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36

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museum
of JEWISH HERITAGE
a **living** MEMORIAL TO
THE HOLOCAUST

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Director's Message

In this issue we focus on the soul of the Museum — our innovative education programs. Education is at the center of everything we do, and we believe that these programs have a profound impact on students, and that they are vital to our identity as an institution.

Before the summer began, we welcomed two new members to the Museum family as newly elected Trustees — **Ingeborg Rennert** and **Irving Paler**. Ingeborg and her husband, Ira, have supported the Museum for many years and have most recently provided vital funding for two of our most provocative exhibitions: *Kippur: Three Weeks in October* and *Daring to Resist: Jewish Defiance in the Holocaust*. Irving Paler, along with his wife, June, gave us the resources to record 400 interviews with GIs, making sure that the experiences of Jews who served in World War II were captured for all time, providing the basis for our award-winning exhibition, *Ours to Fight For: American Jews in the Second World War*. Irving and June are regulars at the Museum, attending luncheons, dinners, openings — indeed every significant event in the life of the Museum.

Irving and June also joined us on the 10th Anniversary Mission to Germany and Poland. It was a moving experience for everyone, and for some, it was a life-changing journey. I am pleased the staff could provide such a meaningful and engaging experience.

It has been 10 years since the Museum opened its doors to the public. Since that time, we have welcomed well over one million visitors and educated more than 300,000 students. We have seen the city transformed by tragedy and renewal, and have made our own contribution to the skyline with the addition of the Robert M. Morgenthau Wing. As a community, we will celebrate this anniversary through what we do best — programming, exhibitions, events, and publications. Together we will create our second decade dedicated to memory and hope.

DAVID G. MARWELL, PH.D.

JULIAN GERSTEN



IVAN MORADOFF



TOP: Entrance to Treblinka Memorial. The stones represent the countries of the victims.

BOTTOM: Berlin's Monument to the Murdered Jews of Europe.

COVER: Jewish visitors at the entrance to Grossinger's in the Catskills, c. 1950. Courtesy of the Jewish Museum of Maryland.

Tenth Anniversary Mission Explores Historic Sites of Germany and Poland

Thirty-five travelers, all Patron-level Members, spent 10 days this summer on a tour of historic sites in Germany and Poland as part of the Museum's 10th Anniversary Mission. The trip took them to Berlin, Warsaw, Krakow, Oswiecim, and other places important to Jewish history and the Holocaust. Their journey, which was led by Museum Director David G. Marwell and Founding Chief Curator Yitzchak Mais, included privileged access to experts and institutions, and followed an intense itinerary that left the participants exhausted but enriched.

When the group was in Warsaw, they were given a private tour of the Jewish Historical Institute's collection, including the vault that houses, among other treasures, the milk can in which Emmanuel Ringelblum and the Oyneg Shabbes buried their remarkable archive. Such incomparable entree made the experience that much richer for the group.

The Mission included many contrasts — evidence of a vibrant Jewish life and the sites of its destruction, houses of Jewish learning and headquarters of Nazi power. Perhaps the most dramatic contrast of all came on the day the group visited Auschwitz, spending most of the day walking the area of the death camp and ending, a few kilometers away, in the sanctuary of the Auschwitz Jewish Center, the only surviving synagogue in a town that was once the home of dozens.

Gallery Educator Fran Moradoff, who traveled with her husband, Ivan, remarked on the value of sharing the experience. "We were all so different — our ages, our backgrounds, our experiences. At the beginning we were separate pieces of the puzzle, and by the end we were unified by what we were seeing. This commonality made us into one unit."

The group included Al and Florence Schwartzberg, Trustee Irving Paler and his wife June; Rachel Haruvi, a Holocaust survivor who traveled with her son Abe; Luna Kaufman, also a survivor and member of the Public Programs committee; as well as Richard Born, a member of the Associates Division Board and the son of survivors, who traveled with his wife, Debbie, his daughter Caroline, and his sister, Rita Distenfeld.

The Mission Planning Committee members were Simon Bergson, Richard Born, Patti Kenner, Ann Oster, Rosa Strygler, and Wayne Zuckerman.

JewishGen ShtetlSchleppers Program Streamlines Jewish Heritage Travel

For twenty years, JewishGen has been an important tool for researchers of Jewish genealogy. Through discussion groups and a growing database of over seven million records, this online community allows families to connect, and re-connect, as never before. In 1999, JewishGen began a program called ShtetlSchleppers, a service that brings travelers to sites of Jewish heritage and their own families' shtetls. Each "shtetl tour" is guided by a personal translator and is customized to allow individuals to learn more about their family history.

This year, JewishGen helped plan the Museum's 10th Anniversary Mission to Germany and Poland — the first such trip since 1998. JewishGen helped create the itinerary and assisted in arranging shtetl tours for several participants.

Helen Baer, who participated in the Mission, took time to visit her mother's hometown of Radomysl. "It was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for me to see where my family had come from.... JewishGen's program was extraordinary," she said. "Everything was taken care of." While with her personal guide, Helen obtained a thesis written by a towns person on Jewish life there before the war. She was pleased to discover that the thesis mentioned her mother's family. "It was so amazing to have writing that said my family was there."

For more information, please visit www.JewishGen.org.

Curator's Choice

As the Jewish community becomes more ethnically diverse, the Museum has launched a project to document and collect artifacts that reflect these multicultural changes. Adoption and naming announcements, a bat mitzvah invitation, and texts from naming ceremonies, among other items, are being collected from families who have adopted children from China, Vietnam, and Guatemala. The artifacts all illustrate the incorporation of aspects of the birth culture into Jewish family life.

For her daughter Meah Hadassah Huazhu Nisenson's bat mitzvah, in Rockville, Maryland in 2005, artist Susannah Challis designed an invitation that incorporates her drawing of Jerusalem next to a drawing of the Great Wall of China. The invitation has text in Hebrew, English, and Chinese. For Meah's mitzvah project, she chose to raise money to benefit the children of the remote village of An Shang, where she had visited and volunteered during her two trips to China; she raised over \$1,000 to enable children to attend a new school in An Shang.

To donate adoption artifacts or materials relating to any of the themes of the Museum, please contact Esther Brumberg at 646.437.4248.



*All the generations, even those yet to be born,
were present at Mount Sinai and received the Torah there.
Today, we formally welcome our daughter
into the Covenant of Israel.*

Brit Hachayim

The Covenant of Life

Welcoming
Jamie Jaye Qing Qing Malka Leah Levine
Into the Covenant of Israel

November 8, 2001

Marie and Howie Levine of Ottawa, Canada, have donated the program from the baby naming and welcoming ceremony of their daughter, Jamie Jaye Qing Qing Malka Leah Levine, which took place in 2001.



The Other Promised Land: Vacationing, Identity, and the Jewish-American Dream

Endless car-trips, vintage postcards, and drawers full of family snapshots conjure up happy memories of bygone vacations for many families. Visitors can relive those carefree times at *The Other Promised Land: Vacationing, Identity, and the Jewish-American Dream*, a nostalgic exhibition exploring the history of Jewish vacationing in America from 1890 to the present, on view through January 1.

The exhibition, curated and produced by the Jewish Museum of Maryland, focuses on such legendary destinations as Atlantic City, the Catskills, Florida, Israel, and New York City. *The Other Promised Land* illuminates both the unique cultural meanings inherent in the American-Jewish vacationing experience and the ways in which Jewish culture thrived because of that experience. The exhibition demonstrates how vacations have expressed and defined Jewish identity, reflecting the values, tastes, and dreams of American Jews.

At the exhibition opening, Museum Director David G. Marwell said, "Some might argue that this exhibition presents somewhat lighter fare than we normally provide, and this is true. But if you look closely, you will see that this exhibition tells a story that runs parallel [to the Museum's Core Exhibition's narrative] and, in some ways, defines the Jewish-American experience in ways that are both heartwarming and provocative."

Highlights of *The Other Promised Land* include Victorian traveling outfits, an inviting rolling wicker chair from the Atlantic City boardwalk of the 1880s, anti-Semitic hotel brochures and a "Gentiles Only" hotel sign, and an original "Mr. Peanut" costume from Atlantic City.

For the exhibition's run at the Museum, a special case was curated by the Museum's Collections and Exhibitions Department devoted to Coney Island, the Rockaways, Atlantic Beach, and other local vacation spots. Local artifacts include a photo of Museum Trustee Bernard Spitzer and his wife Anne in the Catskills, where they first met as young adults.

You, too, can add your vacation photos to the exhibition. Send no more than two of your scanned or digital vacation photos to vacationphotos@mjhny.org.

At the invitation-only opening on June 14, visitors were treated to hot dogs, saltwater taffy, knishes, and other old-fashioned treats. Members were invited to a private preview of the exhibition on June 12. For information on upcoming Members-only previews and other benefits of membership, please contact the Membership Department at 646.437.4334.

This exhibition is curated by the Jewish Museum of Maryland with generous support from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The New York exhibition is supported, in part, by The Robert Sillins Family Foundation. Media sponsorship provided by The New Jersey Jewish Standard.



Avi Y. Decter, Executive Director of the Jewish Museum of Maryland; Melissa J. Martens, curator of *The Other Promised Land*; and Museum of Jewish Heritage Director David G. Marwell at the opening of the exhibition.

TOP: Jewish visitors arriving in Israel, 1967. Courtesy of the Jewish Museum of Maryland.

SAVE THE DATE 19th Annual Generation to Generation Dinner

Thursday, November 15, at the Museum of Jewish Heritage,
36 Battery Place, New York City

The Museum's Associates and Young Friends Divisions invite you to this gathering of Holocaust survivors and their families, friends, and supporters to pay tribute to the six million Jews who perished in the Holocaust while honoring those individuals who survived to rebuild their families and communities. This year, our Generation to Generation Dinner marks the 10th Anniversary of the Museum's opening on September 15, 1997. For the first time, the dinner is being held at the Museum, a most fitting way to unite the voices of those individuals whose stories are part of our exhibitions and films with the voices of the generations who join us at the dinner. Accompanying the event is a Dinner Journal with advertisements from individuals and businesses. Event Co-chairs are Associates Division Co-chairs Howard J. Butnick, Helene Kener Gray, and Rita G. Lerner; Young Friends Division Co-chairs are Seth Weisleder and Stacey Saiontz; Dinner Co-chairs are Evelyn Goldfeier, Marilyn Rosen, and Deborah Zuckerman; and Journal Co-chairs are Simon Bergson, Jack Kliger, and Ann Oster.

EDUCATING A

For the past decade, the Museum of Jewish Heritage — A Living Memorial to the Holocaust has been committed to educating all who walk through its doors. As the Museum enters its second decade as New York City's primary institution of public education about the Holocaust and modern Jewish history, the Education Department continues to look for innovative ways to educate teachers, students, and visitors. Below are highlights of just some of the ground-breaking programs.

Museum Creates Lesson Plan to Teach About Genocide in Darfur

The Museum hosted a Darfur Action Fair and Symposium in March 2006. More than a year and a half after the symposium, the violence in Darfur has escalated and crossed over the borders of Chad and the Central African Republic. To date, over 400,000 people have been killed in Darfur and over two million have been displaced.

As part of the Museum's ongoing commitment to raise awareness and contribute to the efforts to end the genocide, last January the Collections and Exhibitions department integrated objects related to Darfur into the Core Exhibition. The Education Department has created an artifact workshop to educate middle and high school students about Darfur and to offer information about actions they can take. The workshop, which was launched this month, includes activities using photographs, drawings, and quotes from witnesses to the crisis — most of whom are young adults and children — in order to convey that it is everyone's responsibility to bear witness and ensure that the atrocities of genocide are acknowledged, stopped, and never forgotten.

Shiri Sandler, a staff member who has been instrumental in developing the project, says, "It is important to us that students understand that the lessons of the Holocaust are very applicable in this day and age. Because we are living through an age of genocide, we hope students are knowledgeable about what is happening today and feel empowered to make a difference. We want to give them both the information and the tools to do what so many did not during the Holocaust: stand up and demand that genocide be stopped."



Refugee children stand in front of a board with photos of unidentified children. Mille Refugee Camp, Chad. October 2005.

RICHARD LEVINE

Learning from the Living Museum

Fifth and sixth grade Jewish school students can understand their place in Jewish history through their participation in the Living Museum. The Living Museum helps students form a personal connection to history by studying family heirlooms and family stories. Each student interviews members of his/her family and then brings in an object from home that tells a story that can educate others about the students' heritage. As a group, the students organize their artifacts into galleries and present them as a museum exhibition in their schools — the culminating activity of the program. Students take an active role in their own education, making them the "gallery educators" of these exhibitions, and allowing them to teach their families' histories to their guests.

Traditionally, the Museum made the program available to schools in the tri-state area, but since the project took off seven years ago, it has grown in many exciting directions. A generous grant from The Covenant Foundation allowed the Museum to expand the program nationally by funding the development of an online version of the Living Museum, through which participating Jewish school teachers across the country learn and then implement the Living Museum curriculum. Guided by the online curriculum, students explore their heritage and post their virtual exhibitions on the web for friends, family, and the general public.

Working with educators from across the country, including teachers from Michigan, Oregon, and South Carolina, the Education staff has taught many teachers how to teach their students to design their own galleries and exhibitions online. "We look forward to creating connections with Jewish schools across the country with the website. The educational opportunities are limitless," says Paul Radensky, Museum Educator for Jewish Schools. Visit www.living-museum.org for more information.

*

The Education Department wishes to thank the following funders for their generous gifts: Professional Development: Fanya Gottesfeld Heller, Imre and Vera Hecht Foundation in memory of the nearly 600,000 Hungarian Jews who perished in the Holocaust in the last months of the war, and The Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, Inc.: Rabbi Israel Miller Fund for Shoah Research, Documentation and Education; Coming of Age: The Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, Inc.: Rabbi Israel Miller Fund for Shoah Research, Documentation and Education; The Living Museum: The Covenant Foundation; The Interfaith Living Museum: Leo Rosner Foundation; High School Apprenticeship Program: Altman Foundation, The Clark Foundation, L'Oréal USA, The Pinkerton Foundation, HSBC Bank NA, The Seth Sprague Educational and Charitable Foundation, and The Zoffer Family Endowment; Lipper Internship: Gruss Lipper Foundation; general education program support: Museum Community Fund. For information on sponsoring an educational program please call Sharon Steinbach at 646.437.4335, or e-mail ssteinbach@mjhny.org.



The Interfaith Living Museum is another expansion of the successful education program. This year, students from the Islamic Leadership School and Solomon Schechter School of Manhattan worked together over a series of sessions to learn about each other's heritage and develop an appreciation of their differences. The students brought artifacts from home to show one another, and then presented their exhibition at the Museum on May 31 to an enthusiastic audience of family, friends, and community members. Curated galleries included "Ancestors," "Weddings and Celebrations," and "Holiday/Prayer." Pictured here are students from the Solomon Schechter School (left) and the Islamic Leadership School (right).

MELANE ENZIG

AND INSPIRING

Professional Development Prepares Teachers of Different Backgrounds

The Museum's professional development programs are designed for educators interested in learning more about enhancing Holocaust education in the classroom. These courses are presented throughout the year and serve more than 1,700 teachers annually. Through workshops, seminars, and educator conferences, instructors are equipped with the necessary background to teach students effectively about the Holocaust.

The Museum works with teachers all over the tri-state region — from Jewish, Catholic, and public schools — by providing seminars such as *Meeting Hate with Humanity: Life During the Holocaust*. This year will mark the 9th Annual "Dialogues about Teaching Jewish-Christian Heritage and the Holocaust" with the Archdiocese of New York, which brings 25 Catholic school educators together for four days to discuss Jewish-Christian relationships as well as Jewish heritage and the Holocaust. *Shoah Teaching Alternatives in Jewish Education* (STAJE) programs are specifically designed to meet the needs of Jewish schools, bringing depth and a fresh perspective to their existing Holocaust studies.

In November, the Museum will host educators from the Russian Research and Educational Holocaust Center in Moscow. While in New York, the instructors will further their teaching expertise by attending lectures, hearing survivor testimony, and touring exhibitions.

By partnering with such varied and widespread organizations, the Museum is not only able to fulfill its mission to educate but is given the opportunity to grow from diverse community participation.

For more information on professional development opportunities please contact Maureen Keren at mkeren@mjhny.org or Paul Radensky at pradensky@mjhny.org.

Coming of Age Curriculum for Pre-Teens to Launch

The Education Department has partnered with the Ghetto Fighters' House, Israel, to develop a Coming of Age curriculum geared toward young adults approaching bar and bat mitzvah age. *Coming of Age Now, Coming of Age During the Holocaust* features stories of 13 young Jewish teenagers during the Holocaust. The stories will educate pre-teens and teenagers about modern Jewish history and deepen their understanding of what it means to come of age, the choices they will make, and the responsibilities they will assume.

Yvonne's Story, for example, is a workbook that encourages the reader to ponder questions of identity and to recognize his or her own journey toward self-discovery. The workbook, along with several of the other stories in development, will be launched this fall. Yvonne Campbell, a member of the Museum's Speakers Bureau and a Gallery Educator, was 11 years old when she was hidden, with her sister, in a convent. Miraculously, Yvonne's parents survived the concentration camps, were reunited with their daughters, and moved to New York in 1950. Yvonne, however, continued to struggle with her sense of identity and eventually gained self-acceptance, a message that will resonate with all students.

The curriculum, which includes both written stories and testimony on DVD from survivors and witnesses residing in the United States and Israel, is made possible, in part, through generous funding from the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany: Rabbi Israel Miller Fund for Shoah Research, Documentation and Education.

For more information, please contact Nili Isenberg at nisenberg@mjhny.org.



Yvonne Ferstenfeld, 1946. Reproduced with the permission of Yvonne Campbell.

Internships Give Students Unique Opportunities

As part of the Museum's mission of remembrance and renewal, the Education Department is devoted to inspiring the next generation to study and teach about the Holocaust. In addition to employing up to ten work-study interns from three city high schools each year, the Museum runs two popular internship programs — the High School Apprenticeship Program and the Lipper Internship for graduate and undergraduate students. The positive impact of the interns' superlative work is evidenced in the long-lasting impressions of those they reach.

High School Apprentices begin the program by learning about Jewish culture and the Holocaust through a series of after-school seminars. From July to mid-August, Apprentices work in full-time paid positions in a variety of Museum departments and lead tours for youth groups. The 15 Apprentices are chosen from a diverse group of New York City public school students. As part of their final projects, the students take part in discussions that allow them to explore their own heritage. For instance, last year's class created a moving documentary. For the community service project, the students planned a "Senior Prom" for senior citizens at the Educational Alliance. They also designed and implemented an interactive education activity for young people. Many participants have remarked on how rewarding and enlightening it was to work with other students from different countries, ethnicities, and religions, and how much it helped them to learn about themselves.

The Lipper Internship is a semester-long study in museum education with a focus on Jewish history and the Holocaust. Lipper Interns meet with Museum staff, hear survivor testimony, and learn how to conduct interactive tours during their intensive two-week training. The interns are paired with public schools in their college communities around the Northeast and guide students in thought-provoking dialogue over the course of three sessions — two in the classroom, one at the Museum. Through this program, approximately 5,000 middle and high school students learn about the Holocaust annually and are able to have in-depth conversations. Jamie Bowers-DeFino, a former Lipper, said, "It is truly important work. The teachers I worked with were always grateful for the program. I remember one student in particular was engaged and actively participating in the group discussion. Later, she told me that she was normally very shy and reserved, but that the material and the way it was presented inspired her to make sure her voice was heard."

The Museum welcomes students of all backgrounds to apply for its various internship programs. For more information or to download applications, please visit www.mjhny.org.

MEET MYRIAM, Former High School Apprentice



Myriam Cohen leading a tour for campers during her summer as a High School Apprentice.

I would come to work here again," Myriam said. "Working with Communications has been an amazing experience that has taught me a lot about community outreach."

When asked what advice Myriam would have for other students interested in applying to be a High School Apprentice, she summed up the program this way: "It will change your life, and you will leave more mature and experienced...than you ever expected. You can't go through this program unless you are willing to change your viewpoints to a more positive outlook and really work hard. I am majoring in English and Biology and would like to go to medical school and become a pediatrician. As a future doctor, I feel that being able to communicate will be one of the most important things, and the Museum has truly taught me how to do that."

Myriam Cohen, a sophomore at Binghamton University, was one of the many energetic, intrepid interns who could be found in the galleries, classrooms, and offices of the Museum this summer. Myriam was one of 15 High School Apprentices in 2006, and she returned as a college intern in 2007. She was recently asked to share her insights about the rewards and challenges of her internships.

"Interning here is a fantastic experience," Myriam said. "Working as an intern gave me such an advantage in my first year of college. I learned how to approach people and speak confidently to a large crowd. Through my (HSAP) experience, I became more interested in my heritage. Though I have been exposed to Holocaust-related material from a very young age, the internship allowed me to see it more in context with my own heritage rather than as a separate segment of my Jewish ancestry that had absolutely nothing to do with me."

Myriam made such a positive impression with the staff that she was asked to return after her freshman year of college to intern with the Communications Department. Her duties included contacting tour-book editors and hotel concierges in order to provide out-of-town visitors with pertinent information. "I felt so at home last year that I knew that given the chance

Young Friends Usher in An Exciting Season

The Young Friends Division kicked off an exciting season with an evening at City Hall Restaurant on September 25, hosted by Patron Member and restaurateur Henry Archer Meer. The exclusive event welcomed Young Friends Campaign supporters to celebrate the Young Friends Division and the 10th Anniversary of the Museum. Guests were treated to a private reception and program at the restaurant with Museum Trustees and Patron Members.

The Young Friends were co-sponsors of one of the most exciting Downtown cultural events of the summer, the *Second Annual New York's Best Emerging Jewish Artists*. This event was supported by the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council with the generous support of the September 11th Fund. After the virtually sold-out program of cutting-edge performances on July 25, the division sponsored an afterparty. Sara Link, a Young Friends board member in attendance, said, "It was great to see so many people enjoying themselves on the Museum's terrace at the afterparty. This annual event is the perfect way to spend a summer night."

Don't forget to save the date for two of the most popular Young Friends events: the Generation to Generation Dinner on November 15 and the Young Friends Hanukkah Celebration on December 11. Both events will be held at the Museum.

For more information about the Young Friends, please call Becky Strauss at 646.437.4321, or e-mail bstrauss@mjhny.org.



One of the crowd favorites: Yuri Lane, the human beatbox, performing at the *Second Annual New York's Best Emerging Jewish Artists*.

Member Profile: The Grabinos

Priscilla and Harold Grabino, Chairman's Circle Members, are veritable fixtures of the Museum. In March 2006, the Grabinos honored the memory of their friend Rabbi Balfour Brickner's commitment to social justice by sponsoring an important symposium and action fair — *A Call to Action on Darfur* — which, thanks to their generous support, was free to the public.

The couple became involved with the Museum over ten years ago, when Priscilla, a former teacher, was accepted into the first class of Gallery Educators. Harold and Priscilla, who were born in the same hospital in Brooklyn in the same year, reside in Manhattan, where Harold continues a successful career in real estate law and development. Harold is a past president of the Stephen Wise Free Synagogue, where Priscilla was a trustee for many years, and where their daughter Amy currently serves as a Board and Executive Committee Member. They are also committed to many other organizations, including the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society, which helped Harold's father when he was a new immigrant to the U.S.

Most of all, the Grabinos enjoy sharing their commitment and love of the Museum with friends and family. They make a special point of viewing the "Life in the Ghetto" video on the second floor of the Core Exhibition whenever they visit. "Viewing it for ten years has only deepened our commitment to ensuring that these atrocities are never replicated," Priscilla said. The Grabinos' enthusiasm is contagious. They are certain that "just one visit" is all that is needed to inspire visitors to join.

For more information on Membership, call 646.434.4334.



Harold and Priscilla Grabino at the opening of *The Other Promised Land*.

6th Annual Golf and Tennis Outing is a Grand Slam

More than 140 sporty Museum supporters enjoyed a wonderful day of golf, tennis, raffles, an auction, delicious food, and great company in a bucolic setting. Though early morning thunderstorms threatened to interrupt the fun, nothing could dampen the spirits of this year's participants. In fact, despite the early showers, a record number of tennis players — including many first-timers — came through for us, partaking in challenging skills-drills and competitive tournament matches.

Event Co-chairs were: Stefany and Simon Bergson, Barbara and Paul Brensilber, Elyse and Howard Butnick, Richard Gray, Scott Mager, Marilyn and Joe Rosen, Mark Ruttner, and Donna and David Schweid; Golf Co-chairs were: Anita Blatt, Gayle Gerstein, Stuart Goldstein, Alan Henick, Ronnie Portnoy, Sandy Rogol, and David Wotman; Tennis Co-chairs were: Stephen Berliner, Barbara Brensilber, and Helene Kener Gray; and Auction and Raffle Co-chairs were: Paul Brensilber, Elyse Butnick, and Sandy Rogol.



Cheryl Hurwitz, Madelon Lester, and Dina Bassen on the court.

Hannah Sara Rigler Honored at the Spring Women's Luncheon

On June 7, the Museum celebrated Hannah Sara Rigler's contribution to Holocaust remembrance and education at the annual Spring Women's Luncheon Benefit at the Pierre Hotel. Over 300 guests gave Hannah their rapt attention as, facilitated by Archivist and Curator Bonnie Gurewitsch, she shared emotional stories about her family, about how she survived the Holocaust against all odds, and about the brave British POWs who rescued her. Hannah concluded by reaffirming her belief in *Tikkun Olam* (Repair of the World). "You can't fix the world, but you can fix little things around you and affect people's lives for the better. That's what it is all about," she said. Event Chairs were Museum Trustees Patti Kenner and Ann Oster. Co-chairs were Edith B. Everett, Kathy Gantz, Carol Case-Lieberman, and Lisa Oshman. Attendees were given copies of Hannah's remarkable story, *10 British Prisoners-of-War Saved My Life*, available for purchase in the Pickman Museum Shop.



Hannah Sara Rigler (center) with Event Chairs and Co-chairs Kathy Gantz, Edith B. Everett, Ann Oster, Patti Kenner, Carol Case-Lieberman, and Lisa Oshman. The event provided significant support for the Museum through ticket sales and a silent auction.

Auschwitz Jewish Center News

This summer, the Museum welcomed the 2007 class of the Auschwitz Fellows Program: A Bridge to History. After receiving a record 27 applications, Museum staff chose 10 impressive scholars and a scholar-in-residence to participate in this year's program. After a brief orientation at the Museum, the Fellows departed for Oswiecim, Poland, where they studied for five weeks at the Auschwitz Jewish Center. Under the guidance of AJC staff, the Auschwitz Fellows took part in an intensive study of pre- and post-war Jewish life in Poland, supplemented by study trips and survivor testimony. The program culminated in the presentation of research projects, designed to encourage the Fellows to translate what they learned, in order to help educate others in the future. The program is made possible by a generous grant from the United States Department of State. Additional support is provided by the Taube Foundation for Jewish Life and Culture. For more information, please visit www.ajcf.org.



Auschwitz Fellows and Museum staff members in Andy Goldsworthy's *Garden of Stones* during the Fellows' orientation at the Museum. Seen here: back row from left: Elizabeth Edelstein, Director of Education; Fellows Chad Priest, Yehonathan Brodski and Christine Murphy; Ivy Barsky, Deputy Director; and Scholar-in-Residence, Professor David Frey. Front row from left: Fellows Nathan Edgerton, Shannon Nagy, Caroline Bevan, Liz Kilstein, Carol Simon, and Irene Resenly.

This Fall in Edmond J. Safra Hall

Musical highlights of the Museum's 10th Anniversary season include a series of concerts for Daniel Pearl Music Days, October 8-10, featuring Israeli superstar Idan Raichel and a talented and diverse group of musicians in a mesmerizing blend of Ethiopian and Middle Eastern music. Later this season, the Museum will present a classical music series showcasing world-famous classical pianists Misha and Cipa Dichter and Vladimir Feltsman in concerts highlighting Jewish composers, works based on Jewish themes, and themes relevant to the Museum's collection and mission. Both programs will be followed by VIP dinners with the artists to benefit the Museum. Stay tuned for a whole year of virtuoso performances and extraordinary musical programming.

On October 24, the Museum pays tribute to the heyday of the Catskills, as featured in the special exhibition, *The Other Promised Land: Vacationing, Identity, and the Jewish-American Dream*, by offering a program celebrating the Catskills in film. Filmmaker Joan Micklin Silver (*Hester Street*), who is currently working on a documentary about the Borscht Belt, screenwriter Shelly Altman (*Sweet Lorraine*), and screenwriter Pamela Gray (*A Walk on the Moon*) will discuss their work and what it is about the Catskills that inspires them.

In response to audience and critical praise for the groundbreaking exhibition *Daring to Resist: Jewish Defiance in the Holocaust*, the Museum will present a symposium entitled "Jewish Resistance Reconsidered" on Sunday, October 28, from 1 to 5 p.m. The symposium will feature a panel of scholars, including Israeli historian Yehuda Bauer, who will explore in detail some of the themes of the exhibition while putting resistance into historical context.

David Brandes and Rabbi Joseph Telushkin's provocative play about spiritual life after the Holocaust, *The Quarrel*, will be performed November 14, followed by a discussion with Rabbi Telushkin.

For more information, visit www.mjhnyc.org.



Pianists Misha and Cipa Dichter, who appeared in Edmond J. Safra Hall at the Museum in *Babi Yar Remembered: Yevtushenko and Shostakovich in Word and Song*, will return November 7 for *Misha and Cipa Dichter: Two- and Four-Hand Piano Masterworks*.

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