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**Summary of the PhD thesis titled
"Festivals of Polish Folk Ensembles in Rzeszów in the years 1969-2009".**

This dissertation presents the World Festivals of Polish Folk Ensembles as well as forms of education for choreographic activities for the Polish community in Rzeszów in the years 1969-2009. The dissertation is written on the basis of source materials collected from the Documentary Centre of the Polish Art Movement of the "Wspólnota Polska" Association. The query was also carried out in other archives. Many information is also provided by authorized interviews conducted by the author. In the first chapter of the dissertation, the Rzeszów Branch of the "Wspólnota Polska" Association is described. That activity is a kind of canvas for the events described in the dissertation. It shows the genesis of the association, its main purposes and areas of activity. Charity activities of the "Wspólnota Polska" Association and activities promoting the Polish language and culture were described. The second chapter presents the World Festivals of Polish Folk Ensembles in Rzeszów. The genesis of the festivals, and the most important events of each edition were described. Festival participants were presented, including Polish community groups and people creating the festival. The organizers, committees and festival guests as well as the artistic staff were presented. This chapter also describes the activities undertaken in the organization and the events accompanying festivals, such as groupings, tours and exhibitions. The final part of the chapter presents festival concerts. There were described welcome concerts, gala concerts and concerts presenting the folklore of the countries where Polonia resides. The third chapter contains the characteristics of Polish folklore ensembles. Ensembles from individual parts of Europe, as well as North America, South America and Australia were described there. The fourth chapter presents Festivals of Polish Children Folk Ensembles. The genesis and historical outline of the festival has been described there. Festival venues and participants were presented. It presents ensembles from Europe, Canada and the United States of America. Organizational activities and difficulties faced by the festival's creators were also presented there. The last chapter presents the forms of choreographic education for the Polish community. The first part of the chapter describes the history of the Study of Polish Dances and its idea. Ensembles participating in this form of education and teaching staff were presented. It also presents the difficulties and needs of the participants of Polish Dance School for Polonia Ensembles. The second part of the chapter shows the genesis of a 4-year Polonia Choreographic Study. It presents the history, participants, organization and teaching activities.