

Insider

MAGAZINE



**VOL
01**

Henry and Sandra Friedman

HOLOCAUST CENTER *for* HUMANITY

TABLE *of* CONTENTS



NOTE FROM OUR CEO.....	3
FROM BLUEPRINT TO BRICK.....	4-5
MICHAEL'S CORNER.....	6-7
STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS.....	8-9
VOICES OF SURVIVORS AND THEIR DESCENDANTS.....	10-11
A SUNDAY AT THE MUSEUM.....	12-13
MAKE YOUR OWN BUTTERFLY.....	14
UPCOMING EVENTS AND MEMBER SURVEY.....	15

NOTE *from our* CEO

“In 2014, the Holocaust Center for Humanity’s CEO, Dee Simon, and I peered into the vacant space on 2nd and Lenora. Enormous concrete pillars that rose to sky-high ceilings dotted the cavernous space. The glass dome entryway was striking — reminiscent of the building’s history as the Crystal Pool. Dee turned and said, *“This is it.”*”

Thanks to a transformational gift from Henry and Sandra Friedman, and additional contributions from other generous community members, the Holocaust Center for Humanity moved from its small rented office space in the Jewish Federation to its new permanent home. Since that time, we have continued to grow.

In 2025, our membership rose by 250 percent — an astounding and exciting increase. Our museum is so much more than the space within the walls on 2nd Avenue in Seattle. Our museum is: digital archives,



public programming, educational resources for teachers across the state, opportunities to learn, engage, give back, and strive to create the world we all want to live in.

We couldn’t do this without the support of our members. Thank you for joining us on this journey. There’s so much more still to come.

FROM BLUEPRINT TO BRICK



1989: We were founded by a group of eight Holocaust survivors who ultimately made Washington state their home. Since the beginning, survivors and their family members have gifted us personal items related to the Holocaust for the purpose of education and preservation. Over time, this was the basis for our evolving collection. The Speakers Bureau and creative writing contest were also foundational programs of the original organization known as **Surviving Generations of the Holocaust**.



2000: **Surviving Generations of the Holocaust** changed its name to **Washington State Holocaust Education Resource Center** to signify the importance of learning. Programming expanded to include teaching trunks and educator training. Over the next 14 years, we partnered with other organizations to offer programs and exhibits, and began hosting small field trips and group tours. Increased demand prompted staff growth, ultimately surpassing the available space.



2015: The grand opening of the **Henry and Sandra Friedman Holocaust Center for Humanity** marked the start of regular public hours. The Holocaust Center was one of the few museums in the U.S. to be selected to display a collection of artifacts directly from the Auschwitz Museum in Poland. This collection represents the millions of Jewish people who were murdered whose names and stories remain unknown.

2018: The Holocaust Center expanded its permanent exhibit, including adding more interactive features that make the exhibit more accessible to a diversity of learning styles and creates a more impactful experience for visitors of all ages.



2020: Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the museum closed its doors to the public—everything from field trips to speakers bureau presentations went virtual. Our annual fundraising event, **Voices for Humanity**, was streamed from our exhibit space into living rooms across the state, and even around the country.



1994: The organization was officially incorporated and received its legal nonprofit status. The mission was to support teaching the Holocaust in schools across Washington state.



2014: After a final name change to the **Holocaust Center for Humanity** and a transformational gift from Henry and Sandra Friedman alongside the support of generous donors and community partners, the Holocaust Center began construction in the Spring.



2016: We displayed the first of many traveling exhibits in our museum—including one on Anne Frank which coincided with the planting of the Anne Frank tree in the Peace Garden at the base of the Seattle Space Needle.

2019: Washington State Holocaust Education Law (Senate Bill 5612) passed, strongly encouraging public middle, junior high, and high schools to include Holocaust instruction in their curriculum. This bill motivated schools and districts across the state to foster a deeper relationship with the Holocaust Center, utilizing the educational resources and bringing their students to the museum.

2025: After hosting an Anne Frank exhibit, which brought more visitors to our museum than ever, we were recognized by *The Seattle Times* as Best Museum in the Pacific Northwest. The Holocaust Center concluded the year with a new installation, **Architecture of Atrocities**, highlighting the stages that lead to genocide.



MICHAEL'S *Corner*



“One of the many hats I wear as the **Museum Manager** here at the Holocaust Center is that of **Collections Manager**. I oversee our collections and archives, ensuring that everything in our care is being preserved for future generations. As a Collections Manager, I have two primary goals in mind:

The first goal is to best protect the artifacts in our collection from inevitably deteriorating over time. This usually includes keeping them in a controlled environment, such as a special archival box in our collections room. Since objects in our collection represent real people and their lived experiences, we want to ensure we treat both them and the stories they carry with the utmost care and respect.

The second goal is to make our collections accessible to the public, broaden their understanding of the Holocaust, and use artifacts to learn about history.

Keeping these two goals top of mind is at the core of my role, both protecting the items and ensuring their longevity while also promoting public access to them. Many are shocked to hear that the vast majority of museums only have a small percentage of their collections on display at any given time. For instance, we have roughly 10,000 items in our collection, including photographs, documents, letters, textiles, artworks, and other 3D artifacts. Only about 70 of these items are on permanent display, making it a very small percentage of our overall collection.



Some things are too fragile, too unconventional, or otherwise unfit to be put on display. Exposure to light can fade pigments in stamps and photographs, and exposure to moisture in the air can degrade artifacts.

Some possible solutions include periodically exchanging items on display to avoid overexposure to the environment, creating physical and digital copies, and simply accepting that things will fall apart eventually, and this sense of mortality should not deter us from using these items to teach about the stories they carry. Each item's ideal care is individualized and needs to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

At the Holocaust Center for Humanity, we use all of these strategies to strike a balance between protecting the artifacts while allowing them to be safely used for educational purposes.

In future issues of this magazine, you can expect to see rarely seen artifacts highlighted. In 2026, we are working to make some portions of our collection searchable online. **See what we have to date.** Feel free to reach out with any questions regarding our collections or donation policies.

Michael Langberg



STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

Acts of Defiance during the Holocaust

Throughout Nazi-occupied Europe, Jewish resistance thrived as a powerful rejection of dehumanization—a legacy that the Holocaust Center for Humanity preserves within its museum walls. From “spiritual resistance,” including clandestine schools, secret archives, and forbidden religious services that sustained cultural identity, to the life-saving networks of smugglers and forgers,

victims fought to reclaim their dignity. This defiance culminated in organized armed struggle, from the heroic Warsaw Ghetto Uprising to prisoner revolts in concentration camps like Auschwitz-Birkenau. By centering these stories of bravery and rebellion, the Holocaust Center ensures that the spirit of those who stood against terror endures as a permanent testament to human resilience.

What did resistance look like for non-Jewish groups?

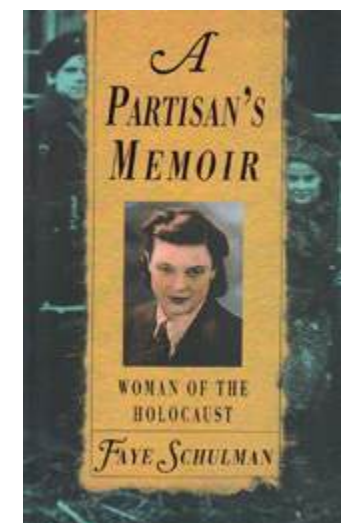
- Among the earliest domestic opponents of Nazism were Communists, Socialists, and trade union leaders.
- German theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer broke from church leaders who supported or acquiesced to the regime and actively opposed it.
- The White Rose, a Munich student group, exposed Nazi atrocities and urged Germans to resist.
- Resistance ranged from the 1942 assassination of Reinhard Heydrich, architect of the “Final Solution,” to the 1944 Warsaw Uprising, as well as nonviolent acts such as sheltering Jews and listening to forbidden Allied broadcasts.

Image: Group photo of partisans from the Vilna Ghetto. Lithuania, circa 1942-1944. Courtesy United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

Recommended Texts

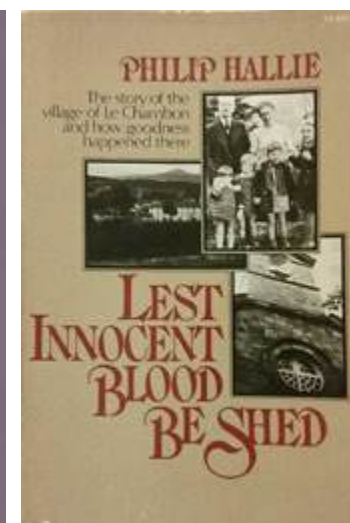
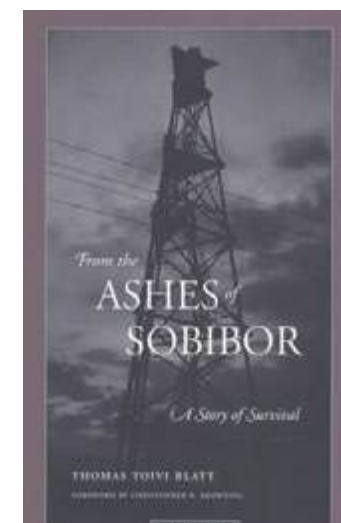
ILANA CONE KENNEDY CEO

- *A Partisan’s Memoir: Woman of the Holocaust* by **Faye Schulman**
- *Anne Frank Remembered: The Story of the Woman Who Helped to Hide the Frank Family* by **Miep Gies**



BRANDA ANDERSON *Teaching and Learning Specialist*

- *From the Ashes of Sobibor* by **Thomas Blatt**
- *Defiance* by **Nechama Tec**
- *Lest Innocent Blood Be Shed: The Story of the Village of Le Chambon and How Goodness Happened There* by **Philip P. Hallie**



DOCUMENTARY

- [*Resistance: They Fought Back*](#)

SURVIVOR ENCYCLOPEDIA

- [Thomas Blatt](#)
- [Ed Kaye](#)
- [Peter Metzelaar](#)
- [Martin Metzou](#)

VOICES OF SURVIVORS *and their* DESCENDANTS



At the Holocaust Center, we have more than 30 speakers who share their stories throughout the Pacific Northwest, including Holocaust survivors, survivors of other genocides, and Legacy Speakers. We invite you to read the

biographies of the speakers highlighted and use [**this form link**](#) to ask them a question of your own. You will have an opportunity to read their responses in future issues of this publication. Sample questions are provided.



Arik Cohen

Arik is the grandchild of four Holocaust survivors.

Arik's maternal grandparents, Arye Schneider and Masha Klein, were born in Lithuania. Arye was born in Šaukėnai (Shukyan), Lithuania, where in 1941, nearly the whole Jewish population was murdered. Arye escaped and made his way to the Siauliai (Shavli) ghetto, where he met his wife Masha, a teacher who

hailed from Neverenai (Nevaran). After the Shavli Ghetto massacre in November 1943, Arye and Masha hid in the woods for eight months until the Soviet Army liberated Lithuania.

Arik's paternal grandparents were from the Transylvania region in Romania. In May 1944, Emil Kohn and Eva Hirsch were among 35,000 Jews ghettoized in Oradea. They were both deported to Auschwitz, where Eva was sent to Stutthof to be used for slave labor, until she was forced on a death march in January 1945 and eventually liberated by the Soviet Army. Emil was liberated from Buchenwald in April of 1945 and found his way back to Eva.

Sample Questions for Arik:

1. How do students react to hearing about your grandparents?
2. Has your research changed how you remember your grandparents now?

Image from left to right: Masha (Klein) Schneider, Arik Cohen, Eva (Hirsch) Kohn, and Emil Kohn



Agi Day

Agi Day (nee Zagorka Herzog) was born in Belgrade, Yugoslavia (now Serbia) in May 1940.



When she was just a baby, her family escaped Belgrade on foot, covering nearly 200 miles. During the last nine months of World War II, Agi was hidden by Catholic people who passed her as their own family. In 1946, the growing threat of Communism again forced Agi and her family to leave. They escaped Hungary and traveled

hundreds of miles to live in several Displaced Persons camps in Austria.

In 1951, at age 11, Agi joined her mother in Toronto, Ontario, where she grew up and became a teacher. Since 2014, Agi has spoken to schools and community groups about her experiences during the Holocaust as a member of the Holocaust Center Speakers Bureau.

Sample Questions for Agi:

1. What initially prompted you to tell your story so many years later?
2. Has your perception of what your mother risked for you changed over the years?



A SUNDAY AT THE MUSEUM

LUDI'S RESTAURANT

9am

Breakfast at Ludi's Restaurant. Established in 1936, this family-owned and operated restaurant is a Seattle staple serving some of the best Filipino dishes.

Hot tip: Their legendary Ube pancakes are only available on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.



HOLOCAUST CENTER FOR HUMANITY

10am

Walk two blocks to the Holocaust Center for Humanity and explore our permanent exhibit, *Finding Light in the Darkness*. Engage with history and be challenged to consider how your actions make a difference.

The exhibit concludes with the new **Architecture of Atrocities** installation. This interactive display prompts visitors to consider the process of genocide and explore where they can interrupt the process.



MEE SUM PASTRY

1pm

Take a lunch break at Mee Sum Pastry located in Pike Place Market. Established in 2007, this beloved shop serves up some iconic Taiwanese dishes. You can eat a Hom Bow while taking in the waterfront view.



ANNE FRANK TREE

2pm

Take a stroll over to the Seattle Center to visit the Anne Frank Tree in the Peace Garden. The Holocaust Center for Humanity is honored to have been selected to receive **one of the first 11 saplings from the original tree that stood outside Anne Frank's house in Amsterdam.**

In 2016, the tree was dedicated to the city of Seattle and planted just south of the Space Needle. This project was spearheaded by our current CEO, Ilana Cone Kennedy, who was our Director of Education at the time. Last year, another sapling was planted at Peperzak Middle School in Spokane.



QUEEN ANNE BOOK COMPANY

3pm

Before heading home, explore the shelves at Queen Anne Book Company and grab a quick pick-me-up at the coffee shop next door.

Book Suggestion: Refugee by Alan Gatz.



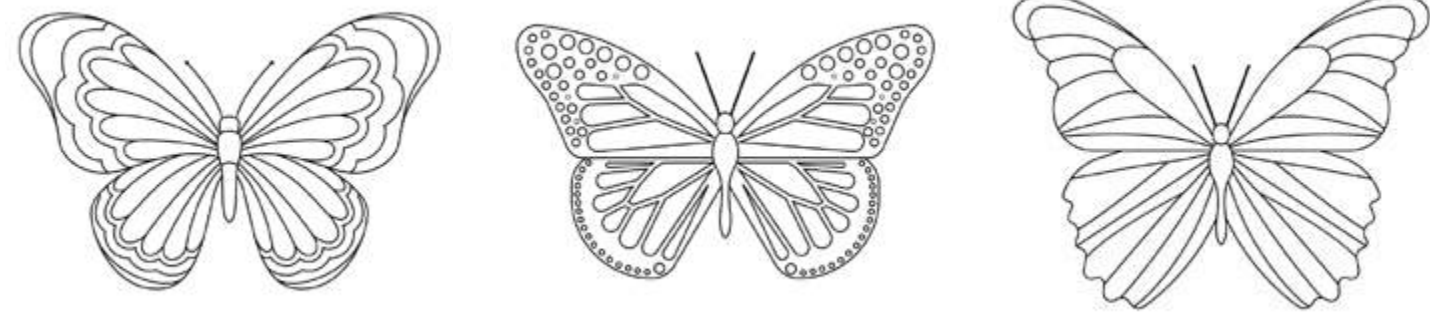
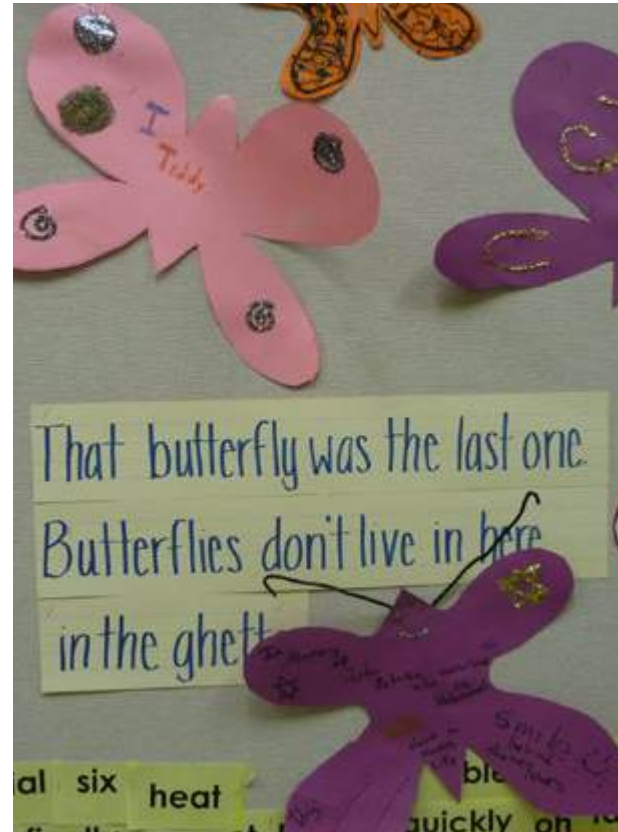
Image: [Queen Anne Book Company](#)

MAKE YOUR OWN

Butterfly

The Butterfly is a poem written by Pavel Friedmann when he was a prisoner at the Terezin Concentration Camp. Nearly 12,000 children under the age of 15 passed through the Terezin camp between 1942 and 1944—less than 10 percent survived. In total, approximately 1.5 million Jewish children were murdered during the Holocaust.

Butterflies are a symbol of hope and renewal. Guests to our museum often decorate butterflies to remember their lives and to pass these memories on from one generation to the next.



Click butterflies for printable templates.

We invite you to honor the memory of the children who perished in the Holocaust by cutting this butterfly out and decorating it. Once completed, mail it to us and we will add these remembrances to our butterfly wall at the Holocaust Center.

UPCOMING *Events*

Tickets to events in the museum are included with your membership when you use the promo code on the back of your electronic card.

NICK WINTON - MARCH 22

Henry & Sandra Friedman Holocaust Center for Humanity

Join us for a special event with Nick Winton, son of Sir Nicholas Winton MBE, who saved 669 children through the Kindertransport before WWII. Nick will share the remarkable story of his father's courage and the legacy it left for future generations. Don't miss this powerful conversation—[get tickets here](#).



YOM HASHOAH - APRIL 12

Museum of Flight

We invite you to gather with us for a candle lighting ceremony and a dialogue with a survivor. We will also present the winners of our 2026 Student Art Contest—[register today](#).

INHERITORS OF MEMORY SERIES - ONGOING

Henry & Sandra Friedman Holocaust Center for Humanity

Join us on select Sundays from 2:00-3:30 pm to hear stories of resilience, escape, and survival shared by children and grandchildren of the Holocaust. Upcoming events:

- [Beverley Silver](#), March 8
- [Jessica Fenton](#), April 26
- [Jack Goldberg](#), May 17

This program is generously sponsored by the Ruth Anderson Wheeler and Henry O. Wheeler Charitable Trust & Tulalip Charitable Contributions Fund.

YOUR VOICE MATTERS

Please take 5 minutes to complete our [Member Feedback Survey](#). Share what inspires your membership, how you connect with our programs, and the best ways to reach you.



HolocaustCenterSeattle.org