



# HMV BEARING WITNESS

HOLOCAUST MUSEUM HOUSTON

WINTER 2014, NO. 2



## Teaching the Dangers of Hatred, Prejudice and Apathy

Education Department Has a Busy Season.

**"Birthrights" Opens**

**School Trips Get Funding**

**Gratitude Report**



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Holocaust Museum Houston is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums and is a member of the Houston Museum District Association.

**MMH Bearing Witness** is the official newsletter of Holocaust Museum Houston.

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Comments and suggestions are welcome and should be submitted to *MMH Bearing Witness* to news@hmm.org.

**Press Requests** news@hmm.org

## FROM THE CHAIR

### EXPANSION WILL PRESERVE THE SURVIVORS' LEGACY

## Board Approves Bold New Plan



I am so honored to serve as Board Chair of Holocaust Museum Houston because we are engaged in such exciting things. I look forward, several times each week, to opening emails about our programs and our accomplishments, of which there are many to be proud.

But the emails that I open with regret from HMH are the notices of the passing away of yet another of our dear Holocaust Survivors, the precious jewels of our Museum. Let us not forget that in 1981, long before we had our building, Siegi Isaakson, z"l, started the Houston Council of Jewish Holocaust Survivors that took to the streets to teach the lessons of the Holocaust to schoolchildren across our entire community. Those Survivors are the reason our Museum exists today. The personal touch of a Survivor who tells his or her story is the most impactful moment in anyone's experience of our Museum. We are now down to only 10 Holocaust Survivors who can visit the schools and reach out to our community.

In that light, our Museum's Board in October took a bold step to preserve the Survivors' legacy and their stories. In a historic and unanimous vote, our Trustees approved a long-anticipated expansion of our facility, with a campaign designed to fundraise not only for the capital improvements but for an endowment that will support and operate the expanded facility for perpetuity.

The premise of this expansion is to create an engaging collection of Museum experiences that will take up where our Survivors leave off. These new

experiences will encompass exhibits that will start where the history lesson of our Permanent Exhibition has stopped. They will engage young and old through new technologies and more engaging displays that encourage interaction. They will tell of the successes of our Survivors after the Holocaust. They will tell the inspirational story of Anne Frank to all of the middle-schoolers who read her diary in their classes. They will bring to light the moral choices we all must make. They will show us where and when atrocities continue to occur around the world, that demand that we learn from the Holocaust to avert other genocides. They will highlight our two most precious artifacts – the German railcar, a "vessel of death," and the Danish rescue boat, "our vessel of life.

Our new experiences will include a major collection of paintings by Holocaust Survivor Samuel Bak that will be used as an educational curriculum that will inspire our visitors with messages of hope through art. We will offer more classroom spaces that will allow our educators to convene their students to study the dangers of hatred, prejudice and apathy. And when our visitors complete these experiences, we will offer a hall of reflection — a place for members of all faiths to process what we have shown them.

We are beginning the silent phase of our expansion campaign, and I hope that each of you will join me in taking this exciting step for our next 20 years at Holocaust Museum Houston, stopping hate, starting now.




HOUSTONMUSEUMDISTRICT



Holocaust Museum Houston is proud to have been selected to host the 2015 conference of the World Federation of Jewish Child Survivors of the Holocaust and Descendants.

About 350 participants are expected, consisting of child survivors and members of the 2nd and 3rd Generations. The event is scheduled for Oct. 9 through Oct. 12, 2015, at the Westin Galleria Hotel, 5060 W. Alabama.

Chairing the 2015 conference will be Houston Child Survivor Chaja Verveer along with Second Generation members Judy Mucasey and Sandy Lessig.

The annual event allows child survivors and their families an opportunity to reunite, learn about dealing with their history and experience the comfort of visiting with successive generations. **More information will be available on the Museum web site in January 2015.**

## INSIDE



Founding Chair Martin Fein rejoined Sandra Weiner, who was instrumental in the Museum's creation, for the launch of the Generation 2 Generation Legacy Society in March.

## Education Director Discusses “What’s Next” in Holocaust Education 04

Dr. Mary Lee Webeck says educators must be energetic, inspired and creative as they envision the future.

## New Exhibit Opens 06

In “Birthrights Left Behind,” printmaker Pauline Jakobsberg poses the question: “Is it possible to shape the future through memories of the past?”

## Mincbergs Honored as Guardians of the Human Spirit 09

Two Holocaust survivors who helped found Holocaust Museum Houston and who devoted much of their adult lives to other charities have been named Houston's 2014 “Guardians of the Human Spirit” in recognition of their contributions to the quality of life in Houston.



## On the Cover

Participants in the Spector/Warren Fellowship joined Holocaust Survivor Naomi Warren in January 2014 during the Spector/Warren Fellowship to display a beaded heart they created for one speaker who was ill but presented anyway.

## HMH to Host World Child Survivor Conference





**DR. MARY LEE WEBECK**  
DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

## This I Believe

From 1951 to 1955, Edward R. Murrow hosted "This I Believe," a daily radio program that reached 39 million listeners. On this broadcast, Americans — both well known and unknown — shared insights about individual values that shaped their daily actions. They read five-minute essays about their personal philosophies of life.

Now, at a time when the Museum celebrates its 18th anniversary and looks toward its future, I have been thinking about the role of the Education Department in envisioning "what next." My thoughts in this column are inspired by the "This I Believe" program. About the work of Holocaust Museum Houston's educational mission; this, I believe.

As is stated in HMH's Interpretive Plan written in 2011, I believe that Holocaust Museum Houston is a space of difference, a place where history and memory are mined and interwoven. The Museum's physical presence and the capacity of its employees and volunteers invite visitors into a relationship, finding ways to open doors of possibility that provide entry points into a dialogue with a difficult past — and a conversation with the present — and the future.

As stated in HMH's 2014-2017 Strategic Plan, we at the Museum hold education as a core value. Therefore, the Museum must consider the best ways in which to introduce visitors to the painful, personal and troubled history of the Holocaust and other genocides, recognizing the

complexity of such history and the importance of developing a rich context in which to explore its events, people, decisions, actions and consequences. The promise of "never again" must have meaning.

The educational experiences constructed at HMH matter. They matter every day, and our job is to ever strive to create experiences and encounters with our visitors that are sincere, authentic, relevant and meaningful.

Whatever we teach at HMH must connect to the Holocaust, for this history is the framework upon which we exist. Over the last 18 years, the Museum has been empowered as we have connected people of different ages and attitudes to learning that is based in the history and experiences of the Holocaust, learning that honors those who perished and those who survived. We must be respectful and reverent of our history, and we must address our future with moral authority, intellectual rigor and curiosity. We must be energetic, inspired by what we believe in and we must be creative. As we envision our future, which I believe is bright, this will continue to be the case.

## Goodbye Kisses

The 2014 Spector/Warren Fellows, speakers and staff joined Houston survivors who spoke to the group in practicing a Fellowship tradition, blowing a kiss goodbye to Naomi Warren at the conclusion of the four-day educator training event.



Participants in this year's Spector/Warren Fellowship honored several Houston-area survivors of the Holocaust during their week-long study trip in Houston.

## DON'T MISS

### "Impacts of Racist Ideologies: The Holocaust and Japanese-American Internment"

Friday, Feb. 20, 2015, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

How do the histories of the Holocaust and Japanese-American internment intersect? During this one-day workshop in conjunction with "The Art of Gaman" exhibition, educators can learn how fear, enmity, prejudice and apathy worked together to harm civil societies in Nazi Germany and the United States. Working with colleagues from Houston's Japanese American Citizens League, workshop participants will study how legal frameworks were implemented to remove identified "others" from society and restrict their movements to gain power — and in the case of the Holocaust, murder — over the identified people. The registration deadline is Feb. 18, 2015.

### "Implementing 'All Behaviors Count' in School Settings"

Friday, March 27, 2015, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Join Holocaust Museum Houston's education team for a one-day workshop to learn about utilizing the Museum's "All Behaviors Count" program in the classroom. "All Behaviors Count" is a free modular program that examines the five forms of social cruelty: taunting, rumoring, exclusion, ganging up and bullying. This program is highly recommended for districts working to meet state guidelines regarding stopping bullying in all grade levels (K-12). The registration deadline is March 23, 2015.

### "Genocide in the News"

Friday, April 10, 2015, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

What is genocide? This term is used in headlines all over the world, but what does it mean? And what can be done to stop it? This workshop will examine the development of the controversial definition of genocide and look at current genocides in the world. Using primary source materials and film segments, participants will be prepared to make pedagogical choices as they implement studies related to genocide. This program will meet the TEKS requirements for Social Studies (particularly world history) and English/Language Arts teachers in grades three through 12. Art and music educators who wish to incorporate these histories in their studies also may wish to consider attending. This workshop has been approved by the Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented for six hours in Creativity and Instructional Strategies.

*The fee for each is program is \$20 per person, which includes workshop materials but not lunch. To register for any event or for information on continuing education credits, visit <http://www.hmh.org/registerevent.aspx>*

## Endowment Fund Created



Holocaust Survivor and HMH Trustee Anna Steinberger has established the Anna and Emil Steinberger Scholarship for Teacher Education Endowment Fund at HMH. The annual income distributed from this endowment will be used to provide support scholarships for current classroom teachers to attend educational programs sponsored by Holocaust Museum Houston and others.

"My adult life was dedicated to education in one form or another," she said. "After retiring from 35 years of teaching medical students and other health professionals, I decided to devote much of my time to educating HMH visitors that hate and bigotry often lead to disasters like the Holocaust and other genocides, and that we must learn to live in peace, with mutual respect and understanding."

## Leibman Fellows Named



Julia Leibman, granddaughter of Richard Leibman visited the Museum to meet the summer 2013 and summer 2014 Leibman Fellows. Julia gave a portion of her *Bat Mitzvah* money to support the Henia Leibman Endowment Fund established in her grandmother's name to send teachers to Israel each summer for teacher training.

This year's Fellows, Jaime Acosta and Michelle Tovar, were part of the International Seminars for Educators at The International School for Holocaust Studies at Yad Vashem.

## Two New Programs Fund Field Trips for Title 1 Schools



Two new programs have been established to help schools with high numbers or high percentages of children from low-income families visit Holocaust Museum Houston this year.

There are hundreds of Title I schools in the greater Houston metropolitan area, schools with more than 40 percent of the student body deemed low-income by federal standards.

Under one program, The Fred and Mabel R. Parks Foundation Field Trip and Family Access Program is providing funds for field trip transportation reimbursements to Title 1 schools and Family Ticket packs that will allow students to return to visit the Museum with their families and siblings at no cost over the next year. A second similar program providing bus transportation reimbursement has been funded by Joan and Marvin Kaplan.

"Due to the lack of funding, the students that might benefit from our programs most are often the students that have no resources to visit," said Museum Executive Director Dr. Kelly J. Zúñiga. "We believe these programs will contribute to the development of students into civilized young men and women who possess more knowledge about art and culture, have stronger critical-thinking skills, exhibit increased historical empathy and display higher levels of tolerance."





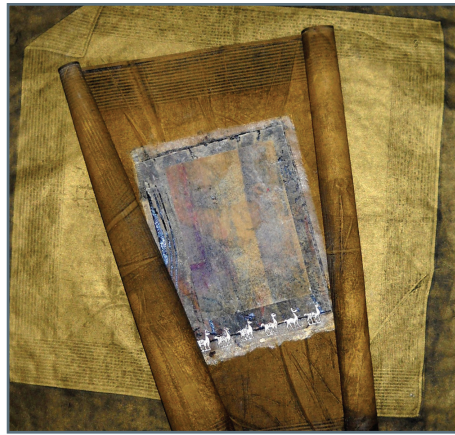
## Ground Zero 360: Never Forget

ON VIEW THROUGH JAN. 11, 2015  
MINCBERG GALLERY

On Sept. 11, 2001, New York City was shaken to its core when two jet airliners crashed into the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center. In the wake of the chaos, New York-based Irish photographer Nicola McClean responded in the only way she knew how: she picked up her camera and took to the streets to try and capture the confusion and panic that surrounded her.

At the same time, a young police captain in New York named Paul McCormack rushed to downtown Manhattan and worked in the rescue and recovery effort at Ground Zero.

During that time, McClean took thousands of photographs near Ground Zero and the surrounding neighborhoods, working to capture the chaos engulfing the city, as well as the work of emergency workers, police officers, firefighters and others. Over the following 10 years, McClean and McCormack worked together to create "Ground Zero 360: Never Forget," a stunning panoramic installation of photographic images, visuals and audio clips that provides a unique insight into the hearts and minds of New Yorkers in the days that followed the attacks.



## Birthrights Left Behind

ON VIEW THROUGH JUNE 14, 2015  
CENTRAL GALLERY

Determined to create a permanent impression with her audiences, Washington, DC-area printmaker Pauline Jakobsberg uses her powerful prints – full of tenderness, caring and humanity balanced with pathos and grief – both as a legacy to her relatives' experiences during the Holocaust and to remind all that the human impulse to remember our past cannot be fulfilled by giving universality to the individual history of specific people.

Inspired by memory drawings, journal sketches, artifacts and family tales told by the Holocaust survivors of her husband's family, Jakobsberg has created art that leaves sweet, yet haunting memories, making her visions a reality. By incorporating images from photographs and other documents into her etched prints, she develops a story, reminding us of our inability to grasp our past completely.

In "Birthrights Left Behind," Jakobsberg poses the question: "Is it possible to shape the future through memories of the past?" "Birthrights" is a selection of Jakobsberg's work consisting of 20 original hand-pulled prints using various printmaking techniques.



## The Art of Gaman

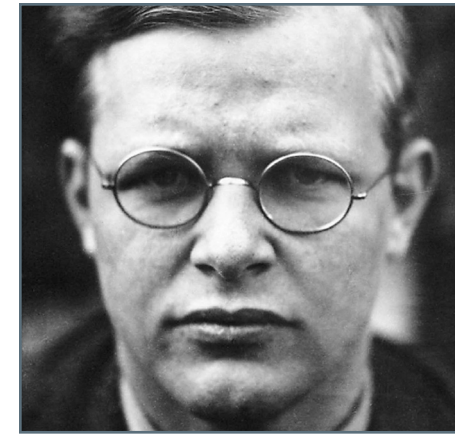
OPENS JAN. 30, 2015  
MINCBERG GALLERY

In 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066, which led to the incarceration of 120,000 Japanese Americans in the United States, including men, women, children, the elderly and the infirm, for the duration of World War II.

The evacuation affected the entire Japanese American population on the U.S. West Coast. Allowed only what they could carry, they were given just a few days to settle their affairs and report to assembly centers. Businesses were lost, personal property was stolen or vandalized and lives were shattered. But yet imprisoned in remote camps guarded by barbed wire and guarded by soldiers with machine guns, the internees sought solace in art.

Their artistic creations – a celebration of the nobility of the human spirit in adversity – are the focus of a new exhibit, "The Art of Gaman," opening Jan. 30, 2015, and on view through Sept. 20, 2015. HMH members are invited to a free preview reception from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 29, 2015. To renew a membership or to join and attend, visit [www.hmh.org](http://www.hmh.org), e-mail [membership@hmh.org](mailto:membership@hmh.org) or call 713-527-1640.

*Photo reprinted from "The Art of Gaman: Arts and Crafts from the Japanese American Internment Camps, 1942-1946" (Ten Speed Press, c. 2005), by Delphine Hirasuna with design by Kit Hinrichs and photography by Terry Heffernan.*



## Winter Bonhoeffer Tours Scheduled

DEC. 6 AND DEC. 15, 2014  
10:30 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M.

MORGAN FAMILY CENTER

Holocaust Museum Houston will offer tours focusing on the life and ministry of the German Lutheran theologian Pastor Dietrich Bonhoeffer Saturdays, Dec. 6 and Dec. 15 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Bonhoeffer's actions against the Nazi Party and his message to the church in the context of the events of the Holocaust will be the focus of tours of the Museum's permanent exhibit, German railcar and Danish fishing boat. Tours include a look at the early influences on Bonhoeffer before the Holocaust, his organization of the Confessing Church to stand with the Jews in reaction to the Aryan clause, his involvement in assassination attempts on Adolf Hitler and his execution at the Flossenbug concentration camp by direct order from Hitler.

Admission is free for HMH members and students, \$12 for nonmember adults, \$8 for seniors and members of the active-duty military. Advance reservation is requested. To register for any tour, visit [www.hmh.org/registerevent.aspx](http://www.hmh.org/registerevent.aspx) to RSVP online. To schedule a separate private group tour for 10 or more in advance, visit the Museum's Web site at [www.hmh.org](http://www.hmh.org) and check the "Plan Your Visit tab."



## "Behind Enemy Lines," with Marthe Cohn

MONDAY, NOV. 17, 2014  
6:00 P.M. TO 8:00 P.M.

ZADOK JEWELERS  
1749 POST OAK BLVD.  
HOUSTON, TX 77056

Marthe Cohn was born in 1920 and grew up in French Lorraine but spoke German fluently. Like many others who experienced the Holocaust firsthand, she and her family found themselves gradually isolated, then singled out for arrest and deportation. A determined young woman whose features the Nazis did not consider "Jewish," Cohn was able to acquire some nurse's training. In 1945, posing as a German nurse, she slipped into enemy territory as an intelligence agent for the French First Army. She went on numerous dangerous missions which she described in her book that she co-wrote with Wendy Holden. Cohn was a remarkable woman, who under extraordinary circumstances became a hero.

At the age of 80, she was awarded France's highest military honor, the Médaille Militaire. At 94, she still loves to travel, meet with students and speak to audiences. Please note: This is a Premier Membership Event by invitation only. For more information, call Member Services at 713-527-1616 or email [membership@hmh.org](mailto:membership@hmh.org).



## "Berlin Calling," with Survivor Ben Wasserman

THURSDAY, DEC. 11, 2014  
6:30 P.M. TO 8:30 P.M.

ALBERT AND ETHEL HERZSTEIN  
THEATER

As a child growing up in suburban Houston, Kastle Wasserman always knew a big, dark cloud hung over her family, but her father never talked about his past. Later in life, she uncovered what happened to him during his childhood in the dark days of Berlin and the Holocaust. The documentary film, "Berlin Calling" follows Kastle on a journey of discovery through five cities – Berlin, Prague, Paris, Los Angeles and Houston.

This amazing true account of one family in the big shadow of history's most harrowing times reveals the emotional impact that is handed down through generations. Kastle is the daughter of Holocaust Survivor Ben Wasserman of Houston. Wasserman was a young teenager in war-torn Berlin. After his father was murdered by the Nazis, and with no papers, he went into hiding before being captured by the Nazis in 1943 and sent to Theresienstadt concentration camp in Czechoslovakia. He will introduce the film and take questions afterward. Tickets are \$5 for HMH members, seniors and students and \$8 for nonmembers, and seating is limited. To RSVP online, visit [www.hmh.org/registerevent.aspx](http://www.hmh.org/registerevent.aspx).



## AROUND HMH



Dean Putterman joined Page Kempner and Jay Courage of the Art Circle at his art-filled home following the exhibit opening of "Ground Zero 360."



HMH now has 17 new docents after 14 sessions of training. Each class member has begun giving their first tours. Graduation will be held on Sunday, Nov. 16, at HMH. Seated in front is Docent Training Subcommittee Chair Kurt Van Gilder. The new docents are (front row, left to right): Nancy Green, Suzi Feickert, Iris Fisherman, Glynda Oliver and Midge Banchik; second row: Emily Hilber, Deborah Webne, Erin, Slosburg, Danielle Vogl, Rhoda Goldberg and Margaret Palco; third row: Jose Gonzalez, Allan Elkowitz, Mike Cahn, Paul Desrosiers, Stewart Cassel and Amy Frake.



Students in Cynthia Carr Longoria's high school class learned about the Holocaust using the Museum's new i-Pad based digital curriculum trunk.

## AFFINITY GROUPS

**Holocaust Museum Houston has several new ways our members can support the Museum while networking and taking advantage of new opportunities to learn more about the Holocaust and the arts and culture environment in Houston.**

In addition to benefits you receive at your membership level, we invite you to join one of the Museum's affinity groups. Each exciting group is comprised of individuals who have chosen an even deeper commitment to Holocaust Museum Houston through social networking, educational programming and service projects.



### Next Generation (ages 21 to 39)

Next Generation is the Museum's young professionals group (ages 21 to 39) dedicated to promoting inclusion among individuals through preserving the lessons of the Holocaust and other genocides and cultivating awareness of these lessons in contemporary society. You can join with just a donation, small or large.



### Art Circle

The Art Circle at Holocaust Museum Houston is a group created to connect members with artists and collectors engaged in social, political and/or human rights issues and to attract new members to join the Museum through this group. Money raised by Art Circle membership supports the art exhibition program at the Museum. You can join the Art Circle as an individual or take advantage of special rates for couples and young professionals.



Dr. Kelly Zúñiga, Museum Executive Director, joined docents Eileen Reed, Sandi Hedrick, Kurt Van Gilder, Sandy Lessig, Hazel Bensky and Suzanne Sutherland, director of visitor and volunteer services at the Museum, for the launch of The Guild.



### The Guild

The Guild serves the mission of the Museum with commitment and to unite members of the Museum community at large, through social, educational and service projects. You join The Guild for just \$25.



### Friends of the Library

The Friends of the Library was created to connect HMH members and the Houston community with the Laurie and Milton Boniuk Resource Center and Library's collection and resources. All funds raised by Friends of the Library will build the collection, increase visibility and expand public access to the collection. You may join the Friends of the Library at the \$100, \$200 or \$500 dollar level.

A Museum membership is required to become a supporter of any affinity group. To join any group, call Member Services at 713-527-1616 or email [membership@hnh.org](mailto:membership@hnh.org).



Tributes from July 1, 2014 through Sept. 30, 2014

Holocaust Museum Houston's Tribute Program lets you honor or memorialize a friend, family member or loved one. Each tribute of \$18 or more provides the opportunity to make a donation to HMH in their honor. It's a meaningful way to support the Museum's mission. Your donation allows us to educate the community about the Holocaust, remember the 6 million Jews and other innocent victims and honor the survivors' legacy. Below are the names of donors who participated in the Tribute Program along with those they chose to recognize. Tributes are listed alphabetically.

IN HONOR OF:

Dorita Aron  
*Leonard and Eileen Weisman*

David P. Bell  
*Leonard and Eileen Weisman*

Peter N. Berkowitz  
*Susan and David Askanase*  
*Julia W. Mazow*

Tali Blumrosen  
*Leonard and Eileen Weisman*

Helen Colin  
*Leonard and Eileen Weisman*

Nancy Freed  
*Leonard and Eileen Weisman*

Martha and Donald Freedman  
*Anonymous*

J. Kent Friedman  
*Susman Family Foundation*

Ilse Goldberg  
*James Getola*  
*Chaja Verveer*

Daniel P. Gordon  
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Charles Guez  
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Walter Hecht  
*Lila Rauch*

Gail D. Klein  
*Leonard and Eileen Weisman*

Gus Kopriva  
*Retired Physicians Organization*

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Velva G. and H. Fred Levine  
*Marc Eichenbaum*

Jo Ann Levine  
*Leonard and Eileen Weisman*

Edith Mincborg  
*Charles N. Hazen*  
*Geraldine and Jay Karkowsky*  
*Beverly and Staman Ogilvie*  
*Abigail Reeves*

Mark Mucasey  
*Leonard and Eileen Weisman*

Pepi J. Nichols  
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*Leonard and Eileen Weisman*

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*Diann C. Resnick*

Rikki Roussos  
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Pauline and Sam Rubin  
*Mr. and Mrs. Brett A. Thompson*

Andrew E. Spector  
*Leonard and Eileen Weisman*

Anna Steinberger  
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*Leonard and Eileen Weisman*

Ellen Trachtenberg  
*Leonard and Eileen Weisman*

Marsha Wallace  
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Benjamin S. Warren  
*Leonard and Eileen Weisman*

Naomi Warren  
*Leonard and Eileen Weisman*

Clinton T. Willour  
*Milton and Gail Klein*

Inna and Scott Wizig  
*Edith and William Orlin*

Zoly Zamir  
*Leonard and Eileen Weisman*

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

Punkin and Walter Hecht  
*Lynn and Joel Brochstein*

Ruth and Larry Steinfeld  
*Leonard and Eileen Weisman*  
*Sheri H. Feldman*  
*Mr. and Mrs. Syd Waldman*

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

Jack Alter  
*Abigail Reeves*

Hazel Bensky  
*Abigail Reeves*  
*Leonard and Eileen Weisman*

Yardena Z. Bobys  
*Abigail Reeves*

Jerome S. Fram  
*Deanna Kantor*

Dawn M. Gillespie  
*Marc Eichenbaum*  
*Leonard and Eileen Weisman*

Walter C. Kase  
*Abigail Reeves*

Edith Mincborg  
*Judy A. Myers*

Eileen Reed  
*Leonard and Eileen Weisman*  
*Fredda and Gary Friedlander*

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*Leonard and Eileen Weisman*

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*Michelle and Sam Amber*  
*Sharon Covan*  
*Tamara Savage*  
*Abigail Reeves*  
*Rosalyn Saron*

Tamara Savage  
*Leonard and Eileen Weisman*  
*Esther Shelby*  
*Fara and Jeffrey Gaitz*

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*Rosine Chappell*  
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*Abigail Reeves*  
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*Jay S. Resh*

Eileen D. Weisman  
*Abigail Reeves*

Zoly Zamir  
*Lynn S. Bliss*  
*Sharon Covan*  
*Abigail Reeves*  
*Leonard and Eileen Weisman*

THANK YOU FOR SPEAKING:

Helen Colin  
*The Crossover Project*

Albert Marks  
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SPEEDY RECOVERY TO:

Helen Colin  
*Leonard and Eileen Weisman*

Michele Dewalt  
*Renée and Henry Bickart*

SPECIAL CONGRATULATIONS:

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*Judy Mucasey*  
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Sandra G. Weiner  
*Judy Mucasey*  
*Kelli and Martin Fein*

Tributes from July 1, 2014 through Sept. 30, 2014 in memory of:

IN MEMORY OF:

Alvin Bernstein  
*Sharon and Ronald Grabois*

Max Binder  
*Victoria and Howard Dyer-Smith*

Becky David  
*Milton and Gail Klein*

Evelyn Feld  
*Sonia and Roy Long*

Zvi Friedman  
*Dr. and Mrs. David Simchowitz*

Miriam Gerger  
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*Martin and Kelli Cohen Fein*  
*Janis and Robert Frank*  
*Lisa Hearn*  
*Mr. and Mrs. Alan Jacobson*  
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*Milton and Gail Klein*  
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*Glen A. Rosenbaum*  
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# GRATITUDE REPORT 2014

HOLOCAUST MUSEUM HOUSTON





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## LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

### Dear HMH Family and Friends,

It is my privilege to share with you the Holocaust Museum Houston 2013-14 Gratitude Report.

This year has been a remarkable year, and my first year serving as Executive Director. Over the past 12 months, we have witnessed impressive growth in Museum outreach activities, programming and fundraising. The 2013 Guardian of the Human Spirit Luncheon and the 2014 Lyndon Baines Johnson Moral Courage Award Dinner both raised record amounts and attracted significant numbers of first-time attendees.

Both "The Wartime Escape" and the "Congressional Gold Medal" exhibits enjoyed tremendous media attention, generating surges in visitor attendance. These exhibitions expanded our partnerships with new Houston-based corporate partners as well as members of the Houston Japanese community.

On April 15, 2014, the Museum initiated an admissions policy which was approved unanimously by the Board of Trustees. Admission is now \$8 for senior citizens and \$12 for adults, and HMH remains free for all students and members. This new revenue stream has enabled the Museum to enhance educational programming for the public.

With expanded and enriched programs, we encourage you to become a member of the Museum so that you may enjoy the exciting new member benefits introduced this year! For as little as \$50, you can join as an Individual Member and receive invitations to all exhibit openings, public programs and a special annual member recognition event.

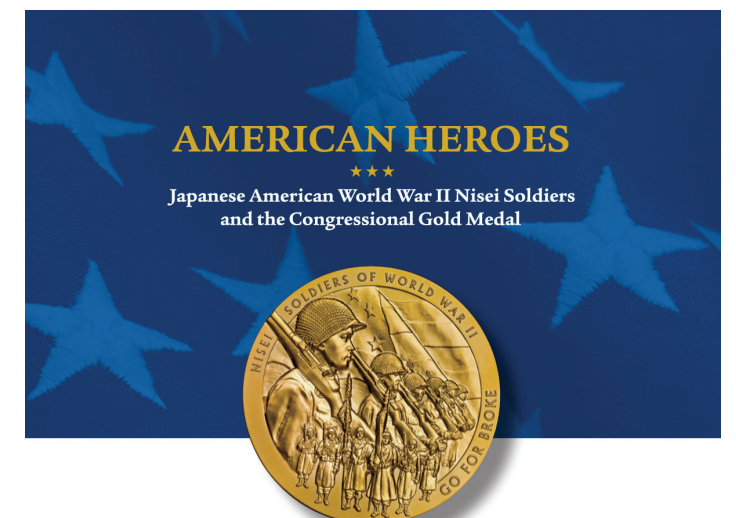
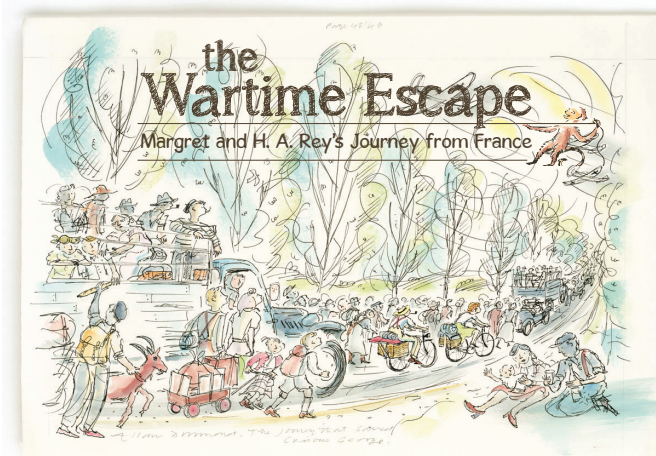
Thank you for helping us keep the memory of those that perished alive and ensure the voices of our survivors will always be heard and their stories preserved. We look forward to seeing you at Holocaust Museum Houston.



*Kelly J. Zuniga*

**KELLY J. ZUNIGA, ED.D., CFRE**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR





## FINANCIAL SUMMARY

	FYE 6-30-14 REVENUE	FYE 6-30-13 REVENUE
Contributions and Donations	\$3,371,416	\$2,873,621
Membership	\$303,362	\$331,334
Admissions, Tours & Program	\$58,871	\$16,883
Gift Store Sales	\$108,539	\$108,076
Rental and Other Income	\$116,261	\$23,724
Investment Return, Net	\$935,384	\$762,301
Total Revenues	\$4,893,833	\$4,115,939

	FYE 6-30-14 EXPENDITURES	FYE 6-30-13 EXPENDITURES
Program Services	\$2,095,411	\$1,268,533
Management and General	\$1,173,638	\$1,779,847
Fundraising	\$844,603	\$484,700
Total Expenditures	\$4,113,652	\$3,533,080
Increase in Net Assets	\$780,181	\$582,859
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	\$13,823,081	\$13,240,222
Net Assets, End of Year	\$14,603,262	\$13,823,081

FOR THE FISCAL YEARS ENDING  
JUNE 30, 2013 AND JUNE 30, 2014

**Established in 1996, Holocaust Museum Houston is exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The Internal Revenue Service has classified the Museum as a Section 509(a)(1) publicly supported charity. Holocaust Museum Houston strives to adhere to the highest standards of financial management, and the result is a healthy balance sheet that allows the Museum to consistently provide for programs and initiatives important to our community.**

**Holocaust Museum Houston is one of only four Houston-area museums to be accredited by the American Alliance of Museums.**

**The financial information on this page was summarized from the Museum's comparative audited financial statements for the fiscal years ending June 20, 2013 and June 30, 2014, which are available upon request and online at [www.hmh.org](http://www.hmh.org).**

## OUTREACH

**3,883** COMMUNITY REACHED THROUGH GENERAL PROGRAMMING

**2,721** COMMUNITY REACHED THROUGH EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING

**1,607** MEMBERSHIPS

**1,422** STUDENTS IN EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

**STUDENTS IMPACTED THROUGH TRAINING 176,000**

**1,760** TEACHERS REACHED THROUGH TRAINING

**825** Research projects supported by library staff

**31** Public programs

**183** Artifacts in the Permanent Exhibition

**6** Changing exhibitions

**4** Traveling exhibitions

**3** Library exhibitions

**540** Library loans

**TOTAL ATTENDANCE 139,611**

**118,009 WALK-IN VISITORS**

**118 DOCENTS**

**78 VOLUNTEERS**

**20,547 STUDENTS ON SCHEDULED TOURS**

**10 ACTIVE HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS FOR SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS**

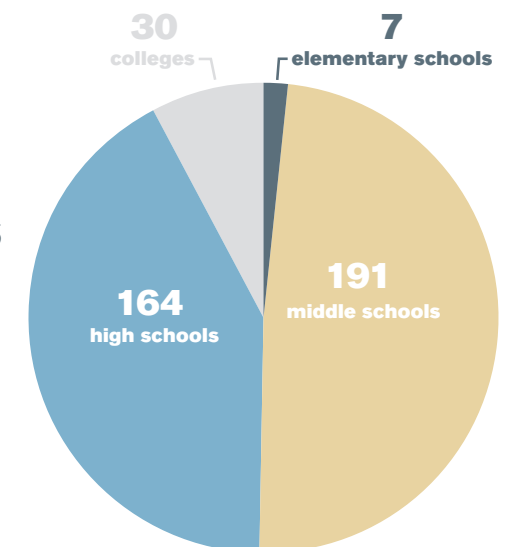
**375,222**  
WEB VISITS

**296,683**  
INDIVIDUAL VISITORS

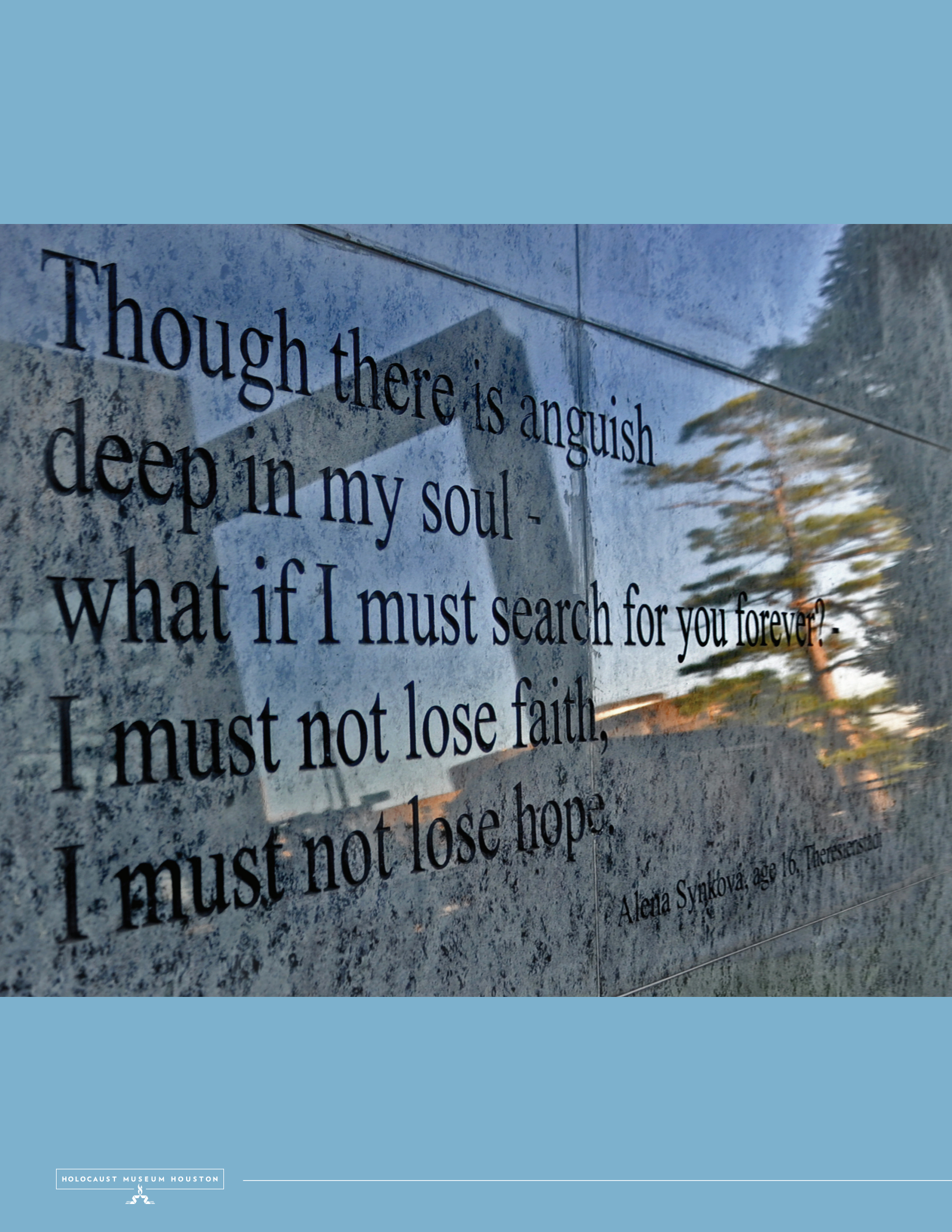
**736,379**  
PAGE VIEWS

**5,800**

SCHOOLS TAKING TOURS







REMEMBRANCE

The Museum must preserve the memory of the victims of the Holocaust and honor the survivors' legacy.

From the cartoon character "Curious George," to stories of Jewish immigrants or the post-war lives of Houston-area survivors and the heroic efforts of Japanese-American veterans, Holocaust Museum Houston used a variety of methods to accomplish that mission.

The Museum was one of only seven museums in the United States to host the Smithsonian Institution's traveling exhibition "American Heroes: Japanese American World War II Nisei Soldiers and the Congressional Gold Medal." The medal was bestowed collectively on the U.S. Army's 100th Infantry Battalion, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and the Military Intelligence Service (MIS) for their extraordinary accomplishments in the war. The men in these units, comprised almost entirely of persons of Japanese ancestry, fought with bravery and valor against America's enemies on the battlefields in Europe and Asia, even while many of their parents and other family members were held in internment camps. The exhibit opening included an appearance by Gen. Eric K. Shenseki, U.S. secretary of veterans affairs; Konrad Ng, director of the Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center; and Christine Sato Yamazaki, chief executive officer of the National Veterans Network.

Other exhibits included:

*"The Rescuers: Picturing Moral Courage"*

*"Life: Survivor Portraits"*

*"Croatian Righteous Among the Nations: A Photographic History"*

*"Uprooted"*

*"Through Soviet Jewish Eyes: Photography, War and the Holocaust"*

*"Denmark, October 1943"*

*"The Wartime Escape: Margret and H.A. Rey's Journey from France"*

To complement the exhibit lineup, the Museum also hosted a variety of public programs featuring speakers such as Holocaust Survivors Ben Wasserman and Helen Colin; Sichan Siv, former ambassador to the United Nations Economic and Social Council; Rwandan genocide survivor Yannick Tona; author Dr. Patrick Henry; artistic director and choreographer Carolyn Dorman; film director Stephen Menick; Chilean-born artist, architect and filmmaker Alfredo Jaar; author and psychologist Dr. Carl Pickhardt; Dr. Alan L. Berger, the Raddock Family Eminent Scholar for Holocaust Studies, the first Holocaust chair established in the state of Florida; and Holocaust historian Dr. Michael Berenbaum.

Each January, the Museum joins with the American Jewish Committee to host International Holocaust Remembrance Day. The 2014 event honored the citizens of Croatia and featured remarks by His Excellency Josip Paro, Croatia ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the United States.

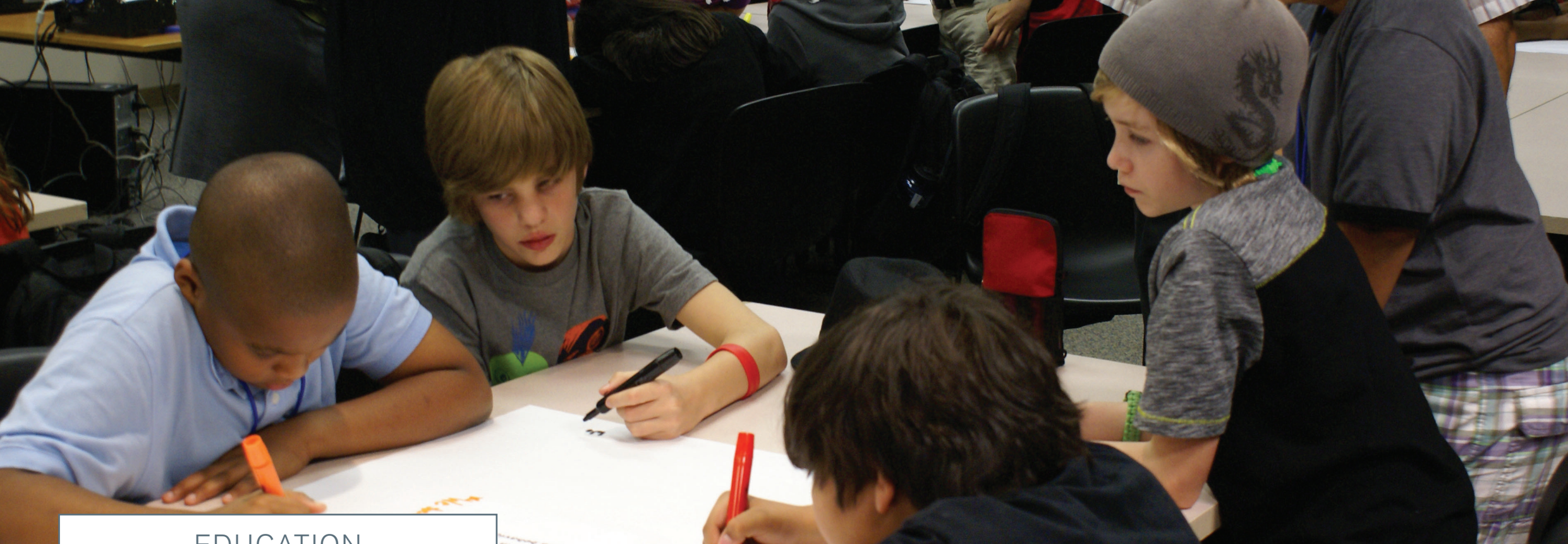


The Museum brings hundreds of Houstonians together to remember the lost families of our local survivors each April during *Yom HaShoah*.

And the Museum's two largest events brought record crowds to help the Museum continue to teach the dangers of hatred, prejudice and apathy. Holocaust Survivor Bill Morgan joined developer Murry Bowden in receiving the Guardian of the Human Spirit Award at the Museum's annual luncheon, which raised almost \$900,000. Survivor Gerda Weissmann Klein received the 2014 Lyndon Baines Johnson Moral Courage award at the Museum's annual dinner, which brought in almost \$1.1 million. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. also received the award posthumously.

**Holocaust Museum Houston is dedicated to educating people about the Holocaust, remembering the 6 million Jews and other innocent victims and honoring the survivors' legacy. Using the lessons of the Holocaust and other genocides, we teach the dangers of hatred, prejudice and apathy.**





## EDUCATION

To fulfill its mission, Holocaust Museum Houston must consider the best ways in which to introduce visitors to the painful, personal and troubled history of the Holocaust and other genocides, while recognizing the complexity of such history and the importance of developing rich context in which to explore its events, people, decisions and actions.

As the Education Department constantly reminds students and teachers alike, the promise of “never again” must have meaning.

To achieve that goal, the department has been busy establishing new relationships, collaborating with community partners, growing the Museum’s landmark programs and teaching about the Museum’s mission.

In just one year, with programming other than the social cruelty program “All Behaviors Count,” the department reached 1,760 educators impacting 176,000 students, and department programs directly impacted 1,422 students. “All Behaviors Count” was used by 276 educators in 18 states. Educators report that ABC was used with 418,098 students. In its third year, 2013–2014, this specialized Web-based curriculum to teach about taunting, bullying, rumoring, ganging up and exclusion from the group and to consider how students can change these behaviors was used in at least 319 presentations in schools, universities and community settings.

Last spring, the Museum worked with community leaders to implement the “All Behaviors Count” social cruelty program in schools and at other local organizations and began planning to continue work this fall with HGOco, Writers in the Schools

and the Anti-Defamation League. The Museum implemented the program in three afterschool programs in middle schools in the Houston Independent School District (HISD). During the summer, the Museum worked with 129 HISD educators in gifted and talented programs. These teachers were introduced to the Museum’s mission and explored the Museum in a variety of ways. The program was presented to 60 educators through Region 4’s Access to General Curriculum Institute.

The Museum also presented the “Better Now Houston Forum” with the Society for the Performing Arts and the Gay Men’s Chorus of Los Angeles in partnership with Legacy Community Health Services, Bayou City Performing Arts and The Montrose Center.

The town hall-style meeting included a panel of experts describing the state of affairs for youth and families and efforts to curb bullying and discrimination in Houston. Panelists included: state Sen. John Whitmire, Dr. Hyman Penn, Deb Murphy of the Montrose Counseling Center, Museum Director of Education Dr. Mary Lee Webeck and Susan Shaw of the Anti-Defamation League.

The Museum’s Education Department staff also presented at a variety of conferences and workshops around the world, including the Association of Holocaust Organizations Annual Conference in St. Petersburg, FL. Department staff also attended Advanced Echoes and Reflections training with 40 colleagues, including Dr. Michael Berenbaum and leaders from Yad Vashem, the Anti-Defamation League and the Shoah Foundation at Richard Stockton College in New Jersey.



## SIGNATURE PROGRAMS

### Warren Fellowship for Future Teachers

Each year, Holocaust Museum Houston brings future educators, college faculty and activists from across the United States to Houston to learn together from significant scholars representing Holocaust institutions around the world. In May 2014, 17 Fellows met for six days of learning, interacted with Holocaust survivors and used the Museum as a space to learn from and explore. Speakers included children’s author Louise Borden; Survivor Stefi Altman; Dr. Mary Johnson, senior historian at Facing History and Ourselves and Leora Kahn, founder and executive director of PROOF: Media for Social Justice, New York, NY.

### Spector/Warren Fellowship for Future Teachers

During January, 20 undergraduate and graduate Syracuse University students from seven states traveled to Houston to participate in a one-of-a-kind program that helps future educators learn how to teach their students about one of history’s darkest times, the Holocaust, and about its relevance to today’s world. The nationally acclaimed fellowship provides intensive training and opportunities to hear from international experts on World War II history, as well as from Houston-area survivors of the Nazi atrocities of the Holocaust.

### Law Enforcement and Society

Working with the Anti-Defamation League and the Houston Police Department, the Museum hosted two Law Enforcement and Society training sessions for area law enforcement personnel. The program examines the role of law enforcement during the years of the Holocaust and officers’ pivotal roles in society today.

### Max M. Kaplan Summer Institute

The Max M. Kaplan Summer Institute is a four-day program that moves beyond the general history of the Holocaust to explore the various dimensions and implications of the Holocaust and other genocides. The institute, held each summer, provides teachers with substantive content and the opportunity to network with internationally known scholars and teachers from around the world. Speakers in 2014 featured Holocaust Survivor Stefi Altman; Dr. Adam Jones, professor of political science at the University of British Columbia Okanagan; and Dr. Ann Millin, historian at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

### i-Pad Digital Curriculum Trunk Program

The Museum’s trademark curriculum trunk program became completely digital this fiscal year. Each trunk contains either a class set of iPad 2s or iPad minis, and are available for free for 30 days. Each digital device has an individual cover and is pre-loaded with an i-Book written by the Museum’s education staff, “Exploring the Holocaust & Genocide,” which is an overview of Holocaust and genocide history, with connections to literature and art. There are also links to appropriate Web sites. During Fiscal Year 2013-2014, 19 teachers used the new digital versions for the first time, impacting 1,054 students.







## PRESERVATION AND ACCESS

To adhere to its mission, Holocaust Museum Houston must protect and conserve the evidence of the world's most well-documented crime, the Holocaust, as well as other genocides. It must strive to collect, care for and make accessible artifacts and eyewitness accounts to ensure that these histories are not lost to future generations.

It is a mission the Museum has worked diligently on this past year, from preserving our Holocaust-era Danish rescue boat to protecting the oral testimonies of almost 300 Houston-area survivors of the Holocaust, liberators and witnesses.

Work to restore our 1940s-era Danish boat, of the same type as those used to save more than 7,200 Jews from almost certain execution at the hands of German Nazis, began in 2012 and continues, with completion expected in 2015.

The authentic fishing boat of the type used to ferry Jews and others from small towns along the Danish coast to safety in Sweden under cover of darkness was located and donated to the Museum in 2007. It was transported from Denmark and officially installed as part of the Museum's Permanent Exhibition "Bearing Witness: A Community Remembers" in ceremonies on Jan. 20, 2008, but Houston's heat and humidity has taken its toll. Thanks to overwhelming public support after an antisemitic diatribe that said the boat should be burned rather than restored, more than \$150,000 since 2012 was donated to return it to its original condition.

Volunteer woodworkers and maritime enthusiasts under the direction of project manager Walter Hansen have worked painstakingly to research the boat's background and ensure its preservation is historically accurate.

To restore our most treasured assets, the Museum also received an almost \$150,000 federal Museums for America grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services to preserve, digitize, catalog and index the Museum's 282 videotaped oral testimonies of Holocaust survivors who later made their homes in the Houston area and is now working with the USC Shoah Foundation to complete that project. Those testimonies, most on older videotape formats, are as much as 15 years old and could decay if not protected using modern technologies.

Digitization of these testimonies, recorded over many years as survivors began to share their histories of life during and after World War II with the public, will allow them to be preserved through a perpetual copying system, to be cataloged and indexed for minute-by-minute searchability and to be made accessible through the Internet for free to scholars, researchers, teachers, students and the general public. The Museum added two new testimonies of survivors to its collection during the past fiscal year.



**"It happened. Therefore, it can happen again. This is the core of what we have to say."**

**- Primo Levi**

And thanks to a collaboration with the Texas Holocaust and Genocide Commission, the Museum added the digitized testimonies of 37 liberators to its collection as well.

The Laurie and Milton Boniuk Resource Center and Library continued to grow during the past year, with its collection now totaling 9,500 books, videos, DVDs and other items for use by students, researchers and the general public.

More than 3,900 visitors utilized the library's services, and library staff responded to more than 1,100 research or reference requests.

The Museum also has initiated a new digital project to complement its outdoor memorial to the more than 20,000 Jewish communities destroyed during the Holocaust. The new touch-screen display will offer details on each community, its Jewish population before and after the war, information on Museum-acquired artifacts from the community and background on Houston-area survivors who originated there. The project is expected to be complete in 2015.





## ACQUISITIONS

The Museum's Permanent Collection supports the mission of the Museum as outlined in the Collections Management Policy. Items are added to the collections carefully and selectively. Potential donations are screened and evaluated for relevancy to the scope of the collections and are accepted into the Permanent Collection upon approval of the Collections Committee.

The following is a selection of artifacts acquired between June 30, 2013 and July 1, 2014.



**2013.1** Pamphlets (two) : “This is Anne” pamphlet created by “Dr. Seuss” for the U.S. Army's Information and Education Division in 1943; and “Two Down and One to Go” depicting Arthur Szyk

drawing on cover from the U.S. War Department No. 21-31, April 1945. Drawings: (12) Pierre Debarre reproductions with original folder, “Yesterday's Supermen? To-Day's P.W.'s” (pub. 1944, Belgium “underground”)

### GIFT OF GREGG AND MICHELLE PHILIPSON

**2013.2** Sweaters (two) made by a Jewish family after they fled to Shanghai. Materials donated to enhance the Museum's existing Levenback collection

### GIFT OF ELIZABETH (LEVENBACK) SHAMIR



**2013.3** Photographs (five) documenting the Jewish emigration efforts from the Feldafing displaced persons camp. Donor's oral testimony and autobiography titled “The Vision” are part of the Museum collections.

### GIFT OF T.W. WESTON



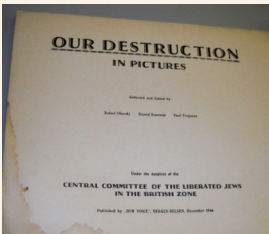
**2013.4** Armband; Danish Resistance Fighters, May 1945, worn by the donor's grandfather, serves to document Denmark's upstander role in World War II.

### GIFT OF FRANK FERDINANDSEN



**2013.5** Pin and case awarded to Houston-area survivor who joined the French Resistance, helping many families by providing food, money and false papers. Donor is a member of Houston's Survivor Registry and the Museum's Laurie and Milton Boniuk Library and Research Center holds her oral testimony.

### GIFT OF LAURE WITTNER



**2014.1** Photograph Book: “Our Destruction In Pictures,” published in Bergen-Belsen in December 1946 by The Central Committee of the Liberated Jews in the British Zone.

### GIFT OF GILA GLATSTEIN



**2014.2** Magazine pages (two) depicting Arthur Szyk artwork documenting the political cartoons published in American media during World War II, early 1940s.

### GIFT OF GREGG AND MICHELLE PHILIPSON



**2014.3** Programs (two): Garmisch Military Post, Germany 1951; Newsletter, “USNS News Patch; Menu, 7th Army Mess. Donors are Houston-area survivors. Sam Rubin immigrated to the United States in 1948, joined the Army and served in the Korean War.

### GIFT OF SAM AND PAULINE RUBIN

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LEFT: Holocaust Survivor Dr. Anna Steinberger  
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## Why was the Generation to Generation Legacy Society created?

The *Generation to Generation Legacy Society* was created to celebrate our friends who affirm their commitment to Holocaust Museum Houston through a planned gift. Their generosity demonstrates an investment in the future of our Museum and its mission. Gifts from *Generation to Generation Legacy Society* members, when realized, will offer operating or endowment support to provide exhibits, educational programs, artifact conservation, museum admission for students, or capital improvement projects.

## Why is this important?

Holocaust Museum Houston is a living testimonial to those who perished in the Holocaust, a place of honor for those who survived, and a source of education for present and future generations. The Museum teaches the events of the Holocaust to demonstrate the destructive power of prejudice and the importance of moral courage and individual responsibility. From generation to generation, HMH will continue to teach these vital lessons of the Holocaust to the diverse students, teachers, and members of the community who visit.

## How do I join?

Becoming a member of the *Generation to Generation Legacy Society* is simple. In fact, you have already qualified for membership if you have named Holocaust Museum Houston in your will or included us in your estate plans. When you inform us of your gift, we will respect your wish to be recognized or remain anonymous. All details of your gift are held in strictest confidence.

For more information, please contact Marci Dallas at  
[mdallas@hmh.org](mailto:mdallas@hmh.org) or 713-527-1621

**Thank you for your support!**

Your gift, large or small, will strengthen  
the future of Holocaust Museum Houston