

MEMORY & ACTION

UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM MAGAZINE | SPRING 2015

Safeguarding
DEMOCRACY

UNITED STATES
HOLOCAUST
MEMORIAL
MUSEUM

LISTEN

**What do a Nobel laureate,
a former skinhead,
and a heavy metal singer
all have in common?**

**CONFRONTING
HATRED**

**70 Years after
the Holocaust**

Confronting Hatred
is based on the long-running
Voices on Antisemitism
podcasts generously
supported by the Elizabeth and
Oliver Stanton Foundation.

Listen to this hour-long radio special,
presented by the United States Holocaust Memorial
Museum, and hear from a broad range of voices
about racism, antisemitism, and the ways in which
hatred can grow.

Distributed by PRX, the special aired nationwide during
the 2015 Days of Remembrance and now is available
at ushmm.org/confronting-hatred and on iTunes.



UNITED STATES
HOLOCAUST
MEMORIAL
MUSEUM

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We dedicate this issue of *Memory & Action* to Pam del Canto, who was the Museum's art director when she lost her battle with cancer in December. Pam designed the first five issues of *Memory & Action*. Her creativity and dedication will always inspire us.

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from the Director

AS THIS ISSUE ARRIVES IN THOUSANDS OF HOMES AROUND THE

country, many people throughout the United States and around the world are commemorating the 70th anniversary of the liberation of the camps and the end of World War II. This is certainly a moment for reflection on the scale of the atrocities and the enormous sacrifices of the soldiers who fought to defeat Nazism.

But it comes at a moment when we are witnessing the rise of violent antisemitism in the very lands of the Holocaust and a new ideological extremism fueled by hatred of Jews, Christians, democracy, and western civilization more broadly. Seventy years later, it feels way too familiar. We all have good reason to ask, *What will be different this time?*

That is the right question, and I hope it has many answers. One is that we now have a United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in the capital of the free world that is helping to lead a global movement of education about the lessons of the Holocaust for our own time—lessons about the fragility of societies, the nature of hate, and the deadly consequences of indifference.

That ambitious goal was given an enormous boost by the magnificent \$25 million gift from the Levine family of Phoenix to create the William Levine Family Institute for Holocaust Education. We are deeply grateful to the Levines, who share our conviction that we must be adamant about remembering the past, vigilant about the present, and bold about the future.

Cover: Kashara Vivieca, a training officer with the Metropolitan Police Department of the District of Columbia, tours the Museum's Permanent Exhibition with her class. Learn about the creation and expansion of the Law Enforcement and Society training program on page 10.

All photographs *US Holocaust Memorial Museum* unless otherwise indicated.

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Learning from How Wars End

70 Years Since Victory in Europe

IN THE 70 YEARS SINCE THE ALLIED VICTORY over Germany ended the war in Europe, historians have researched—and hotly debated—its root causes. More recently, scholars have started asking questions about why the war ended the way it did. In 1944–45, the German army lost more men in 12 months than in all the previous years of war combined. Why didn't the war end until long after it became clear that Germany could not defeat the Allies? Why did Nazi leaders continue the fight when it destroyed a generation of German youth and caused the almost total destruction of the country's cities and infrastructure?

Up until the day of surrender, May 8, 1945, Nazi Germany also continued to murder Europe's Jews and others it considered to be threats. Rather than abandon the more than 700,000 prisoners it held in concentration camps in January 1945 to the rapidly approaching Allied forces, the SS sent them on death marches. More than a third of those people never lived to see liberation; they were shot, beaten to death, or died of starvation, disease, or the cold. In addition to victims of the Holocaust, tens of thousands of foreign laborers, German deserters, and "defeatists" were summarily executed

in the final months of the war. The only thing that prevented an even greater death toll was the swift arrival of Allied troops.

The Nazi regime chose the path of self-destruction in part because of its leaders' refusal to accept the way World War I ended. For Adolf Hitler, Germany's loss in that war drove him into extremist politics and fueled his hatred of German democracy, which he believed was the byproduct of treason. When he became chancellor in 1933, Hitler repeatedly vowed that Germany would never experience another November 1918, when the Imperial Government was toppled by internal unrest and the armistice with the Allies was signed. To prevent this from occurring, his regime—built on racist, antisemitic ideology—would eliminate those who he believed stabbed the country in the back when it was on the verge of military victory: Jews, Marxists, liberals, and pacifists.

And he kept that promise. Instead of capitulating when there was a chance to save millions of lives and Europe from senseless destruction, Nazi Germany fought on, waging an unrelenting campaign to neutralize or eradicate all "enemies of the state." The Third Reich,

its leaders reasoned, might not survive, but they would ensure that its internal foes would perish first.

The Nazis were not alone in drawing lessons from the 1918 armistice, which set the stage for a global depression and created the conditions for the Nazi rise and Germany's rearmament. After 1943, the Allies, too, rejected the notion of an armistice with Hitler's Germany and demanded the unconditional surrender of the enemy. This controversial policy of unconditional surrender paved the way for the massive changes the Allies introduced into a defeated Germany. Unlike an armistice, under which the belligerents agree to mutually acceptable peace terms and conditions, unconditional surrender granted the victors greater leeway under international law to freely reorganize and reform the vanquished nation. In 1945, it allowed the Allies to demilitarize, de-Nazify, and reeducate German society and to prosecute suspected Nazi war criminals instead of turning them over to German courts for trial.

Nazi Germany's defeat in 1945 dramatically shaped the world in which we live. Unlike after World War I, Germany, with Allied help, established a successful democracy that has weathered political



and economic crises. The United States emerged as one of the world's super-powers and, instead of retreating back into isolationism, took a leading role in rebuilding Europe and creating the United Nations. Allied victory also exposed the public to the horrors of Nazi mass murder and set in motion the legal framework to punish those who incite or commit the crime of genocide.

Liberation from Nazi rule, however, did not bring freedom to all Europeans. Pogroms erupted in the aftermath of the war, forcing Jews from eastern Europe to flee to the West. By 1947, some 250,000 Jews were living in European displaced persons camps waiting for

a chance to rebuild their lives in what would become Israel or in the United States. The Soviet occupation of most of eastern and central Europe then led to almost five decades of oppression.

Seventy years after liberation, the rise of antisemitism and new conflict in countries where the Holocaust occurred remind us about the power of history to influence contemporary events. Just as the Nazis and the Allies drew lessons from World War I that shaped how World War II ended, so must we learn from the past to more effectively prevent and confront extremism, antisemitism and other hatreds, and genocide today. ■

Holocaust survivors pose on May 7, 1945, the day after they were liberated from Ebensee, a Mauthausen sub-camp, by the US Army. *National Archives and Records Administration*

Museum Program Helps Youth Speak Up



WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN YOU HEAR RACIST or antisemitic remarks? Evan Jones, the executive director of a San Francisco Bay-area Boys & Girls Club, turns to Holocaust history to explain the power of words and the violence that can be fueled by hate.

New York management consultant Sean Kelly says he gained the confidence to tell his peers not to use hateful

language, including “that’s retarded” or “that’s gay,” back in high school.

Both men attribute their willingness to stand up to antisemitism and other forms of hatred to the same source: the Bringing the Lessons Home program, which began at the Museum 21 years ago.

Jones and Kelly are alumni ambassadors of Bringing the Lessons Home, or BTLH. Each year, this select group



Evan Jones (left) and Sean Kelly (right) learned at the Museum how to stand up to antisemitism.

of Washington, DC-area high school students attends a 15-week course that trains them as tour guides for the Museum's Permanent Exhibition, *The Holocaust*, and many stay involved with the program well beyond their high school years. The curriculum provides an in-depth, holistic overview of Holocaust history, with a focus on the roles of a wide array of individuals.

For Jones, the training helped him form a powerful connection to this history. "None of us knew any survivors, none of us had a personal connection to the Holocaust," he said. "But they weren't only training us so that this never happens again to the Jewish people. They were training us so that it never happens again to Jews or anyone else. It made it very accessible."

The nearly 700 ambassadors—from a Holocaust educator in Houston to a human development scholar in Chicago—have disseminated those lessons across the country. They form a network of individuals who have been inspired by the lessons of the Holocaust and are emboldened to speak out against injustice, according to James Fleming, program coordinator for Youth and Community Initiatives. BTLH alumni become "catalysts in their communities who will help make their country and their world a more tolerant place."

Jones, who weaves lessons of history into his daily interactions with students at the Mid-Peninsula Boys & Girls Club,



"I'm amazed to know that 20 years later there are hundreds of us ambassadors out there and thousands more people whose lives we've touched." —EVAN JONES, BTLH alumnus

believes that teaching young people the truth about the darkest periods of history empowers them to make the world different from the past. Knowing that the BTLH network exists fuels his optimism.

"I'm amazed to know that 20 years later there are hundreds of us ambassadors out there and thousands more people whose lives we've touched," Jones said. "That makes me feel really proud and gives me a lot of hope for the future." ■

Left: BTLH ambassadors visit with Holocaust survivors and Museum volunteers Ania and Marcel Drimer. Above: BTLH alumni, gathered for the program's 20th anniversary event in December 2014, discuss ten actions they can take to fulfill their pledge to bring the lessons of the Holocaust to their communities.

Honoring a Jewish Rescuer



WHEN POLAND WAS LOCKED DOWN

under Nazi occupation in 1943 and 1944, Ben Zion Kalb managed to transport probably 1,000 fellow Jews out of Poland and then to Hungary, which was comparatively safe at the time. Kalb's heroic efforts are relatively unknown. But now that Kalb's children have donated his papers to the Museum, he will be remembered.

"It's important for both Jews and Gentiles to be recognized as rescuers. But the failure to recognize Jews gives the impression they were passive," said his son Mark Colb. "In fact, Jews in even greater personal danger rescued other Jews."

Having rescued his fiancée, Clara, Kalb realized he might be able to transport others out of Poland. He secured documents, identified smugglers, and arranged for hiding places along the route. Colb pieced together his father's story long after his death based on the small collection of documents his mother was able to smuggle out of postwar Czechoslovakia.

The Colb collection (the spelling of Ben Zion's name changed when he

immigrated) is one of the few that show the extraordinary efforts some Jews made to save other Jews, according to Judy Cohen, director of the Museum's photographic reference collection. The collection will be conserved and digitized, then preserved for all time in a state-of-the-art facility, the David and Fela Shapell Family Collections and Conservation Center, scheduled to open in early 2017. Colb and his siblings chose the Museum as the permanent repository for their father's papers because of its ability to tell powerful stories now and to future generations.

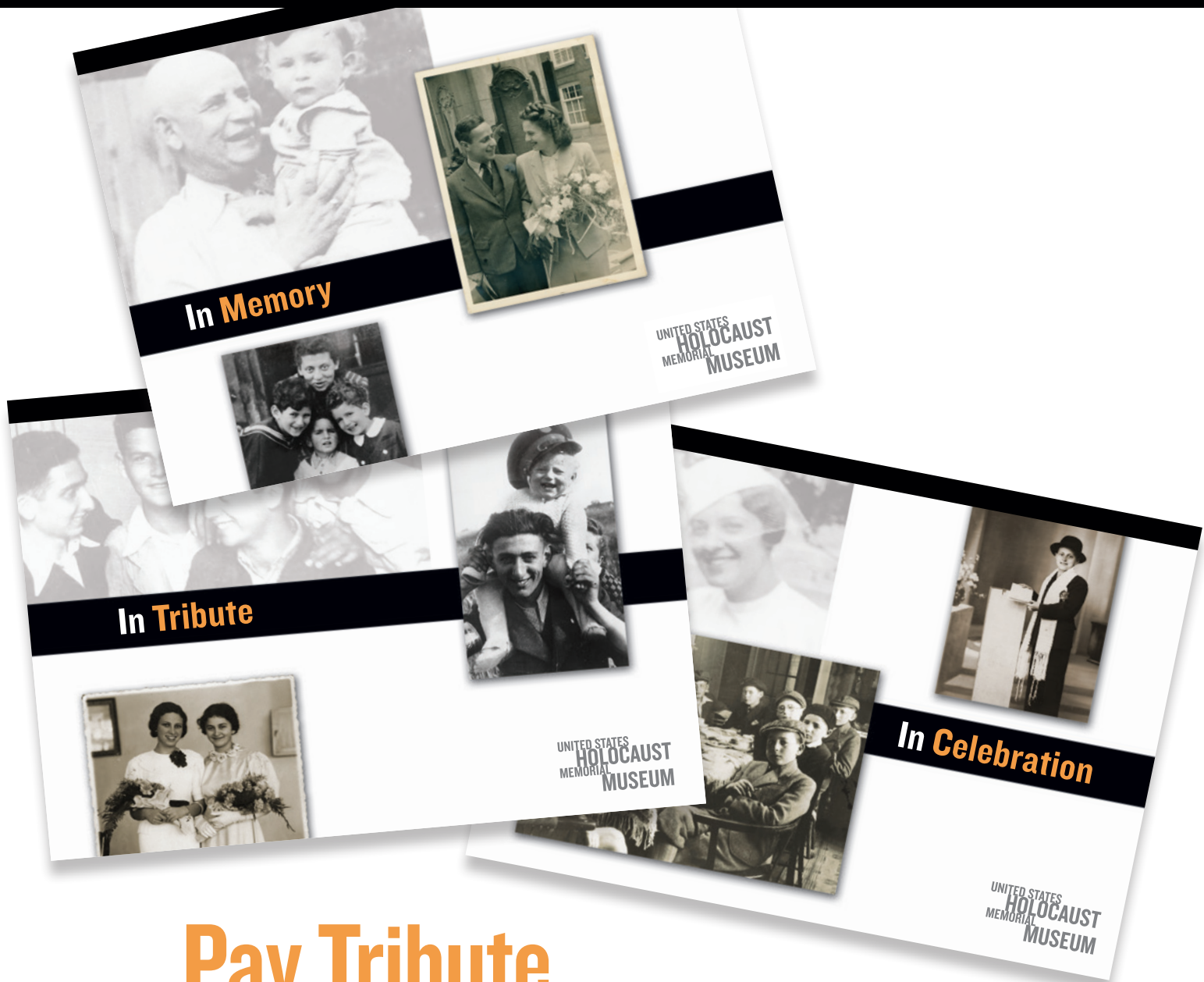
Kalb's correspondence shows the difficult decisions faced by Jewish leaders such as Yitzhak Zuckerman, a commander of the Jewish Fighting Organization, which led the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising. In January 1944, when he was helping to hide thousands of Jews who remained in Warsaw, Zuckerman responded to Kalb's offer of rescue, "Despite our slaughter, we will not be able to come to you. I am busy here with matters of rescue and defense.... Remember, in your work hangs the

fate of the remainder of Israel in the land of Poland."

The letter is just one of the priceless artifacts in the Colb collection, which also includes a copy of the original Auschwitz Protocol written in Slovak—a version that had been thought lost to history. The Auschwitz Protocol was the first detailed eyewitness account of the camp's killing operations and led to an international outcry (see page 17).

Now is the time to donate papers and artifacts to the Museum, while the memories of survivors and their offspring can enrich our understanding of the stories these objects represent. Kalb's documents give us the outline of his rescue network, but there is much we will never know about his efforts. As Colb lamented, "I never asked all the questions I now would ask if I had even an hour with my father." Thanks to his research and donation, we all can learn from Ben Zion Kalb's story and preserve it forever as evidence of resistance. ■

Above: The collection includes this 1944 studio portrait of Ben Zion Kalb with two orphans, Itzhak and Alter Weinberg, whom he helped smuggle from Poland to Slovakia.



Pay Tribute to Someone Special

Commemorate a special occasion or honor a loved one by making a tax-deductible gift to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

A person of your choosing will receive a card featuring images from the Museum's collections and customized with your message. Your gift helps sustain our living memorial.

Send a tribute gift by calling 866.998.7466 or visiting ushmm.org/tributegift.

A Call to Action



UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER for Human Rights Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein has spent years trying to understand the Holocaust. So on his first trip to Washington after his appointment, Zeid visited the Museum and delivered a major policy address explaining how his study of the Holocaust has informed his approach as high commissioner.

Zeid, a Jordanian-born diplomat who has dedicated his career to peace building and accountability for human rights violations, observed that Nazi leaders “failed to show the smallest shred of ethics and understanding.” How do so many well-educated leaders come to believe killing is justified? “It centers on the erroneous belief that circumstances dictate a special response,” Zeid said. “This logic is abundant around the world today: I torture because a war justifies it.... I kill others, because others

will kill me—and so it goes, on and on.”

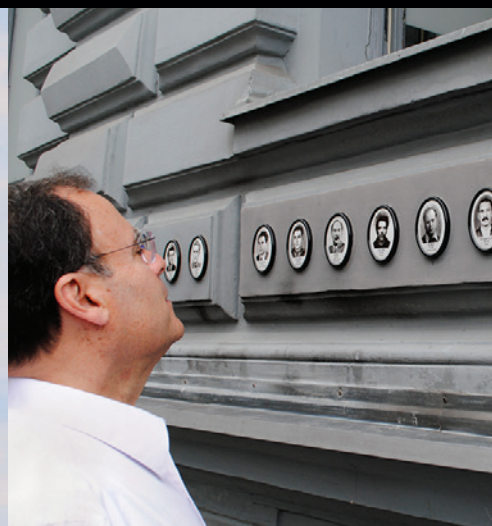
Leaders use such rationalizations, Zeid said, when they choose to ignore human rights protections guaranteed by international treaties in the wake of the Holocaust. International laws and leaders who obey them are vital to protecting human rights, but recent years also have seen horrific violence committed by non-state actors, such as IS in Iraq and Boko Haram in Nigeria, Zeid said, which calls for a different kind of response.

“Few of these crises have erupted without warning. They have built up over years—and sometimes decades—of human rights grievances,” Zeid said. “Specific kinds of human rights violations, including sexual violence, speech that incites violence, and patterns of discrimination against minorities, can provide early warning

of the escalation of crisis into atrocity.”

It is those early warnings that the Museum is working to understand and amplify so that international defenders of human rights have the opportunity to make a difference.

“The high commissioner issued a call to action, asking us not only to understand the links between a society’s history and its human rights situation, but to consider how those can constitute early warning indicators for new mass atrocities,” said Cameron Hudson, director of the Museum’s Simon-Skjodt Center for the Prevention of Genocide, which was recently renamed in recognition of an exceptional gift from the Samarian Foundation of Indianapolis. The fall issue of this magazine will feature the impact of this gift on the Museum’s genocide prevention work. ■



A TRIP with Purpose

August 29–September 5, 2015

CHAIRS

Dee Dee and Eliot Simon
St. Louis, Missouri

Join us as we travel to Austria and Hungary to take an in-depth look at Holocaust history in those countries and meet with community leaders, survivors, and experts, including Museum partners and former fellows.

We will visit new exhibitions in Austria that impart the lessons of the Holocaust to new generations. In Hungary, we will learn about efforts to combat the dramatic rise of contemporary antisemitism and the distortion of Holocaust history.

For more information, contact Nadia Ficara at nficara@ushmm.org.

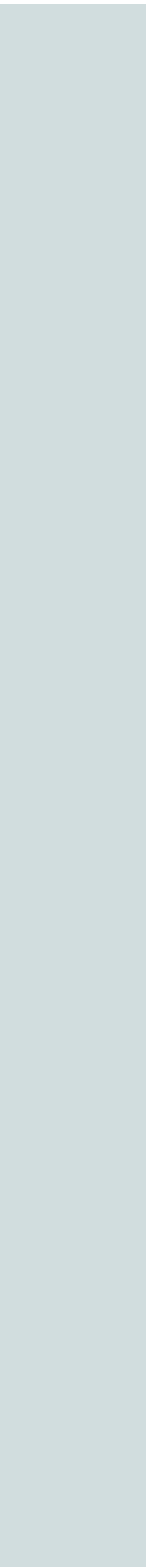
This special program is open to members who have made a minimum \$5,000 annual gift to the Museum since October 1, 2014. Qualifying gifts may be made along with trip registration.



**NEVER
AGAIN**
WHAT YOU DO MATTERS

THE CAMPAIGN

UNITED STATES
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Building Strong Societies

A Partnership with Law Enforcement



IN THE 16 YEARS SINCE CHARLES RAMSEY FIRST TOURED THE MUSEUM'S Permanent Exhibition, **The Holocaust**, more than 95,000 law enforcement officers have seen it for themselves. The training program the Museum developed with the Anti-Defamation League and Ramsey, who was then chief of police in Washington, DC, is now offered to command-level officers from the country's largest cities. It has spawned programs for the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the Drug Enforcement Administration, and Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Even law enforcement leaders from abroad have come to the Museum to participate.

“I have seen that look in many communities I patrolled:
Are you here to protect me or to persecute me?”

—CHARLES RAMSEY, on a photo from Buchenwald (above right) in the Permanent Exhibition

Why is this training so powerful? What makes leaders in law enforcement seek it out for their staff? Why do the lessons of the Holocaust resonate so deeply with police officers?

To answer those questions, Charles Ramsey, now Philadelphia police commissioner, returns to the exhibition itself—in particular, the photograph of a man who has just been liberated from Buchenwald (above). “When you look at his eyes, you can clearly see that he can't tell the difference between a liberator and an oppressor. He is still a prisoner in many ways,” Ramsey says. “I have seen that look in many communities I patrolled: Are you here to protect me or to persecute me?”

Left: Philadelphia Police Commissioner Charles Ramsey in the Museum's Hall of Witness Above: This photograph of a Holocaust survivor shortly after the liberation of Buchenwald in April 1945 appears in the Museum's Permanent Exhibition. *National Archives and Records Administration*



MEETING TODAY'S CHALLENGE WITH LESSONS FROM THE PAST

THE MUSEUM'S LAW ENFORCEMENT AND SOCIETY

training program gives participants the opportunity for honest dialogue about the challenges they face, Ramsey says. Unlike so-called “sensitivity training” that directly addresses tensions around race and class and puts participants on the defensive, the historical basis of the Museum’s program catches officers off guard. It begins in a seemingly faraway place and time, 1930s Germany, which trainees are surprised to discover was not so unlike our own. As in America today, police officers in Weimar Germany took an oath to protect all citizens. What happened, asks Ramsey, to make those same officers complicit in carrying out the Holocaust? “How did they become involved in something so evil?”

Ramsey believes he has identified something that went wrong then—and can be just as dangerous in society today. “If you ask the average police officer what their role is, they’ll say, ‘enforcing the law.’ Well of course it’s about

enforcing the law, but it’s not just about that. It’s about upholding the constitutional rights of all people.” To safeguard democratic values, Ramsey believes, law enforcement officers need to move from a “warrior mentality” to a “guardian mentality,” seeing themselves as protecting citizens and their rights.

That shift in perspective is responsible for the training program’s appeal from the local to the national level. Owen Harris, assistant director of the FBI’s training division, says the Museum program is required for all new agents and has been integrated into the Bureau’s National Academy, which trains police managers from around the country and the world.

“A visit to the Holocaust Museum has become a mainstay of our overall ethics training, which focuses on core values,” Harris says. “Agents have the ability to arrest someone. When you do that, you’re taking away their freedom.” The Museum training ensures agents understand what that means.

ELEVATING THE NATIONAL DISCUSSION

THE MUSEUM TRAINS FBI AGENTS AND POLICE recruits on-site, but demand for the program continues to grow. There are more than 18,000 state and local law enforcement agencies in the United States, whose employment of sworn officers increased by about 57,000 over a four-year period, according to the most recent Bureau of Justice Statistics census.

Last year, Museum staff collaborated on the first Police Executive Leadership Institute, which gives participants an opportunity to engage in frank, in-depth discussions on the challenges police face today. Last month, a second class of high-level police executives gathered at the Museum. Future chiefs who understand the importance of safeguarding civil rights can implement such training and policies in their departments.

In 2014, police use of deadly force captured national headlines, and protests erupted in several American cities. In response, President Barack Obama convened the Task Force on 21st Century Policing to develop recommendations on how to strengthen public trust and foster strong relationships between local law enforcement and the communities that they protect, while also promoting effective crime reduction. He named Ramsey co-chair of the Task Force. “It’s an opportunity for real, concrete change in our profession,” says Ramsey.

Crime reduction strategies, Ramsey says, have in some cases led citizens to feel that police make their lives more difficult. That perception can foster the distrust that escalates tensions between police and the communities they serve—tensions escalated further by social media, which makes people in all parts of the country aware of incidents they wouldn’t have known about otherwise. Adding to the daily rigors of fighting crime, this tension can have a psychological effect on police, Ramsey says. “If we want to make sure officers are behaving properly, we have to make sure we’re taking care of them.”

Recognizing that the Holocaust represents a failure of leadership, the Museum has a variety of programs targeting leaders in the world today. Working with the Pentagon, service academies, and defense universities, the Museum’s training for the military examines decision making in the German armed forces during the Holocaust. State and federal judges study the role of the German judiciary in upholding laws that restricted political freedoms and civil rights. The lessons of the Holocaust impart the importance of protecting the rights of individuals, which empowers professionals with a deeper understanding of the crucial role they play in safeguarding democracy. ■

“When new FBI agents and analysts visit the Holocaust Museum, they see and hear, in a palpable way, the consequences of the abuse of power on an unimaginable scale.”

—FBI DIRECTOR JAMES COMEY



Above left: A Museum volunteer gives District of Columbia police recruits a tour of the Permanent Exhibition. Left: Military officers from 38 countries on six continents participate in a Museum training program inspired by the Law Enforcement and Society program.

Americans AND THE HOLOCAUST

Pursuing Untold Stories of Individual Action

THIS SPRING, AMERICANS WILL COMMEMORATE THE LIBERATION of the Nazi camps and the end of World War II and the Holocaust 70 years ago. They will pay tribute to American and Allied soldiers, whose courage and sacrifice helped defeat Nazism. At the same time, this milestone anniversary will prompt us to reflect on America's response to Nazism. American action and inaction persist as topics of significant debate, centering mostly on the role of the US government, especially President Franklin Roosevelt and the State Department. But the discussion usually remains in the realm of American political history and rarely examines the responses of American individuals.

For the centerpiece of a ten-year, comprehensive exploration of American responses to the persecution of Europe's Jews, the Museum will open an exhibition on the subject in 2018, on the occasion of its 25th anniversary. Delving into that pivotal period in American history—both before and during the war—can help us better understand our national and individual responsibilities in the face of atrocities.

To prepare for the exhibition, the Museum recently launched a collecting initiative that has already uncovered some extraordinary stories about Americans before and during the Holocaust.

Jewish children rescued from German-occupied Vienna by two Americans, Gilbert and Eleanor Kraus, arrive in New York Harbor in 1939.







Above: The Rev. M. E. N. Lindsay used this typewriter to write his 1937 sermon urging parishioners in Southbury, Connecticut, to oppose an American Nazi organization. Lindsay's daughters, Lois Lindsay Brown, Carol Lindsay Hagy, and Joan Lindsay Redford, donated the typewriter and their father's papers to the Museum.

RURAL TOWN DEFIES AMERICAN NAZIS

The Rev. M. E. N. Lindsay was one of two pastors in Southbury, Connecticut, who spoke up when the German-American Bund, an American Nazi organization, sought to establish a foothold in their rural town, just 80 miles north of New York City. The Bund had purchased land for a training camp that would instill Nazi values in youth. Lindsay and the Rev. Felix Manley were determined not to let that happen.

On the Sunday before Thanksgiving in 1937, Lindsay and Manley preached about the Nazi "menace" in their respective Southbury-area

churches and later rallied their neighbors in a successful protest against the Nazi organization. A leaflet that activists distributed to residents asked them "to decide whether or not you want the swastika and goose step thrust upon you, whether you want your land values depressed." The town of Southbury managed, through zoning regulations, to prevent the camp from being built there.

Lindsay's daughters recently donated their father's papers and other artifacts, including the typewriter on which he wrote his sermons, to the Museum.

An eyewitness report, released by the War Refugee Board in November 1944, confirmed to Americans the scale of killing in Nazi-occupied territory.

AMERICANS TAKE ACTION IN EUROPE

A young American couple, Roswell and Marjorie McClelland, moved to Europe in 1940 to aid refugees fleeing Nazi occupation. On behalf of the Quaker aid organization the American Friends Service Committee, they staffed offices in Rome, Marseilles, and, finally, Geneva, as the territory where refugees could be assisted shrank. They spent the entire war living in Europe and starting a family—their first two children were born in 1943 and 1944 while they continued to help refugees. The US government eventually recruited Roswell McClelland to represent the War Refugee Board, created in 1944 to provide relief and rescue those in imminent danger.

One of the McClellands' sons recently donated his parents' papers to the Museum. They include the notes Roswell made while translating an eyewitness report detailing the gassing operations at Auschwitz-Birkenau from German to English during the summer of 1944. He also verified the accuracy of what became known as the Auschwitz Protocol. "The version he translated is the one that was eventually released to the public," said Museum Archivist Rebecca Erbeling. "We can see how he edited it and that he wanted it to have an impact."



The Auschwitz Protocol, released by the War Refugee Board in November 1944, confirmed to Americans the scale of killing that had taken place in Nazi-occupied territory. After wide coverage of the document in the American media, 76 percent of respondents to a December 1944 Gallup poll said they believed stories that Germany had murdered many people in concentration camps, although just 12 percent believed the number of those murdered exceeded two million.

Above: In 1940, young Americans Marjorie and Roswell McClelland moved to Rome to set up a refugee aid office. Their son, Kirk McClelland, donated his parents' papers to the Museum. Below: During the summer of 1944, Roswell McClelland translated a firsthand account of the killing operations at Auschwitz-Birkenau. His translation was released to the public in November 1944.



The Treasury Department's report "On the Acquiescence of this Government in the Murder of the Jews" convinced Morgenthau to go to Roosevelt.

Right: Archivist Rebecca Erbelding meets with Henry Morgenthau III about his family's papers, which he donated to the Museum. Below: The Morgenthau collection includes home movies containing wartime footage of Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau Jr. with Franklin Roosevelt (left) and Winston Churchill (right).



MORGENTHAU APPEALS TO FDR

As early as August 1942, the US State Department had received information about German plans to annihilate the Jews of Europe. Rabbi Stephen Wise, president of the World Jewish Congress, received the same information and in November held a press conference to raise public awareness of mass killings and urge action. By late 1943, staff at the US Treasury Department, led by Secretary Henry Morgenthau Jr., had become alarmed at State Department indifference, which they believed was obstructing rescue

efforts. Their report, "On the Acquiescence of this Government in the Murder of the Jews," convinced Morgenthau to go to Roosevelt and ask him to do something to help refugees. As a result of public pressure, congressional interest, and Morgenthau's request, Roosevelt created the War Refugee Board in January 1944.

Museum curators have just begun to study the large collection donated last year from the Morgenthau family's personal archives. The collection includes wartime correspondence with Roosevelt, President Harry Truman, and Eleanor Roosevelt, as well as color video of the Morgenthau family with the Roosevelts and Winston Churchill.

"Late in the war, Morgenthau was trying to convince Roosevelt to do more to aid Jews," said Daniel Greene, curator of the Museum's upcoming special exhibition. Although it was founded after millions of Jews had already been murdered, the War Refugee Board made significant efforts to rescue Jews endangered under Nazi occupation.

A SURVIVOR TELLS HER STORY WHILE WAR RAGES ON

One of the earliest survivor testimonies to be widely read in the United States came from a surprising source: the teenage daughter of an American Jewish woman, who was born and raised in Poland. Mary Berg and her family were imprisoned in the Warsaw Ghetto and witnessed its horrors, although from a privileged position: "My mother has tacked up her visiting card on the door, with the inscription: 'American citizen,'" Berg wrote. "This inscription is a wonderful talisman against the German bandits...." Eventually, her mother's American citizenship secured the Berg family's transfer to the United States in March 1944 as part of a prisoner exchange.

Upon her arrival in New York, in March 1944, Berg worked with the journalist S. L. Shneiderman to translate and publish her diary—a grim account of her life as a Jew in German-occupied Poland—as a serial in several

newspapers. Berg became a celebrity, granting newspaper and radio interviews. Her account was published as a book in February 1945—before the end of the war, but after most of the Holocaust's victims had been killed.

Berg died in 2013 and the Museum recently acquired her photo albums and scrapbook, which includes dozens of newspaper clippings covering her book's release and her numerous speaking engagements.

HELP US RESCUE THE EVIDENCE

Those are just some of the stories the Museum's Americans and the Holocaust initiative has made possible. Through this and other efforts, the Museum is building the collection of record on the Holocaust. It will be preserved in perpetuity in the secure, state-of-the-art David and Fela Shapell Family Collections and Conservation Center, soon to be under construction. If your family or someone you know has something to donate, please e-mail curator@ushmm.org. ■



Mary Berg's scrapbook includes dozens of newspaper clippings that demonstrate her diary's wide reach. The Museum acquired Berg's scrapbook and photo albums with the assistance of her nephew, Steven Powell.



The William Levine Family Institute for Holocaust Education Reaching a 21st-Century Audience

“Before the Museum’s summit on hate speech, I felt pessimistic about changing the world. Now I feel empowered to speak up, to be an ally for others, and to encourage those around me to be more proactive in everyday life when we see any sort of injustice.”

—AVIVA AGUILAR (right), a student at Case Western University

CREATING A LASTING IMPACT ON YOUNG PEOPLE LIKE THIS STUDENT

from Case Western University is one of the Museum’s most urgent priorities. Young people are the change agents in any society, and the Museum’s unique approach engages them in thinking critically about Holocaust history and its implications for their lives.

“At this pivotal moment, we are asking ourselves the hard questions that will determine the impact of Holocaust education into the future,” explained Sarah Ogilvie, the Museum’s chief program officer. “It’s not just doing the same model and doing it bigger. It requires reimagining how you create and deliver accessible content that resonates with young people. It requires developing new models that maintain excellence in teaching while exponentially increasing our reach.”

Those models will be developed by the Levine Institute, which was named through a recent \$25 million endowment commitment by longtime Museum leader Bill Levine—the largest single gift in the institution’s history. The gift will allow the Levine Institute to expand and diversify the Museum’s audiences through new approaches, with special

emphasis on leaders, youth, and those with limited or no access to accurate information about the Holocaust.

“Look at what’s happening in Europe today, or on college campuses. The need for what we’re doing has never been greater,” said Mike Abramowitz, director of the Levine Institute. “That’s why the Levine gift is a game changer.”

Engaging a Global Audience

The transformation of the Museum’s online, multilingual Holocaust Encyclopedia is one example of the Levine Institute’s priorities. Available in 15 languages, the Encyclopedia is accessed annually by nine million visitors from nearly every country in the world. For many, it serves as their only source of accurate information about the Holocaust—an effective counter to misinformation or outright denial. The Museum is in the process of transforming it into a media-rich, 21st-century knowledge and storytelling center—the “go-to” resource for anyone, anywhere.

NEVER AGAIN: WHAT YOU DO MATTERS



Above: Aviva Aguilar, a senior at Case Western University, speaks at the Museum's What You Do Matters leadership summit in Cleveland in January. Far left: Participants in the summit visited the Museum's traveling exhibition *State of Deception: The Power of Nazi Propaganda*. Courtesy Randall Blackford

“Engaging young people on their tablets and smartphones is critical,” said Abramowitz. Among American young adults ages 18 to 29, 83 percent own smartphones, the primary way half of them access the Internet. Many of those youth would open a social media application before any web browser.

“The digital age certainly enables us to reimagine our global audience to include the 1.8 billion youth around the globe, but we will need many partners here and abroad,” said Abramowitz. The Museum works with schools, colleges and universities, master teachers, and a range of governmental entities. One example is UNESCO: Later this year, the Museum and UNESCO will convene policymakers and educators from up to ten countries to develop systems for Holocaust and genocide education using pedagogy developed by the Levine Institute.

“I’ve been at the Museum for almost 25 years. The digital revolution has changed our educational outreach dramatically,” said Ogilvie. The Levine gift enables us to seize new opportunities and move boldly forward in ways we could not have imagined.”

“Even today, what happened to the Jews of Europe seems unthinkable, and that’s why education is so important. When the survivors and eyewitnesses are gone, it will become even more important. It’s such an honor to support the Museum in this way—an incredible institution in a class by itself.”

—BILL LEVINE

Dec. 2, 1942

Dear Present Roosevelt,
 I am writting to you on this very sad day to ask you to try your very best to stop the man slaughter throughout Europe. They are all innocent Jews but yet those cold boolded Nozis kill and slaughter thoes poor innocent Jews. So I say again please try to stop all this man slaughter: Thank you very much.

Your follower,
 William Levine



The Big Questions

Bill Levine has had a lifelong drive to understand how the Holocaust happened.

“I have distinct memories of when I first learned about the Holocaust as a young student at the Yeshiva of Flatbush during the war, when rabbis spoke tearfully of what was happening in Germany,” explained Levine. Age ten at the time, he wrote a letter (shown above) to President Franklin Roosevelt, pleading for him to save Jews. “Although I took some action, I felt helpless. Little did I know that decades later I would finally be able to truly make a difference through this Museum.”

Levine’s involvement with the Museum began with his support of scholarly research. “When I created the Ina Levine Scholarship, my goal was to ensure that leading academics would take advantage of the Museum’s incomparable archives to produce exciting new scholarship as the foundation for teaching new generations. This new gift brings that vision full circle,” said Levine.

A longtime Museum leader from Phoenix, Arizona, Levine has served the institution in several capacities. In 2007, President George W. Bush appointed him to the Museum’s governing Council. He also served as a member of the Executive Committee and chairman of the Finance Committee. He is currently a co-chair of the National Campaign Committee and a member of the Academic Committee.

“This is about much more than a very exceptional financial gift,” said Museum Director Sara Bloomfield. “In Bill Levine we have a true partner who is passionate about the Museum. He sees the vital role it can and must play in our complex and increasingly dangerous world.”

Left: Campaign National Co-Chair Bill Levine speaks at the Museum’s 2014 National Tribute Dinner in Washington, DC. *Carl Cox/US Holocaust Memorial Museum* Above right: A young Michael Roth holds a name card intended to help any of his surviving family members locate him at the Kloster Indersdorf displaced persons camp. This photograph was published in newspapers to facilitate reuniting the family.

The Power of OUR PARTNERSHIP

THE REMARKABLE STORY OF THE MUSEUM'S CREATION includes individuals from all walks of life who came together to do the improbable: put Holocaust memory on the National Mall in Washington, DC.

Among them are more than 800,000 members from all 50 states and abroad who have supported the Museum over the years. "From day one, our members helped build the Museum, and in the years since, they have been instrumental in making its enormous reach beyond our walls possible," said Museum Director Sara Bloomfield.

This past year alone, the Museum's 120,000 active members contributed more than \$10.5 million to advance the Museum's bold vision to keep Holocaust memory alive for a constantly changing world. More than 40 percent are "charter members"—those who gave their first gifts in the early years, as the Museum was built and opened.



One Survivor's Enduring Legacy

One of the Museum's earliest supporters was Michael Roth, born Miklos Roth in Semjen, Hungary, in 1931. Deported to Auschwitz in 1944 with his parents and two younger brothers, 13-year-old Michael was the only survivor. He was sent to two concentration camps

and on a death march before being liberated by American forces. Roth immigrated to the United States in 1946.

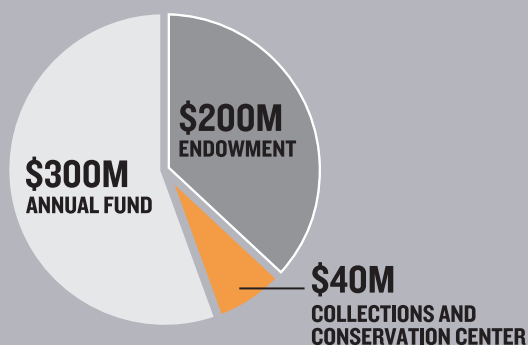
In 1991, Roth became a charter member of the Museum and he remained an active annual supporter until his death in 2011. His 20 consecutive membership gifts totaled \$2,156.

Roth never had any children and decided to create a special legacy through the Museum. With a simple bequest, he chose to leave the majority of his estate—\$496,591—to the Museum in memory of the family he lost. Although he could not have made this gift during his lifetime, it became Roth's enduring legacy. In recognition of this extraordinary gift, together with his lifetime giving as a charter member, Michael Roth's name was inscribed on the Museum Donors Wall as a permanent tribute to his generosity.

THE MUSEUM'S CAMPAIGN

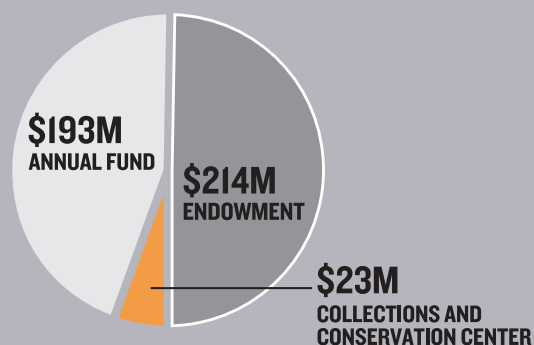
GOAL: \$540 million

By the Museum's 25th Anniversary in 2018



SUCCESS TO DATE: \$430 million

Gifts from October 1, 2009–March 1, 2015



For more information visit ushmm.org/campaign

events & exhibitions

PLEASE JOIN US IN YOUR COMMUNITY

EVENTS

BATTLEGROUND FOR TRUTH: CONFRONTING ANTISEMITISM AND HOLOCAUST DENIAL

Today the Internet enables hate speech, antisemitism, and Holocaust denial to spread instantaneously. Find out how the Museum is fighting back using its collections, programs, and digital technology to foster deeper engagement with new generations.

PARADISE VALLEY, ARIZONA
TEMPLE SOLEL

Monday, May 4

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA
WILSHIRE BOULEVARD TEMPLE,
IRMAS CAMPUS

Tuesday, May 5

THOUSAND OAKS, CALIFORNIA
TEMPLE ETZ CHAIM

Wednesday, May 6

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS
BOSTON UNIVERSITY,
GEORGE SHERMAN UNION

Tuesday, May 19

NEW YORK, NEW YORK
FRENCH INSTITUTE:

ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE
Wednesday, May 20

Visit ushmm.org/events
to learn about and register for
upcoming programs.



Learning about Museum research during an event held at the Embassy of Poland, Washington, DC.

SOME WERE WIVES, SOME WERE MOTHERS Female Perpetrators during the Holocaust

Join Wendy Lower, author of *Hitler's Furies: German Women in the Nazi Killing Fields*, to learn about a generation of young women swept up in the feverish nationalism of the Nazi Party who directly participated in its crimes.

DEERFIELD, ILLINOIS
B'NAI JEHOASHUA BETH ELOHIM
CONGREGATION

Tuesday, May 12

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
ANSHE EMET SYNAGOGUE

Wednesday, May 13

PENN VALLEY, PENNSYLVANIA
BETH AM ISRAEL CONGREGATION

Wednesday, May 20

PIKESVILLE, MARYLAND
BALTIMORE HEBREW CONGREGATION

Thursday, May 21

REFUGE DENIED: VOYAGE OF THE ST. LOUIS

In 1939, the Cuban and United States governments turned away the *St. Louis*, a passenger liner carrying 937 people—almost all of them Jews fleeing Nazi Germany. Scott Miller, director of Curatorial Affairs, will discuss the Museum's ten-year project to uncover the fate of every refugee.

ROCHESTER, NEW YORK
TEMPLE BETH EL

Thursday, May 28

WINNING OVER THE MASSES: IMAGES IN NAZI PROPAGANDA

Explore how the Nazis employed propaganda to acquire power and create a climate of hatred, suspicion, and indifference. Learn what propaganda is, how it was used to incite violence and genocide, and what its implications are for our world today.

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI
MISSOURI HISTORY MUSEUM

Thursday, June 4

*Co-presented with the Missouri
History Museum*

EXHIBITIONS



The Ghetto Fighters' House Museum displays *Deadly Medicine: Creating the Master Race* translated into Hebrew. Staff there also created an app to present it in English and Arabic. *Lior Zilberman*

EXHIBITION TRAVELS TO ISRAEL

For the first time, a United States Holocaust Memorial Museum exhibition has traveled to Israel. *Deadly Medicine: Creating the Master Race* opened at the Ghetto Fighters' House Museum on January 27.

"The uniqueness of this exhibition in Israel is that for the first time, we present the story of the Holocaust from a universal point of view, not the Jewish victim point of view," said Raya Kalisman, director of external relations at the Ghetto Fighters' House Museum.

Deadly Medicine explores the history of the early 20th-century international eugenics movement and the complicity of physicians and scientists in Nazi racial policies—from mass sterilization, to the murder of persons with mental illnesses and disabilities, to the "Final Solution." The exhibition first opened in Washington, DC, in 2004.



Since *Deadly Medicine* began traveling in 2006, it has opened in 36 venues in 23 states, as well as one venue in Canada

and two in Germany. The Ghetto Fighters' House Museum re-created the exhibition locally to display it with text panels translated into Hebrew. Staff there also created a digital application that showcases the content to museum visitors in English and Arabic.

Susan Bachrach, the exhibition's curator, explained its wide appeal: "*Deadly Medicine* has resonated with medical school and other audiences because it shows how professionals in the mainstream of German science and medicine legitimized and implemented Nazi racial policies, all in the name of public health."

Multiple leaders of Israel's medical community already have visited the exhibition, with many students expected to visit as well, according to Kalisman. The exhibition will be on display for two years.

NAZI PERSECUTION OF HOMOSEXUALS 1933–1945

NEW YORK, NEW YORK
Museum of Jewish Heritage—
A Living Memorial to the Holocaust
May 29–October 2, 2015

DEADLY MEDICINE: CREATING THE MASTER RACE

WATERLOO, IOWA
Grout Museum of History and Science
through June 7, 2015

STATE OF DECEPTION: THE POWER OF NAZI PROPAGANDA

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI
Missouri History Museum
through September 7, 2015

TULSA, OKLAHOMA
The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art
September 28, 2015–February 21, 2016

The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum exhibitions program is supported in part by the Lester Robbins* and Sheila Johnson Robbins Traveling and Special Exhibitions Fund established in 1990.

*Deceased

For a complete schedule of traveling exhibitions, visit ushmm.org/traveling-exhibition.

UNITED STATES
HOLOCAUST
MEMORIAL
MUSEUM

100 Raoul Wallenberg Place, SW
Washington, DC 20024-2126



ushmm.org/connect

David and Fela Shapell Family Collections and Conservation Center

HELP SECURE TRUTH FOREVER



**NEVER
AGAIN**
WHAT YOU DO MATTERS

THE CAMPAIGN

The Museum is in a race to rescue the evidence of the Holocaust before it's too late. When the survivors and other eyewitnesses are no longer with us, this collection of record will be the sole authentic witness to the Holocaust—for all time. We need your help to build a permanent home for the collection and ensure its availability for education and scholarship in perpetuity.

Learn how you can help at ushmm.org/campaign or e-mail campaign@ushmm.org.
To donate original documents, photographs, and artifacts, please e-mail curator@ushmm.org.

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