. [[more](#)]

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**New York, NY - Kreatív Műhelysorozat A Tízezer Lépés Magyar Könyvesbolt szervezésében 2011. januártól kezdve kreatív műhelysorozatot** (vizuális

nevelés, mozgáskultúra, kreatív irodalmi-történelmi foglalkozás, drámapedagógia, stb.) indítunk magyar nyelven különböző korcsoportok számára.

Az év első családi programja:

Kreatív műhely gyerekeknek Bolla Rita képzőművésszel.

Trans Art Area Gallery

545 E. 12th St, NY NY 10009

Időpont: 1:00PM Sunday, January 23rd

Az első alkalommal főképp a vizuális kreativitást érintve készíthetnek a gyerekek (illetve a felnőttek is, ha csatlakozni szeretnének) a karneváli időszakra készülve magyar vonatkozású bábokat (János vitéz, magyar huszárok, stb..) természetes anyagokból változatos ötletekkel. Őrizzük és fejlesszük magyar



Featured member books:



**Kitty Gogins: "My flag Grew Stars" by** [\[Read more\]](#) about the book or purchase the book on



**Lapossy, Susanna (Zsuzsanna):** [Life Behind the Iron Curtain.](#) [\[Read more\]](#) about the book or purchase the book on



**Simon, Paul M:** "The Old lady and the Fawn," the first bilingual edition of "Öreg néne ozikéje" (Hungarian) Order now at [Simpa Books](#)



**Professor Peter Hargitai's [Daughter of the Revolution: A Novel](#)** (2006 - A story of a brave freedom fighter - a 14 year-old girl) [\[read more\]](#)



**Rebecca McEldowney's "Soul of Flesh: A Novel of the 1956 Hungarian Revolution"** [\[read more\]](#)



**Dr. Katalin Kadar Lynn's "Tibor Eckhardt in His Own Words: An Autobiography"** [\[read more\]](#)

**Strength can only be found in unity!** Please join and Support AHF

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Contribute or join online! AHF accepts all major credit cards and checks. AHF is a 501c(3) non-profit

kultúránkat a kreatív önkifejezés segítségével! Kiváló családi program. Ajánlott adomány: \$10/család  
Info: [www.bollarita.com](http://www.bollarita.com)

A gyerekprogrammal parhuzamosan:  
Inspiracios Otthon Klub Talalkozo

Ido: Sunday, January 23 • 1:00pm - 5:00pm  
10 Thousand Steps Hungarian Bookstore  
545 E. 12th St, NY NY 10009

Kötetlen beszélgetés, nyitott szellemiségű kreatív véleménycsere könyvekről, spirituális élményekről, önismeretről, szolidaritásról. A találkozót 11. alkalommal rendezzük meg, folyamatosan bővülő létszámmal. Szeretettel várunk bárkit, aki nyitott szellemiségű magyar baráti kört keres New York-ban és környékén. A találkozóval egyidőben kreatív gyerekfoglalkozást biztosítunk azoknak a családoknak, akik gyermekeiket is szeretnék elhozni a könyvesboltba. A klubban való részvétel ingyenes.

Mikky & Timea Zsedely  
10 Thousand Steps Hungarian Bookstore/Trans Art Area Gallery  
545 E. 12th St, New York, NY 10009  
Call: 646-484-5525  
[info@hunbookstore.com](mailto:info@hunbookstore.com)

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**New Brunswick, NJ - Lakodalom van a mi utcánkban!**  
(There's a wedding on our street!) Come take a trip with The Csúrdöngölő Folk Ensemble on the Hungarian State Railway en



organization. Your donations may be tax deductible. Your information is secure not shared with anyone. If you are uncomfortable or unable to process an Internet transaction, download the [AHF Membership Registration Form](#) and mail it in with your check payable to "American Hungarian Federation." NOTE: If you are sending a donation for a specific fund, please be sure to include that on the form.

[ [> GO to all AHF news](#) ]

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route to an authentic Hungarian village wedding. Artists include the Életfa Folk Band and the Hungarian American Athletic Club Folk Dance Group.

March 19th, 3 & 7:30 pm

Crossroads Theatre

Contact: [csurfolk@gmail.com](mailto:csurfolk@gmail.com)

## Looking Back... AHF History

**WWII and the American Hungarian Relief Program... The American Hungarian Relief Program, under the auspices of the American Federation, collected and sent**



\$1,216,167.00 in clothing, medicine, foodstuffs and money. In all, 200,000 care packages were sent by countless local and national groups. Total estimated costs of the relief program exceeded three million dollars. [\[read more\]](#)

## AHF Members' Corner

### Featured Member



**Kitty Gogins'** maiden name is Kitty Aniko Zoltai. Her parents have always called her 'Kati' or 'Katika'. Since her early childhood, she has been active in the Minnesota Hungarians, especially volunteering at the [Festival of Nations](#), helping with the Christmas party,

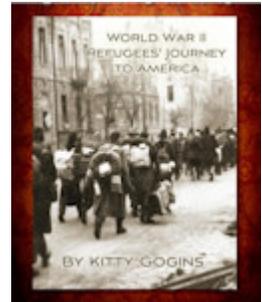
and as a Videki Hungarian dancer. From an early age, she has been fascinated with her parents' journey to become Americans. The longer she worked in leading strategic and cultural change, the more appreciation she felt for their incredible cultural journey. "I feel honored to have had the opportunity to recently publish their story, 'My Flag Grew Stars: World War II Refugees' Journey to America," she said.

[\[read more\]](#)

## Featured Book

AHF features books and articles written by distinguished AHF members. AHF encourages all members to submit scholarly essays, books, and other materials which will be featured on our [Publications](#) page. 1956 Revolution-related materials are also featured on [www.hungary1956.com](http://www.hungary1956.com)

**The current selection is "My flag Grew Stars" by Kitty Gogins - Their Homeland destroyed, teenagers Olga Wagner and Tibor Zoltai**



**independently flee Hungary near the end of World War II, carrying only rucksacks.** The book is about Kitty's parents, who were World War II refugees from Hungary. Based on extensive original documents, interviews and research, the author recreated their story fleeing Hungary, surviving postwar Europe as refugees, immigrating to North America as indentured servants, and embarking on their journey to become Americans. [\[read more & buy it!\]](#)

[amazon.com](http://amazon.com)