



HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL CENTER

Summer 2020



Jerry Zolynsky

Your HMC: At the Forefront of Fighting Antisemitism in Michigan

Do you shudder when you hear about today's increase in antisemitism and then wonder how you can improve this terrible situation? You are already making a huge difference, through your support of the HMC. Your generosity makes it possible to fight the scourge of antisemitism from the ground up: by making sure every student in Michigan learns about the Holocaust and its lessons for today.

The rise of Nazism and the causes of the Holocaust have their roots in suspicion, fear and uncertainty. People look for simple answers to complex questions, and they need a scapegoat for all their problems. Hate mongers stoke that fear with the very powerful tool of propaganda. But you have a powerful tool, too—education.

Thanks to your support, the HMC has set an ambitious goal and we are meeting it: to train all Michigan social studies and literature teachers from Marquette to Muskegon. The pandemic does not stop us. If we can't train teachers in person, we will provide webinars and online resources.

HMC Education Specialist Aliza Tick (*standing*) leads a seminar, training educators from Oakland, Macomb, Wayne, Jackson and St. Clair counties.

With your help, we are giving Michigan's teachers the tools to educate students to think critically and recognize propaganda and hate speech. Students are learning that unchecked hatred can lead to terrible atrocities, but that they have the power to stand up against it. Most importantly, our youth are developing compassion for people different from themselves. Thanks to you, they are becoming our allies in the fight against antisemitism.

Family Spotlight: Keeping Memories Alive

Marvin Zucker, son of Holocaust survivors, feels it is his responsibility to fund an organization he believes in to make it stronger. As a loyal donor to the Holocaust Memorial Center, Marvin has done just that. Zucker's parents, Channa and Nathan Zucker, were forcibly deported from Poland to a Russian

labor camp where they met. The two walked over 2,000 miles, and then smuggled themselves in an abandoned boat to Italy to survive. Marvin's only other family member who survived the Holocaust was his uncle, Steve Goldin. Marvin lost nine uncles and aunts and both sets of grandparents.

Growing up, Marvin's parents never wanted to talk about the Holocaust; it destroyed them. The experience shaped them and in turn shaped him. "It made me determined to survive. If my parents could get through that, I can get through anything." As a devoted husband and father, Marvin lives these words to the fullest.

Marvin supports the Holocaust Memorial Center because of his life experiences. Marvin often talks about the importance of the museum with his children. His son, Zack, a history buff, traced their family lineage and uncovered more about the family's experiences including how his great-grandmother was murdered during the Holocaust. It's stories like this and Marvin's generosity that have an immediate impact on future generations. We are grateful for the Zucker family's support.



Marvin and his wife Cynthia and their sons (*left to right*) Gary, Zack and Matt.



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WHY I AM A DOCENT by Deborah Tyner

After I retired from being an Oakland County Circuit Court judge, I wanted to explore areas of interest to me and devote my energy to community service. Becoming a docent fulfilled both of my goals.

Since my years as a U of M student (where I majored in history and obtained a secondary teaching certificate), I have been interested in the origins of the Holocaust and what individuals and society can do to prevent it from happening again. As an HMC docent, I can delve into personal issues of interest, and I can share that knowledge with others. No two tours are the same. I learn so much from the students, and I am always amazed by their insightful questions.

Many things I experienced during my tenure on the bench relate to Holocaust study. During the sentencing process, I observed that most people have both good and bad personality traits, which affect their personal choices and actions. How choice affects individual, corporate and governmental action (or inaction) is paramount to Holocaust study. On a personal level, each tour I conduct reinforces the importance of making good choices and taking responsibility for my actions.

When I enter the HMC, I become more reflective, appreciative, disturbed and in awe. I step outside my routine and reflect on how I can make the world a better place. During this challenging time, it helps me to listen to presentations by Holocaust survivors. It is inspirational how each of them coped with extraordinarily difficult circumstances.

I am grateful to serve as a docent, so I can assist others in understanding this evil but complex period of history, and perhaps help prevent similar situations from ever occurring again.

Educating Michigan Students

Your Generosity at Work

Last year, 35,000 students visited the Holocaust Memorial Center Zekelman Family Campus. We provide discounted admission so that all students have the opportunity to learn about the Holocaust. Your gifts are what make their visits possible. Thank you!

Students from the Michigan Department of Transportation's Youth Development and Mentoring Program (YDMP) with Holocaust survivor Rae Nachbar.



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Thanks to your support, students from all over Michigan are learning why they must fight prejudice and stand up for the rights of others.

Dear Holocaust Memorial Center,

I believe that hearing stories of the Holocaust from a survivor truly helps people realize what indifference can do. It shows how important standing up to prejudice can be. I want to thank you for sharing your incredible story with us. It was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

Maggie, 7th Grader
Gull Lake Middle School

Inspiring the Next Generation to Take Action

Our annual Kappy Family Anne Frank Art & Writing Competition seeks to educate students about the Holocaust, engage them through Anne Frank's profound story, and empower them to move from thought to action. We received more than 300 entries from 7-12th grade students throughout Michigan. Students opened their eyes, hearts, and minds to learn about the Holocaust and channel its lessons into their profound work. Their entries were inspired by the power of change, and Anne Frank's words, "How wonderful it is that no one need wait a single moment before beginning to change the world." On June 12, 2019 – which would have been Anne Frank's 90th birthday - we held an award ceremony for our winners. Their work can be seen at holocaustcenter.org/ArtandWriting2019.



Flow Video

(left to right) Sisters Claire Kase and Maggie Kase, both first place winners.

We look forward to announcing our 2020 winners soon!

We thank Garry Kappy and his family for their continued support and extend appreciation to the Community Foundation of Southeastern Michigan, which has generously funded a portion of this year's competition.



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Students from Our Lady of Refuge School of Orchard Lake with docent Gail Fisher.



Rachel Clawson

7th grade students from Religious Diversity Journeys, an InterFaith Leadership Council of Metropolitan Detroit program.

Students from St. Stephen Catholic School of New Boston with docent Abbe Sherbin.



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Flow Video

1st Place Photography | 9-12th Grade Division
Abby Consiglio, South Lyon High School

Irvin Kappy, Barbara Kappy, Holocaust survivor Garry Kappy, Ilse Kappy, and Ira Kappy



Flow Video



Flow Video

A student admires the winning entries.



Flow Video

1st Place Painting | 9-12th Grade Division
Lili Tarnopol, Frankel Jewish Academy

While the HMC is temporarily closed, our work does not stop. Through the generosity of you, our donors, we remain a vibrant source of education to teach the lessons of Holocaust. We miss the students, museum visitors, docents, volunteers, survivor speakers and our community, and hope you are healthy. We cannot wait to see you when it is safe to reopen.

Thank you also to all the first responders for the heroic job they do every day.



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**Of blessed memory*

*Please help us to thank you correctly!
 If there are any corrections that need to be
 made, call 248.536.9605 to let us know.*

Donors of \$250+ are listed, but all donors are thanked and appreciated.

FROM THE *President*



Gary Karp

Children of Survivors are Stepping Up

As we commemorate the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz and the end of WW II, we are aware of the need to cultivate a new generation of storytellers. The personal stories of loss, survival and rebuilding must be told, and who better to tell them than the children of the survivors?

To this end, our education department has received a grant from the Covenant Foundation for a project called *My Parents' Story and My Own*. Our educators will work with Dr. Karen Shawn, Associate Professor of Jewish Education at the Azrieli Graduate School of Jewish Education and

Administration at Yeshiva University, to train adult children and grandchildren of Holocaust survivors (commonly referred to as 2G's and 3G's) to speak to our museum guests. These speakers will be living examples of how, despite the lasting impact of the Holocaust on survivors, their parents were able to rebuild their lives, families and communities.

The project will begin with a two-day seminar conducted by Dr. Shawn and our education specialists. They will guide participants in the creation of compelling narratives that will educate and inspire listeners. Once the seminar has been completed, our education staff will continue to work with the participants and prepare them for

speaking to our student groups and general audiences. In parallel, Dr. Shawn also will conduct a teacher workshop on using Holocaust literature in a variety of creative and meaningful ways.

The HMC's goal is to teach our visitors the lessons of the Holocaust. Through the second generation speakers, visitors will learn what happens when hateful ideas turn into hate-filled—and in this case, deadly—actions. In our partnership with Dr. Shawn and through the generosity of the Covenant Foundation, we continue to engage, educate and empower by remembering the Holocaust.



HMC Docent Jim Berk tells students about his mother's Holocaust experiences.

Jerry Zolynsky

SEEN AT THE MUSEUM



Jerry Zolynsky



Jerry Zolynsky

Lieutenant-General Roméo Dallaire signs and discusses his book with attendees after his lecture, *Lessons from the Rwandan Genocide*.



Brett Mountain

(left to right) 35th Anniversary Dinner Chairs Elaine & Michael Serling, Honorees Nina & Bernie Kent, and Keynote Speaker Dr. Ruth Westheimer.



Brett Mountain

Michigan Jewish War Veterans lead a procession and posting of the flags during the Yom HaShoah Commemoration.



Brett Mountain

(middle, right) Jim and Sandy Danto with speaker Asher Ostrin (left) at his lecture, *Jewish Life in Ukraine Today*.



Brett Mountain

(left to right) Dr. Danny Singer, Sherrie Singer, and speaker Arie Kaplan at the program *Flickering Shadows: Images of the Holocaust in Film & TV*.



Trevor Redford

LEFT: Honoring HMC survivor speakers, docents and volunteers at the Volunteer Thank You Lunch.

RIGHT: (left to right) HMC Board Member Alan Zekelman, Keynote Speaker Dr. Ruth Westheimer, and HMC Director of the Harry and Wanda Zekelman International Institute of the Righteous Dr. Guy Stern at the 35th Anniversary Dinner.



Brett Mountain

BELOW: Intergenerational families commemorating Yom HaShoah. (left to right) Back row Dr. Larry Dell, HMC Board Member Dr. David Silbert, Dr. Steven Rapp. Front row Holocaust survivor Elizabeth Dell Silver, Renee Silbert, Holocaust survivor Rose Wagner, Dr. Judy Rapp.



Jerry Zolynsky

BELOW: (left to right) Event Chairs Amy and Eric Grosinger, moderator Cynthia Canty from Michigan Public Radio, guest speaker and author Derek Black, and Event Chairs Joel Smith and Jacob Smith at the Membership Event *Leaving Hatred Behind*.



Brett Mountain

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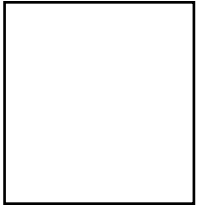
OPERATION FINALE

THE CAPTURE & TRIAL OF ADOLF EICHMANN

For more information on this special exhibit, visit www.holocaustcenter.org



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NEWSLETTER EDITOR: **Beth Snider**
DESIGN: **WOODS COMMUNICATIONS**

HMC'S VIRTUAL CONNECTIONS

Since the "Stay Home– Stay Safe" order began

354,000 PEOPLE REACHED

Through Holocaust Memorial Center Facebook posts, virtual programming and broadcasts, and more.



TRAINING TEACHERS 112



112 teachers from around Michigan attended HMC virtual trainings for strategies on teaching students about the Holocaust.

VIRTUAL PROGRAM AUDIENCES 7,365



In April, the HMC premiered virtual Yom HaShoah and *Unto Every Person There Is A Name* Commemorations.

In May, we hosted a Facebook Live event featuring *New York Times* Best-Selling author Neal Bascomb, discussing his book *Hunting Eichmann*.

In June, Professor Anita Norich talked about the Holocaust in Yiddish Literature.

175 VOLUNTEERS READ NAMES OF VICTIMS

During *Unto Every Person There Is A Name*, 175 volunteers read the names of Holocaust victims. Over 65 volunteers sent videos of their memorials to the HMC, which created a video tribute that was over two hours long.

