



From darkness, light.

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CONTACT:** Robin Cavanaugh  
[rcavanaugh@hmh.org](mailto:rcavanaugh@hmh.org) / 713-851-4478

## **Holocaust Museum Houston readies for reopening on May 26**

--*New Book Smugglers* exhibition makes its worldwide debut--

**HOUSTON, TX (May 15, 2020)** . . . Holocaust Museum Houston (HMH) will reopen to the public on Tuesday, May 26, 2020. Following current government guidelines, visitor count will be limited to 50 percent of building capacity. HMH is located at 5401 Caroline Street.

“We are so happy to reopen the Museum to Houstonians seeking a new learning experience,” said Dr. Kelly J. Zúñiga, CEO of HMH. “While closed, we completed landscaping projects, and professionally deep cleaned and sanitized the entire building with a long lasting anti-viral spray that will last at least 30 days. For the safety of our visitors, they along with staff will be required to wear face masks, interactive stations within exhibits will be disabled and high touch points in the Museum will be cleaned throughout the day. Providing a safe learning environment is our No. 1 priority to the community we serve.”

New HMH protocols require all staff and guests above age 10 to wear a face mask upon entry and to practice social distancing. For those without a mask, one will be provided. Sanitizer stations are located by bathroom entrances, at the admissions desk, Museum store and café. In addition, the Museum’s interactive stations within exhibitions will be closed and audio guided and docent-led tours are cancelled until further notice.

Visitors will have the chance to visit HMH’s new exhibition [\*The Book Smugglers: Partisans, Poets, and the Race to Save Jewish Treasures from the Nazis\*](#), making its world debut in the Museum’s Minberg Gallery and on view through August 16. Curated in conjunction with David E. Fishman who authored the book of the same name, *The Book Smugglers* is the nearly unbelievable true story of ghetto residents who rescued thousands of rare books and manuscripts by hiding them on their persons, burying them in bunkers and smuggling them across borders. Additional galleries open include the Museum’s Holocaust Gallery, the Lester and Sue Smith Human Rights Gallery and the Samuel Bak Gallery and Learning Center.

Since closing its doors March 16 to help keep the community from the spread of COVID-19, HMH has offered robust virtual learning resources at [hmh.org/resources](https://hmh.org/resources) for teachers, students and families. From virtual and audio guided exhibition tours, blogs, lectures, research guides and lesson plans to family activities and storytimes, new assets are added each week. Various at home learning resources are offered in both English and Spanish.

Admission to the Museum is \$15 for adults, \$10 for seniors, active duty military and AARP members and free for children and students. Onsite paid parking is available starting at \$8 for the first four hours. For more information about Holocaust Museum Houston, visit [hmh.org](https://hmh.org). [Click here for HMH photos and B-roll.](#)

### **ABOUT HOLOCAUST MUSEUM HOUSTON**

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. Average annual attendance is 130,000 visitors, including more than 71,000 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.

###