

## Music of the Highlanders of Podhale

The parish regional group "Giewont" was founded in 1981 by the then parish priest of the Olcza, Our Lady Revealing the Miraculous Medal - priest Jan Kowalik. It was the first "parish" group in Podhale during the communist era. With its singing and music they enriched the liturgies of the Holy Mass. and supported the construction of the church on Olcza. Its repertoire included several artistic programs with which they performed on numerous domestic and foreign trips. An important event in the history of the group was a performance in the Vatican for Pope John Paul II. Since 2011, the group is directed by Tomasz Galica, Maria Frączysta and Katarzyna Stachoń Groblowy.

The group has performed national and internationally, as well as several issued CDs on regional and Christmas themes. In the years 2000, 2015, 2016 and 2018, the group hosted the International Festival of Highland Folklore in Zakopane. They have won prizes at numerous competitions and reviews, as well as awards for highlander dance and singing. In 2016, the group won the bronze axe at the Highlander Carnival in Bukowina Tatrzańska, and in 2017 it won the silver axe in the category of traditional groups at the 49th International Festival of Highland Folklore in Zakopane. Next to "Giewont", there is "Mały Giewont", in which about 50 children dance and sing. Since 2014, the group has been cooperating with the City of Zakopane Office, representing the city both nationally and internationally.

The main task of the group is to promote the tradition and culture of the Podhale Region.

Fragments of compositions can be listened to in the bench:

- Songs: Górole, Górole and Dyć se Zokopane
- Hey, Giewont, Giewont
- Highlander music

The text is read by Andrzej Bienias - Actor of the St. I. Witkiewicz Theatre

Bench project: sculptor Marek Szala

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"Development of cultural institutions and access to cultural heritage. "

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