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Holocaust Museum Houston Announces June 2019 Reopening After Dramatic Expansion

—Doubling in size to rank as 4th largest and 1st bilingual Holocaust museum in the US—

Houston (December 18, 2018) . . . Holocaust Museum Houston (HMH) will reopen its campus June 22, 2019, after a \$34 million expansion of its original home at 5401 Caroline Street. By more than doubling in size to a total of 57,000 square feet, the new facility will rank as the nation's fourth largest Holocaust museum and the first to be fully bilingual in English and Spanish.

The new three-story structure will house a welcome center, four permanent galleries and two changing exhibition galleries, classrooms, research library, café, 200-seat indoor theater and 175-seat outdoor amphitheater.

In becoming one of the top Holocaust museums in the country, the organization will broaden its mission as a superregional hub for Holocaust education and a national voice for human rights and social justice.

"This expansion marks the most ambitious undertaking in our 23-year history," said Dr. Kelly J. Zúñiga, CEO of the Museum. "With the rise in anti-Semitism, hate crimes and threats to human rights within our own country, our role in education and outreach is more important than ever before." Expanded exhibits are expected to increase student field trip attendance by 50 percent in the first year, while overall annual attendance is expected to grow by 35 percent.

The permanent Holocaust exhibit includes such rare artifacts as a rescue boat like those used by Danish fishermen to ferry Jewish neighbors to neutral territory under cover of night, as well as a World War II-era railcar like the ones that transported Jews to concentration camps and killing centers. A Human Rights Gallery will feature educational displays of all UN-recognized genocides as well as tributes to international human rights leaders. The Museum will debut the world's largest gallery of artwork by the Holocaust child survivor and painter Samuel Bak, with more than 100 works in exhibition rotation. Finally, an interactive media display will bring to life the writings of 18 young diarists, including Anne Frank, who died in genocides around the world.

The Museum will also host touring exhibitions from Israel, China, Canada and South Africa in 2019 through 2021.

Leading up to the Museum's reopening in June, HMH will debut a new bilingual website, followed by the May opening of the internationally-acclaimed *Coexistence* outdoor exhibition in Hermann Park.

[CLICK HERE FOR EXHIBIT PHOTOS AND MUSEUM RENDERINGS.](#)

ABOUT HOLOCAUST MUSEUM HOUSTON

Holocaust Museum Houston, Lester and Sue Smith Campus, is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization founded in 1996 by Houston-area Holocaust Survivors, their descendants and members of the community, is accredited by The American Alliance of Museums. Average annual attendance is 160,000 visitors, including more than 43,750 middle and high school students. The Museum 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. For more information, visit hmh.org.

