

**Newsletter
Volume 1 Issue 2**

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Dear Friend of the Johannesburg Holocaust Centre (JHC)

Our first year has flown by in a whirlwind of activities. As we reflect on the year gone by, we are so appreciative and grateful to our benefactors, volunteers and the community at large, for the wonderful interest in, and support for, our Centre. We thank those who have volunteered their services to the Centre. Once the Centre is completed, volunteers will form the life-blood of the JHC and we will then be able to fully utilise the vast diverse experience that has been so generously offered. We certainly haven't forgotten about those who have volunteered to date, and will keep you informed of developments.

HOLOCAUST MEMORY

A call for photographs and artefacts for possible inclusion in the exhibition of the Centre.

A dedicated artefacts committee has begun scanning photographs and cataloguing artefacts that could possibly be loaned or replicated for our exhibition. Please contact our office on (011640-3100), if you have photographs of life before/ during the war and immediately after liberation, as well as any artefacts you would like to let us know about.

In Memoriam

■ **Dr Jocelyn Hellig**, an honoured JHC committee member passed away recently. What a void will be left in the community at large and for us in particular in the field of Holocaust education. We will miss Jocelyn's wisdom,



knowledge, support and friendship that she always shared so generously. Our heartfelt condolences go to her husband Michael and family.

- French-born, **Henriette Gersohn**, a Holocaust survivor, passed away recently. Our sincere condolences go to her children and grandchildren.
- Our condolences also go to **Helene Sieff**, a Holocaust survivor from Belgium, on the passing of her dear husband, **Natie**.

Holocaust Survivor Photographic Initiative

Our dedicated volunteer photographer, Joe Yudelowitz, took

NEWS FLASH!

*Photograph:
Architect's impression
of the new
Johannesburg
Holocaust
Centre Museum*



Building Progress

We are hoping to hear the sound of bulldozers and builders at 11 Durham Road, Raedene, early this year. Everything is in place for the start of the project. We are currently in a queue, waiting for one last 'rubber stamp' of approval from the town planning department and as soon as they give us the green light it will be 'all systems go'. We thank those of you who have visited us to see the site and the plans for the beautiful 2-storey Resource Centre, that will house a permanent exhibition, lecture theatres, a bookstore, coffee shop and a beautiful memorial garden generously donated by The Union of Jewish Women (UJW).



photographs to honour the Holocaust survivors in the Gauteng area. These photographs and a caption about each person will be seen in the new Centre. To date we have been able to make contact with and photograph 39 survivors.

Holocaust Survivor Services (HSS)

The JHC works closely with The Friendship Forum, a project of Jewish Community Services for Holocaust survivors, their families and friends. We support the work and on-going activities of the service. Training and preparation of lesson plans for Holocaust Survivors who have agreed to present their testimonies to Grade 9 students is well-underway and it is hoped to record these presentations on DVD, for posterity.

The next meeting of the Friendship Forum will be held on Sunday 15th February, 2009 at Our Parents' Home at 2:30pm.

Educator Workshops

The second group of 65 Gauteng educators attended a most successful workshop at the Apartheid Museum. These workshops are part of a 3 year partnership between the Gauteng Department of Education, the Apartheid Museum and the South African Holocaust Foundation. The aim is to provide support to 180 educators about The Holocaust, Human Rights,

the Rwanda Genocide and Apartheid. February/March 2009 will see more educators trained in Gauteng and the roll out of this project into the North Western Province.



Tali Nates and Jonathan Jansen, guest speaker at the recent educators' workshop

Public Speaking Engagements

In response to the many requests received, Tali Nates addressed a wide range of audiences. Some recent presentations were made to GIBS/SABMiller, WIZO and at the Rabbi Cyril Harris Community Centre (RCHCC).



Photograph: left to right Felicie Miller - HRD Manager SAB Miller Africa and Asia, Tali Nates - Director JHC, Mxolisi Dlamuka - Programme Manager Constitution Hill, David Maziba - Tour Guide Constitution Hill, Shaun Rozyn - Senior Programme

Diversity Management Workshops and Events

Diversity management plays an important role in enriching human relationships that

add value to organisations. The lessons for humanity arising out of Holocaust education are applied and connected to managing relationships in organisations. The Johannesburg Holocaust Centre designs and facilitates diversity management programmes for corporates, small business, educational institutions and NGO's. Each programme is tailor-made to suit the needs of the particular organisation and presented by highly experienced facilitators.

RECENT EVENTS

Rwanda Study Tour

August saw the launch of our first pilot student study tour to Rwanda, together with SAUJS and UNISA Primedia Holocaust & Genocide Unit. Janine Cohen, our Centre's project manager accompanied the group.



Humura Memorial Centre - Rwanda

The focus of this tour is on genocide and human rights abuses and the rebuilding of a scarred society. Based on the success of the tour, the Centre was approached by Monash University (Australia and South Africa) to lead a similar study tour to Rwanda in 2009.



Hana's Suitcase

In August, the JHC, in partnership with Constitution Hill, hosted a presentation by Fumiko Ishioka, curator of the Tokyo Holocaust Education Resource Centre, and Lara Brady, niece of Hana Brady. Based on Karen Levine's internationally acclaimed and award-winning book, ***Hana's Suitcase*** and entitled ***Historical Detectives***, the event took place in the Women's Jail at Constitution Hill.



Photograph: left to right
Fumiko Ishioka, Lara Brady, Tali Nates,
Ivan May - CEO Radio Today,
Sanele Sobantwana - Station Manager Radio Today

Please view a short interview as it appeared in the The Times on-line: <http://multimedia.thetimes.co.za/videos/2008/08/hana-bradys-suitcase-a-long-last-holocaust-story/>
Radio Today broadcast a special Heritage Day programme on 24 September featuring the presentation and interview with Fumiko and Lara. The JHC and Constitution Hill work together on various projects as we seek to further our common goal of remembering the past and using this to teach the values of tolerance and human rights.

The Counterfeiters

On 7 November, Second Innings and Selwyn Klass invited the JHC to introduce the special screening, at Cinema Nouveau, of the Academy Award winning movie.



Seen at the movies:
Grecia Gabriel, Selwyn Klass, Tali Nates

A Tribute to the Danish Community - 65 year Commemoration Events

The Johannesburg Holocaust Centre was associated with two most successful Johannesburg events commemorating the heroic deeds of the Danish community in rescuing their Jewish neighbours from certain annihilation 65 years ago. Selwyn Klass, who has researched the story of Danish Jewry during the Holocaust over many years, compiled and coordinated a fitting tribute to the Danish Community for both Second Innings (14th Sept) and the Gauteng Council SA Jewish Board of Deputies (30 November). Tali Nates, Director of the Johannesburg Holocaust Centre, spoke about "The Righteous Amongst the Nations". The acclaimed film "Miracle at Midnight" starring Sam Waterston and Mia



Photograph: left to right
Wendy Kahn - National Director SAJBD,
Elias Inbram - Second Secretary, Israeli Embassy
Tali Nates - Director JHC,
Mr Ulrik Jorgensen - Councillor and Chief Financial Officer of the Danish Embassy in Pretoria.

Farrow, was screened. This tells the dramatic true-life story of a Danish family who were centrally involved in the rescue effort.

Kristallnacht

9/10 November marked 70 years since Kristallnacht. To commemorate this event, Dr Marc Grellert Professor of Architecture at the University of Darmstadt in Germany shared his moving and inspirational project that brings back to 'virtual life' German synagogues that were destroyed during the Nazi period. The presentation was repeated the following evening in Pretoria. Dr Grellert's visit was made possible by The Goethe-Institut, Johannesburg. The event was a partnership between the Goethe- Institut, The Gauteng Council SA Jewish Board of Deputies and The Johannesburg Holocaust Centre. For more information on the project go to www.synagogen.info



Photograph:
Dr Marc Grellert and Janine Cohen - Project Manager
JHB Holocaust Centre at the Radio Today Studios.



On the Day of Reconciliation, 16 December 2008 at 18:30pm, Radio Today aired a special broadcast of Dr Marc Grellert's Kristallnacht presentation and radio interview.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- On Thursday 22 January 2009, the JHC together with the RCHCC will host New York based, renowned film maker and human rights activist, Leora Kahn. Leora co-produced the award winning documentary, **Rene and I**. This documentary tells the story of twins who were experimented upon by Joseph Mengele. For bookings contact Rene or Hazel on (011) 728 8088 or email hazelc@greatpark.co.za. The RCHCC will re-open for 2009 on the 19th January.
- Tuesday, January 27 2009, marks the United Nations International Day of Commemoration in memory of victims of the Holocaust. To honour this event the JHC together with the RCHCC will open an exhibition entitled, "Lost Voices: an exhibition of children's drawings from the camps in Darfur 2007 and South Africa 2008". We are honoured to

have Leora Kahn give a presentation based on her book: **When they came to take my father**.

- On Sunday, 1 February 2009, at 7pm the JHC in partnership with the UNISA Primedia Holocaust and Genocide Unit and the UN Information Centre will screen a documentary that tells the poignant story of Hana's Suitcase. The DVD will be followed by a presentation by Tali Nates. This event will be held at Senate Hall in the Theo van Wijk Building at UNISA, Pretoria. Invitations will be sent out shortly.

■ March of the Living (MOL)

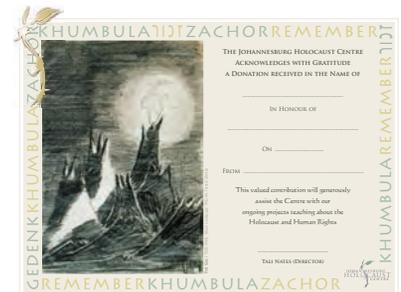
Planning is already underway for a 2009 tour. The deadline for registration is the end of January. For enquiries and further details please contact eli@beyachad.co.za

General information

■ Gift Certificates

Are you commemorating or honouring a special event? Whatever the event; a birth, a birthday, a bar/batmitzvah, special family celebrations and commemorations - we have beautiful certificates that not only honour the person and event, but contribute to further the important work of

Holocaust and Human Rights education. To arrange your gift certificate please contact: Thuli on (011)640-3100 or email thuli@jhbholocaust.co.za



If you did not, but would like to, receive a copy of our first introductory newsletter please contact us and we will be happy to forward it to you via email or post. Please contact thuli@jhbholocaust.co.za or call (011)640-3100.

**We wish
you a
happy,
healthy
2009.**

**The Team
at the
Johannesburg
Holocaust
Centre.**