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# HATE IS THE ENEMY. BUT SO IS TIME.

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# MEMORY & ACTION

UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM MAGAZINE | SPRING 2017



We can imagine Lea Kufert running and playing in her little red shoes. She was only three years old when she was murdered at Chelmno. Her shoes and this photo are all that remain from her short life. They will be preserved for all time in the new David and Fela Shapell Family Collections, Conservation and Research Center, opening this spring.



Lea Kufert

Born 1938, Berlin  
Killed 1942, Chelmno

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A publication of the  
United States Holocaust Memorial Museum  
100 Raoul Wallenberg Place, SW  
Washington, DC 20024-2126  
ushmm.org

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The new David and Fela Shapell Family Collections, Conservation and Research Center nears completion. The world-class center will be dedicated April 24.

## From the Director

**TO THE KUFERT FAMILY, BEFORE SHE WAS ONE IN SIX MILLION, LEA WAS** one in a million. To the Nazis who killed her, she had committed the crime of being a Jewish child.

Lea and her entire immediate family were killed. The Nazis attempted to obliterate all traces of their victims. But those little red shoes were sent to family in Palestine, who later donated them to the Museum.

Our goal is not only to remember the victims, but to restore to them their identity, individuality, and dignity. That is the purpose of the David and Fela Shapell Family Collections, Conservation and Research Center, where Lea's shoes and story will live forever. The collection helps us tell stories about the countless lives caught up in the Holocaust—from victims like the Kuferts, to justices at Nuremberg (p. 6), to ordinary Americans who aided Jewish refugees (p. 12).

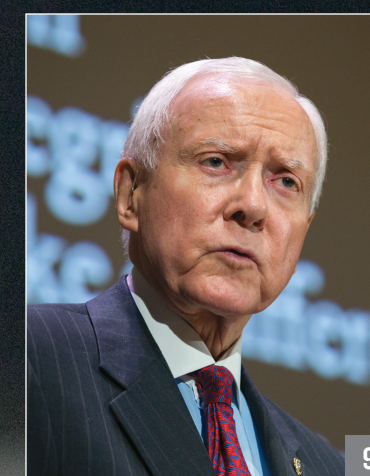
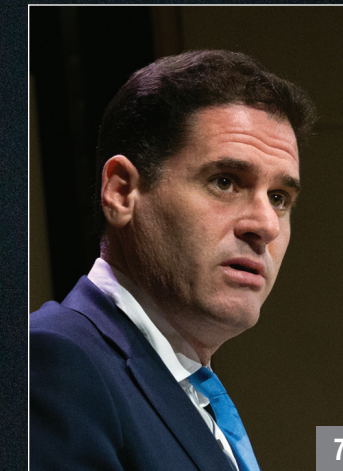
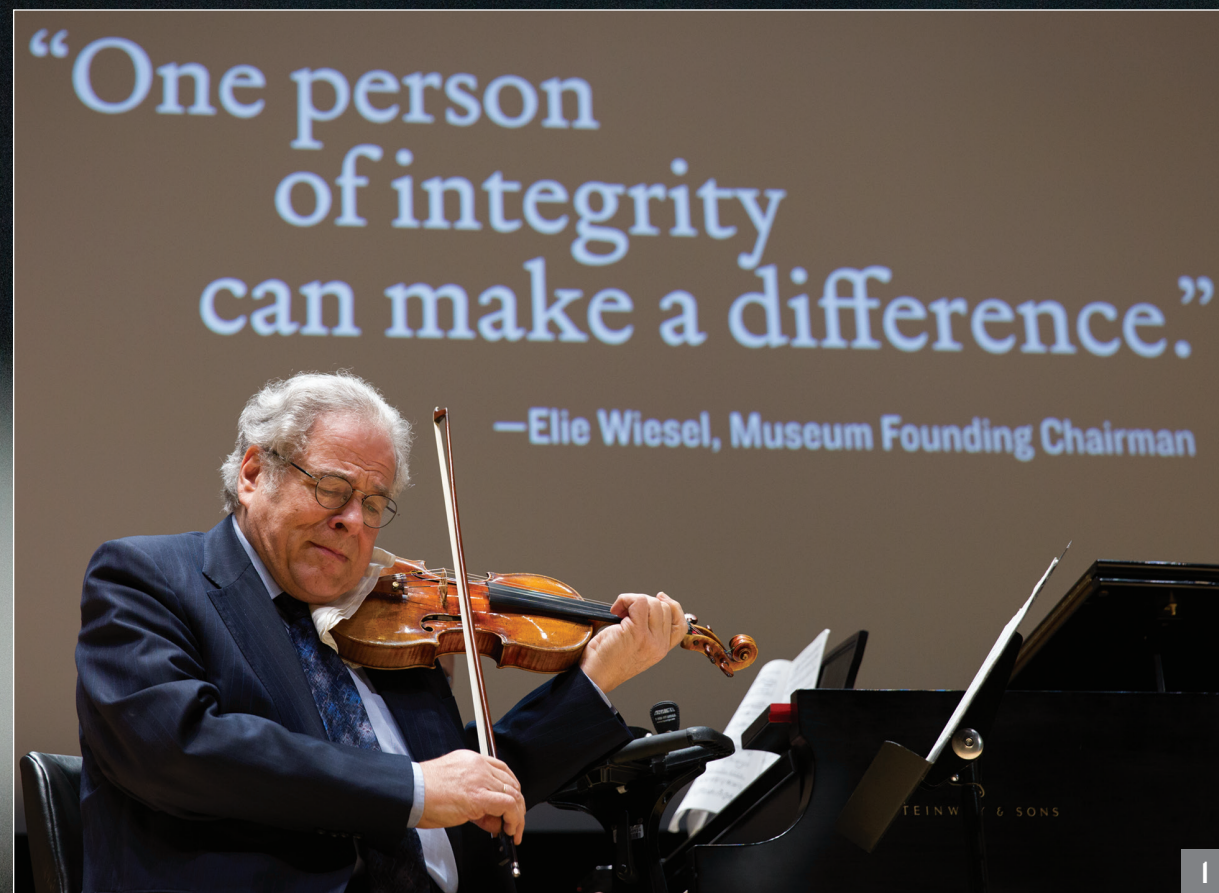
Given the rise of antisemitism and other forms of hate around the country and world, these stories are harsh reminders of the dangers of unchecked hatred. The Museum is a lesson and a warning. As we approach our 25th anniversary in 2018, thank you for making our timely mission possible.

Cover: These shoes belonged to Lea Kufert, who was three years old when she was killed at Chelmno. *Gift of Gersbon Kufert*

Left: Lea Kufert with her mother, Frieda, and Frieda's mother. *Gift of Gersbon Kufert*  
All photographs US Holocaust Memorial Museum unless otherwise indicated



Many who knew Museum Founding Chairman Elie Wiesel gathered at the Museum on November 30. Speeches by national leaders, ambassadors, and his son paid tribute to the man whose personal memories spawned a global remembrance movement. They included **1.** violinist **ITZHAK PERLMAN**, **2.** **ELISHA WIESEL**, **3.** **MARION WIESEL**, **4.** then Ambassador to the United Nations **SAMANTHA POWER**, **5.** Ambassador of Romania **GEORGE CRISTIAN MAIOR**, **6.** Representative **NANCY PELOSI**, **7.** Ambassador of Israel **RON DERMER**, **8.** Cantor **JOSEPH MALOVANY**, **9.** Senator **ORRIN HATCH**.





# Unsilencing the Past



Alejandro Meter, a professor at the University of San Diego, participates in the Museum's 2016 Silberman Seminar.

## A Scholar Shifts His Focus to the Holocaust and Latin America

**ALEJANDRO METER HAS KNOWN ABOUT THE** Holocaust for as long as he can remember. He grew up in a Jewish household in Buenos Aires, Argentina, where he learned about the Holocaust from books and family conversations. As a graduate student, he focused on Latin American literature and the Jewish experience. Later, as an advisor to Jewish students at the University of San Diego, he oversaw the annual Days of Remembrance ceremony. Until recently, though, he did not see the Holocaust as central to his own work.

Meter had applied for the Curt C. and Else Silberman Seminar for University Faculty (organized annually by the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies) with the goal of improving the two-week unit on the Holocaust in his course “Jewish Latin America.” During the seminar last summer, he gained the tools to do that, but the deep dive into primary sources in the Museum’s collections gave him something more:

I remember sitting at a coffee shop on a hot Washington, DC, summer day, reading testimonies from Russian-Jewish photographers about their encounter with mass executions on the German-Russian front. As I read further and examined the photographs even closer, I lost my composure. I had to put it all down.

The readings and conversations at the Silberman Seminar led Meter to reexamine his scholarly focus, which of late has centered on sports and Jewish identity in Latin America. Now, he said, he wants to further explore the lasting influence of the Holocaust on Latin American culture.

He is examining testimonies and biographies of Holocaust survivors who immigrated to Argentina after the war. In his courses, he focuses on works by both Jewish and non-Jewish authors, such as Jorge Luis Borges, who denounced Nazism in his stories and essays in the 1940s. As a specialist in dictatorial and post-dictatorial fiction of the southernmost countries of South America, Meter has worked to make connections between the Holocaust and that region’s recent, turbulent past. During Argentina’s “Dirty War” of the 1970s and early 1980s, thousands of people were tortured and disappeared by the military junta—including Jews, at a higher rate than other Argentinians. Issues of identity, loss, and trauma have a particular resonance there, he said, because of those injustices.

**The lessons of these traumas have not been learned.**

—ALEJANDRO METER

During a recent Mandel Center symposium held at Mesa College in San Diego—Landscapes of Displacement: Borderlands in Comparative Perspective—Meter explained that “the topic of memory is something we’re still dealing with” in Latin America. “In Argentina, out of approximately 500 disappeared babies between 1976 and 1983, only 121 have been able to recover their identity. In Chile, for instance, memory is still an open wound. Many people still believe that what happened ‘needed to happen.’” Meter hopes to study how memory of the Holocaust relates to those more recent events and analyze what those connections mean to the world as a whole.

“The lessons of these traumas have not been learned,” Meter said. “Atrocities and injustice are all around us; you don’t have to look far.” ■



# The Whole Truth

## International Archival Program Rescues Evidence at Risk

**“TENS OF MILLIONS OF DOCUMENTS, WITHOUT EXAGGERATING.”**

That is how Radu Ioanid, director of the Museum’s International Archival Programs Division, described the breadth of Holocaust-era archives around the world that have not yet been opened to the public or that need to be preserved. Such archives cannot be accessed by survivors, family members, and scholars and are also at risk of being forgotten, damaged, or destroyed.

“Often, the paper is crumbling into your hands while you’re looking at it,” noted Ioanid, adding that some collections are stored in conditions inadequate to preserve low-quality World War II-era paper.

With hundreds of archives still closed, Ioanid and his team travel the world to locate original documentation and arrange for its microfilming or digitization. The Museum’s federal status enables staff to collaborate with US agencies abroad—including the Department of State—and negotiate with foreign governments to open sealed archives. This work now takes place in 50 countries and leads to the reproduction of 4–6 million pages each year.

Reproducing the archives significantly enhances their accessibility by scholars. For example, French documents related to the Holocaust reside in about 90 regional archives, of which the Museum has accessed approximately 75. “A researcher who wants to study the Holocaust in France will never have the time, energy, and money to go to 75 archives,” Ioanid said. Thanks to the Museum’s collection efforts, scholars can conduct research into documents from many archives at one location.

Increased accessibility is also important to confronting Holocaust denial and contemporary antisemitism, which are resurgent worldwide. That makes the Museum’s work to open new archives more important than ever. “Information is power,” Ioanid said. ■

Radu Ioanid examines an “instantaneous transcription disk” that is one of 1,942 containing recordings of the International Military Tribunal at Nuremberg. They are stored at the International Court of Justice in The Hague, Netherlands, along with 37 reels of film footage and 250,000 pages of documents. In cooperation with the Court and France’s Mémorial de la Shoah, the Museum plans to digitize the audio and visual components of the archive. *Patrick Post for the US Holocaust Memorial Museum*

We aim to make the dozens of archives in a given European country available to scholars at just one location—the Museum. —RADU IOANID





# Holocaust Education in **the** **DIGITAL** **AGE**

We live in a digital era riddled with distractions that compete for our attention. We are online when we are on the go and when we are not. Young people spend an average of nine hours a day on devices chatting with friends, playing games, watching videos—and sometimes doing all three at once. The Museum seeks to engage youth in critical thinking about the history of the Holocaust and its lessons for today's world. How can we redefine Holocaust education for the digital age?

**IN ADDITION TO THE CHALLENGE OF** competing claims on attention, we are witnessing an increase in Holocaust denial and antisemitism, spread primarily through social media and the Internet. To combat this hatred, the Museum must expand access to accurate information about the Holocaust and help young people discern the truth amid an onslaught of misinformation and falsehoods.

"We know that explorations of Holocaust history can both spark learning and increase motivation to make a difference in the world," said Sarah Ogilvie, the Museum's chief program officer. "Now we must determine how best to harness evolving technologies to provide new experiences that enable immersive learning, scholarship, and collaboration."

## ASKING WHY, NOT WHAT

Traditionally, Holocaust history has been taught with a focus solely on what happened, when, where, and to whom.

That is the approach the Museum adopted when it debuted its online Holocaust Encyclopedia nearly 20 years ago. At that time, the encyclopedia contained roughly 130 articles in English. Today, it includes 840 articles; has been translated into 15 languages, including Arabic, Farsi, Russian, and Spanish; and annually serves more than 14 million people all over the world.

Although comprehensive in scope, the encyclopedia lacks a critical thinking framework that encourages people to ask questions, draw connections, and analyze

issues and ideas carefully. "Presenting facts and figures alone does not help people see the connections between this history and the world today, and their role in it," said Ogilvie.

The Museum is undertaking a massive transformation of this core educational resource to prompt reflection on key questions from the Holocaust: Why do societies fail? Why do individuals become perpetrators, collaborators, or onlookers? What are the warning signs of genocide? Why are they ignored?

As part of this transformation, the reenvisioned Holocaust Encyclopedia will reflect changes both in the way people learn and in how they access information online. Museum historians and digital experts are retooling the articles to enhance context setting, optimize them for display on mobile devices, and incorporate compelling visuals that underscore the relevance of this history. "The main goal is greater accessibility for students and a general audience," said Sarah Lumbard, director of Museum Experience and Digital Media, who is overseeing the project. "We want each person who engages with the encyclopedia to learn something new, to pause and reflect, and ideally to wrestle with the question of why the Holocaust was possible."

The new encyclopedia, expected to come online in summer 2018, also will feature recent research and scholarship on the Holocaust, as well as more items from the Museum's collection, which has grown dramatically and is undergoing its own digital transformation so that it can be accessed anywhere, anytime.

**TOP 10 COUNTRIES\***  
with the most visits to the  
online Holocaust Encyclopedia,  
available in 16 languages

**1,369,708**

**BRAZIL**

**842,050**

**MEXICO**

**791,575**

**UNITED KINGDOM**

**634,728**

**ITALY**

**526,725**

**INDONESIA**

**492,337**

**CANADA**

**481,671**

**FRANCE**

**429,564**

**AUSTRALIA**

**305,824**

**SPAIN**

**266,714**

**INDIA**

\*Not including the United States. Numbers are cumulative page views from 2016.



## NEW PATHWAYS FOR LEARNING

Digital platforms provide myriad opportunities for participatory and informal learning, as well as for interacting with primary sources. Over the past year, the Museum piloted two new experiences for high school and college students that demonstrate this potential as it relates to Holocaust history.

**Presenting facts and figures alone does not help people see the connections between this history and the world today, and their role in it.** —SARAH OGILVIE

In conjunction with its next major initiative on Americans and the Holocaust, the Museum developed a “citizen history” project—*History Unfolded: US Newspapers and the Holocaust* ([newspapers.ushmm.org](http://newspapers.ushmm.org))—that involves high school students in researching what ordinary Americans knew about Nazi persecution of Jews while it was occurring. Specifically, students look

in archives of their local newspapers for articles on key events related to the Holocaust. To date, approximately 1,100 people have submitted more than 8,000 articles from newspapers in every state plus the District of Columbia.

Their findings are available in an online database accessible to the general public, scholars, and historians who, until now, had studied coverage of the Holocaust only in major metropolitan newspapers, such as the *New York Times*. The database includes news about the Holocaust in papers big and small from Florida (“Nazi Plan for Wiping Out Jews To Be Outlined,” November 25, 1942, *Sarasota Herald-Tribune*) to Alaska (“Polish Jews Doomed to Die,” December 4, 1942, *The Petersburg Press*). The information uncovered can help paint a fuller picture of American reactions to the Nazi threat (see article, p. 12).

For university students and their instructors, the Museum recently created a one-of-a-kind tool that curates and contextualizes primary sources created by Jews to document their experiences during the Holocaust.



## Engaging Young People with Technology

The Museum is experimenting with how digital technologies such as virtual reality can enhance the visitor experience in temporary exhibition spaces. Virtual reality provides an immersive, often 360-degree experience of an environment, either real or imagined, with which viewers can interact. Recently, visitors to the exhibition **GENOCIDE: THE THREAT CONTINUES** donned special headsets to watch a virtual reality video of a Syrian refugee trying to establish a new life in Jordan.



*Experiencing History: Jewish Perspectives on the Holocaust* ([perspectives.ushmm.org](http://perspectives.ushmm.org)) features a cross-section of materials from the Museum’s collection, such as diaries, letters, reports, photographs, historical film footage, and oral testimonies, along with a brief description of the historical context in which the material was created, its author or authors, and its relation to larger themes about the Holocaust.

“Existing online source collections did not provide adequate historical background information to facilitate their use in the university curriculum,” said Emil Kerenji, applied research scholar in the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies. “In addition, they privilege perpetrator documents, which reduce the victims to the faceless category of ‘Jew’

and silence their individual voices. We sought to correct this marginalization, an effort that is both intellectually and ethically vital for the study of the Holocaust at the university level.”

Currently in use on some 200 campuses, the tool has proved valuable both for the information it provides and for its user-friendly design. Faculty can easily curate a selection of materials applicable to the lesson they are teaching and encourage students to explore it individually or in small groups. “The resource allowed me to give the students increasingly complex assignments where they learned how the individual diarists’ writings fit in with the overall chronology of the Holocaust,” said a history professor from South Dakota.

As the Museum continues to develop

its digital tools, it is leveraging its most precious asset: the world’s most comprehensive collection of Holocaust evidence. The collection is the foundation for understanding this history in all its complexity and will serve as a permanent rejoinder to deniers. Even as the digital age opens new pathways for exploring Holocaust history, haters exploit new technologies to peddle misinformation, minimization, or outright denial.

“In the midst of this battle for ideas, the Museum must be the go-to resource for the truth about the Holocaust and what this history means for us today,” said Ogilvie. ■

A high school student participating in *History Unfolded: US Newspapers and the Holocaust* uploads an article from March 1933.



The Students  
 The Businessman  
 The Professor  
 The Pen Pal

# Out of the Ordinary

Museum Initiative Uncovers Stories  
 of Americans Who Helped Jews Escape



**GERMAN PERSECUTION OF JEWS INTENSIFIED WITH KRISTALLNACHT**, the “night of broken glass” in November 1938, when Nazi storm troopers and Hitler youth attacked synagogues, Jewish businesses, and Jewish homes, while police arrested Jewish men. In Cambridge, Massachusetts, **HARVARD STUDENTS** who heard about Kristallnacht organized a protest meeting and issued a statement condemning “the exclusion of Jewish students from German universities,” according to the *Harvard Crimson*. Two days later, student leaders decided they “will attempt [to] get Catholic and Jewish victims of Nazi persecution out of Germany and will pay for their room and board in Cambridge.”

As they approached their fundraising goal, the Harvard students reached out to other institutions in hopes the effort could spread. Students from numerous schools met over the 1938 winter break and formed the Intercollegiate Committee to Aid Student Refugees. By March 1939, the committee reported that more than 170 colleges in 39 states were actively involved, with 214 scholarships granted and room and board provided, according to a story in *Harvard Magazine*.

“These students felt passionate about an issue, and they decided to do something about it,” said Kristin Scalzo, asset manager for the Americans and the Holocaust initiative. “It’s a powerful example for students today about standing up for an issue you care about and creatively using whatever resources you have available to organize, act, and educate those around you.”

In January, Scalzo shared the Intercollegiate Committee’s story with student leaders at the Museum’s 2017 National Campus Leaders Summit. Little has been written about the national student movement in the United States during the Holocaust, so Scalzo called on participants in another Museum project for assistance. *History Unfolded: US Newspapers and the Holocaust* asks people around the country to search local newspaper archives for news about the Holocaust. Scalzo relied on that network of “citizen historians” to fill in the gaps of her research. History Unfolded continues through spring 2018; visit [newspapers.ushmm.org](http://newspapers.ushmm.org) to participate.

The Harvard students eventually raised the necessary funds to sponsor 21 refugees, but US immigration restrictions made it difficult for the university to fill those slots. In the end, the effort brought 14 refugees to campus. They had escaped from Germany, Austria, and Czechoslovakia. Several had been in the United States for some time without the means to continue their education. They went on to become professors, diplomats, economists, a pediatrician, and a chemist.

Right, above: A student reads a notice about a protest meeting on the Harvard College campus on November 16, 1938. *AP/Wide World*. Right, below: A view of Harvard’s Dunster House, an undergraduate dormitory that opened in 1930. *Bettman/Getty Images*

**A SPECIAL EXHIBITION** on American responses to the Nazi threat opens in spring 2018 to mark the Museum’s 25th anniversary. It will reflect more than five years of investigation into what Americans knew about Nazi persecution of Jews and how they reacted. As part of their research, the exhibition’s curators, archivists, and educators have uncovered little-known stories of Americans who chose to help Jewish refugees at a time when US immigration policies were very restrictive. The Americans’ actions ranged in scope and extent of personal risk, but they all helped save lives. These are some of their stories.



## The Students



## The Businessman



Benjamin Buchsbaum. Gift of the Buchsbaum family

VIENNA, 4 APRIL 38

Dear Cousin,

...Having no possibility now to get to America altogether (we are 4), so we ask for your assistance for our son, whose future here quite without prospects is.... we are giving a piece of our own heart away. We will not be selfish, but open the way into the world for our child....

Your cousin sincerely,  
Adolph Buchsbaum

Dear Uncle,

To the request and wish of my father, I add my own. I have made 7 years high school and proposed to become a doctor. But the new bills in Austria make that impossible. Therefore I decided to try my luck in the wide world, to make the passage soonest possible... I shall be thankful forever, if you, dear uncle, help me and interest yourself in me....

Your nephew,  
Walter

APRIL 29, 1938

Dear Walter,

...You will find happiness here and do not worry the least bit about that, and I know, too, that you will do good as you suggest in your letter, and also that I will never regret having helped you....

Your cousin,  
[Benjamin H. Buchsbaum]



The son of immigrants, **BENJAMIN BUCHSBAUM** was running a successful real estate business in Philadelphia when he received the letter on the facing page from Adolph Buchsbaum in Vienna. It was just the first in a stream of entreaties he received from distant cousins, acquaintances, and strangers, who were all desperate to get out of Europe.

As far as his descendants know, Benjamin Buchsbaum—with the help of his wife, Katherine—did not turn down any requests for help. According to the extensive correspondence his granddaughter recently located in a family storage unit, he submitted affidavits for 41 people; at least 27 of them were able to then come to the United States. To secure their visas, he had to attest that he would provide for them financially and he had to ask prominent members of the Philadelphia community to provide affidavits attesting to his own good character. He did so—over and over again.

“He was just that kind of person where if there was social injustice, he was going to stand against it,” said Buchsbaum’s granddaughter, Regie Roth, who found the letters—preserved until now in a deteriorating album presented to Buchsbaum on

his 70th birthday—and donated them to the Museum on behalf of her family. “It’s reassuring for us to know that what we value and what we treasure is being saved in the Museum. It’s being archived and preserved forever. It doesn’t belong in our hands. It belongs in the people’s hands.”

The Buchsbaum family’s donation has given Museum curators a new source of information about Holocaust survivors and victims. They have found people Benjamin Buchsbaum saved and their descendants, resulting to date in four additional collection donations—the stories of four more families that the Museum can keep alive forever.

Above, top: Martin Hirsch of Grottkau, Germany, was able to immigrate to the United States but was struggling to bring his family. Benjamin Buchsbaum submitted an affidavit on behalf of Herta, Dorothea, and Stefanie Hirsch, who were granted visas and sent him this thank-you note in December 1938. Above, bottom: After Walter Buchsbaum arrived in the United States, Benjamin Buchsbaum asked if there was anyone else he could help. Walter put Benjamin in touch with his friend Kurt Loebel, who was able to immigrate to the United States with Benjamin’s help. Loebel later became first violinist of the Cleveland Orchestra. Gift of the Buchsbaum family



# The Professor



Top: The Villa Saint-Christophe in the French beach town Canet-Plage was a holiday home that was turned into a residence where refugee children from the Spanish Civil War could convalesce. In 1942, Jewish children were hidden there. *Courtesy of Barbara E. Martinez.* Above: Lois Gunden (right) with members of the Villa Saint-Christophe staff. *Gift of Ginette Kalish.* Above right: Children sheltered at the Villa Saint-Christophe. *Gift of Ginette Kalish*

We do not know what drove 26-year-old **LOIS GUNDEN** to become a relief worker in Vichy France in 1941. Was it a sense of duty? A sense that she could make a difference?

Her brave foray into Europe in wartime did just that—especially when her mission to care for orphans of the Spanish Civil War evolved into the rescue of Jewish children. The Mennonite relief agency put Gunden, a professor of French from Indiana, in charge of a children’s home in Canet-Plage on the Mediterranean coast. The former vacation villa was just north of the Spanish border and a short distance from the Rivesaltes internment camp. The camp housed refugees from Spain, who were eventually replaced by Jewish, political, and Roma (Gypsy) prisoners. Gunden visited Rivesaltes—notorious for its poor living conditions—to transfer children who had been ill to the villa to convalesce.

In summer 1942, the Vichy French government began cooperating with Nazi authorities to deport Jews from its territory. According to an article Gunden’s niece, Mary Jean Gunden, wrote in the *Mennonite*, “If children under the age of 16 were not in the camps with a parent, they often weren’t searched out.... Lois now understood the importance of moving

as many Jewish children out of the camps and into the villa as possible.” When police visited the villa searching for children, Gunden turned them away.

For her efforts, Gunden has been recognized as Righteous Among the Nations, one of only five Americans so honored. Ginette Kalish, who donated to the Museum photographs from her time in Gunden’s care, told Yad Vashem that the young Mennonite “was kind and passionately determined to take me and these other Jewish children out of Rivesaltes to protect them from harm.... I remember Lois Gunden being kind and generous and she made a special effort to integrate us with the other children. None of the other children were told that we were Jewish.”

Gunden had just a short opportunity to help. After Germany took control of Vichy France in November 1942, she was unable to return to Canet-Plage from a visit to Lyon. She worked with the villa’s staff from afar to manage the children’s ongoing care until she was arrested in January 1943 and sent to a prison in Germany. In 1944, she was released in a prisoner exchange and returned to Indiana. Gunden resumed her quiet life teaching French at Goshen College.



## The Pen Pal



yours sincerely  
Nanne

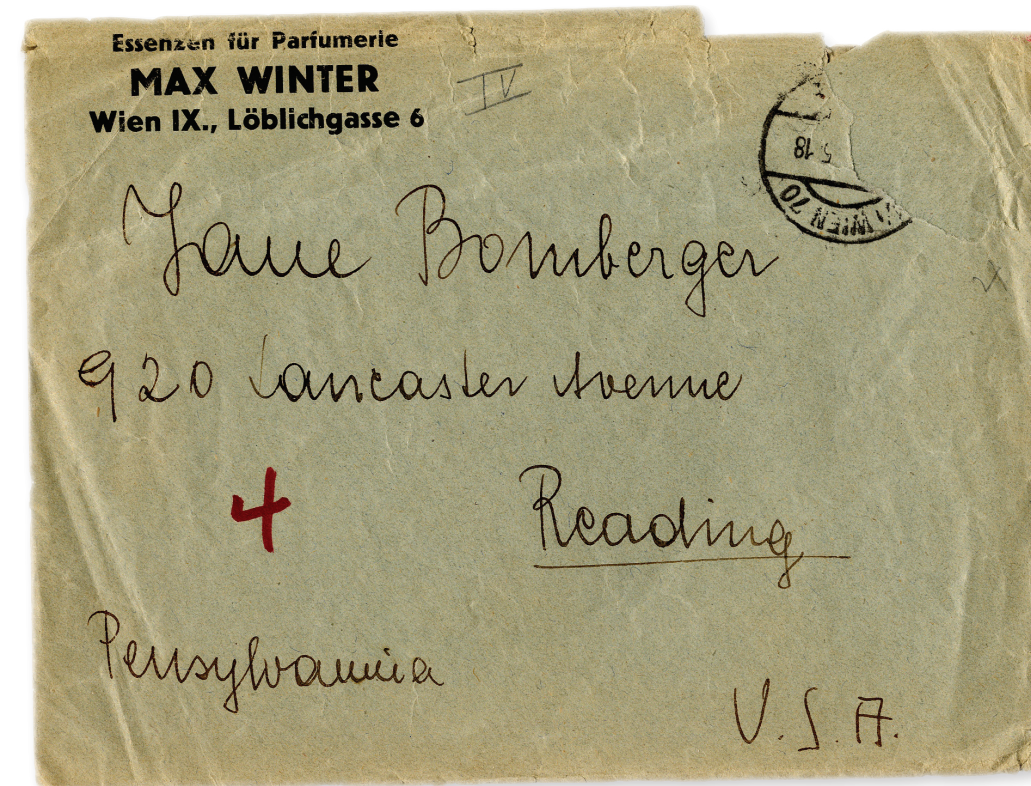
**JANE BOMBERGER**, who had been corresponding with Marianne Winter for three years, must have sensed the desperation in her friend's letter of June 6, 1938.

Facts are that we have to immigrate under every circumstance.... I have heard that there are many people—rich ones of course—who send such papers to Austrian Jews whom they do not know. Now I ask you, my dear, if it would be possible for you to get a connection with any rich man who would be able to give an affidavit. I know that will be very difficult, but as I have heard here, in USA there are many people who want to help us.

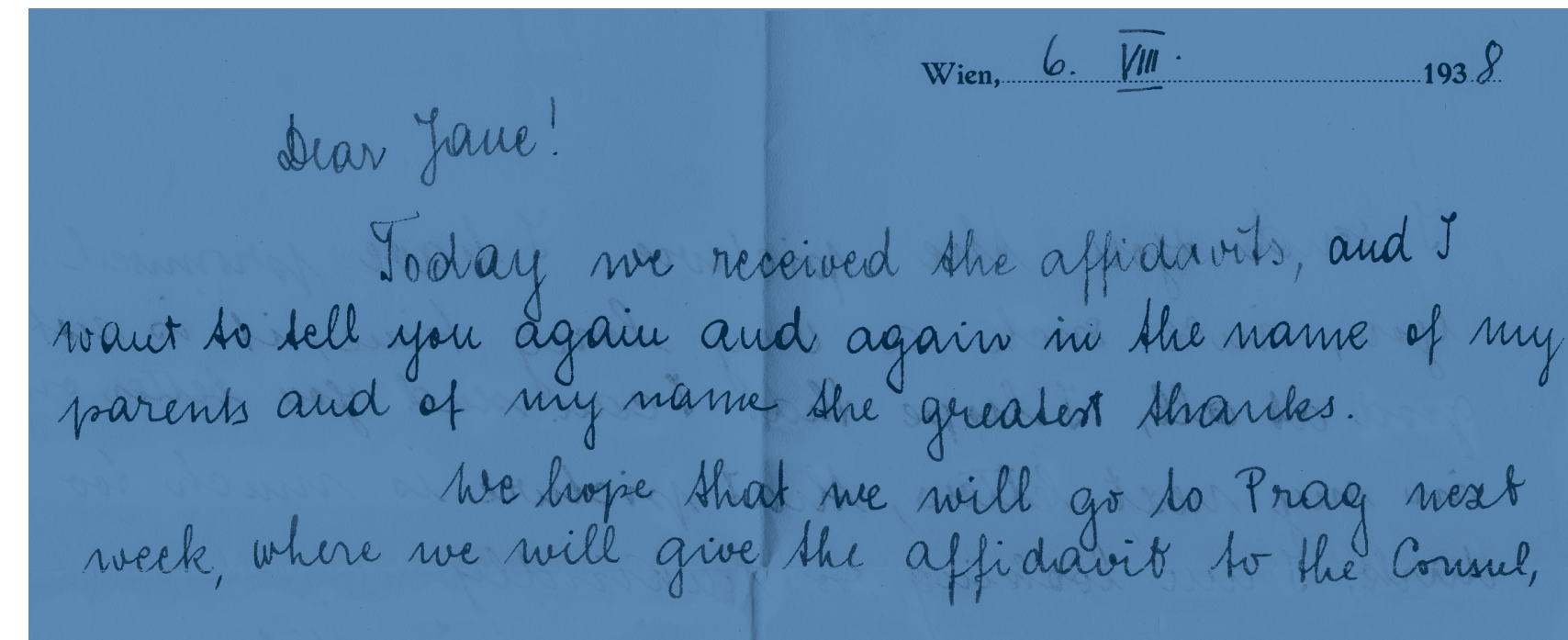
German troops had entered Austria in March, curtailing the freedom of the Winter family, who lived in Vienna. Marianne, 17, and her mother, Anna, had been forced to clean a building requisitioned by the Nazis. Her father, Max Winter, had served as an officer during World War I, which he thought would offer the family some protection. "My mother, however, pushed us to leave," Marianne later wrote. "All the Nazis parading around and able to harass everyone really upset her, and she was right."

Having exhausted other options, Marianne asked Jane for assistance. Their correspondence had begun in 1935 after Jane picked Marianne's name off a list a friend brought to a Camp Fire Girls meeting. Jane's family lived a modest lifestyle in Reading, Pennsylvania. They attended church regularly, but "religion played a distinctly minor role in our lives," Jane wrote. Her father, Joseph, was a builder earning \$60 per week, with just \$2,600 in the bank. The family of five lived in a semidetached, four-bedroom house. Yet they decided to sponsor this family they had never met. Marianne tried to put the Winters' gratitude into words:

My dear, dearest Jane! You can not imagine how we felt after having received your letter an hour ago. We could not believe that there are such people, who really are so kind and to help us. It is not to think that real strangers, such as you are, give us so much love.



Far left: Austrian Marianne Winter (left) and American Jane Bomberger were pen pals when Winter asked Bomberger to help her family immigrate to the United States. Winter signed the letter, "Yours sincerely, Nanne." Marianne Selinger Collection. Left and below: Correspondence Winter sent to Bomberger. Marianne Selinger Collection



Max continued, in a note to Joseph:

I beg to express you my deepest thanks for your immense kindness. My wife and I are too happy to see the way of getting out from here. Be convinced that we will do everything not to [inconvenience] you and your family in any way.

After receiving the affidavit, the Winters still faced hurdles to their emigration. They packed up their lives in Vienna and traveled to Czechoslovakia, applying to the American consulate in Prague. Their visas were denied because the Bombergers were not family, so their affidavit did not offer sufficient proof of support. Somehow, by appealing to other American diplomats and pointing to his expiring Czech visa, Max Winter managed to secure the US visas.

In January 1939, the Winters arrived in New York, where they were met by Joseph and Linda Bomberger, who took them to Reading. The Winters stayed with the Bombergers until they moved into their own apartment. The arrival of a Jewish refugee family in Reading was an event unusual enough to merit an article in the *Reading Eagle*.

"It's all like a dream," the newspaper quoted Max saying. "It's like something we once saw in the cinema, only Jews dare not go to the theatre now. In Vienna we were driven from our homes and beaten—here we have our picture taken." ■

Would you like to learn more about American responses to the Nazi threat? This fall, prior to the opening of the Museum's special exhibition in spring 2018, public programs around the country will examine what Americans knew in the years before the Holocaust. Visit [ushmm.org/events](http://ushmm.org/events) for more information.



# THE MOVE

A historic project four years in the making is culminating in the move of the Museum's National Institute for Holocaust Documentation into the new 103,000-square-foot David and Fela Shapell Family Collections, Conservation and Research Center. As we go to press, 90 percent of the Museum's collection has moved safely into its permanent home.



Museum conservators prepare a state-of-the-art conservation lab in the new Shapell Center.



Barcoding was a transformational change for the Museum. The technology allows staff to verify the real-time location of every item in the collection—currently there are more than 52,000 specific locations institution-wide.



Staff completes the inventory of a document vault at the Shapell Center. The move will be completed in early May.

You get one chance to do this, and it has to be right. Nothing in our collection is replaceable, period.

—Collections Move Project Manager Randy Davis



Art handlers will pack and unpack an estimated 44,000 items and collections, ranging from a small Star of David that was worn by a child to a bulky Hollerith machine (above) used in the 1930s German censuses.



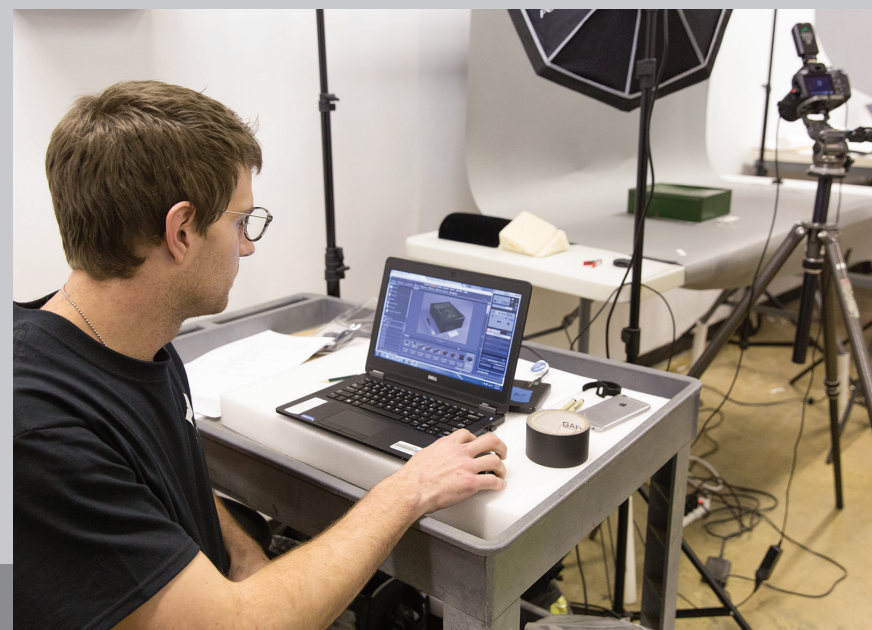
Specialists in inventory and location tracking organize archival materials for transportation to the Shapell Center. A total of 15,000 archival collections—from restitution case files to personal papers—are being moved into document vaults.



# SNAPSHOT

## Preparing to Move One Family's Story

Both were born in Poland. Both managed to defy the Nazis and survive. Although Oscar Albert and Doba Dreszner's stories of survival are very different, each kept a green metal box that symbolized the return to humanity. They married after the war and the boxes stayed with them as they rebuilt their lives in America. In 2014, their daughter, Helen Albert, donated these family treasures—the toolbox given to Oscar in a displaced persons camp as part of vocational training and the gift box Doba received in the Jewish orphanage where she lived after the war—to the Museum.



The precision with which the collection was prepared for the move is called "preventive conservation." Each object is assessed by conservators to develop methods to mitigate risk during the move. It is then photographed for security, preservation, and accessibility.



Art handlers build new housing for Oscar's and Doba's boxes that is designed to reduce handling and stabilize the objects during the move. The boxes will be permanently stored in this custom housing at the new center.



Packed containers are moved from staging areas in the existing facility to staging areas in the new David and Fela Shapell Family Collections, Conservation and Research Center. From there, objects will be placed in their permanent homes in the vaults.

Every aspect of this project is about the long-term preservation and security of the collection. The move is only the beginning of a new chapter in the life of the Museum. —Director of Collection Services Travis Roxlau





**State of Deception:  
The Power of Nazi Propaganda**

The Nazis used propaganda to win broad voter support, implement radical programs, and justify war and mass murder. This exhibition highlights the power of propaganda and challenges us to actively question, analyze, and seek the truth.

The National World War II Museum  
**New Orleans, LOUISIANA**  
Through June 18

This exhibition was underwritten in part by grants from Katharine M. and Leo S. Ullman and The Blanche and Irving Laurie Foundation.

**Nazi Persecution of  
Homosexuals 1933–1945**

Through reproductions of historic photographs and documents, this exhibition explores the rationale, means, and impact of the Nazi regime's persecution of homosexuals, which left thousands dead and shattered the lives of many more.

Florida Holocaust Museum  
**St. Petersburg, FLORIDA**  
April 30–July 2

For a complete schedule of traveling exhibitions, visit [ushmm.org/events](http://ushmm.org/events).

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

Above: From a poster for the film *S. A. Mann Brand*, 1933. *Kunstbibliothek Berlin/BPK, Berlin/Art Resource, New York*

**First Person: Conversations  
with Survivors**

**WASHINGTON, DC**

[ushmm.org/firstperson](http://ushmm.org/firstperson)

Wednesdays and Thursdays  
through mid-August, 11 a.m.

**New Frontiers: Technology and  
the Preservation and Presentation  
of Memory**

**WASHINGTON, DC**

[ushmm.org/events/memory-technology](http://ushmm.org/events/memory-technology)

**WATCH LIVE:** [ushmm.org/watch](http://ushmm.org/watch)

Tuesday, May 16, 7 p.m.

**Fueling Extremism in a Wired World**

**Boston, MASSACHUSETTS**

[ushmm.org/events/extremism-boston](http://ushmm.org/events/extremism-boston)

Wednesday, May 17, 7 p.m.

**2017 Cleveland Luncheon**

**Mayfield Heights, OHIO**

[ushmm.org/events/2017-cleveland-luncheon](http://ushmm.org/events/2017-cleveland-luncheon)

Thursday, May 25, 11:30 a.m.

**Americans' Responses to  
Jewish Refugees: Wrestling with  
Fear and Moral Responsibility**

**Chicago, ILLINOIS**

[ushmm.org/events/refugees-chicago](http://ushmm.org/events/refugees-chicago)

Monday, June 5, 7 p.m.

**Glencoe, ILLINOIS**

[ushmm.org/events/refugees-glencoe](http://ushmm.org/events/refugees-glencoe)

Wednesday, June 7, 7 p.m.

**SAVE THE DATES**

**2017 Risa K. Lambert Luncheon**

**Chicago, ILLINOIS**

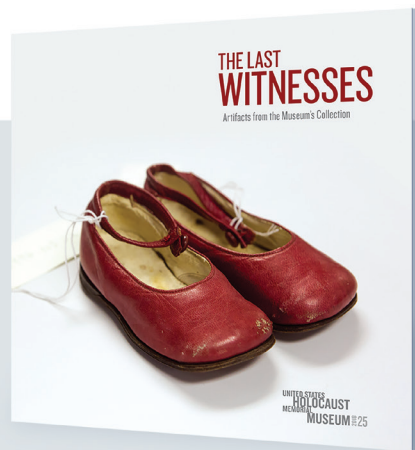
Friday, September 8

**2017 New York Tribute Dinner**

**New York, NEW YORK**

Monday, October 16

Visit [ushmm.org/events](http://ushmm.org/events) for the latest Museum calendar.



Our collection is  
too **LARGE,**  
**IMPORTANT,**  
and **IRREPLACEABLE**  
to be contained within the Museum's walls.

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