

Subject of the class scenario:

## Signs of Our Memory.

**Author:** Martyna Sianko

**Time of performance:** 60 mins

**Participants:** children aged 7 – 12

**Place:** Alfons Karny Museum of Sculpture

**General goal:** strengthening of respect for places and objects commemorating events important to both the society and individuals.

### Specific goals:

#### Cognitive goals

- The participants know who such people as Alfons Karny, Waław Sieroszewski, Artur Rubinstein were.
- The participants know what the Warsaw Uprising was.

#### Training goals

- The participants can name and describe the Polish national symbols.
- The participants can analyze a work of art.

#### Didactic goals

- Formation of patriotic attitudes;
- Strengthening of the sense of responsibility for the common good.

### Methods of work:

- mini-lecture;
- brainstorm;
- talk;
- performance of tasks from the worksheet;
- artistic work.

### Forms of work:

- individual;
- collective.

### Teaching aids:

- blackboard;
- worksheets;
- stationery;
- a jar, a tealight/small candle, paints, paintbrushes, ribbons.

### Course of the class:

1. The educator greets the participants and, introducing the subject of the meeting, quotes the words of Józef Piłsudski: *A nation that loses its memory ceases to be a Nation – it becomes merely a set of people temporarily occupying a given territory.* The educator briefly tells the story of the Alfons Karny Museum of Sculpture. He/she informs the children who Alfons Karny was, why it is Białystok that has a muse-

um devoted to this artist.

2. The educator writes the word *remembrance* on the board. He/she asks the following questions to the participants:
  - Who do we remember?
  - Who should be remembered?
  - What do people do so they would not forget important people or events?
  - What are “places of remembrance”?

The educator writes down the children’s answers on the board.

3. All participants go over to the room known as the Gallery of Portraits of Great Poles. The educator shows the children the most important part of the museum’s exhibition. He/she asks why Alfons Karny sculpted the portraits which can be seen at the room and what his purpose was. Together with the participants, the educator analyzes the selected sculptures by Alfons Karny, bringing up, in particular, the stories of:
  - Jola and Dzidek (the Korzybski siblings, participants of the Warsaw Uprising) – the educator draws attention to the way the artist has depicted these people. He/she asks the children what feelings the presented sculptures have inspired in them and whether the participants know what was Poland like when the children sculpted by Alfons Karny lived;
  - Waław Sieroszewski (a writer exiled to Siberia) – the educator asks the children if they know who the presented person was and what his fortunes were. He/she also asks how the material of the portrait (white marble) references the artist’s biography;
  - Artur Rubinstein and his famous performances during UN sessions – the educator points out the material and technology of performance, the way of depiction of the person, the sculpture’s texture and expression.

4. The educator gives worksheets to the participants.
5. At the end of the meeting, the participants make remembrance lanterns – the children cover a jar with paints, leaving a heart shape unpainted, and then decorate the jar’s thread with a ribbon. They put a small candle or a tealight inside.

**Caution:** a jar with a wider, “bulkier” shape would be best for this task.

If you have an opportunity to visit the Powązki Cemetery in Warsaw, we encourage you to find the grave of Alfons Karny – section 168 in the Alley of Distinguished Poles.

