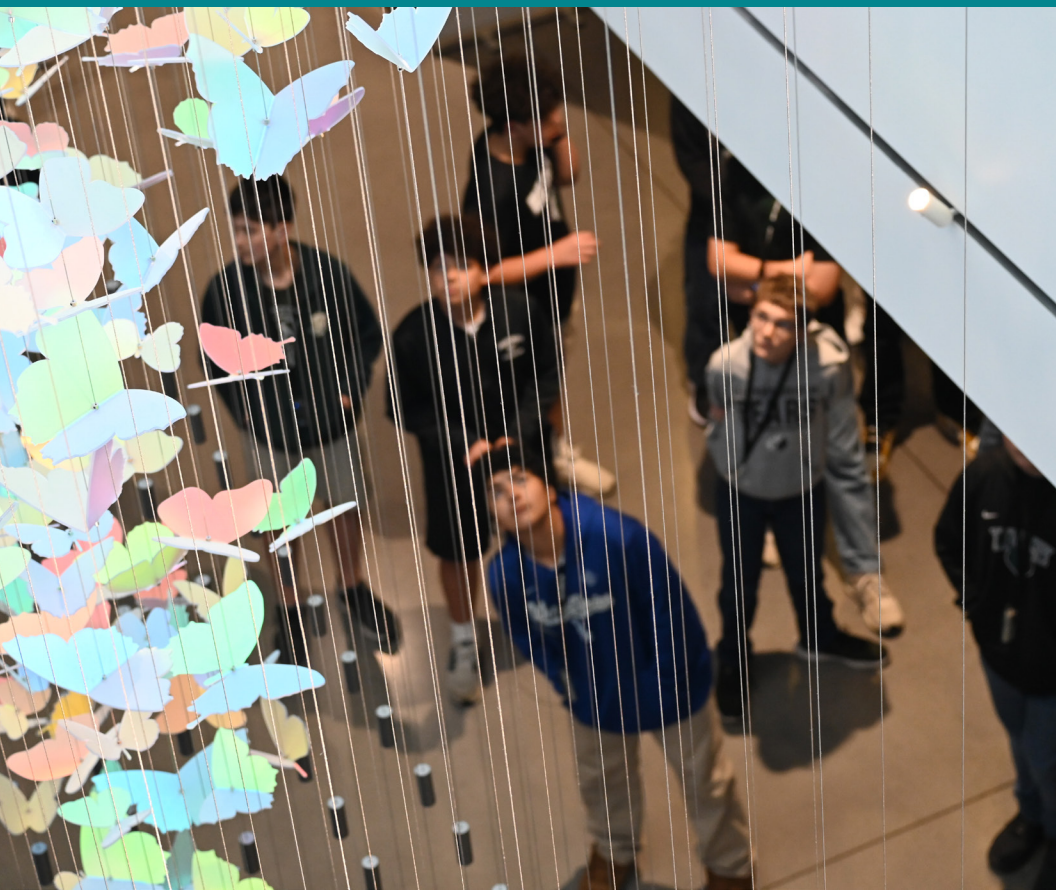
# FIELD TRIP GUIDE

## GRADES 6-12

HOLOCAUST MUSEUM HOUSTON



# WELCOME

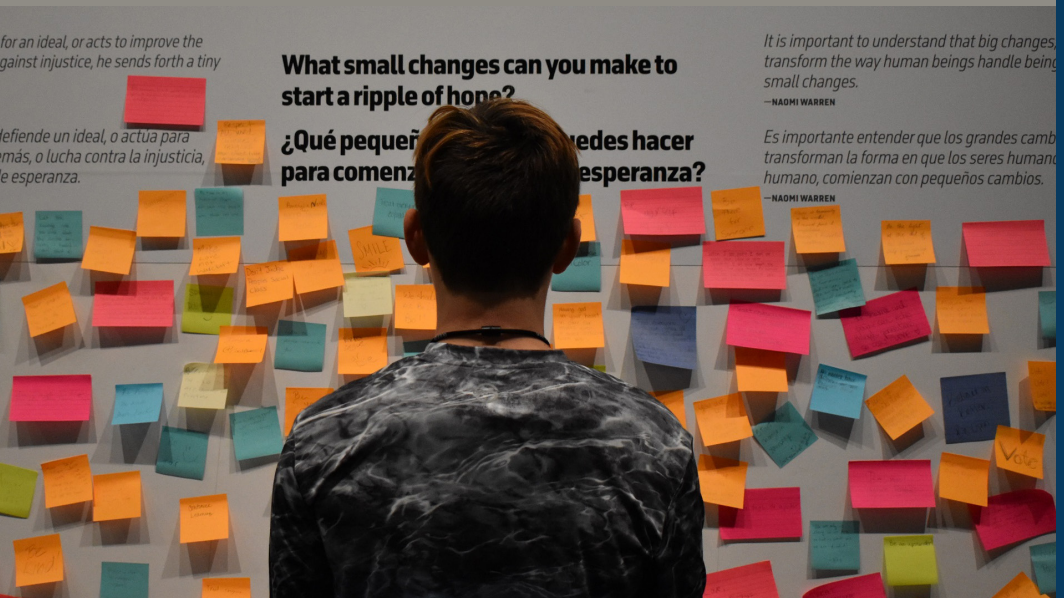
## THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST IN HOLOCAUST MUSEUM HOUSTON.

Holocaust Museum Houston educates the public about the Holocaust, preserves and defends the memory of the six million Jews and millions of other victims, and honors the legacy and voices of Holocaust survivors. Drawing upon the lessons of history, we challenge antisemitism, hatred and indifference while promoting individual responsibility, moral courage, and respect for human rights.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Group Tours Manager

713.527.1649 I tours@hmh.org




## PREPARING YOUR STUDENTS FOR A VISIT

This guide has been thoughtfully crafted to help you and your students prepare for an enriching visit. Our goal is to challenge and engage students, encouraging them to critically respond to the information they encounter during their tour. We aim to spark meaningful conversations around the objects they observe, survivor narratives they hear, and the experiences they participate in. By the end of their visit, we hope students will not only leave with a deeper understanding of history and social issues but also be inspired to take action as "upstanders" individuals who translate empathy into direct support, actively intervening when they witness someone facing bullying, harassment, or mistreatment.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Step 1: Learn More About Our Galleries and Exhibits 1

Step 2: Choose the Type of Tour You Would Like Your Students to Experience 1

- Remember. Reflect. Respond., Docent-Led Tour 1
  - ART, MEMORY AND MEANING 2
  - GENERATION TO GENERATION 2
  - VOICES OF THE HOLOCAUST 2
  - CHOOSE YOUR OWN PATH 2
- Self-Guided Tours 3
- Holocaust Survivors & Descendants Speaking Engagements 3

Step 3: Understand Field Trip Guidelines and Fees 4

- Admission Fees 5

Step 4: Submit Your Request 5

Step 5: Pre-Visit Checklist 6

GALLERY GUIDE 7-8

# STEP 1:
## LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR GALLERIES AND EXHIBITS

**Information about our galleries may be found in the Gallery Guide on pages 7-8 and online at https://hmh.org/exhibitions/**

# STEP 2:
## CHOOSE THE TYPE OF TOUR YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR STUDENTS TO EXPERIENCE

### REMEMBER. REFLECT. RESPOND. DOCENT-LED TOUR

**The curriculum of this tour is designed for grades 6-12.**

Holocaust Museum Houston is honored to offer a variety of engaging field trip programs designed specifically for school and youth groups. A visit to the Museum is more than a field trip; it is an educational journey that empowers young people to become active participants in shaping a more just and compassionate world. We offer three pre-designed tour options, as well as a customizable option that allows you to tailor the experience to your group's specific interests and learning objectives.

Through our highly recommended docent-guided tours, students go beyond the facts of history to explore the lived experiences of Holocaust survivors, including those from the Houston community. Docents draw on their rigorous training in Holocaust education and ongoing continuing education to help students connect with the human experiences behind the history, while encouraging them to ask questions, think critically, and make meaningful connections between the past and the world around them.

As students move through the Museum with their docent, they engage with firsthand accounts, powerful artifacts, and thought-provoking works of art that invite them to explore complex ideas, emotions, and choices. These guided conversations deepen students' understanding of the Holocaust while encouraging empathy, reflection, and a greater sense of responsibility to one another.



## ART, MEMORY AND MEANING

**TIME: 2 HRS**

TOUR INCLUDES:

- **Bearing Witness: A Community Remembers Holocaust Gallery**
- **Samuel Bak Art Gallery**

## GENERATION TO GENERATION

**TIME: 2 HRS**

TOUR INCLUDES:

- **Bearing Witness: A Community Remembers Holocaust Gallery**
- **Descendant Speaking Engagement**

## VOICES OF THE HOLOCAUST

**TIME: 2.5 HRS**

TOUR INCLUDES:

- **Bearing Witness: A Community Remembers Holocaust Gallery**
- **Memorial Room**
- **Voices (*film of Houston Survivors video testimonials*)**

## CHOOSE YOUR OWN PATH

*(maximum of 2 choices in addition to Bearing Witness: A Community Remembers Holocaust Gallery)*

**TIME: 2 - 2.5 HRS**

TOUR INCLUDES:

- **Memorial Room**
- **Samuel Bak Art Gallery**
- **Voices (*film of Houston Survivors video testimonials*)**
- **The Butterfly Loft**
- **Descendant Speaking Engagement**

**PLEASE NOTE:** The size of your group and/or time constraints may modify your choice of galleries.

## SELF-GUIDED TOURS

Self-guided tours at Holocaust Museum Houston offer the flexibility to explore the Museum's exhibits at your own pace. To ensure a meaningful and organized visit, the Museum provides comprehensive resources that help groups navigate the galleries and maximize their educational experience. To maintain an optimal learning environment, self-guided groups are limited to a maximum of 135 participants, including students, teachers, and chaperones. We require at least one adult chaperone for every ten students to help guide the experience and maintain a focused visit.

While exploring the Museum, your group may have the opportunity to engage with docents stationed throughout the galleries. These knowledgeable individuals are available to answer questions and provide additional context to complex topics.

Depending on group size and equipment supply, audio tour devices are available for an additional $4 for adults and complimentary for students.

## HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS & DESCENDANTS SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS



Holocaust Survivors and their descendants are available to speak with your students in person. For survivors of the Holocaust, sharing their testimony is more than a recounting of past events; it is a testament to their resilience, courage, and determination to ensure that the horrors of the Holocaust are never forgotten and the hope that future generations learn from history. The Descendants of Holocaust survivors transform their family's legacies into a profound educational experience, honoring the past while inspiring hope for a more compassionate future.

Speaking engagements will typically add 1 hour to your visit. Please understand that **speaker requests are not guaranteed and are subject to change even after confirmation.** The Group Tours Manager will reach out to you to arrange the speaking engagement and make any necessary adjustments to your schedule.



# STEP 3:
## UNDERSTAND FIELD TRIP GUIDELINES & FEES

» Tours require a minimum of ten participants, with a maximum of 100 for docent-led tours and l35 for self-guided tours.

» Museum policy requires adult to student ratios of 1:20 for docent-guided tours and 1:10 for selfguided tours. ALL adults must act as chaperones.

» Tours are offered Tuesday-Friday, from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day. Tours are not available during times of free admission or holidays.

**TIME SPENT ON CAMPUS:**

- » Docent-Guided Tours: 2.5 - 3 hours
- » Self-Guided Tours: minimum of 2 hours
- » Speaking engagements, visits to the museum store, lunch periods, and self-guiding through exhibits after your tour will add time to your expected visit length.

» Tour requests must be received at least three weeks in advance of your earliest preferred tour date.

» The Group Tours Manager will contact you within 7 business days to discuss details for your group. Tours are considered booked only after you have received written confirmation from the Museum.

» **PLEASE REMEMBER:** Docents are volunteers with the Museum; therefore, their availability is subject to change.

**LUNCH**

» Lunch arrangements should be requested in the tour request form and confirmed with the Group Tours Manager.

» School groups may bring their own food or order catering from our Bagel Shop to enjoy in the outdoor Eric Alexander Garden of Hope & Amphitheater, weather permitting.

» Lunches cannot be stored onsite and must remain in vehicles during the tour; buses must return to driveway to unload lunches, which are subject to security inspection.

**ADMISSION FEES**

To make the Museum accessible to as many students as possible and in honor of our Survivors' wishes, HMH offers generous complimentary admission for student groups and required chaperones. Applicable rates are reflected below.

| | |
|---|---|
| **STUDENTS**<br>18 and younger and college students | **FREE** |
| **REQUIRED ADULTS**<br>1:20 ratio for docent-guided tours;<br>1:10 ratio for self-guided tours | **FREE** |
| **ADULTS**<br>over the required ratio | **$22 each,**<br>**$16 for seniors/ AARP members/military members** |
| **MEDICAL/BEHAVIORAL AIDES** | **FREE** |
| **BUS DRIVERS** | **FREE** |

ASK ABOUT OUR TRANSPORTATION REIMBURSEMENT GRANTS

**All adults included in the reservation must serve as chaperones at all times by supervising students and remaining with their assigned group.**

# STEP 4:
## SUBMIT YOUR REQUEST

» Choose three potential field trip dates and determine your arrival and departure times

» Estimate total number of participants

» Provide a detailed description of your students' familiarity with the Holocaust, including relevant media, literature, and classroom lessons they have encountered, as well as their learning objectives for the visit.

» Consider accommodations needed for your group - lunch spaces, medical or disability needs, Spanish language tours, etc

# STEP 5:
## PRE-VISIT CHECKLIST

» **PAPERWORK** Complete necessary school paperwork and transportation coordination. Confirm with your administration that the field trip has been approved prior to your visit.

» **REVIEW CONFIRMATION DETAILS & GUIDELINES** The Museum should be notified of any changes to the details included in the tour confirmation email. Read the confirmation guidelines and share with all other adults participating in the tour. Share necessary unloading and parking information with drivers.

» **INTRODUCE THE MUSEUM** Speak with your students about what to expect on this visit; the Museum is a memorial space as well as an educational institution. Graphic material is displayed with care and can be avoided, but the topics and stories shared can be emotionally heavy.

If possible, reserve time for students to watch the USHHRM video linked in the confirmation email.

» **SMALL GROUPS** Divide your students as directed in confirmation email before arrival.

» **CHAPERONES** Make sure to have at least one adult chaperone for each group of twenty students for docent-led tours and one for each group of ten students for a self-guided tour.

» **VISITOR SAFETY** Upon entry, all visitors must pass through metal detectors and have all their belongings scanned and searched. No weapons or hazardous materials are allowed.

» **SECURITY** All guests must remove keys and electronics from their pockets, place their bags into bins for inspection, and pass through a scanner device. Chaperones are permitted to carry bags and backpacks; students must leave their belongings on their bus.

» **ACCESSIBILITY** As part of the Museum's ongoing efforts to be more accessible for all, we are excited to offer support for visitors with disabilities and their caregivers. Please communicate with the Group Tours Coordinator should you need accommodation.

For more accessibility information, visit our website at https://hmh.org/visit/accessibility.

» **LUNCH** No food or drink is allowed inside the Museum exhibits or theatre, lunch arrangement should be discussed with Group Tour Manager prior to arrival.

» **MUSEUM STORE** Students may purchase books, souvenirs, and gift items in groups of ten at a time with a chaperone after the tour is complete.

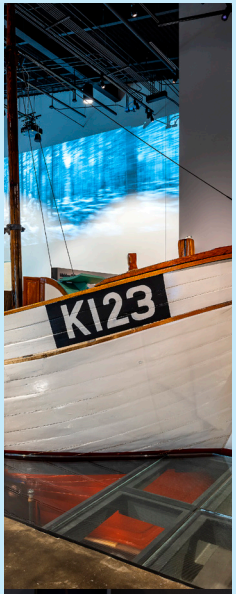
# GALLERY GUIDE

## FIRST FLOOR GALLERIES



### MORGAN FAMILY WELCOME CENTER

Begin your visit in the Morgan Family Welcome Center, where a brief video describes life for European Jews before the Holocaust and includes accounts from our Houston survivors.




### HOLOCAUST GALLERY
***BEARING WITNESS:***
***A COMMUNITY REMEMBERS***

This is the focus of Holocaust Museum Houston, offering context to the rise of Nazism and following the escalation of genocide. The exhibit educates visitors about Jewish and non-Jewish resistance efforts as well as displaced persons camps and life after the Holocaust. The material is personalized with testimony of Holocaust Survivors who later settled in the Houston area and features artifacts donated by the Survivors, their descendants, liberators, and other collectors. This space was enhanced by bringing two of the Museum's most important artifacts, the World War II-era railcar and the 1940's Danish rescue boat, into the Museum facility.



***USC Shoah Foundation's Dimensions in Testimony (DIT),*** featuring Houston-area Holocaust survivor William J. "Bill" Morgan, allows visitors to have "virtual conversations" with Holocaust survivors. By asking his pre-recorded image questions, students can interview a member of their community and be led by their own sense of curiosity and investigation.



### MEMORIAL ROOM, GIFT OF THE LACK FAMILY

The Memorial Room is a place for meditation and contemplation, where the names of family members and friends lost during the Holocaust and since its conclusion are honored. Artwork and memorials frame the space: the "Wall of Tears" installation and paired pieces "Remembrance" and "Hope;" tributes to family and community members affected by the Holocaust; and ashes from concentration camps and the Babi Var massacre site.

## SECOND FLOOR GALLERIES

### HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS' WALL

Placed in the center of our Moral Choices Hall, the Survivors' Wall includes the names of nearly 1,000 Holocaust survivors who made Houston their home after the war. Many of these survivors helped build the Museum and several are still active in HMH community.



### ALBERT AND ETHEL HERZSTEIN THEATER

Playing continously throughout the day, Voices I & II features the video testimonials of many Houston Survivors. Though some accounts are tragic and difficult to hear, this is one of the most impactful resources we offer students, particularly as Survivor voices dwindle.



### SAMUEL BAK GALLERY AND LEARNING CENTER
***In Loving Memory of Hope Silber Kaplan***

Inspired by his experiences as a child during the Holocaust, the Samuel Bak Gallery displays the exceptional work of the artist and exemplifies the power of creative expression to tell one's story.






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