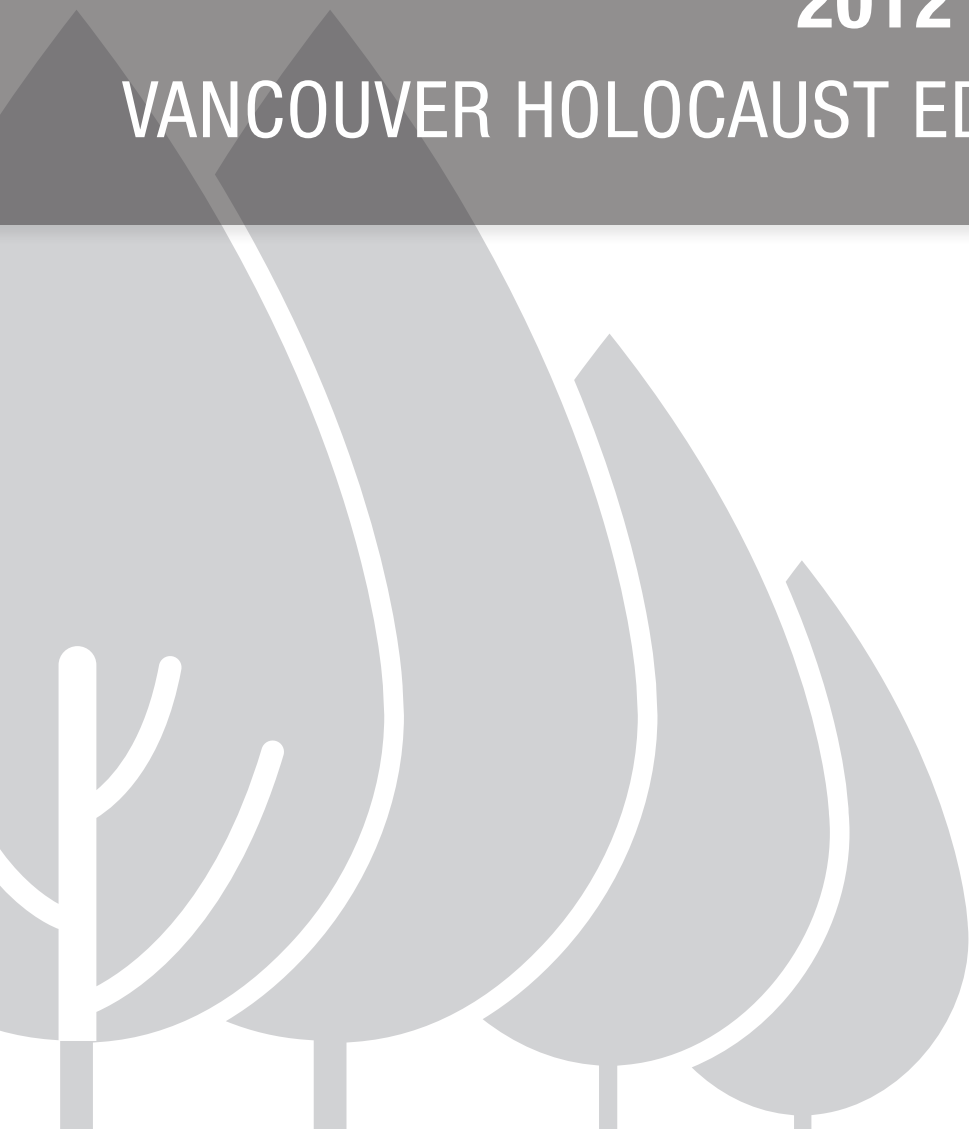


2012 | ANNUAL REPORT
VANCOUVER HOLOCAUST EDUCATION CENTRE



BOARD & STAFF

The Vancouver Holocaust Centre Society for Education and Remembrance was founded in 1983 by survivors of the Holocaust. The founders' goal, realized in 1994, was to leave a permanent legacy in the form of the Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre devoted to Holocaust based anti-racism education.

VANCOUVER HOLOCAUST EDUCATION CENTRE

The Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre is a teaching museum promoting human rights, social justice and genocide awareness. It is the leader in Holocaust education in British Columbia, reaching over 15,000 students annually. It produces acclaimed exhibits, innovative school programs and educational resources, including several online teaching exhibits. The VHEC presents numerous public and commemorative events. The Centre publishes a newsletter and maintains a museum collection, archives, public library and resource centre.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Research Assistant

MESSAGE

FROM THE PRESIDENT & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Ed Lewin, President
Frieda Miller, Executive Director



This past year the activities of the Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre have been characterised more by what was hidden from view, than what was presented.

Without missing a beat, the Centre delivered its usual, complement of outstanding exhibits, public and commemorative programs. Highlights from the year include the exhibit *The Wartime Escape*, about the escape from Nazi-occupied France by the creators of “Curious George,” the capacity audience marking *Yom Hashoah* featuring Holocaust child survivor speaker, Alex Buckman and the over 800 senior secondary students who participated in the *Annual Holocaust Symposium* which paired one of the few child survivors of a Nazi concentration camp, Robbie Waisman with Elogé Butera, a

child survivor of the Rwandan genocide. One would also be remiss not to mention the great pride that was felt as we watched the address delivered by the Centre’s founding president Robert Krell, streamed live from the United Nations on the occasion of International Holocaust Remembrance Day.

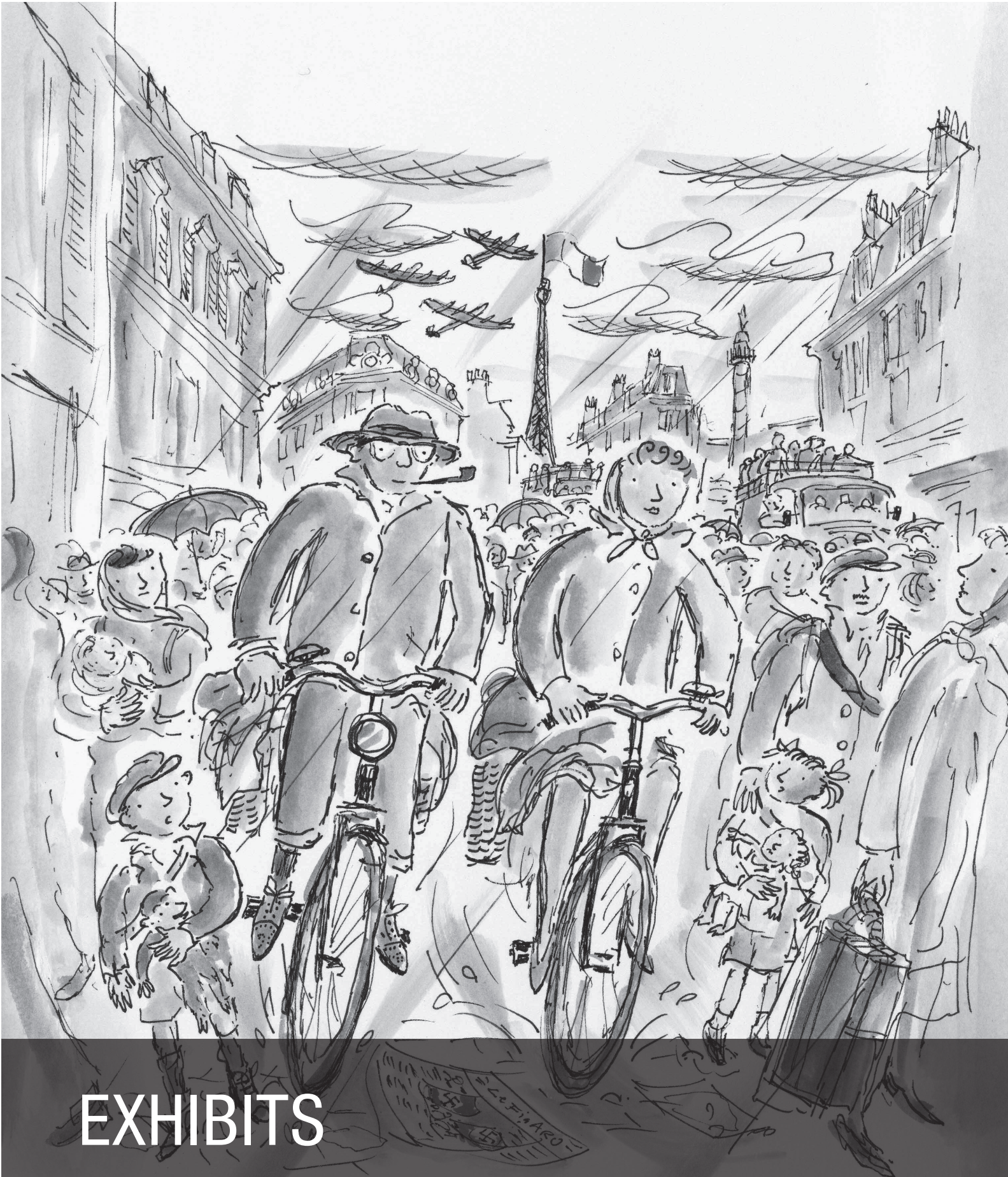
Yet, behind the scenes these activities were overshadowed by the staff’s singular focus on researching, designing and mounting an important original exhibit, one that will have national resonance: *“Enemy Aliens”: The Internment of Jewish Refugees in Canada, 1940 – 1943*. At the exhibit’s opening, the VHEC honoured surviving former internees. The exhibit, the first of its kind in Canada, explores a little-known chapter of our national history: Canada’s wartime internment of over 2,300 refugees of Nazism. A companion teaching website developed for the Virtual Museum of Canada will serve as an educational legacy of the project.

Similarly, the Board of Directors has been intent on laying the groundwork for the development of a strategic plan and future capital campaign, as we face the inevitable loss of survivors who bear witness to the Holocaust and as we consider the future of Holocaust education.

This will be the last annual report message co-authored by Frieda Miller, who has been with the Centre since its founding in 1994 and is retiring after six years as Executive Director. Frieda has been responsible for much of the dynamic programming at the VHEC in recent years. While she will be sorely missed, we are in a uniquely fortunate position to have Curator and Education Director, Nina Krieger poised to assume the leadership of the Centre. Her talent and vision will help lead the Centre during the development of a core exhibit devoted to the history of the Holocaust.

As in the past, our strength continues to lie in the talent and commitment of our outstanding staff, board members and other volunteers to envision and sustain us into the future.

*Celebrating
75 years*



EXHIBITS

Allan Drummond, *Escape from Paris*, 2005, modern reproduction of watercolor and ink on paper.
- Courtesy Allan Drummond and Institute for Holocaust Education, Omaha, NE.



"Violet," sepia ink on rag paper. - Courtesy Ian Penn

EXHIBITS

PROJECTIONS: A MONUMENT TO PERSONAL MEMORY IAN PENN

JUNE 30 – SEPTEMBER 16, 2011

In *Projections: A Monument to Personal Memory*, Penn explores memory and post-memory – the Second Generation's relationship to the Holocaust – through drawing, video, photography and sculpture. Portraits of elderly women composed of drawings overlaid with video testimony consider how individuals affected by traumatic events project their past in the present. A companion piece composed of family photographs transformed with wax from melted Shabbat candles addresses the complexity of heritage, ritual and remembrance. Penn's monument – consisting of two distinct but interrelated installations, the surrounding space punctured by sculptures of parchment paper – suggests a mode of exhibition and commemoration in which the historical and archival, as well as the personal and familiar, are essential for understanding.

THE WARTIME ESCAPE: MARGRET AND H.A. REY'S JOURNEY FROM FRANCE

OCTOBER 17, 2011 – NOVEMBER 30, 2011

The Wartime Escape tells the story of the five month odyssey by bike, train, and boat that brought the creators of *Curious George*, Margret and H.A. Rey, from the heart of Nazi-occupied France to safety in the United States.

A Program of ExhibitsUSA, a national division of Mid-America Arts Alliance and the National Endowment of the Arts

VHEC'S TRAVELLING EXHIBITS

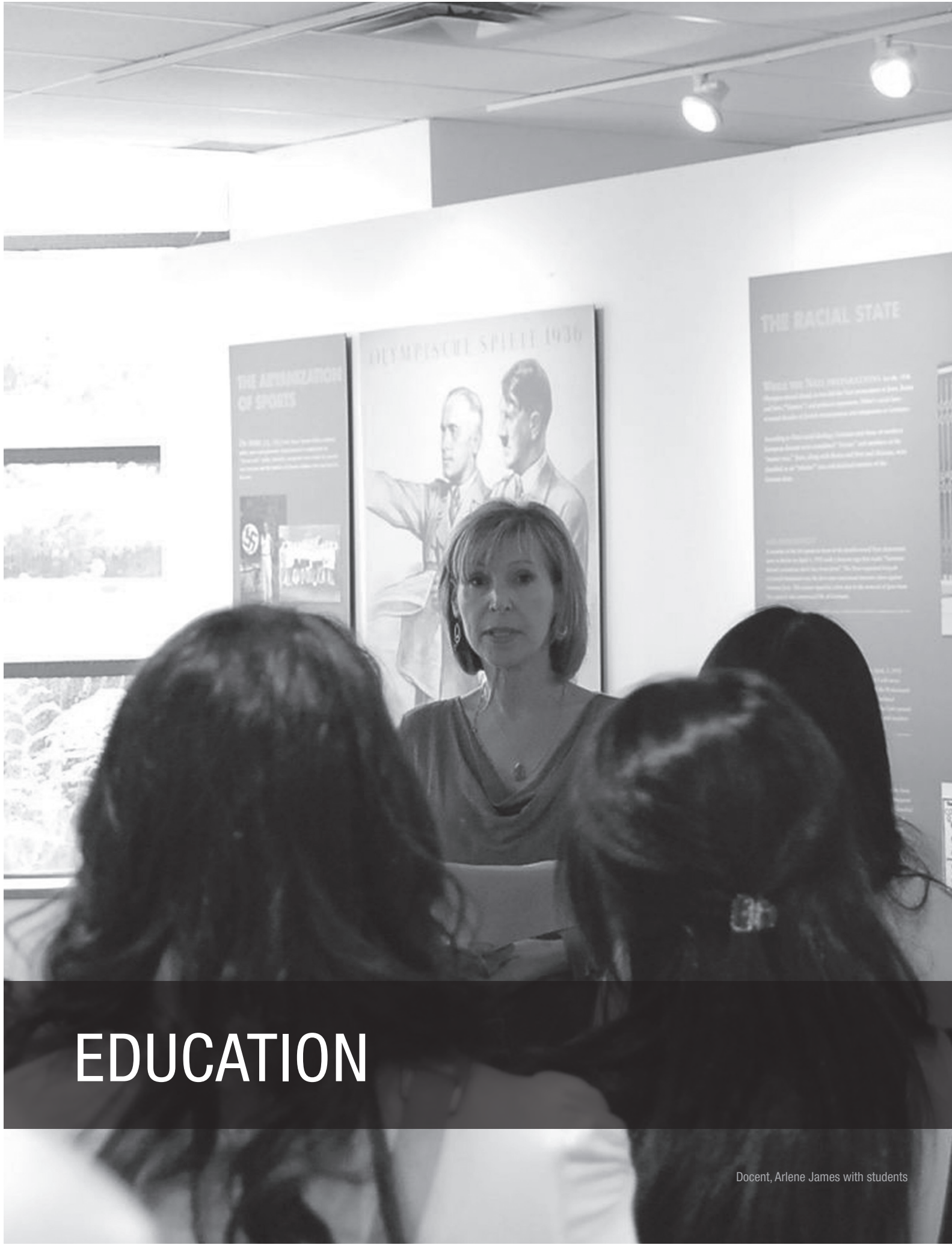
KORCZAK AND THE CHILDREN OF THE WARSAW GHETTO

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2011

EL PASO HOLOCAUST MUSEUM AND STUDY CENTER, TEXAS

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2011

SARAH AND CHAIM NEUBERGER HOLOCAUST EDUCATION CENTRE, TORONTO



EDUCATION

Docent, Arlene James with students



Bente Nathan Thomsen, Holocaust survivor with students

THE WARTIME ESCAPE: MARGRET AND H.A. REY'S JOURNEY FROM FRANCE

OCTOBER 17, 2011 – NOVEMBER 30, 2011

Over 58 classes – approximately 1700 students – participated in the VHEC's school program which included a guided tour of the exhibit, *The Wartime Escape: Margret and H.A. Rey's Journey from France*. The program also featured an interactive film workshop that featured a short film entitled *Pigeon*.

PIGEON WORKSHOP & SURVIVOR SESSION

DECEMBER 14, 2011 – APRIL 30, 2012

Over 44 classes - approximately 1300 students - participated in the VHEC's school program which featured the film workshop, *Pigeon* as well as a presentation by a Holocaust survivor.

TEACHER'S GUIDE

The VHEC produced a teaching resource with pre-and post-visit activities to accompany the exhibit *The Wartime Escape: Margret and H.A. Rey's Journey from France*. The guide was made available for download on the VHEC website, ensuring that teachers had access to support material in advance of their visits and beyond the duration of the exhibit.

DOCENT TRAINING

OCTOBER 12, 2011

A team of 25 dedicated volunteer docents participated in docent training sessions led by Cathy Paperny, School Programs Coordinator in preparation for leading school groups through the exhibit, *The Wartime Escape: Margret and H.A. Rey's Journey from France*. The training included an exhibit walk-through, a workshop of the docent scripts and a film titled *La France Divisée*.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

TEACHER'S EXHIBIT PREVIEW

OCTOBER 18, 2011

Approximately 35 teachers attended a special preview of the exhibit, *The Wartime Escape: Margret and H.A. Rey's Journey from France* led by Cathy Paperny, School Programs Coordinator.

KORCZAK TEACHER'S GUIDE

NOVEMBER 2011

Belarie Zatzman, associate Professor of Theatre at York University used the VHEC's Korczak Teacher's Guide as a resource in producing a study guide to accompany the production of *Children's Republic*, a play partially based on the life of Janusz Korczak. The play was produced at the Tarragon Theatre in Toronto.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

SFU STUDENT TEACHERS

JUNE 20 & 22, 2011

Sessions devoted to Holocaust education and VHEC resources were presented by Catherine Caughell, Education Coordinator, to SFU student teachers and to student teachers in the Social Studies cohort, SFU. Students also heard from a Holocaust survivor speaker.

EXHIBIT TOURS

NOVEMBER 2011

Tours of *Wartime Escape* were conducted by Cathy Paperny for about 30 staff members of the Jewish Community Centre and for the staff of the Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver.



Robbie Waisman (left), Holocaust survivor and Éloge C. Butera Rwandan genocide survivor, May 2012

ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM ON THE HOLOCAUST

MAY 9 & 10, 2012, WOSK AUDITORIUM, JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTRE

FEATURED SPEAKERS: PROFESSOR CHRIS FRIEDRICHS, ROBBIE WAISMAN & ÉLOGE C. BUTERA

Over 800 senior secondary students from 20 schools participated in the 37th Annual Symposium on the Holocaust. In addition to hearing from historian Chris Friedrichs and keynote speakers, Robbie Waisman & Éloge C. Butera, students viewed the film *World at War: Genocide* and asked questions of a distinguished panel, which included Dr. Robert Krell. Schools in attendance received a copy of the book, *MetaMaus*, courtesy of the VHEC Leo Krell Memorial Book Fund.

Committee: Rita Akselrod, Jonathan Friedrichs, Robert Krell, Robbie Waisman, Andrea Webb

Supported by the Edwina & Paul Heller Holocaust Education Fund, the Sid & Sylvia Eibschutz Endowment Fund, the Sophie Waldman Endowment Fund of the VHEC, the Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver, the Leo Krell Memorial Book Fund, the Meyer & Gita Kron and Ruth Kron Sigal Fund for Excellence in Holocaust Education, and with the financial assistance of the Province of British Columbia.



Robbie Waisman, Holocaust survivor (left) and Jay Eidelman, Holocaust educator at the Coquitlam District Symposium

DISTRICT-WIDE SATELLITE SYMPOSIA

The VHEC presented 4 memorable and impactful half-day symposia – reaching over 2,300 students – in partnership with school districts across the province:

COQUITLAM

NOVEMBER 2, 2011

DR. JAY EIDELMAN, HOLOCAUST EDUCATOR

ROBBIE WAISMAN, HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR

Mr. Waisman's story affected my heart more than anyone else has ever done in my entire life... I left that day feeling inspired, heartbroken, empowered, and so much more grateful for everything around me...I really can't thank the VHEC and Mr. Waisman enough for all they have done. You have changed my life.

Danielle M, Coquitlam Student

BURNABY

NOVEMBER 15, 2011

DR. JAY EIDELMAN, HOLOCAUST EDUCATOR

ALEX BUCKMAN, HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR

MISSION

MARCH 15, 2012

DR. JAY EIDELMAN, HOLOCAUST EDUCATOR

ALEX BUCKMAN, HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR

WEST VANCOUVER

APRIL 11, 2012

DR. JAY EIDELMAN, HOLOCAUST EDUCATOR

LILLIAN BORAKS NEMETZ, HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR

Thank you once again for a wonderful afternoon. The students were very moved by it and are thankful for the experience.

Al LaFontaine, Coordinating teacher

Supported by the Vaisler Family in honour of Syd and Sari Vaisler & The Lovi Memorial Endowment Fund of the VHEC in honour of Anna (Abrahamsohn) Lovi, Dr. Joseph Lovi & Dr. Maria Lovi; with the financial support of the Province of British Columbia.



Lillian Boraks Nemetz, Holocaust survivor at the West Vancouver District Symposium



Lillian Boraks Nemetz, Holocaust survivor speaking to students via Skype.

OUTREACH SPEAKERS

This year, the VHEC's dedicated group of Holocaust Outreach Speakers addressed 10,000 students in 40 schools. Several speakers travelled to communities beyond the Lower Mainland, including Aldergrove, Chilliwack, Mission, Edmonton, Saskatoon, Omaha and Winnipeg. Mariette Doduck and Lillian Boraks Nemetz addressed over 1000 students at the Calgary High School Symposium in May, 2012.

TELECONFERENCING VIA SKYPE

DECEMBER 12, 2012

Holocaust survivor, Lillian Boraks Nemetz spoke to and responded to questions from students from Westsyde Secondary School in School District #73 Kamloops Thompson via Skype.

It impacted me just by the emotion in her voice, you knew she suffered from her experience. You can't see facial expressions [from] a text book. It was a real eye opener. Lillian told her story in a way that kept us interested. When she told us the last thing she said to her sister, I felt very sad because I imagined how I would feel if that was the last thing I said to my sister.

Student
Westsyde Secondary, Kamloops Thompson

TELECONFERENCING VIA SKYPE

MARCH 8, 2012

Holocaust survivor, David Ehrlich spoke about his experiences and responded to questions from students from Spring Valley Middle School, School District #23, Kelowna via Skype.

I am still in awe of today. Thank you for everything. Without a doubt what you do changes lives. David, thank you for your kind words. I cannot think of a better reason to be teacher than to fight against racism and inspire my students to be better people. You inspire me.

Kayla Dominelli, teacher
Spring Valley Middle School, Kelowna

This interview was one of the most impactful experiences of my life...I cannot imagine the pain you have endured, but your speech helped me imagine...Your words have opened my eyes and shown me that maybe my generation will let racism die. You are my hero.

Amy A, student
Spring Valley Middle School, Kelowna



David Ehrlich, Holocaust survivor speaking to students via Skype.

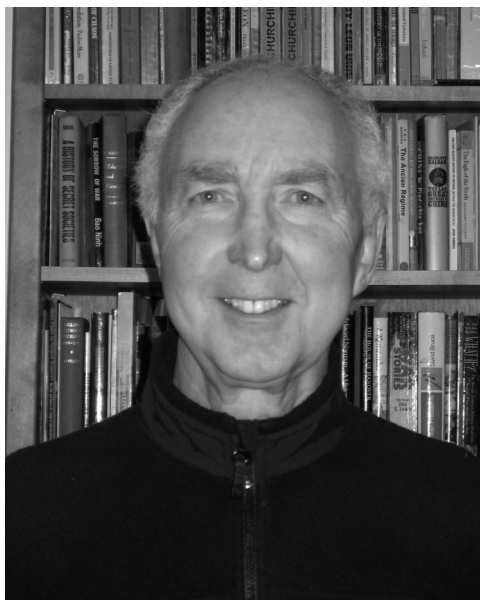
KRON SIGAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN HOLOCAUST EDUCATION

A prize of \$500 was presented to Randy Jaggernathsing and to Daniel Connor at the VHEC's Annual General Meeting on June 18, 2012 in recognition of their outstanding commitment to Holocaust education.

Supported by the Kron Sigal family in memory of Meyer and Gita Kron and Ruth Kron Sigal.



RANDY JAGGERNATHSING
Sullivan Heights Secondary School



DANIEL CONNOR
Rockridge Secondary School

YAD VASHEM INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL FOR HOLOCAUST SCHOLARSHIPS

JULY 1-19, 2011

For the sixth year, the VHEC administered a scholarship to send two British Columbia educators, Michelle Embury and Brian McDonald, Collingwood school, to study at the International School for Holocaust Education at Yad Vashem in Jerusalem, Israel. During the intensive three-week Summer International Seminar, participants learned from scholars and educators with decades of experience in the field of Holocaust education and research.

Supported by Anita Shafran, Elaine and Zev Shafran and Yosef Wosk.



COMMEMORATIVE

Rita Akselrod, Holocaust survivor

KRISTALLNACHT

NOVEMBER 6, 2011

BETH ISRAEL SYNAGOGUE

JEWISH HERITAGE AND JEWISH SURVIVAL LESSONS FROM THE HOLOCAUST

ANNA ORNSTEIN, M.D. PROFESSOR EMERITA OF CHILD PSYCHIATRY, UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI;
CO-DIRECTOR, INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF PSYCHOANALYTIC SELF-PSYCHOLOGY;
LECTURER IN PSYCHIATRY, HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL.

An audience of over 400 attended the commemorative lecture marking the Nazi state sponsored “Night of Broken Glass” of November 9, 1938. Opening remarks were delivered by Dr. Chris Friedrichs. Candle lighting by survivors accompanied by Hillel students was led by Ed Lewin, VHEC President. The City Proclamation was introduced by Catherine Epstein, President of Beth Israel Congregation and read by City Councillor Tim Stevenson. Dr. Robert Krell introduced the Keynote Speaker and Rabbi Infeld gave closing remarks. Over 100 audience members reconvened for the Q & A following the program.

Committee: Cynthia Bluman, George Bluman (Chair), Debby Freiman, Chris Friedrichs, Rayka Kumru, Richard Menkis, Judy Oberlander

Supported by Congregation Beth Israel and Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver Endowment Fund.

WALLENBERG DAY

JANUARY 15, 2012

FILM SCREENING | *VISAS THAT SAVED LIVES, THE STORY OF CHIUNE SUGIHARA*

Frieda Miller opened the program, in honour of Raoul Wallenberg, followed by Anders Neumuller, Honorary Consul for Sweden in Vancouver who gave remarks on the 100th Anniversary of Raoul Wallenberg. A tribute to Chiune Sugihara was given by George Bluman, son of Sugihara survivors Nathan and Susan Bluman. Hideki Ito, Consul General of Japan to Vancouver delivered remarks. 175 guests were in attendance.

Supported by the Consulate of Sweden and the Second Generation Group of the VHEC, Consulate General of Japan in Vancouver, The Consulate from Lithuania, Swedish Charitable Association, Liberty Bakery

INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

JANUARY 30, 2012

FILM SCREENING | *50 ITALIANS*

The United Nations declared annual commemoration marks the Auschwitz liberation date of January 27th. Ed Lewin, VHEC President welcomed guests who then viewed a screening of Dr. Robert Krell’s address to the United Nations. Remarks were delivered by Fabrizio Inerra, Consul General of Italy in Vancouver. The film, *50 Italians*, followed candle lighting by Holocaust survivors. Reception followed at the VHEC. Over 300 were in attendance.

Supported by Istituto Italiano di Cultura under the high patronage of the President of the Italian Republic and under the auspices of the Consulate General of Italy in Vancouver, Norman & Annette Rothstein Theatre, with the financial assistance of the Province of British Columbia.



Yom Hashoah Commemorative Evening; Alex Buckman, Holocaust survivor (left) Right image: Cantor Michael Zoosman (left) and Claire Klein Osipov (right)

YOM HASHOAH

APRIL 18, 2012

ALEX BUCKMAN, CHILD SURVIVOR

In a moving candle lighting ceremony, introduced by Cathy Golden, 55 local Holocaust survivors honoured the memory of those who perished. Second Generation reflections by Corinne Zimmerman opened the program. The program also featured Claire Klein Osipov, a consummate performer of Yiddish music. Talented local young people performed Yiddish and Hebrew songs and Andrew Brown, associate-principal violist of the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, performed. The evening featured child Holocaust Survivor, Alex Buckman.

Committee: Cathy Golden, Ethel Kofsky

Supported by the Jewish Community Centre of Greater Vancouver with support from the Gail Feldman Heller Endowment Fund and Sarah Rozenberg-Warm Memorial Endowment Fund of the VHEC, Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver Endowment Fund, with the financial assistance of the Province of British Columbia.

This year's ceremony was very meaningful. Cantor Zoosman & Claire were most moving. Corrine was most insightful, deepening our understanding of second generation. Alex spoke from his heart, a broken heart, and broke ours.

Geoffrey Druker

CEMETERY SERVICE

OCTOBER 21, 2011

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SECOND GENERATION, AND AFTER

Dr. Richard Menkis

Hesped by Rabbi Hillel Goelman

PUBLIC PROGRAMS



Docent, Gita Silver leads the *Curious George* Children's Storytime, 2011

CHILDREN'S STORYTIME

OCTOBER 23, 2011 & NOVEMBER 27

Children ages 3-6 listened to the story *Curious George Rides a Bike*, sing songs and more.

VANCOUVER INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

PAPIROSEN

Directed by Gastón Solnicki

OCTOBER 6, 2011 & WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2011

Empire Granville #7 | Vancity Theatre

Integrating archival footage and ten years of the present, Gastón Solnicki's intimate, moving work is an observational document of a family, their conflicts, arguments and crises, a critique of class, in particular, the Jewish nouveau riche of post-Second World War Argentina and a celebration of love, family bonds and the need to bear witness.

Presented by the Vancouver International Film Festival & Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre

CHERIE SMITH JEWISH BOOK FESTIVAL

DECEMBER 1, 2011

FAR TO GO, ALISON PICK | *RUTA'S CLOSET*, KEITH MORGAN

Man Booker Prize nominee and Canadian Jewish Book Award winner, Alison Pick's *Far To Go* (House of Anansi, 2011) is a layered, moving, and suspenseful story by one of Canada's rising literary stars. *Far To Go* was inspired by the harrowing five-year journey of Pick's own grandparents embarked on from their native Czechoslovakia to Canada during the Second World War.

After decades of silence, Vancouver's Ruth Kron Sigal opened up to writer Keith Morgan, sharing with him her story of horror and survival. Ruth recalled her most painful memories, hoping that the lessons they teach will ensure that no child will hide in such a dark place again. Ruth Kron Sigal was born in Lithuania in July 1936. After the Second World War, Ruth moved to Canada with her family. She died in December 2008, shortly after the completion of *Ruta's Closet*. Keith Morgan is a veteran journalist and columnist. He is currently the Driving Editor for *The Province* and The *Vancouver Sun*.

In partnership with the Vancouver Jewish Book Festival

VANCOUVER JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

MODUS OPERANDI

Narrated by Marthe Keller, Chris Lomme

NOVEMBER 11, 2011

Ridge Theatre

Between 1942 and 1944 some 24,916 Jews were deported from Belgium to Auschwitz. The roundups and deportations were organised and carried out by the Nazis with the - not always conscious - cooperation of Belgian authorities. The attitude of the authorities here varied from outright resistance to voluntary or unwitting collaboration.

In partnership with the Vancouver Jewish Film Festival

EINSATZGRUPPEN: THE DEATH BRIGADES

Director Michaël Prazan in attendance

MARCH 11, 2012

Norman & Annette Rothstein Theatre

Nazi mobile killing squads, led by highly-educated officers and aided by local collaborators, systematically murdered over a million Jews. Who were the men who carried out mass murder at close range? Prazan's definitive masterwork features a powerful array of astounding, never-seen-before film and photographs.

In partnership with the Vancouver Jewish Film Festival

Generously sponsored by Larry Garfinkel & Sandi Karmel, Max & Leona Pinsky and Mordehai & Hana Wosk and their families

SURVIVOR & FUTURE GENERATIONS

SURVIVOR SERVICES

A range of services is offered to benefit local Holocaust survivors, whose needs are assessed and addressed by Social Worker, Gisi Levitt and an advisory committee. This year about 100 survivors received 160 services, including: financial aid, group support, referrals for professional counselling, housing and health care advocacy, restitution and compensation assistance and social and educational activities.

Supported by the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany

HOLOCAUST RESTITUTION

Volunteer lawyer, Stan Taviss, met with 37 survivors this past year, 26 of these were new and 9 were returning clients. Most of the recent claims have centered around the Hardship Fund. Unfortunately the Article 2 Fund still has income restrictions. To date there have been approximately 219 successful claims.

SURVIVOR DROP-IN

Coordinated by volunteers Gerri London and Gloria Waisman, a group of 20-35 survivors met monthly to socialize and participate in a variety of programs, which included guest speakers and lively question and discussion periods. Special outings were organized as well as an annual Chanukah party, Passover seder and a Purim lunch.

CHILD SURVIVOR GROUP

The group meets monthly at the VHEC or at members' homes for special occasions and a joint meeting is organized annually with the Second Generation group. The group participates in *Kristallnacht* and *Yom HaShoah* and lays a large wreath at the City of Vancouver Remembrance Day ceremonies. Lillian Boraks Nemetz edits the *No Longer Alone* section in *Zachor* that explores child survivor experiences.

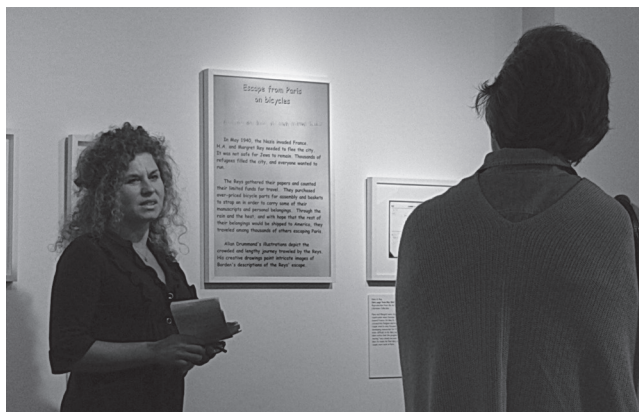
Committee: Alex Buckman (President) Lillian Boraks Nemetz, Claude Romney, Tom Szekely, Peter John Voormeij

SECOND GENERATION GROUP

The group meets to discuss issues related to the Second Generation experience and the Holocaust and to witness each other's life stories. There are 120 members on the email list, where we share news items, stories, and events, local and international about the Holocaust. Annual activities include social events, a picnic, a Chanukah party, and a writing workshop. The group coordinates the VHEC's annual *Raoul Wallenberg Day*; *The Visas that Saved Lives* about Chiune Sugihara was screened. The group was a sponsor of the Vancouver Jewish Film Festival. This year, the group joined with the Child Survivor Group in placing a wreath at the Cenotaph on Remembrance Day. We discussed how we could contribute to Holocaust education and met with the VHEC's Executive Director.

Committee: Alan LeFevre (Contact) and Susan Krug

THANK YOU TO OUR INVALUABLE VOLUNTEERS



Docents, Arlene James (left) Phillipa Friedland (right) giving exhibit tours

In the past year, VHEC staff worked with volunteers who served on the board of directors, as outreach speakers, docents, library assistants, archivist assistants, photographers, book reviewers, historians, translators & committee members to name only a few.

SURVIVOR OUTREACH SPEAKERS

Janos Benisz, Lillian Boraks Nemetz, Alex Buckman, Marion Cassirer, Mariette Doduck, David Ehrlich, Bill Gluck, Serge Haber, Katy Hughes, Chaim Kornfeld, Robert Krell, Inge Manes, Bente Nathan Thomsen, Peter Parker, Claude Romney, Louise Sorensen, Peter Suedfeld, Tom Szekely, Peter Voormeij, Robbie Waisman; Coordinator: Rita Akselrod

DOCENTS

Chris Biasutti, Rajiv Cowasjee, Haley Davis, Reva Dexter, Myriam Dinim, Debby Freiman, Phillipa Friedland, Belinda Gutman, Arlene James, Dodie Katzenstein, Sarah-Jane Kerr-Lapsley, Lise Kirchner, Joel Kohm, Uma Kumar, Shoshana Krell-Lewis, Lucien Lieberman, Ivan Linde, Ellen Millman, Michael Perla, Cynthia Ramsay, Adriana Reynoso, Gita Silver, Rina Vizer, Stevie Wilson, Heather Wolfe

TEACHER ADVISORY

Jonathan Friedrichs, Odie Kaplan, Kit Krieger, Tom Morton, Peter Seixas, Andrea Webb, Sari Zack Weintraub

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Chelsea Bailey, Zeke Blumenkrans, Amalia Boe-Fishman, Lillian Boraks-Nemetz, Rabbi Philip Bregman, Alex Buckman, Esther Caldes, Naomi Caruso, Alaina Chan, Sophie Cymbalista, Brendan Buchanan Dee, Joanne Emerman, Sarah Fallik, Pearl Fishman, Debby Freiman, Phillipa Friedland, Lyore Friedmann, Noah Friedmann, Chris Friedrichs, Harriet Frost, Daniella Givon, Sarah Inglis, Odie Kaplan, Dodie Katzenstein, Sarah Kerr-Lapsley, Catherine Kohm, Joel Kohm, Kit Krieger, Sasha Krieger, Antonia Kwok, Alan Le Fevre, Lucien Lieberman, Gerri London, Sharon Meen, Adriana Reynoso, David Rosengarten, Debbie Rozenberg, Hilsary Sandhouse, Laura Saxton, David Schaffer, Laura Shaw, Louise Sorensen, Stan Taviss, Gloria Waisman

WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA

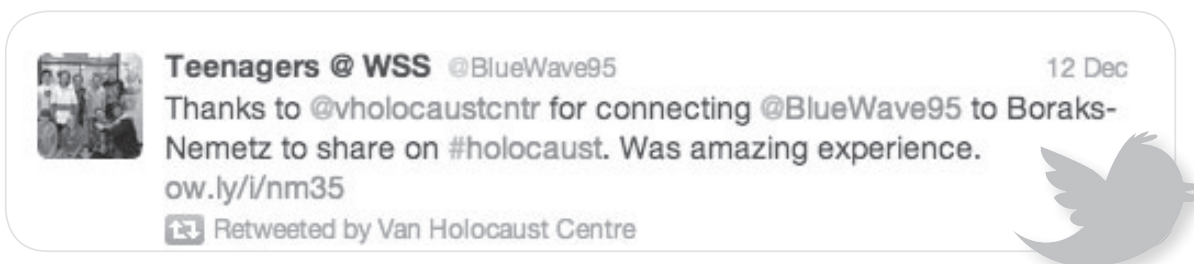
The VHEC website received nearly 65,000 unique visitors this past year. In October 2011, we added the teacher's guide for *The Wartime Escape: Margret and H.A. Rey's Journey from France*, to the website and it has been downloaded over 500 times. The *More Than Just Games* website, which was posted online in February 2010, continues to be one of our most popular online resources attracting 1650 unique visits this past year and 5700 visits since it was first launched.



VHEC Facebook page (left) Lillian Boraks Nemetz, Holocaust Survivor (right)

We are increasing our use of social media for communication. In 2012 the VHEC librarian drafted a social media policy to facilitate and guide our activities on sites like Facebook and Twitter, which we use to promote VHEC events and programs and to share Holocaust-related news and information with our 'fans' and 'followers.' Our reach is growing on both sites; as of May 2012, we have 542 'likes' on Facebook and 670 'followers' on Twitter. We are also trying to increase engagement on these sites. For the West Vancouver Holocaust Symposium we posted a photograph of Lillian Boraks Nemetz on Facebook and invited students who heard her speak to share her photo and their thoughts about the Symposium.

Twitter continues to provide us with occasional feedback on some of our events, programs and exhibits.



LIBRARY

The librarian worked on a variety of projects that included completing a library procedures manual, drafting a social media policy, weeding education guides to increase the space available for new library acquisitions, and continuing the development of Rare Books & Special Collections. The librarian also managed the VHEC's social media (Facebook and Twitter accounts) and supervised two projects by MLIS students from UBC's School of Library, Information and Archival Studies (SLAIS): the creation of a *Zachor* newsletter index, which is on-going, and the development of a children's story time program for the *Wartime Escape* exhibition. We wish to thank everyone who generously donated books and other gifts to the library this year.

COLLECTIONS & ARCHIVES

It has been another busy year for the VHEC Archives and Collection. Work on two National Archives Development Programme (NADP) grant projects was completed. The first project allowed for the arrangement and description of the Gottfried Family Collection to best practice standards, affording for greater access by both internal and external researchers. The Gottfried Collection is one of the Archive's most comprehensive collections of materials on one extended family and their life prior to, during and after the Holocaust. The second NADP funded project was the development of a Disaster/Emergency Preparedness Plan for the VHEC Archives and Collection, which is currently undergoing final edits and review.

Much of the archival work undertaken this past year was in support of *"Enemy Aliens": The Internment of Jewish Refugees in Canada, 1940-1943*. A number of artefacts were donated to the Archives and Collection by a number of former internees in connection with this exhibit, including artworks, arts and crafts, barbed wire from an internment camp, photographs, correspondence, clippings, a tin cup and journals.

A number of new items were donated to the to the Archives and Collection this past year, which are currently being accessioned, among them the papers and artefacts of Dr. John Herbert who fled Nazi Germany as a child and went on to become a distinguished educator and diplomat.

Many thanks to those who generously donated items to the Archives and Collection this year.



Left image: Tin cup from internment camp, circa 1940-1941. This cup was recovered by Gerry Waldston fifty years after his release from Camp B (Ripples, New Brunswick). It was used for breakfast, where the internees were given, what they called "birdseed" (corn flakes). – *Courtesy Gerry Waldston, VHEC Collection*

Right image: Box created by an unknown internee, unknown location, 1941. The box is made from cardboard, birch bark and the same material that was used for the internees' uniforms, denim with a red circle on the back. – *Courtesy Gerry Waldston, VHEC Collection*

GRANTS & COMMUNITY SUPPORT

GRANTS

Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany Inc.

Congregation Beth Israel - Kristallnacht

Istituto Italiano di Cultura - International Holocaust Remembrance Day

Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver

National Archival Development Programme (NADP)

Norman Rothstein Theatre, JCCGV - International Holocaust Remembrance Day

Province of British Columbia

Young Canada Works in Heritage Institutions and Summer Career Placement

Jewish Community Centre of Greater Vancouver - Yom HaShoah & Symposium on the Holocaust

GRANTS FOR – ENEMY ALIENS: THE INTERNMENT OF JEWISH REFUGEES IN CANADA, 1940–1943

Community Historical Recognition Program of the Department of Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism Canada

Department of Canadian Heritage for the Virtual Museum of Canada

Oasis Foundation

The Ben and Esther Dayson Charitable Foundation

The Kahn Family Foundation

Isaac and Sophie Waldman Endowment Fund of the Vancouver Foundation

Frank Koller

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Association of Holocaust Organizations (AHO)

British Columbia Archives Association

British Columbia Museums Association (BCMA)

Canadian Museums Association (CMA)

International Task Force on the Holocaust

Lower Mainland Museum Educator's Association

National Task Force on the Holocaust

Vantage Point

ENDOWMENTS

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Gary and Dianne Averbach and Betty Averbach Endowment Fund

Sam and Frances Belzberg Endowment Fund

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Bluman Family Endowment Fund

Larry Brandt and Family Endowment Fund

Claman-Mielnicki Family Legacy Endowment Fund

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Jody and Harvey Dales Legacy Endowment Fund

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Charles and Isabelle, Craig and Carrie Diamond Endowment Fund

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Mariette and Sid Doduck Endowment Fund

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Eva and Michael Dymant Holocaust Education Endowment Fund

Sid and Sylvia Eibschutz Holocaust Education Endowment Fund

Erica Fleischer Memorial Endowment Fund

Steve and Eva Floris Endowment Fund

Abe and Rachele Fox and Family Endowment Fund

Bertha Fraeme Endowment Fund

Max and Margaret Fugman Endowment Fund

Gaerber Family Legacy Endowment Fund

Edgar and Marilyn Gaerber Endowment Fund

Gechman Family Legacy Endowment Fund

Irving and Noreen Glassner Endowment Fund

David and Aurelia Gold Endowment Fund

Gottfried Family Kristallnacht Endowment Fund

Sam Haber Endowment Fund

Gail Feldman Heller Endowment Fund

Edwina and Paul Heller Holocaust Education Endowment Fund

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Sam and Michael Heller Memorial Endowment Fund

Kahn Family Legacy Endowment Fund

Leon and Evelyn Kahn Endowment Fund

Abrasha, Ida, Odie and Sherie Kaplan Endowment Fund

Leon and Esther Kaufman Legacy Endowment Fund

Leo Krell Memorial Book Fund

Emmy Krell Legacy Endowment Fund

Robert and Marilyn Krell Endowment Fund

Krell Special Program Opportunity Fund

Meyer and Gita Kron and Ruth Kron Sigal Endowment Fund

Landa and Hector Families' Endowment Fund

Legacy Group Endowment Fund

Lewin Family Legacy Endowment Fund

Libin Family Endowment Fund

Lovi Memorial Endowment Fund

Jocy and Leo Lowy Endowment Fund

Bob and Ralph Markin Endowment Fund

Marsid Children's Legacy Endowment Fund

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Pinsky Family Legacy Endowment Fund

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Sacks Family Endowment Fund

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Endowment Fund

David and Lil Shafran Endowment Fund

Ari Shiff and Carla van Messel Legacy Endowment Fund

Silber and Greenhut Families Endowment Fund

Lee, Bernie, Annie, Jory and Samantha Simpson
Endowment Fund

Phyliss and Irving Snider Endowment Fund

Dr. Stanley Sunshine Endowment Fund

Terry Szajman Education Endowment Fund

Ronnie Tessler Archives Fund

Isaac and Judith Thau Endowment Fund

Isaak and Bluma Tischler and Aron and Neri
Tischler Endowment Fund

VHCS Endowment Fund

Waisman Family Legacy Endowment Fund

Gloria & Robbie Waisman Endowment Fund

Waldman Symposium Endowment Fund

Joe and Birdie Wall Foundation Endowment Fund

Baruch Weise Endowment Fund

Joseph Wertman and Family Legacy Endowment Fund

Regina and Leo Wertman Endowment Fund

Shery and Gerald Wittenberg Endowment Fund

Miriam Wosk and Kenneth Wosk Legacy
Endowment Fund

Mordehai and Hana Wosk Family Endowment Fund

Morris and Yosef Wosk Publishing Endowment Fund

Yosef Wosk and Family Endowment Fund

Zalkow Family Endowment Fund

Henry and Ludmila Zeldowicz Endowment Fund



LIFE FELLOW RECIPIENTS

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Janos Benisz	Robert Krell
Agi Bergida	Roberta Kremer
Susan Bluman*	Kit Krieger
Lillian Boraks-Nemetz	Lucien Lieberman
Alex Buckman	Gerri London
Marion Cassirer	Leo Lowy*
Saul Cohn*	Inge Manes
Jody Dales	Reverend Fred Metzger*
Mariette Doduck	Michel Mielnicki
David Ehrlich	Bente Nathan Thomsen
David Feldman	William Nichols
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Serge Haber	Leslie Spiro
Edwina Heller*	Aron Szajman
Paul Heller	Stan Taviss
Katy Hughes	Ronnie Tessler
Frances Hoyd	Gloria Waisman
Oscar Jason*	Robbie Waisman
Leon Kahn*	Sophie Waldman*

*In recognition of those who have made special contributions to
Holocaust education and remembrance. *Z"L (of Blessed Memory)*