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Holocaust Museum Houston launches App for Autism Community during Autism Awareness Month

Houston (April 19, 2022) . . . Holocaust Museum Houston (HMH) has launched an app during April's Autism Awareness Month to help individuals and families, especially those with autism and other sensory needs. As part of the Museum's ongoing efforts to be more accessible for all visitors, the Access HMH App will help the autism community and others with sensory sensitivity to prepare themselves for their upcoming visit.

"We are excited to expand our accessibility offerings with the launch of the Access HMH App," said HMH CEO Dr. Kelly J. Zúñiga. "This is just one step towards building a more equitable institution. We have also developed onsite assistive technology for blind visitors/visitors with low vision and deaf/hard of hearing visitors with the goal of becoming one of the most accessible museums in Houston."

In the app, you can learn about the exhibits and important historical topics, create your own schedule for your visit and play a matching memory game. Available for Android and Apple devices, the Access HMH App also includes a sensory friendly map of the Museum and insider tips. In the "Explore" section of the app, users can read and/or listen to guides explaining what to expect when going to the Museum, in each of the galleries and when leaving HMH. The app also includes a "Communicate" section where users can tap on a picture to talk, ask for help and remind them what to do. Users can take a break and play the Matching Game.

Powered by InfiniTeach, the Access HMH App is available to download for free in the <u>App Store</u> for Apple users and in the <u>Google Play Store</u> for Android users.

In order to be fully accessible to all our visitors, Holocaust Museum Houston encourages alerting our Admissions Staff should you have a disability by contacting admission@hmh.org or calling 713-527-1614. Those individuals with disabilities will not be charged admission. Trained and secured service animals are welcome in the Museum. Learn more at hmh.org/visit.

Holocaust Museum Houston, Lester and Sue Smith Campus, 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. 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.