



FIELD TRIP PLANNING GUIDE

GRADES 6-12

5401 Caroline Street, Houston, Texas 77004

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Greetings!

Thank you for choosing Holocaust Museum Houston for your next field trip.

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.

PREPARING YOUR STUDENTS FOR A VISIT

Your Field Trip Planning Guide was developed to prepare you and your students for your visit to the Museum. For all school groups, a visit to the Museum is inquiry-based: we ask students to respond to materials they see on their tour while involving them in a conversation about the meaning and relevance of the objects they see, stories they hear and experiences they participate in. Whatever the format, a Holocaust Museum Houston visit is meant to challenge and engage students. If we succeed, students will leave with more questions than answers, as well as a desire to become an "upstander".

We are confident that this guide will help you to maximize the educational potential of your visit and engage all your students.

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Plan Your Field Trip

STEP 1: LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR GALLERIES AND EXHIBITS

Information about our permanent galleries and temporary exhibits may be found in the Gallery Guide on pages 7-10 and online at hmh.org/exhibitions.

STEP 2: CHOOSE THE TYPE OF TOUR YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR STUDENTS TO EXPERIENCE - DOCENT-LED, SELF-GUIDED, OR VIRTUAL

□ *EMPOWERING UPSTANDERS* DOCENT-LED TOUR

PLEASE NOTE: Guided tours are designed for grade 6-12.

Holocaust Museum Houston is proud to offer *Empowering Upstanders*, our engaging field trip program for school and youth groups. There are three options of pre-designed tours that highlight subjects of classroom learning as well as a customizable model for you to choose areas that complement your group's interests.

Through a docent-guided tour, students develop a deeper understanding of the history and lives of local Houston Holocaust Survivors. Our docent guides are trained in current Holocaust and human rights education curriculum. In addition to the lessons of the Holocaust, students learn why the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was created, explore symbolism through art, engage with firsthand accounts of war and genocide, and more.

We offer three *Empowering Upstanders* tour paths:

EMPOWERING UPSTANDERS: LANGUAGE ARTS PATH

Time: approx. 2 hours

Tour includes:

- *Bearing Witness: A Community Remembers* Holocaust Gallery
- *And Still I Write, Young diarists on War and Genocide*
- Samuel Bak Art Gallery

STEP 2 continued on page 2

EMPOWERING UPSTANDERS: SOCIAL STUDIES PATH

Time: approx. 2 hours

Tour includes:

- *Bearing Witness: A Community Remembers* Holocaust Gallery
- Human Rights Gallery
- Current temporary exhibit (Click [here](#) for more information.)

EMPOWERING UPSTANDERS: VOICES OF THE HOLOCAUST PATH

Time: approx. 2 hours

Tour includes:

- *Bearing Witness: A Community Remembers* Holocaust Gallery
- Memorial Room
- Samuel Bak Art Gallery
- *Voices* (Houston Survivors video testimonials)

EMPOWERING UPSTANDERS: CHOOSE YOUR OWN PATH (max. of 3 choices)

- *Bearing Witness: A Community Remembers* Holocaust Gallery
- Human Rights Gallery
- *And Still I Write, Young Diarists on War and Genocide*
- Memorial Room
- Samuel Bak Art Gallery
- *Voices* (Houston Survivors video testimonials)
- Current temporary exhibit (Click [here](#) for more information.)

PLEASE NOTE: The size of your group may modify your choice of galleries.

☐ SELF-GUIDED TOURS

Self-guided tours allow groups to explore the Museum at their own pace. For school and youth groups the Museum will provide resources on how to navigate the galleries with students to create the best and most educational experience. Self-guided groups may not exceed 165 guests, including students and teachers/chaperones, with at least 1 adult for every 10 students. Audio tour devices are limited but available for an additional \$3 for adults and complimentary for students.

□ VIRTUAL TOURS

In response to the need for distance learning options, Holocaust Museum Houston created virtual tours for classrooms and community groups. Participants can tour the Museum's galleries virtually and interact live with a docent. Tour options include *Bearing Witness: A Community Remembers* Holocaust Gallery, the Lester and Sue Smith Human Rights Gallery, and the Samuel Bak Gallery and Learning Center. HMM virtual tours are scheduled between the hours of 9:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. central time, Monday – Thursday.

HMM virtual tours for student groups are generously supported, in part, by the Texas Holocaust, Genocide & Antisemitism Advisory Commission. All students aged 18 and under can participate in our virtual tours at no cost. Groups must consist of no less than 10 individuals.

HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS & DESCENDANTS SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

A limited number of Holocaust Survivors and their children, or Second Gen, are available to speak with your students at no additional cost.

Speaking engagements require a minimum of 50 or more individuals (students, teachers, and chaperones) and will typically add one (1) hour to your visit.

Please understand that **speaker requests are not guaranteed and are subject to change even after confirmation**. A coordinator will reach out to you to confirm the speaking engagement and make any necessary adjustments to your schedule.



Continue Planning Your Field Trip

STEP 3: UNDERSTAND FIELD TRIP GUIDELINES & FEES

- ✓ Tours require a minimum of 10 participants, with a maximum of 100 for docent-led tours and 165 for self-guided tours.
- ✓ Docent-guided tours are offered Tuesday-Friday, from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day. Guided tours are not available on weekends, free admission days, or holidays.
- ✓ Time Allotment Guideline:
 - Docent-Guided Tours: 2 - 3 hours
 - Self-Guided Tours: minimum of 1 hour
 - If you have a speaking engagement with your tour, an additional hour will be added to your time.
- ✓ Museum policy requires teacher/chaperone to student ratios of 1:20 for docent-guided tours and 1:10 for self-guided tours.
- ✓ Tour requests must be received at least three (3) weeks in advance of your earliest preferred tour date.
- ✓ The Group Tours Coordinator will contact you within 7 business days to discuss details for your group. Tours are considered booked only after you have received a written confirmation from the Museum.
- ✓ Face masks are optional for all visitors. COVID-19 protocols are subject to change without notice.
- ✓ PLEASE REMEMBER: Docents are volunteers with the Museum; therefore, their availability is subject to change.

ASK ABOUT OUR
TRANSPORTATION
REIMBURSEMENT
GRANTS



ADMISSION FEES

Admission for chaperones of all public and private schools will be covered by the museum. For home schools and youth community organizations, adults beyond the necessary number of chaperones will be charged standard admission fees. All adults included in the reservation must serve as chaperones, supervising students and remaining with the group to which they are assigned, at all times.

STUDENTS ages 11-18	FREE
TEACHERS/CHAPERONES 1:20 chaperone to student ratio required for docent-guided tours; 1:10 ratio for self-guided tours	FREE
CHAPERONES over the required ratio Classroom teachers are not charged admission.	\$22 each
MEDICAL/BEHAVIORAL AIDES	FREE
BUS DRIVERS/TOUR OPERATORS	FREE



Continue Planning Your Field Trip

STEP 4: SUBMIT YOUR REQUEST

- ✓ Prepare all relevant information needed for requesting a tour
- ✓ Choose three potential field trip dates
- ✓ Determine total number of participants, including students, teachers, and chaperones
- ✓ Complete the group tours request form online – click [here](#) to access the form.

STEP 5: PRE-VISIT CHECKLIST

- ✓ PAPERWORK Complete necessary school paperwork (e.g., field trip application, student permission slips, coordinate transportation, etc.)
- ✓ REVIEW CONFIRMATION DETAILS & GUIDELINES Email to confirm all tour details with the tour coordinator and submit any necessary payment for admission one week prior to your tour date.
- ✓ SMALL GROUPS Please divide your larger group of students into smaller groups of 20 or less.
- ✓ CHAPERONES Make sure to have at least one teacher/chaperone for each group 20 students for docent-led tours and one for each group of 10 students for a self-guided tour.
- ✓ COVID PROTOCOLS Face masks are optional for all guests, including students. Complimentary masks are available in Security and at the Admissions Desk.
- ✓ SECURITY All guests, including students, must empty their pockets and place bags into bins for inspection and pass through a scanner device. Chaperones are permitted to carry bags and backpacks, but 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 accommodations.

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 theater. Several options for your students to each lunch at the Museum are included in your tour confirmation packet.
- ✓ MUSEUM STORE Students may purchase books, souvenirs, and gift items in groups of 10 at a time with a chaperone.

Gallery Guide

FIRST FLOOR GALLERIES

Morgan Family Welcome Center

Begin your visit in the Morgan Family Welcome Center, where a brief introduction video provides context for your experience in the Holocaust Gallery.

“Bearing Witness: A Community Remembers” Holocaust Gallery

The Gallery is personalized with testimony of Holocaust Survivors who later settled in the Houston area. These incredible individuals lived through a genocidal war that inflicted mass death on unprecedented numbers of innocent civilians. The Gallery features artifacts donated by the Holocaust Survivors, their descendants, liberators, and other collectors.

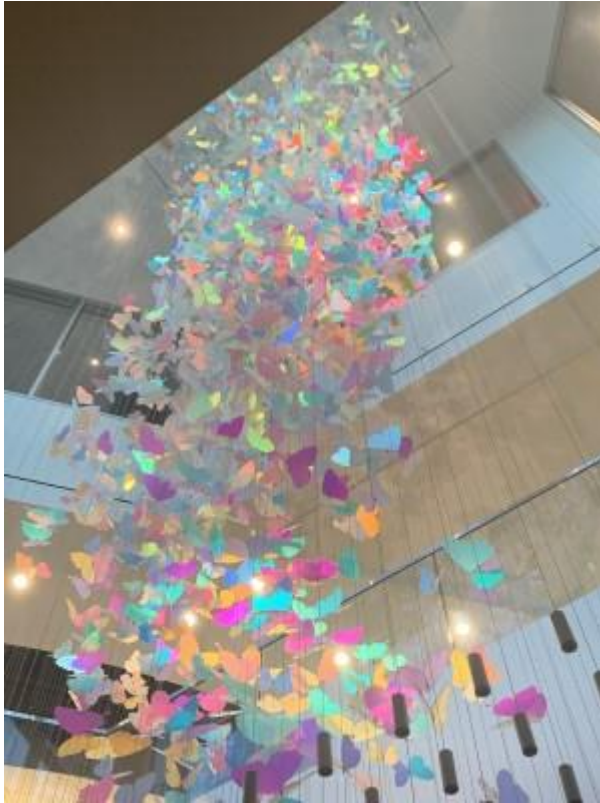
The exhibit educates visitors about Jewish and non-Jewish resistance efforts – including the Warsaw Ghetto uprising, prisoner revolts, sabotage, and the partisan movement – as well as displaced persons camps and life after the Holocaust.

This Gallery is expanded and 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.

Click [here](#) to visit the virtual exhibition.



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 questions of their high-definition projections who then answer in real time via pre-recorded video images.



Jerold B. Katz Family Butterfly Loft

The Jerold B. Katz Family Butterfly Loft is at the heart of the museum and brilliantly shimmers with light. Extending from the third floor are 1,500 butterflies, each butterfly representing 1,000 children of the 1.5 million that perished during the Holocaust.

Lester and Sue Smith Human Rights Gallery

The Lester and Sue Smith Human Rights Gallery explores the evolution of human rights throughout history and the creation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights – a historic document which set the foundation for the modern day human rights movement. The Gallery includes contemporary examples of genocide and human rights abuses and educates visitors about the life and advocacy work of Upstanders who have protected and advanced human rights across the globe.

Click [here](#) to learn more.

Memorial Room, Gift of The Lack Family

Located in the far back corner of the Museum, just past *Bearing Witness*, the Memorial Room is a place for meditation and contemplation with the Wall of Tears featuring 600 hand-painted, light-reflective ceramic tiles representing the six million Jews that perished in the Holocaust.

The Rhona and Bruce Caress Gallery
And Still I Write: Young Diarists on War and Genocide

And Still I Write: Young Diarists on War and Genocide highlights the diaries of young people who wrote during war and genocide. In them, the writers plead to be heard. Their diaries stand as valuable historical documents and remind us that the young have much to say if we are willing to listen. Click [here](#) to learn more.

Central Gallery & the Josef and Edith Mincberg Gallery

These galleries feature the Museum's changing exhibitions. For information about current exhibitions, please go to hmh.org/exhibitions.

SECOND FLOOR GALLERIES

Moral Choices Hall

At the heart of Holocaust Museum Houston, programs based in the Moral Choices hall will remind museum guests of the choices they remain free to make and the lives that they can successfully impact, spreading the primary message of the museum.

Holocaust Survivors' Wall

Made of Jerusalem stone, 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 bring the Museum to fruition and several are still active in HMH speaking events.

Albert and Ethel Herzstein Theater

Playing continuously throughout the day, *Voices I & II* features the video testimonials of many Houston Survivors.

Butterfly Project Exhibit

Butterflies have come to represent the 1.5 million children who perished during the Holocaust at the hands of the Nazis and their collaborators. In 1995, the museum started the Butterfly Project to honor and remember these innocent lives lost; now selections from handmade butterflies from this project are on display and reflect the individuality of each child who has contributed.



**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 while teaching children and adults to apply an understanding of the events of the Holocaust and other genocides to their own lives and respond to them successfully by developing social resiliency.