

HOLOCAUST MUSEUM HOUSTON BEARING WITNESS

HOLOCAUST MUSEUM HOUSTON

SPRING 2017, NO. 1



Hines Exhibit “Tree of Life”

Visitors flock to most interactive and technologically-advanced exhibit in Museum’s history | pg. 4

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HMH Mission More Relevant Than Ever

We have accomplished much in this, our 21st year as Holocaust Museum Houston. From the success of The Butterfly Project and increased attendance, to enhanced outreach with new programs and interactive exhibits, HMH is destined for growth as our mission remains more relevant than ever.

The Butterfly Project continues to soar with our Butterflies in constant demand, and incredibly we have been invited to display our six-case exhibition at the United Nations in January 2018 for Holocaust remembrance week. This stunning traveling exhibit has been on view at public spaces throughout Houston including both airports, major office buildings, The Galleria, fellow Houston museums and attractions, in City Hall, and most recently at the George R. Brown Convention Center during Super Bowl festivities. Check out The Butterfly Project website at <http://butterflies.hmh.org> to learn how you can help us #StandWithHope.

Our exhibitions staff is also to be commended for debuting the Museum's first English/Spanish bilingual exhibit, "Bittersweet Harvest: The Bracero Program, 1942-1964," as well as "A Celebration of Survival" by Barbara Hines, the most technologically advanced exhibit in the Museum's 21-year history. The former has introduced a larger Latino/a audience to HMH; and the latter has been a fan favorite with the interactive ability to ask the "avatar" of Holocaust Survivor Pinchas Gutter direct questions and get real-time answers about his Holocaust experience. Bravo!

Also worthy of recognition, our education team's new Engines of Change student ambassador program has been so successful, HMH has multiple requests to duplicate the program across the nation! In addition, the Educator in Motion program that began in late September of 2016 has already reached more than 17,000 students with our multitude of education program offerings!

All of these innovative exhibits and programs have spurred a 10 percent growth in the Museum's attendance over last year. Spring Break week alone saw nearly 6,000 visitors to our Museum, an astounding number given our limited capacity. Special thanks are in order to the HMH staff, docents and volunteers who made this happen.

I look forward to seeing all of you at our upcoming Lyndon Baines Johnson Moral Courage Award Dinner honoring Yad Vashem – The World Holocaust Remembrance Center and Avner Shalev, Chairman of the Yad Vashem Directorate. The dinner chairs are The Mitzner Family and The Zeidman Family, with Senator Joe Lieberman as keynote speaker. This is an evening not to be missed, and I encourage all of you to invite your friends and business associates to attend.

Though we have much to celebrate, we must recognize that the world is still unsettled as we have seen an uptick of hate speech, and anti-Semitic incidents in the last five months, including multiple events in Houston. Our Museum and its mission unfortunately continue to be relevant and our work to teach the dangers of hate, prejudice and apathy must continue.

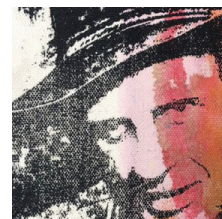
I want to thank you for all you do to support Holocaust Museum Houston. I look forward to working with each of you as we continue our efforts to improve the diverse community we call home: Houston.

Warm regards,

Gary Markowitz,
Board Chair



"The Tree of Life" is an interactive installation where visitors write messages of hope on gold- and silver-colored metallic Magen Davids, which then are affixed to branches on a 9-foot-tall metal tree. Artist Barbara Hines calls this tree her "Mitzvah tree," for sprouting new blessings every day.



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Barbara Hines Exhibit
"A Celebration of Survival"



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World Federation of Jewish Child Survivors of the Holocaust & Descendants

This past November, the WFJCSHD held their annual conference in Los Angeles. Over 500 survivors and descendants attended along with Houston's largest contingent ever. Houston representatives included survivor Lucy Borash, Mike Cahn, Steve Finkelman, Lynn Gordon, Gail Klein, Sandy Lessig, Tammy Plumb, and Hy Penn. Sandy Lessig, a member of the WFJCSHD Executive Board and its Leadership, presented "Through Their Eyes" to 150 workshop attendees.





Barbara Hines Debuts First Solo Multimedia Exhibition at HMH

An immersive exhibition designed to honor the heroes, victims, and survivors of the Holocaust, "A Celebration of Survival," by Barbara Hines, masterfully addresses the Holocaust framed in a message of redemption and forgiveness. On view in the Mincberg Gallery through May 30, 2017, "A Celebration of Survival" inspires visitors to focus on what "could be" rather than the horrors of the past.

Upon entering the exhibit, visitors pass through "Veils of Remembrance," diaphanous silk veils

"Silence encourages the tormentor, never the tormented. Sometimes we must interfere. When human lives are endangered, when human dignity is in jeopardy, national borders and sensitivities become irrelevant."

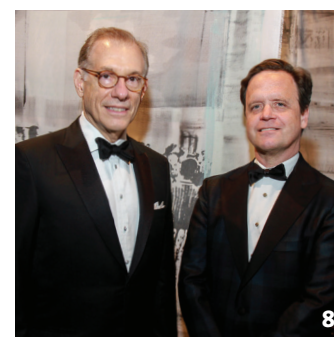
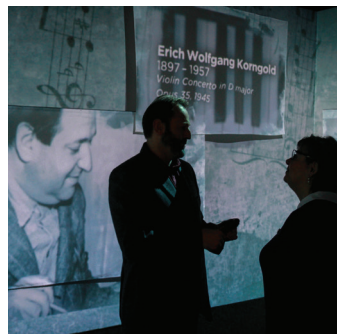
Elie Wiesel

featuring life size portraits of children of the Holocaust, creating the effect of walking among them. "Portrait Walls" throughout display 16 righteous non-Jews of the 26,000 "Righteous Among the Nations" who saved Jewish lives during the Holocaust, while "Quotations" project prolific words by local survivors and other prominent Jewish thinkers.

Deeper into the exhibition, New Dimensions in Testimony, created by USC Shoah Foundation, invites visitors to hold a "virtual conversation" by "talking" with Holocaust survivor Pinchas Gutter. This pioneering project integrates advanced technology to provide an intimate experience with Gutter, an eyewitness to history who can answer direct questions while sitting in front of you in a two-dimensional, face-to-face interaction.

The multimedia exhibition is further enhanced with voice recordings and images of prominent Jewish musicians, composers, writers, scientists, and artists from pre-WWII to present day. Before exiting, visitors are encouraged to hang a metallic star with a message of hope on the "Tree of Life."

"Holocaust Museum Houston gives us the opportunity to reflect about what choices we are capable of making in the face of adversity," said Barbara Hines. "A Celebration of Survival" is my first solo multimedia exhibition and I'm honored to host it in the city I call home."



"We must take sides. Neutrality helps the oppressor, never the victim."

-Elie Wiesel

This page: 1. Louise Joskowitz, Peppie Nichols, Pearl Monk, Edith Mincberg 2. Rabbi Lazer Lazaroff, Rochell Lazaroff, Eileen Reed, Marsha Wallace 3. Barbara Hines, Gerald Hines 4. Dr. Kelly J. Zúñiga, Barbara Hines 5. Anne Mendelsohn, John Mendelsohn 6. Group shot 7. Cary Hines, Mike Adams 8. Gary Tinterow, Christopher Gardner



Sixth graders take Virtual Tour of "Celebration of Survival"

On March 7th, the Education Department virtually hosted 158 6th graders and nine teachers from Hamshire-Fannett Intermediate School in Beaumont, TX. Emily Sample presented Barbara Hines' "Celebration of Survival" via Google Hangout, allowing the students to "walk" through the exhibit on a cart. The students also had the unique opportunity to ask questions of Holocaust survivor Pinchas Gutter through USC Shoah Foundation's New Dimensions in Testimony project. Students asked their questions through a video chat interface, then Emily Sample repeated their questions to Mr. Gutter, allowing the students to hold a face-to-face conversation, albeit screen-to-screen.

Opposite page: Top, Murari Garodia, Prachi Garodia Center, Genius Room Bottom, Group with Pinchas



Barbara Hines, *Gaze upon the Goodness of Jerusalem*, Paper, 21Hx14W, 2012



In 1994, Holocaust Museum Houston established the Lyndon Baines Johnson Moral Courage Award in memory of the 36th president of the United States.

"Moral Courage" refers to that single act, or lifetime of behavior, that depends on a certain resolve.

Recipients of this award are individuals who, like President Johnson, exhibit moral courage, individual responsibility and the willingness to take action against injustice.



Morgan Family Center
5401 Caroline Street, Houston, Texas 77004
www.hmh.org



2017 LYNDON BAINES JOHNSON MORAL COURAGE AWARD DINNER

HONORING
YAD VASHEM - THE WORLD HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE CENTER
Jerusalem, Israel
&
AVNER SHALEV
Chairman of the Yad Vashem Directorate -
Global Holocaust Remembrance Visionary

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
SENATOR JOE LIEBERMAN

TUESDAY, MAY 23, 2017

Registration 6:00 p.m. / Dinner 7:00 p.m.
Marriott Marquis, Houston, 1777 Walker Street

HONORARY CHAIRS
PASTOR JOHN & DIANA HAGEE
BARBARA & GERALD HINES
RABBI ISRAEL MEIER LAU
THE HONORABLE SYLVESTER TURNER, MAYOR OF HOUSTON

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THE MITZNER FAMILY THE ZEIDMAN FAMILY

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Tables from \$6,000 and tickets from \$600
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HONORING

**YAD VASHEM - THE WORLD
HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE CENTER**
Jerusalem, Israel



Yad Vashem, the World Holocaust Remembrance Center, is the ultimate source for Holocaust education, remembrance, documentation and research. From the Mount of Remembrance in Jerusalem, Yad Vashem's integrated approach incorporates meaningful educational initiatives, groundbreaking research and inspirational exhibits. Yad Vashem is at the forefront of the unceasing

efforts to safeguard and impart the memory of the victims and the events of the Shoah period; to document accurately one of the most cataclysmic chapters in the history of humanity; and to grapple effectively with the ongoing challenges of keeping the Holocaust relevant today and for future generations.

AVNER SHALEV

Chairman of the Yad Vashem Directorate - Global
Holocaust Remembrance Visionary



Since 1993, Avner Shalev has been chairman of the Yad Vashem Directorate, leading a comprehensive program to meaningfully teach and commemorate the Holocaust in the 21st century. Shalev established Yad Vashem's International School for Holocaust Studies and Yad Vashem's Museums Complex, where he serves as chief curator of the Holocaust History Museum, and

brought about a technological revolution at Yad Vashem. Shalev also serves as chief curator of Yad Vashem's permanent exhibition at the Auschwitz-Birkenau (Poland) Museum's Jewish Pavilion. Under his direction, Yad Vashem was awarded the esteemed Israel Prize for Lifetime Achievement to Society and State, and the Prince of Asturias Prize for Concord. Shalev has received the President of Israel's Medal from the late President Shimon Peres, the Hebrew University's Rothberg Award for Jewish Education, the Worthy Citizen of Jerusalem Award, the French Legion of Honor from President Sarkozy, and title of Commander of the Order of Civil Merit by the Kingdom of Spain.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

SENATOR JOE LIEBERMAN



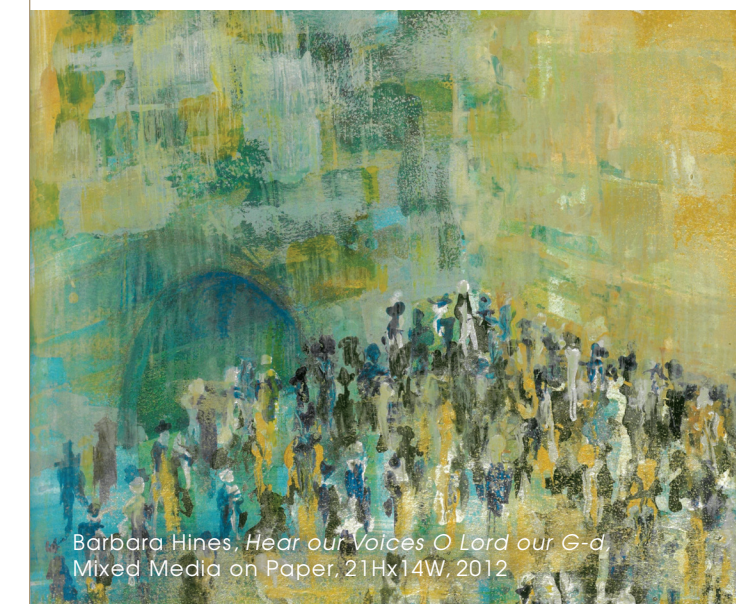
Joe Lieberman retired from the United States Senate in 2013. Known to work tirelessly across party lines to find common ground, he earned the reputation of being a thoughtful legislator, a principled man and an effective leader. In 2000, Senator Lieberman was named the Democratic

candidate for Vice President.

Throughout his more than 20 years in the United States Senate, Joe Lieberman believed in equal opportunity for all Americans. He was a true environmental champion and strong advocate for public schools, challenging all students to meet higher academic standards.

Senator Lieberman led the successful legislative effort to repeal the military's discriminatory "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy, was a vocal advocate for campaign finance reform and has written extensively on the dignity and nobility of public service. He was dedicated to strengthening America's families and renewing our common values by working with parents to improve the culture in which they raise their children.

Senator Lieberman is married to Hadassah, who is the daughter of Holocaust survivors.



Barbara Hines, *Hear our Voices O Lord our G-d*, Mixed Media on Paper, 21Hx14W, 2012



Dr. Soner Tarim with Harmony Public School Students

HMH Collaborates with Harmony Public Schools

For two years the Museum's education team has worked with Harmony Public Schools, a network of exceptional K-12 college-preparatory charter schools in Texas, to connect our missions. The Harmony School curricula include a unique and well-honed attention to the ways in which to teach Science, Technology, Engineering and Math to 32,000 students in economically disadvantaged areas. This work is ongoing, with the support of HMH Board of Trustee Member Nancy Li-Tarim and Dr. Soner Tarim, founding member and CEO of Harmony Public Schools.

The largest charter school system in the state, Harmony boasts 48 schools in Texas, with seven more opening this fall, and a campus in Washington D.C. What's more, 100 percent of Harmony graduates are accepted into college and 64 percent of alumni, more than twice the national average, are the first in their families to attend college.

The Harmony teaching model focuses on rigor, relevance and relationships. Students learning at their own pace, are equipped with the skills needed in a rapidly changing world. Each student has the support and encouragement they need through one-on-one, dedicated mentors.

Harmony students are required to complete a minimum of 100 hours of community service to graduate, with several students far surpassing that goal. Dr. Soner Tarim believes that an emphasis on "social and emotional learning," is especially relevant today as social issues and concerns have increased. That's where HMH comes in.

Concentrating on Harmony's Science Schools, HMH's education department began integrating the All Behaviors Count program with the system's social studies program in Texas schools. The collaboration began in 2016 and will take place over the next several years to provide training and informational sessions with administrators, educators of young children, and educators of secondary students.

Phase two of the partnership involves Holocaust and genocide studies. Through HMH's Education Committee and our network of educators, a number of teachers have created and implemented semester-long elective courses developed to encourage learning about the Holocaust and genocide. These courses are currently taught in five regional school districts. Harmony Public Schools Director of Curriculum and Instruction -- Social Studies, Stephen Moss has begun work to implement two semester-long courses for their system, including their 12 schools in Dallas/Fort Worth. HMH will incorporate colleagues from the Dallas Holocaust Museum in this effort.

This collaboration is an exciting and valuable example of the long-term benefits of HMH's work to educate the youth in our community and state.



Mayor Visits with Engines of Change Student Ambassadors



On a recent Sunday in March, Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner toured HMH and met with 30 of the Engines of Change student ambassadors. The program introduces Houston-area high school students to Holocaust history and enables them to better understand current issues and perspectives and to develop their own informed opinions and voices. By encouraging young leaders to recognize that hate, prejudice and apathy continue to harm individuals and society as a whole, this program encourages the next generation to care about and confront these perils.

Mayor Turner spoke to the students about his story leading up to being elected mayor in 2015, including his time at the University of Houston and Harvard Law School. He then opened the floor up to questions from the group. The students asked the mayor about his stance on a myriad of

"Hate, prejudice and apathy continue to harm individuals and society as a whole."

current issues that impact our community, including sanctuary cities, city pensions, school vouchers, bicycle safety and handicap access in city buildings and parks. He was asked if he thought he could create more positive change as a lawyer or a politician. In addition to meeting with the Engines of Change students, Mayor Turner also toured the core exhibit, the WWII Railcar and Danish Rescue Boat and "A Celebration of Survival" by Barbara Hines.



Dr. Kelly J. Zúñiga takes Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner on a tour of HMH

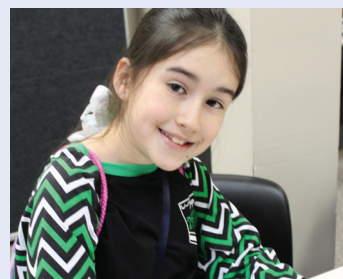
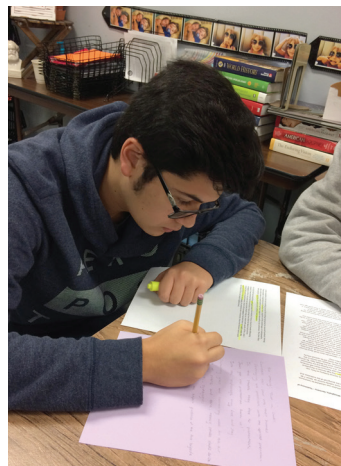
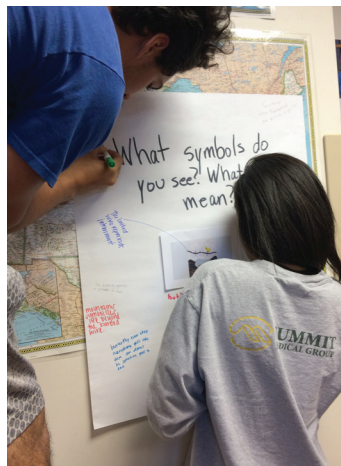


Top: HMH Chair Gary Markowitz, Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner and Dr. Kelly J. Zúñiga
Left: Mayor Sylvester Turner joins The Butterfly Project #StandWithHope social media campaign

Educator in Motion

Since the Educator in Motion Program's launch in September 2016, over 17,000 students in 10 school districts have participated in our educational programming. Whether we are working with elementary school, middle school, or high school students, we discuss the dangers of prejudice, discrimination, social cruelty, and apathy, and the importance of using our voice to make a difference in the lives of others. The response we have received from students has been incredibly positive. Countless students have thanked us for coming out to their schools and teaching them how to be Upstanders in their world today. Middle school students at Ulrich Intermediate in Klein ISD, for example, participated in a school wide writing competition after

one of our visits and will be using their writing pieces to discuss the importance of diversity and acceptance. Elementary school students at Ripley House Neighborhood Center discussed bullying and what they can do to help make their school a better place. The Educator in Motion Program is thus a wonderful program that is having a positive impact on students who will be the leaders of tomorrow, leaders who we hope will blossom into Upstanders.



Dear Ms. Garcia,
I really loved the way you gave us the presentation, you said it clearly and confidently and it also taught me something that you had seen. I judge people because they are different and when you said all that stuff about the Holocaust you sounded like you were ment to say it like that. You also told all of us to stand up for people who are being bullied or picked on because they are different. I really believe in that.
Sincerely,
Lolita Sami

Spring Latin Initiatives

In the month of February, Michelle Tovar, HMH Associate Director of Education - Spanish Outreach and Latin American Initiatives, continued her work with the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Services (SITES) through a mentorship program in association with the Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center (MACC) in Austin, Texas. These initiatives will give Michelle the opportunity to represent Holocaust Museum Houston in the program and also be a mentor in the future to other institutions that work in collaboration with SITES.

We will be bringing our Spanish Bilingual exhibition, "Bittersweet Harvest: The Bracero Program 1942-1964," to a close with several events in Spring 2017.

In April we will be hosting a lecture/book signing by Dr. Mireya Loza from the Smithsonian Institution. In May we will screen, "Stolen Education," a film by UTSA professor Dr. Enrique Aleman based on the segregation of Mexican and Mexican American students in schools during the 1950s. Also in the month of May, Dr. Jesus Esparza, from Texas Southern University, will be sharing his collection of local Bracero stories that have been documented during the time the exhibition has been on display. Field Officer Sehila Mota Casper with the National Trust for Historic Preservation will speak about the Socorro Project, a preservation effort to restore the remains of a Bracero Program site in Texas.



Dr. Ley showing an overhead photo during her lecture at HMH.

Dr. Astrid Ley Visits HMH

Dr. Astrid Ley, research associate and Deputy Head of Sachsenhausen Memorial and Museum, in Oranienburg, Germany, spent four weeks working with HMH's Curatorial Dept. from mid-March through mid-April.

Dr. Ley received her Ph.D. in Modern History from Friedrich Alexander University, Erlangen-Nuremberg, Germany. Since 2003, she has been the Research Department Head at the Sachsenhausen Memorial where her duties include conducting interviews with survivors for their Oral Testimony program.



Dr. Ley and HMH CEO Dr. Kelly J. Zúñiga

Dr. Ley traveled to Texas on a research fellowship at the Harry Ransom Center in Austin. Her principal research is medicine under National Socialism and medical care in concentration camps, recently focusing on "inmate doctors" in the camps.

Besides working on several projects with the Curatorial staff, Dr. Ley held a public lecture March 22, 2017 titled,

"Inmate Physicians in Nazi Concentration Camps: Scope for Action Available to Them, and Dilemmas They Faced."

While at HMH, Dr. Ley also provided docent continuing education on Sachsenhausen, co-curated a small exhibit for the Library, as well as other membership and VIP events.



The Curatorial Department has recently acquired several items of interest for the Permanent Collection, for example:

Mein Kampf – Received as an anonymous donation, a 1933 limited edition that Hitler personally presented to the "Alter Kämpfer," or old guard, of the Third Reich.

Antique Porcelain Doll – Donated by the granddaughter of an Auschwitz survivor. The donor's grandmother grew up in Waltershausen, Germany home to the Kammer & Reinhardt factory, a local doll producer. As a child, she remembered the factory and the unique maker's mark imprinted on the doll's head, specifically the Star of David. After settling in the United States, the donor searched and eventually acquired one of these dolls, which allowed her to relive her childhood memories from before the Holocaust.

HMH Showcases First Spanish/English Bilingual Exhibit, ‘Bittersweet Harvest: The Bracero Program, 1942-1964’

HMH's first Spanish/English bilingual exhibit, "Bittersweet Harvest: The Bracero Program 1942-1964," opened in December and runs through May 14, 2017.

The exhibit showcases the Bracero program which brought millions of Mexican nationals north to work on short-term labor contracts in California, Texas, Oregon, Washington, Arkansas and 29 other states. Contracts ranged from a few weeks to 18 months with workers guaranteed a minimum of 30 cents per hour. The work was backbreaking and living conditions poor, but the program offered Mexican men economic opportunities and much-needed work.

Their contributions to communities in Mexico and the U.S. have had a lasting impact on the political, economic, social and cultural landscapes of both nations.

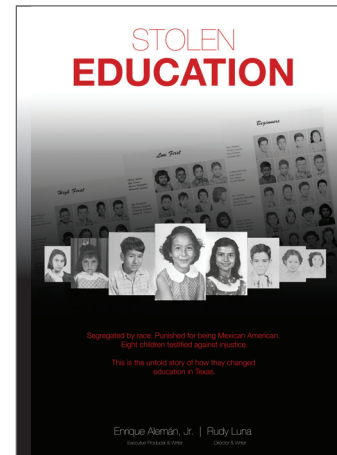
The exploitation of Bracero workers and violations of their legal rights and civil liberties prompted efforts to repeal the program. In 1956, photographer



Leonard Nadel documented the harsh realities of Bracero life, intending to highlight employer violations and improve Bracero working conditions.

The exhibition is traveled by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service.

TSU Assistant Professor Dr. Jesus Esparza included an audio-visual component featuring his local Houston area Bracero oral history project. To date, Dr. Esparza has interviewed seven local Braceros and their families which are featured in a video presentation within the exhibition.



Film Screening & Discussion

**Wednesday, May 3, 2017
6 p.m. to 8 p.m.**

In conjunction with "Bittersweet Harvest: The Bracero Program 1942-1964," see "Stolen Education," the untold story of Mexican-American school children who challenged discrimination in Texas schools in the 1950s and changed the face of education in the Southwest.

Post film discussion with filmmaker Dr. Enrique Alemán, Jr.



Labor Trafficking Past & Present

**Monday, May 8, 2017
6 p.m. to 8 p.m.**

Join Children At Risk and United Against Human Trafficking at HMH for a labor trafficking panel discussion on the history of exploitation of migrant workers in Texas and current efforts to combat human trafficking in the Houston area.



Bracero Oral History Project Film & Texas Bracero Preservation

**Thursday, May 11, 2017
6 p.m. to 8 p.m.**

Dr. Jesus Esparza will debut his film showcasing Houston area Braceros and their stories. Following the film, Sehila Mota Casper will discuss her work with the National Trust for Historic Preservation to preserve Rio Vista Farm, the last known Bracero processing center located in El Paso, Texas.



Vedem: the Underground Magazine of the Terezin Ghetto

On view June 16, 2017 through Sunday, July 30, 2017

The multimedia art exhibition deconstructs and reinterprets the literary work of a secret society of Jewish boys, who created the longest-running underground magazine in any Nazi camp. Using a combination of pop-art graphics, drawings, paintings and the prose and poetry of adolescent prisoners in the Terezin Ghetto, the exhibit by Rina Taraseiskey, Michael Murphy and Danny King, explores 83 weekly issues of the Vedem magazine produced from 1942-1944.



Clockwise from top: 1. Rick Jaramillo, Laura Jaramillo, Steve Velasquez, Dr. Carlos Moreno. 2. Los Gatos Norte Band. 3. Steve Velasquez, Bracero Daniel Galván, Dr. Kelly J. Zúñiga. 4. Crowd in Gallery. 5. Blanca Silvia Rodríguez, Juan Manuel Galván, Sofia Galván, Inés Galván 6. Malia Lord, Ben Tecumseh Desoto

Special Museum Tours

HMH is pleased to host special group tours this Spring to view our permanent exhibit, "Bearing Witness: A Community Remembers" and temporary exhibitions "A Celebration of Survival" by artist Barbara Hines, and "Bittersweet Harvest: The Bracero Program 1942-1964." These groups are able to spend the morning on a visit to Holocaust Museum Houston and have the opportunity to meet special guest speakers. Past tours included meeting our CEO, Dr. Kelly Zuniga; our staff, Survivors, Bill Orlin and Edith Minberg; and Barbara Hines, artist of "A Celebration of Survival."



1. Anne Frank Hadassah group viewing our interactive exhibit from the USC Shoah Foundation, 2D imaging of survivor Pinchas Gutter. 2. Anne Frank Hadassah group in conversation over "A Celebration of Survival" by Barbara Hines. 3. Mady Kades and Kathleen on a private tour of "A Celebration of Survival." 4. Gloria Tenenbaum and Diane Gendel on a private tour of "A Celebration of Survival."



Visitors to the Anne Frank House line up to enter the museum, which is just off a canal. Ilvy Njiokiktjien for *The New York Times*

Anne Frank Who? Museums Combat Ignorance About the Holocaust

By NINA SIEGAL, From *The New York Times*, MARCH 22 © 2017

AMSTERDAM — “She hid Jews?”

Aleatha Hinds, 17, ventured a guess about Anne Frank’s identity as she waited in line for two hours recently to enter the museum devoted to that world-famous diarist, who hid with her family in a secret annex for 25 months during World War II.

“No, no, no!” replied several friends, all 11th and 12th graders from the St. Charles College high school in Ontario. “She was Jewish!” they corrected her, in unison.

“She was hiding in her father’s factory,” said Eric LeBreton, 16. “The Nazis were looking for all the Jewish people because Hitler was trying to do genocide.”

With attendance swelling to 1.3 million annually, from one million in 2010, the Anne Frank House has begun reckoning with a striking dimension of its popularity: Many of the younger and foreign visitors who flock here nonetheless have little knowledge of the Holocaust — and sometimes none about Frank. The museum and some others dedicated to Jewish life are seeking new ways to address a declining understanding of World War II and the genocide that took the lives of six million Jews in Europe, efforts that have increasing relevance as anti-Semitic incidents intensify across parts of Europe and the United States.

“We find that, with the war being further removed from all of us, but especially for young people and people from outside of Europe, our visitors don’t always have sufficient prior knowledge of the Second World War to really grasp the meaning of Anne Frank and the people in hiding here,” said the museum’s managing director,

Garance Reus-Deelder. “We want to make sure that Anne Frank isn’t just an icon, but a portal into history.”

Sara J. Bloomfield, the director of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, said that more than 500,000 students visit annually, but “attracting and sustaining their attention is an increasing challenge.” The museum has increased its emphasis on personal stories and ideas — in addition to facts and events — in hopes of drawing in young people.

Technology was important too, given its popularity with young people, “but it must be effective in generating engagement and learning,” Ms. Bloomfield said.

“The effort to be relevant,” she added, “can lead to the trivialization of history.”

For some experts, a worrisome trend is that museums focused on the Holocaust have shifted away from emphasizing historical details and moved toward a “memorial culture,” in the words of the Yale University historian Timothy Snyder, a leading American scholar on World War II and the Holocaust.

“Most people of good will today would think, of course we should remember the Holocaust,” said Mr. Snyder, the author of the new book “On Tyranny: Twenty Lessons From the Twentieth Century.” “But the level of historical knowledge among people about the Holocaust is not very high. Remembering becomes a kind of circle — where you’re remembering to remember, but you don’t remember what you’re supposed to be remembering.”

Museums that preserve and present the truth are also fighting revisionists and Holocaust deniers who are increasingly vocal on the internet, and who are confusing the public, at a time when firsthand accounts of the Holocaust are fading.

As the generation of survivors disappears, museums dealing with Holocaust-related issues are seeking a new narrative, said Emile Schrijver, general director of the Amsterdam Jewish Cultural Quarter, which includes the Jewish Museum and the new Dutch National Holocaust Museum. “The strength of a lot of the information that we provide has always come from the people who experienced it.”

At the same time, the United States has seen a spike in attacks on Jewish cemeteries, Nazi swastikas sprayed on walls at schools and more than 150 bomb threats across the country at Jewish community centers, schools and synagogues, according to the Anti-Defamation League, whose offices have also been targeted.

In Europe, attacks on Jewish schools and a kosher grocery store in France are examples of a trend on the rise for a decade that has included anti-Semitic incidents in Germany, Britain and other countries. A European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights report from 2016 concluded that 76 percent of Jewish people surveyed “believe that anti-Semitism has increased in the country where they live during the past five years.”

“What schools need, and what anyone who wants to learn about the topic needs, are institutions that provide information on a trustworthy level,” Mr. Schrijver said.

Léontine Meijer-van Mensch, program director of the Jewish Museum Berlin, which is devoted to the broad scope of Jewish history, including the Holocaust, said that a 2016 visitor survey found that people “want to know, or they want to know more about the Holocaust.”

That museum plans to open an 18 million euro (about \$19.2 million) redesign of its permanent exhibition in 2019. It will begin with a better overview of the Nazi rise to power in Germany and give more attention to the “inner Jewish perspective” of German Jews trying to cope with National Socialism.

“I’d like to be a relevant institution that also takes a stand,” she said.

For the Anne Frank House, the challenges are both historical and practical: How to accommodate and engage tourists who may be frustrated with the increasingly long lines to explore the museum, with its tiny, cramped canal-house attic.

Early this month, the museum announced that it would expand the educational facilities and visitor entrance by 20 percent, redesign the entry halls and enhance exhibitions to provide more historical context. The project will cost around 10 million euros (about \$10.7 million) and unfold during the next two years while the museum remains open.

Phase 1 of the redesign began this month, when curators installed an introduction video at the start of the museum tour. It underscores the basics, explaining that

Frank was born in Germany and her family fled to Amsterdam when she was 4 after the election of the National Socialist Party.

“Germany became an anti-Semitic dictatorship in which opponents feared for their lives and Jews were systematically persecuted,” the narrator explains in the video. “The Nazi leader was Adolf Hitler.”

In the next exhibition room, a new display explores anti-Jewish measures that Nazi occupiers instituted in Amsterdam in 1941, rendering persecution in greater depth than before. For instance, a panel of photographs traces Frank’s school years here: She attended a public Montessori school until 1941, when the occupiers required all Jewish pupils to enroll in Jewish-only schools.

During the redesign’s second phase, the museum will present a more substantial prologue to Frank’s story, with historical information about the years 1923 to 1940, describing her life — and European history — before she went into hiding.

“Anne Frank became a kind of poster girl for hope and inspiration, when in fact her story was very, very tragic,” said Tom Brink, head of publications and presentations at the Anne Frank House, who is overseeing the redesign of the exhibitions. “We want to balance the story a bit more, so that we have more information about the context and the times, while still keeping it a very personal experience.”

Liebe Geft, director of the Museum of Tolerance in Los Angeles, said that Frank’s story “has been romanticized and distorted in many ways,” and putting her life and writing in greater historical context was critical to educating young people.

“Anne’s gift as a writer is remarkable and through its simplicity and its naturalness we find a connection to her as a young teenager whose questions and challenges are as relevant today as ever,” Ms. Geft said.

“If you contrast the normalcy of her literary content with the insanity of a world torn asunder by evil and hate, the legacy of

her diaries and essays is an eternal lesson to confront anti-Semitism, to denounce hate and injustice, and to speak up against persecution.”

Saved from demolition after the war by Frank’s father, Otto Frank, and other preservationists who created a foundation to protect it, the family’s former hiding place within a stately canal house at Prinsengracht 263 opened as a museum in 1960.

The annex, with its fading wallpaper and Frank’s newspaper clippings still pasted to the wall, will remain preserved in its postwar state during the renovations. It can accommodate only 300 to 400 visitors an hour, causing the long lines that have become a constant feature of the adjoining Westermarkt church square landscape.

The museum has changed its policy so that visitors can enter through the morning and early afternoon only with tickets prepurchased online, and in late afternoon the line forms for people who do not have prepurchased tickets. These efforts may not markedly reduce waiting times, but they are expected to alleviate some of the congestion inside and the lines outside.

On a recent Friday afternoon, the line still snaked around the block. A group of college students from the United States, just behind the Ontario high schoolers, knew a lot about World War II history. All of them had read Frank’s diary. They said that more context in the museum might help some visitors, but they still wanted its focus to be on her message of optimism.

“What’s so amazing is that she could write things that are so full of hope in such dark times,” said Michaela Gawley, 20, a Brandeis student from New York.

“America is really facing dark times, to my mind,” added Ms. Gawley, who is Jewish.

“To be able to hold on to hope and faith that people are good is ... ” she said, before pausing. “It’s hard.”

Tributes from July 1, 2016 through Dec. 31, 2016

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 HMH to educate our community about the Holocaust, remember the 6 million Jews and other innocent victims and to honor the survivors' legacy. This listing includes donors who participated in the Tribute Program along with those they chose to recognize. Tributes are listed alphabetically.

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someone
you love
becomes a
memory,
the memory
becomes a
treasure –
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Let's Be Friends!

The Friends of The Boniuk Library had a wonderful turnout for their children's program, "Let's Be Friends!," on December 3. Children enjoyed a morning of crafts, face painting, and writing workshops from Writers in the Schools.

At "Let's Be Friends!," local writers Leah Madof and Dede Fox did a spectacular job of teaching writing based on friendship-themed picture books from The Boniuk Library's children's book collection.



Museum Library Announces New Book Club

Grab a fellow book lover and join Holocaust Museum Houston's The Boniuk Library Book Club, featuring popular books set to the backdrop of the Holocaust. This new book club will meet monthly in 2017 at the Museum's Morgan Family Center to share in conversation about each exciting read. All of The Boniuk Library Book Club events

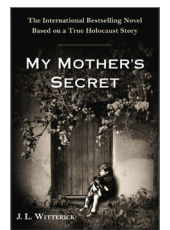
are set for 6:30 p.m.; light refreshments will be provided. Participants are expected to provide their own book.

Visit <http://www.hmh.org/RegisterEvent.aspx> to RSVP online or contact Maria Harris at (713) 942-8000, x110 or library@hmh.org to add your name to an interest list.

Book Club Reads & Schedule



May 16



July 6

Israeli Political Reform Expert Featured at Kosberg-Wilkenfeld Distinguished Lecture Series

Dr. Arye Zvi Carmon, founding president and senior fellow of the Israel Democracy Institute (IDI), was the featured guest lecturer for the Kosberg-Wilkenfeld Distinguished Lecture Series held this past January. The Stanford University lecturer for the International Policy Studies Program, Dr. Carmon spoke in Houston at a free two-day series and visited with students at The Emery/Weiner School and Houston School for the Performing and Visual Arts (HSPVA). The lectures were held at Asia Society and The Emery/Weiner School, with more than 300 people in attendance.

The Kosberg-Wilkenfeld Distinguished Lecture Series was funded as a gift made in memory of Ruth Vinn Hendler Lack, a Holocaust survivor who served as the second executive director of the Museum.



Dolores Wilkenfeld, Dr. Arye Carmon, and Saranne Kosberg



Livingston Kosberg, Dr. Arye Carmon, Dr. Kelly J. Zúñiga and Gary Markowitz



Dr. Arye Carmon and students at HSPVA.



Holocaust Museum Houston: Laurie and Milton Boniuk

Long-time humanitarians and philanthropists Laurie and Milton Boniuk base much of their good works on a simple belief: Differences among individuals should be celebrated, not feared, and we must learn to embrace individuals for whom they are and treat everyone with respect.

Laurie, a Philadelphia native, earned her BA in Education from the University of Pennsylvania, and taught school for many years. Milton, the son of an immigrant Polish father and a Russian mother, was reared in Glace Bay, Nova Scotia. He attended Dalhousie University in Halifax, for undergraduate and medical school and continued his education with a Residency at Wills Eye Hospital in Philadelphia, where he met Laurie, whom he married in 1958. He then attended the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, in Washington, D.C., as a Fellow in Ophthalmic Pathology from 1959 to 1961. In 1961, he was recruited by Baylor

College of Medicine to run the eye pathology lab, and serve as Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology and Pathology. He became full professor at Baylor College of Medicine in 1967. The Boniuks had three children, but sadly lost their daughter Ellen in 1985. "The first philanthropic gift we ever made was funding the Early Childhood Center at the Jewish Community Center in West Houston in Ellen's memory," states Laurie. The couple also founded the National Society for Parent-Child Development in 1989. "We were interested in improving parenting skills, and wanted to do something that positively impacted the lives of children," she adds.

After achieving some financial success as a physician, Milton entered into the commercial real estate business in the early 1970's. Through successful investing, Milton and Laurie found themselves in a position to follow their passion to conquer discrimination, bullying and prejudice. The Boniuks were early supporters of The Holocaust Museum Houston, where Milton initially served on the Board and is now on the Advisory Board. "Holocaust Museum Houston does a great job. It is one of the best museums in Houston and is constantly evolving and improving," Milton proclaims. The couple underwrote the Museum's library, and more recently, as part of the building's capital campaign, the naming of the Museum's new Boniuk Center for the

Future of Holocaust, Genocide and Human Rights Education. They also support the Museum of National Science and the Health Museum, and made major contributions to Rice University, where they established The Boniuk Center and later the Boniuk Institute for the Study and Advancement of Religious Tolerance. "Many religions include sects which promote hatred and violence, and our Institute is focused on promoting tolerance, compassion and respect, along with multiculturalism and diversity," explains Milton.

Given their strong desire to impact the minds of children at an early age, the Boniuks became investors in the well-known "Chicken Soup for the Soul" organization, and have initiated the publication of three books, an anti-bullying program and television programs for both children and their parents.

The Boniuks have become known throughout the City of Houston for their commitment to philanthropy and vision for change. "We are fortunate to have been able to create initiatives that help us all live by the golden rule," explains Milton. "It gives us pleasure to give things away, and we want to be remembered for our integrity and for treating all people with respect and compassion. If our work makes the world even a little bit better, then we would indeed have left a legacy that defines us for who we truly are."



Holocaust Museum Houston offers a variety of opportunities for our members to support the Museum while networking and creating new connections to learn more about the Holocaust and the arts and culture environment in Houston.

Spring Specials
Join an Affinity Group Today!
Up to 30% SAVINGS
through June 30, 2017.

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.



Guild's Hanukkah Party

art circle
HOLOCAUST MUSEUM HOUSTON

Art Circle

The Art Circle at Holocaust Museum connects members with artists and collectors engaged in social, political and/or human rights issues. Funds raised by your Art Circle membership support the art exhibition program at the Museum. Join the Art Circle as an individual or take advantage of special rates for couples and young professionals.

FRIENDS
of
THE BONIUK LIBRARY
HOLOCAUST MUSEUM HOUSTON

Friends of the Library

The Friends of the Library connects HMH members and the Houston community with The Boniuk Library's collection and resources. All funds raised by Friends of the Library are committed to growing the collection, increasing the Library's visibility and expanding public access to the collection. Join the Friends of the Library at the \$100, \$200 or \$500 level.

THE GUILD
FELLOWSHIP • COMMUNITY • SERVICE
HOLOCAUST MUSEUM HOUSTON

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 or become a lifetime member for \$500.

NEXT GEN

Next Generation (ages 21 to 39)

The Museum's young professionals group, Next Generation is 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.

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@hmh.org.



HMH BEARING WITNESS
HOLOCAUST MUSEUM HOUSTON

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Give the Gift of Hope!

Share the Museum! Give a gift that friends and family can enjoy throughout the year!

Membership to Holocaust Museum Houston makes a meaningful gift for any occasion, one that can be enjoyed all year round. Your gift of membership will introduce a friend or loved one to an important chapter of history and stirs interest. As a Museum member, your gift recipient will be invited to participate in special programs for members and receive full membership benefits.

These benefits include:

- Unlimited free Museum admission for 12 months
- Discounts on books and gifts in the Museum Store
- Discounted tickets for Museum programming
- Subscription to Museum newsletters and special promotions
- Invitations to Members-Only previews and public programs
- Exclusive library privileges

To **Give a Gift Membership, purchase online or call 713-527-1616**. Please be prepared to share the following information:

- Name and address of the recipient of the membership gift.
- Any special message you would like to include.



How do I become a member of Holocaust Museum Houston?

Your membership allows Holocaust Museum Houston to help teach the dangers of hatred, prejudice and apathy against the backdrop of the largest genocide ever to occur in our world – the Holocaust. You can take a stand to remember the 6 million Jews and millions of other innocent victims who perished and join us in honoring the survivors' legacy.

Purchase your HMH membership online, in person at the front desk, or call Membership Services at 713-527-1616.