

VANCOUVER HOLOCAUST EDUCATION CENTRE

ZACHOR

WINTER 2014

**ANNE FRANK
— A HISTORY FOR
TODAY EXHIBIT AND
SCHOOL PROGRAM**

**THE HOLOCAUST IN THE
NETHERLANDS:
MEMORIES OF ONE
HIDDEN CHILD**

**OUT OF THE VHEC
ARCHIVES: A CURATED
COMPANION TO THE
ANNE FRANK EXHIBIT**

**THE TESTIMONY PROJECT:
THEN AND NOW**

*{ Anne Frank House:
moveable bookcase
hiding the entrance
to the secret annex }*

VANCOUVER HOLOCAUST EDUCATION CENTRE
CONSUL GENERAL OF THE KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS
NORMAN & ANNETTE ROTHSTEIN THEATRE

INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

MONDAY, JANUARY 27, 2014 | 7 PM

NORMAN & ANNETTE ROTHSTEIN THEATRE
950 WEST 41ST AVENUE, VANCOUVER

FEATURING

Louise Sorensen

CHILD SURVIVOR OF THE HOLOCAUST

LOUISE SORENSEN
BUSSUM, NETHERLANDS, 1940

Holocaust survivors are invited to light a memorial candle

FOLLOWED BY EXHIBIT OPENING AT THE VHEC
Anne Frank - A History For Today

INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY SUPPORTERS



ANNE FRANK - A HISTORY FOR TODAY SUPPORTERS

Consulate of the Kingdom of the Netherlands • Isaac and Sophie Waldman Endowment Fund of the Vancouver Foundation
Ralph Markin and Bob Markin, in honour of a dear friend, Leslie Spiro²¹

604.264.0499 | INFO@VHEC.ORG | WWW.VHEC.ORG



604.264.0499 | INFO@VHEC.ORG

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT

Ed Lewin

VICE PRESIDENT

Philip Levinson

TREASURER

Rob Crystal

SECRETARY

Corinne Zimmerman

DIRECTORS

Rita Akselrod

Marcus Brandt

Richard Elias

Norman Gladstone

Robert Krell

Shoshana Krell Lewis

Jack Micner

Ian Penn

Al Szajman

Ricki Thal

Carla van Messel

Robbie Waisman

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Jill Diamond

Arthur Dodek

John Fraser

Art Hister

Mobina Jaffer

Hodie Kahn

Rick Kool

Grace McCarthy

Bernie Simpson

Judy Thau

Yosef Wosk

WINTER 2014

ZACHOR | Remember

EDITOR

Nina Krieger

EDITOR, "NO LONGER ALONE"

Lillian Boraks Nemetz

DESIGN

Illene Yu



Dear Readers,

In this issue, the VHEC is pleased to present a number of articles themed on Anne Frank and her enduring legacy. An article by Julie Couture of the Anne Frank House — whose travelling exhibit, *Anne Frank – A History for Today*, opens at the VHEC on January 27th — considers the questions raised by the story of Anne Frank for young Canadians in the twenty-first century. As a companion piece to the Anne Frank exhibit, the Centre is showcasing a number of artefacts, photographs and documents from its collection that speak to children's experiences during the Shoah. In her contribution for *Zachor*, VHEC Research & Program Coordinator, Katie Powell details the process of working in the Centre's archive to uncover materials that speak to childhood memory and themes of play, faith, identity, rescue and hiding. Powell states: "As Anne [Frank]'s story comes to us from the survival of her diary, so too do the stories of remembrance and survival come through in the artefacts in the VHEC's collection."

Louise Sorensen, a local child survivor from the Netherlands and a contemporary of Anne Frank, shares her family's experience of survival and loss during the Holocaust. Readers can meet Louise and learn more about her remarkable story during her keynote address at the VHEC's upcoming International Holocaust Remembrance Day program on January 27th. We look forward to welcoming you to this commemorative event presented in partnership with the Consulate of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the Norman & Annette Rothstein Theatre, followed by the opening reception of the *Anne Frank – A History for Today* exhibit at the VHEC.

On the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the VHEC, "No Longer Alone" editor Lillian Boraks Nemetz re-presents an article by Dr. Robert Krell written for the inaugural newsletter of the Child Survivor Group of Vancouver, articulating the "raison d'être" of the group.

This issue also highlights significant behind-the-scenes initiatives underway at the Centre: our expanding program of Symposia on the Holocaust delivered to thousands of senior secondary students across the Metro Vancouver area, and a project to document, preserve and provide access to the testimonies of local eyewitnesses of the Holocaust. Both initiatives represent strategies for promoting education and remembrance through singularly powerful first-hand accounts of the Holocaust — today and into the future.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Nina'.

Nina Krieger
Editor & VHEC Executive Director

Anne Frank – A History for Today

BY JULIE COUTURE

The story of Anne Frank is well known worldwide, but what does the title of the Anne Frank House travelling exhibition – ‘A History for Today’ – mean for young Canadians in Vancouver? Presented by the Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre from January to May 2014, this exhibition will provide an opportunity for visitors to discuss the relevance of this history to their lives.

The anti-Jewish measures in occupied Netherlands, where Anne Frank found refuge, directly impacted her life; she did not survive it. During the Second World War, Canada enacted discriminatory measures against various racial and national groups. Japanese-Canadians, for instance, were forced to abandon their jobs, homes, and all worldly goods and were relocated to internment and work camps. Suspicion and racial prejudice against these “enemies that never were” resulted in the violation of human rights for the only supposition that they were threatening the country’s security. Nazi Germany used a similar subterfuge to legalize anti-Jewish policies and to gain acceptance from the majority population. The consequences for these relocated people still have repercussions in these communities today. Various other groups in Canada have faced systematic discrimination throughout Canadian history, among them the First Nations experience in residential schools. This travelling exhibition could encourage interesting discussions for generations living with the legacy of past injustice, and for all Canadians to learn from.

Widespread antisemitism throughout interwar Europe culminated in an unprecedented crime. Europe deals with this past by teaching young generations that hostility toward Jews, or other minority populations, can lead to atrocity, and that awareness is the first step to prevent history from repeating. A closer look at Canadian society during this same period reveals similar hostility. Signs banning Jews from public and private spaces were placarded around the country, and riots against Canadian Jews occurred in some cities. Anti-Jewish sentiment, nationalist ideas and a stringent



Anne Frank was born on June 12, 1929 in Frankfurt, Germany. Like many other Jews, the Frank family fled Nazi Germany in 1933 and settled in the Netherlands. In May 1940, the Nazis occupied the Netherlands and swiftly introduced anti-Jewish measures. Two years later, the Franks went into hiding. During their time in the secret annex, Anne kept a diary. In August 1944, the family was betrayed and deported to different concentration camps. Anne Frank died at the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp in March 1945. Only her father, Otto, survived the war. The building where the Frank family hid is now a museum and an educational institution dedicated to carrying out activities internationally to discuss the dangers of discrimination and the importance of human rights.

Portrait of Anne Frank, April 1941. Courtesy AFS Basel, CH / AFS Amsterdam, NL

quota system contributed to Canada's acceptance of only 5,000 Jewish refugees from Nazism before and during the war, among the lowest rates of all Allied nations. In 2014, Canada is still working to create a society free of discrimination and prejudice. Until that happens, learning about it remains relevant for today's society everywhere in the world.

Anne Frank's story presents an array of moral choices for individuals confronted with challenging situations. The choices made by Otto Frank's four office employees — who become the helpers of the eight Jews being sheltered in the factory attic — demonstrates how some people rejected a collective idea and instead follow their own path and beliefs, even if acting against the law posed a threat to their personal safety. Years after the war, Canada welcomed one of these helpers, Victor Kugler, and thousands of survivors left homeless and insecure in postwar Europe. Kugler visited schools to discuss with young people in Canada the choices he made to help the Franks, risking his own life in doing so.

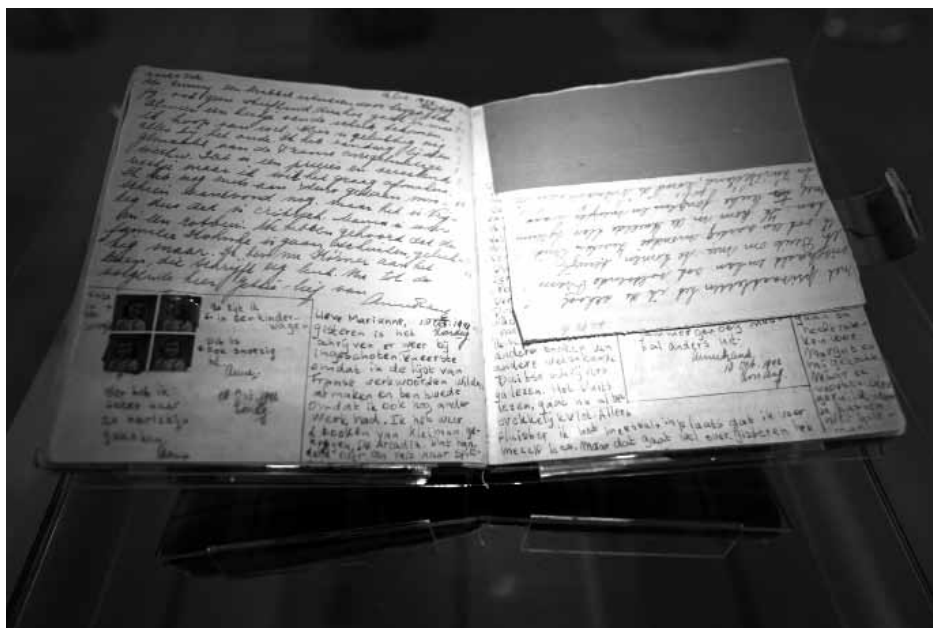
The fact that Canadian soldiers participated in the liberation of Europe must not be forgotten. Young men and women risked (and many lost) their lives to protest against and fight the dictatorship of Hitler and the Nazi party. Canadian soldiers witnessed the liberation of camps in Europe where Anne Frank had been deported. This remains

in the memories of those who participated and they share their experience back home, promoting a better defense of human rights. It is imperative for us to remember and honor their contribution to the liberation of Europe.

The travelling exhibition presents the story of Anne Frank within the historical context of the Second World War and the Holocaust in Europe. In every country where the exhibition is presented, contemporary issues are raised; visitors are brought together to share what meaning the past has for them and to link it to the present to construct the future. The Anne Frank exhibition aims to engage young people in reflection, exchange and discussion. Many themes from the story of Anne Frank are still relevant today, in their own society. During the visit of the exhibition, visitors can share stories of survivors of the Holocaust, of veterans and of all the others that came to Canada in more recent years, to lead a dialogue about the meaning of the past for the present. Because as Anne so poignantly wrote, *"It is vital that people resist oppression and have the courage to stand up for others who are discriminated against and persecuted [...]"* We all share responsibility for one another."



Julie Couture is the coordinator of the Canadian projects of the Anne Frank House in Amsterdam. She is a native from Québec and holds a Bachelor of Arts in History. She has lived in the Netherlands since 2005.



Left: Anne Frank House, Prinsengracht 263, Amsterdam. Right: Anne Frank's diary. Courtesy Anne Frank House, 2010. © Anne Frank House, photo by Cris Toala Olivares.

THE HOLOCAUST IN THE NETHERLANDS: MEMORIES OF ONE HIDDEN CHILD

BY LOUISE STEIN SORENSEN

A local child survivor from the Netherlands, and the keynote speaker at the VHEC's upcoming International Holocaust Remembrance Day program, reflects on her wartime experiences.

Like Anne Frank, I was 10 years old at the start of the Second World War on September 1, 1939. The photo on the right was taken in our back yard showing me with our cousin Emmy (b. 1937), my older sister Elly and our dog.

When the Germans invaded the Netherlands in May of 1940, I was in grade 5 at a Montessori school.

The civilian rule in the Netherlands consisted of mainly Austrian Nazis, which was much more harsh than the military regime of the other West European countries. That, combined with the fanatic Dutch Nazis extremely skilled at hunting Jews, factored into the low survival rate of the Dutch Jews (only 20%). In the fall of 1940, the Nazis proceeded to distinguish and isolate the Jews from the rest of the Dutch population. All civil servants (including school teachers) had to sign an "Aryan" declaration, whereupon the Jews were fired. Jewish-owned businesses and firms had to register with authorities. My father owned a factory located at the canals of Amsterdam that manufactured and sold fur coats. Because my father had the foresight to hide a good deal of his stock of fur coats, it was possible to pay non-Jews for hiding us later in the war.

A watershed event occurred on January 10, 1941: all Dutch people age 16 and up



Above: Louise (left) with cousin Emmy (centre) and sister Elly (right), Naarden, Netherlands, 1939.
Below: Louise Sorensen, age 11, Montessori Elementary School, Bussum, Netherlands, 1940.
Courtesy Louise Sorensen



had to carry an identity card at all times, while persons of partial or complete Jewish heritage had a black "J" stamped on their card. By March, businesses owned by Jews were expropriated and entrusted to German 'Verwaelters.' I clearly recall when my father's factory was confiscated. One day upon returning home he told us that a German had walked in and faced him, shouting "*mein Name ist Jäger und das ist jetzt meine Firma und wenn Sie dann widersetzen werde ich ihnen erschießen.*" One would expect that my father might have been very upset but he was actually grinning because as he pointed out "the guy won't get many assets out of my business anyway", and: "he said he will shoot me, that fits because he said his name is Jäger"!!! (*Jäger* is the German word for Hunter). A few months later, on September 1, all Jewish children were expelled from public schools and were forced to attend Jewish schools only.

From April 1942, all Jews aged 5 and up were forced to wear yellow stars bearing the word *JOOD*; that June, our home and belongings in Naarden (25 km east of Amsterdam) were confiscated. With one suitcase each, we were herded onto buses and transported to Amsterdam's Jewish ghetto. The situation became increasingly severe; Jews between the ages of 17 and 40 received notices to report for "labour"



An official and forged identity card belonging to Louise's mother, Marianne Stein. Her official identity card (top), issued in August, 1941 was stamped with a black "J." Her forged copy (right), issued in June 1944, allowed her to pose as a non-Jewish Dutch citizen in Rotterdam. VHEC Collection, Courtesy the Louise Sorensen Collection.

in Germany. When Anne's sister Margot received a call-up notice, the family went into hiding. My sister Elly did not have to report because my father managed to get us on an "economic exemption" list holding off deportation "until further notice". The raids increased and by the fall, uniformed Dutch and German Nazi police entered Jewish homes, dragging Jews of any age and dumping them into waiting vans intended to deport them, eventually to be murdered in the concentration and death camps. Nazi police sometimes entered our tenement too, but our "economic exemptions" stamp temporarily protected us.



An "economic exemption" stamp in the identity card of Louise's mother, Marianne Stein, provided temporary safety for the family. VHEC Collection, Courtesy the Louise Sorensen Collection

I distinctly remember one event that speaks to our time in the ghetto. The deportation of Dutch Jews had begun several months earlier and our nights were spent in fear listening to the clatter of boots and the shouting of people being

dragged out of their homes. Sooner or later our turn would come too.

It was November 1942 and darkness came early to a town in blackout. The doorbell rang. This spelled trouble because curfew had started. No Jew was allowed outside between 8 p.m. and 6 a.m.

"Hurry up, throw those pears in the stove". Mother's voice quivered with fear.

We were peeling cooking pears because mother was going to prepare a rare treat: kugel. We had to shop in Jewish stores that could not stock fruit, but our former grocer had secretly come to bring us some pears. It was strictly forbidden to visit Jews, but he had come anyway, riding all the way on his bike for more than 25 kilometres.

Since our home had been confiscated in the spring of 1942, we had lived in a tenement building in the Amsterdam ghetto. I don't know how our benefactor found us. Even something seemingly this trivial was dangerous; just days before we heard that a family had been arrested and deported because fruit peels were found in their garbage can. Dutch traitors spying on Jews had searched along River Street, found the fruit peels and reported the family to the Nazis.

Hastily we threw our precious pears into the hot coal fire of our little potbelly stove, while father went to open the door.

There he stood, a weaselly little Gestapo man wearing a trench coat and a large-brimmed hat. He held a pistol, pointed it into our room and barked: *“dies ist mein Gebiet* — there is a strip of light showing through your window.” And sure enough, our blackout curtain had slightly parted, strictly verboten.

My father apologized, took out his wallet and handed the man some money. The weasel grabbed it, saying in a menacing tone of voice “don’t let me catch you again” and left, pocketing the bills. He was probably on a private “foraging” expedition, holding up Jews for ransom.

We were deeply shaken after he left. The pears, which we later tried to fish out of the stove, were burnt and no longer edible.

By January 1943 the situation became increasingly untenable — more and more people had disappeared. When my father learned that others on the exemption list for the fur industry had been taken, my parents realized that we were no longer protected and must go into hiding. This task was easier said than done, as finding a hiding place was exceptionally difficult. Eventually, my family snuck out of Amsterdam and found hiding places and forged papers. We hid for approximately two-and-a-half terrible years at many addresses, sometimes alone and sometimes together, often escaping by the skin of our teeth, until the Canadian troops liberated us in April 1945.

Most other family members met a different fate. During the war, we had lost touch with my mother’s brother, wife and their daughter, Emmy, who lived near The Hague. They were likely deported around April 10, 1943 to Vught, the only camp in the Netherlands controlled by the SS and run under brutal conditions. But at the time people were told that it was strictly a “work camp”, unlike the much better known Westerbork camp, from where most Dutch



Louise Sorensen’s uncle Maurits (Mozes) van Dam (kneeling in front) with friends at a summer camp in Gilze Rijen, Netherlands. Photo taken circa 1928 to 1930. Courtesy Louise Sorensen.

Jews were deported to the death camps. People holding the now lapsed protective stamps like ours therefore vied to be sent to Vught.

In reality, conditions at Vught were much worse, especially for the children. Men were sent away from the camp for slave labor and selected because they had wives and young children held hostage in the camp, presumably protected. But the SS decided to deport the children anyway. On June 5 and 6, 1943, nearly 1800 children were herded with their mothers into cattle trains and carted via Westerbork to Sobibor death camp, where they were murdered upon arrival on June 11. The men were not notified and only learned what happened after their loved ones had already gone; my uncle was murdered at Sobibor shortly after, on July 16. I recently discovered that had we not already gone to hiding places I would likely have been on that transport too.

This “Vught Kindertransport” tragedy must be ranked among the most brutal atrocities of the Shoah but far too little attention has been given to it.



Louise Stein Sorensen is a Holocaust survivor (b. 1929) from the Netherlands and a VHEC Outreach Speaker.

SYMPOSIA ON THE HOLOCAUST

BY ADARA GOLDBERG

Symposia on the Holocaust represent the VHEC's longest-running and most popular educational programs, offering compelling links between the past, present and future.



Left: Chaim Kornfeld speaking at Surrey's 9th Annual Symposium, 2013. Right: Chaim with students.

On the morning of November 20, 2013 at the Surrey School District's 9th Annual Symposium on the Holocaust, more than 1,000 senior secondary students, teachers and administrators streamed into the Bell Centre for the half-day program. The audience received a primer on Holocaust history from Dr. Jay Eidelman and viewed a segment of the BBC documentary *World at War: Genocide* before welcoming the keynote speaker, local survivor outreach speaker Chaim Kornfeld.

Students listened attentively as Chaim divulged vignettes about his life. He spoke of his upbringing in a large orthodox family; life under the Hungarian fascist state; his imprisonment in concentration and labour camps; and his regaining of independence — and education — in Israel and later, Canada. After his presentation, dozens crowded around Chaim and offered hugs, words of gratitude, and requests for photos. In feedback provided later, one teacher remarked that his class returned to class energized to take action against current human rights violations. A new group of his students will join next year's symposia.

2014 marks the 39th anniversary of the Annual Symposium on the Holocaust at UBC. This initiative was originally conceived of and delivered by Dr. Robert Krell and colleagues as a way of introducing lessons of the Holocaust and local survivor narratives to BC students. Over the

course of two days each spring, the Symposia provided the unique opportunity for 1,000 senior secondary students to engage with eyewitnesses to the Holocaust and expert historians. These interactions were — and remain — frequently cited by students as one of the most meaningful learning experiences of their high school career.

To accommodate a growing demand for programming, the VHEC now presents half-day district symposia programs in partnership with school districts across the province. In the 2012-13 school year, the VHEC presented District Symposia in Abbotsford, Burnaby, Coquitlam, Maple Ridge, Surrey and West Vancouver, reaching 3,350 students. This year, new Symposia are being launched in Delta and Langley, and at Shawnigan Lake School on Vancouver Island.

As we approach the 70th anniversary of the Second World War, testimony from eyewitnesses remains the single most powerful tool for teaching about the past. The VHEC thanks our dedicated group of survivor outreach speakers and historians for helping us deliver these compelling programs and meeting the needs of BC students and educators.

The Annual Symposium on the Holocaust at UBC is supported by the Edwina & Paul Heller Holocaust Education Fund and the Sophie Waldman Endowment Fund of the VHEC, Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver, the University of British Columbia and the VHEC Leo Krell Memorial Book Fund, and with the financial assistance of the Province of British Columbia.

District Symposium 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, and funding from the Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver.



Adara Goldberg is the Education Director at the VHEC. She has a background in Social Work and holds a PhD in Holocaust History.

OUT OF THE ARCHIVES: A CURATED COMPANION TO THE ANNE FRANK EXHIBIT

BY KATIE POWELL

The VHEC's archival holdings illuminate the stories of Vancouver child survivors through an intimate collection of donated artefacts.

It is with eager anticipation that the Anne Frank House's exhibit, *Anne Frank — A History for Today*, opens at the Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre in January 2014. The exhibit presents an exciting opportunity to carry the theme of "a history for today" forward. By creating an archival companion piece, this assembly of donated artefacts speaks of remembrance and the diversity of experiences within Vancouver's survivor community. What has ultimately emerged is an intimate companion to Anne Frank's experiences as a child during the Holocaust, one that highlights the artefacts of Vancouver's child survivors, which have been generously entrusted to the Centre. As Anne's story comes to us from the survival of her diary, so too do the stories of remembrance and survival come through in the artefacts of the VHEC's collection.

This small curated project is an important one. It provides an opportunity for the Centre to not only personalize an exhibit that has travelled from across the Atlantic, but also to allow visitors an opportunity to engage with artefacts

that might otherwise remain unseen in the archives.

Artefacts are incredibly powerful educational tools that add immediacy beyond the written word. With the success of the VHEC's *"Enemy Aliens"* school program, students had the opportunity to investigate the internment of German and Austrian Jewish refugees in Canada through the large number of objects belonging to the "camp boys." With such a diverse collection located within the Centre's own archives, it seemed a wonderful moment to engage students for the current exhibit. Anne Frank's story is one that speaks directly to younger visitors. Through these companion artefacts, students will be encouraged to think critically about the themes of Anne's experiences, and consider how themes of play, faith, identity, rescue and hiding resonate in the stories of other child survivors.

The process of archival research is truly remarkable, an unexpected adventure in and of itself. Locating these artefacts began with a thorough search of the Centre's database. Oftentimes, artefacts are sought out to mirror or

complement the larger themes of an exhibit. However, in this case, the opposite was true. It became very clear that by limiting the search for words directly relating to Anne Frank's experience and her geographic location, many remarkable artefacts would be automatically overlooked. That search was expanded to include all objects donated by child survivors, a list that



A jump rope belonging to Leonore Freiman.
Leonore left Vienna, Austria as a child to escape persecution.
Courtesy the Debby Freiman Collection, VHEC Collection.

was much longer and very diverse. Armed with a detailed inventory, the search would now take on a new life in the archives themselves.

Much like the students who visit the Centre, the written records and inventory of a single artefact cannot compare to the experience of delving into an archive and seeing them first-hand. Sorting through hundreds of files, for example, Louise Sorensen's family identity cards and David Reed's family photographs suddenly became real, much more than just numbers in the database. Even at this stage, the search was ever-expanding, as all at once item "98.064.094" would reveal itself to be another treasured family possession. As artefacts were placed together, piece by piece, the stories of these families' experiences emerged.

And very quickly, common themes emerged among the artefacts. Ideas about childhood memory and objects of childhood play, such as the jump rope donated by the daughter of a Holocaust survivor, Debby Freiman, while themes of faith and identity intersect for a child in hiding, like survivor Inge Manes' confirmation photograph, taken while she was in hiding in a Catholic orphanage. Other artefacts, still, speak to resistance. A recipe book donated by child survivor Alex Buckman, which was created in secret by his aunt Rebecca Teitelbaum, contains over one hundred pages of cherished recipes remembered by women imprisoned in Ravensbrück concentration camp. Writing as resistance comes in many different forms, not only as a diary like Anne Frank's but also as recipes and memories of family, and anticipation for a future reunited.

It is our hope that through this assembly of artefacts, students and members of the public alike will have a



Top: A star worn by Inge Manes in Belgium. Left: A photograph of Inge Manes (née Kollmann) at age eleven or twelve taken during confirmation while she was in hiding in the Catholic orphanage L'Institut St Vincent de Paul. Courtesy the Inge Manes Collection, VHEC Collection.

greater opportunity to explore and engage with the VHEC's collection. The archival research for this project illuminated countless remarkable artefacts that speak to the diverse experiences of their donors. While this display could only include a small number of them, we look forward to many future projects that will further the Centre's mission not only to educate about the Holocaust, but to also create a space of commemoration, an opportunity for a lasting legacy for the lived experiences of survivors and their families in the Vancouver community.



Katie Powell is a graduate of the Honours History program at UBC and is the Research and Program Coordinator at the VHEC.

THE TESTIMONY PROJECT — THEN AND NOW

BY TONI-LYNN FREDERICK

The Coordinator of the VHEC's Testimony Project reflects on local efforts to document and support access to Holocaust survivor testimonies.

In the late 1970s, Dr. Robert Krell began a project to record the oral testimonies of Vancouver-based Holocaust survivors. As a Professor of Psychiatry at the University of British Columbia, Dr. Krell made use of the audio-visual facilities within his department, and, over the next 25 years, documented interviews with over 130 survivors. Considering that this endeavor was coordinated solely by Dr. Krell — a child survivor himself, who was not only working as a full-time professor, but also volunteering on a number of community and university-led initiatives — it is a staggering achievement. Even more amazing, perhaps, is the fact that it was accomplished without any funding.

Dr. Krell's project was one of the first of its kind in North America, preceding that of the Shoah Foundation, which, after launching in 1994 and operating for just over a decade, worked at an express pace to collect over 52,000 eyewitness testimonies in 32 languages from 56 countries.

It would be difficult to know just how many testimonies have been recorded over the years by organizations such as the Shoah Foundation, the Holocaust Survivors Film Project, Yad Vashem, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, and the myriad of other testimony

projects facilitated by community-based Holocaust education centres and museums around the world. What is known, however, is that these eyewitness accounts give victims of the Holocaust a face and a voice to which viewers can relate. They are one of the most powerful educational tools we have. In the words of Lawrence Langer, "Without survivor testimony, the human dimension of the catastrophe would remain a subject of speculation."

For some survivors, a video testimony is the only time their children will ever hear a complete description of what they endured. One survivor who was interviewed felt great relief at having been videotaped, stating, "Now I feel that my children will really know me." In another interview, the survivor revealed that only recently had she told her children that she was Jewish. For both of these survivors, the experience of having their testimonies documented was not only historically significant, but also personally cathartic.

Of course, not all Holocaust survivors are comfortable sharing their testimonies on video. Some have declined to be recorded, expressing regret that it is far too difficult to recount certain memories, and that they are able to

manage their day-to-day lives much better when they do not talk about the Holocaust. While some are concerned about how their testimony will affect current and future generations of their family, others are wary of how their testimony might be used or edited when they have passed on. Still, others are simply worried that after so many years they will not recall the details of their lives with the same precision they once did, and that these gaps in memory will only bolster the cause of



Stills from interviews with local Holocaust survivors, Bronia S. (1991) and Eva K. (2010). VHEC Collection.

those groups who seek to deny the Holocaust.

With so many understandable reasons not to commit one's testimony to video, we are extremely grateful to the many survivors who have been — and still are — willing to share the narratives of their lives with us. It cannot be easy.

In the mid-2000s, the urgency behind many of the major survivor documentation efforts began to dissipate. The Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre took over Dr. Krell's project — including the large collection of ¾-inch videotapes on which his interviews with Holocaust survivors were captured. A partnership with Yale University Library's Fortunoff Video Archive for Holocaust Testimonies ensured that these recordings were digitized, preserved and catalogued.

In 2008, following the global technical shift from analog to digital video, the VHEC began using high-definition digital video to record as many survivor testimonies as possible on the new media. Today the Testimony Project concentrates on interviewing those survivors who have not yet had their stories documented, as well as documenting our survivor outreach speakers who volunteer their time for the Centre's school programs.

While the advancements in audio-visual technologies have been a boon to the Testimony Project, they also bring with them a whole host of new archival challenges. The new media is tape-less and virtual, and in order to guard against loss through medium degradation, computer error, or technological obsolescence, the testimonies must be stored and accessible on a minimum of three separate formats at any given time. And this is not the end of the story. To ensure against outmoded and inaccessible data storage in the future, these materials must then be transferred to new digital storage devices every few years. For the VHEC, this is a major undertaking, as it means migrating approximately 500



Stills from interviews with Chaim K., 1984 (left) and 2013 (right). VHEC Collection.

hours of video testimony at each turn.

Recently, the VHEC received funding from the Province of BC and generous donations from Anita Shafran, Zev and Elaine Shafran and Rabbi Yosef Wosk to support the ongoing recording of eyewitness testimonies, as well as federal funding from Citizen and Immigration Canada for the development of a practical and sustainable archive and accessibility strategy that guarantees the safekeeping of these testimonies and the enduring legacy of their invaluable role in Holocaust education. We are enormously thankful for this essential support.

The Centre also has a small but highly skilled and extremely dedicated crew of volunteer interviewers who demonstrate a professional commitment to their role in the Testimony Project. Some of these individuals are themselves children of survivors, which positions them rather uniquely in this process. For these volunteers, the project has both historical and personal significance. Regardless of their individual relationships to the Holocaust, however, through the contributions made by all of our interviewers, and the receipt of both private and public funding, it is possible for the VHEC to both preserve and continue the work that Dr. Krell began over 30 years ago.



Toni-Lynn Frederick coordinates the VHEC's Testimony Project. As an independent filmmaker, writer, and installation artist from Vancouver, she is also working on her PhD through the University of Reading where her research examines the representation of Holocaust-related landscape and the use of witness re-enactment in the final cut and outtakes of Claude Lanzmann's *Shoah* (1985).

TRIBUTE TO GISI LEVITT

BY NINA KRIEGER

On December 18, 2013 the VHEC bid farewell to Gisi Levitt, Coordinator of Survivor Services, and paid tribute to her contributions to the Centre and the community. An excerpt of remarks delivered in her honour is reprinted below.

As a teaching museum founded by survivors of the Holocaust, the Centre prides itself as being a second home for survivors in our community. Gisi Levitt has been the heart and soul and the driving force of this special aspect of the VHEC.

During her 12-year tenure as Coordinator of Survivor Services at the VHEC, Gisi has implemented programs and facilitated access to community services to Holocaust survivors in order to improve their quality of life. She has offered guidance about compensation, financial aid and counselling to countless Holocaust survivors and their families. And she has approached it all with boundless patience, warmth, kindness, empathy, sensitivity and good humour.

For many survivors without family, she has stood in as a second family — a daughter or a niece. I am hard pressed to think of survivors Oscar Jason and Leslie Spiro – both of blessed memory — without thinking of Gisi and the special relationship she had with each of them. She has been a lifeline, an advocate, and a trusted advisor to so many – fulfilling a role one would expect of a family member or the closest of friends.

In overseeing the allocation of Claims Conference support to survivors in need, Gisi has acted as an advocate for

the dignity of vulnerable seniors in our community. Her dedication and work in this area has been vitally important, and often life-changing.

Perhaps less perceptible but no less impactful, she has also been a sensitive listener and provided a home base for survivors who have flocked to visit Gisi on her regular Wednesdays at the Centre. When inhabited by Gisi, our back room office space has been transformed into a place of comfort and warmth.

Although beyond the scope of her official duties, Gisi has also provided invaluable support for the VHEC's professional staff — offering strategies that have helped us in our engagement with complex subject matter and issues beyond our professional skill sets as museum educators. I know I speak on behalf of the entire staff when I say thank you, Gisi, and that we will miss your unruffled wisdom, your calm demeanor and your keen insight.

On behalf of the board and staff of the Centre, I am honoured to thank Gisi for all that she has contributed to the VHEC and to the lives of so many in our community.

Nina Krieger is Executive Director of the VHEC.

The VHEC is pleased to welcome Donna Cantor and Guy Askadsky to the VHEC in 2014. Donna will be at the VHEC three days a month as Coordinator of Survivor Services, and Guy will be at the VHEC one day a month focusing on outreach to Russian Holocaust survivors, a growing client base for the Centre.



Donna Cantor graduated from Yeshiva University with a Masters degree in Social Work. She has worked for the last 7 years as a Seniors Outreach Worker at Jewish Family Service Agency and her clients have included Holocaust Survivors. Her skills include accessing resources for seniors, advocacy, accompaniment to appointments, financial aid requests/forms and counseling.



Guy Askadsky graduated from the Hebrew University with a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work and worked with seniors and new immigrants in Jerusalem. In 2008, Guy moved to Vancouver and currently works as a Basic Resources Case Manager and the JFSA Garden Project Coordinator. Guy speaks various languages: English, Hebrew, Russian, Ukrainian, Portuguese.

“NO LONGER ALONE”: A LOOK BACK

BY ROBERT KRELL, M.D.

This article appeared in the first volume of “No Longer Alone,” published by the Child Survivor Group of Vancouver in 1993.

THE CHILD SURVIVORS GROUP OF VANCOUVER NEWSLETTER | SPRING/SUMMER EDITION 1993, VOL. 1

The story of the child survivor is one of profound loneliness. When I recall the sequence of my own growing awareness of being a child survivor, that peculiar and forbidding sense of aloneness comes into focus.

Even the close childhood friends, some of whom were also child survivors, did not speak of their survival nor of their preoccupations. And there were preoccupations.

It was not until 1981, that I became consciously and acutely aware of the fact that there were child survivors with perhaps, a distinct and unique life experience. In 1982 I read a book* on child survivors and by 1983 was the first speaker at the founding meeting of the Los Angeles Child Survivor Group.

This rapid evolution from not knowing, to new awareness brought on a sense of relief and became a discovery: Despite the fact that most of us created families and close friends, achieved a measure of success in work, and contribute to community life — a pervasive and disturbing sense of unreality remains.

What is this all about? It is about identity and loss, marginality and silence. It is about being hidden and remaining hidden. It is about ambivalence, towards religion and community, towards friends and family, sometimes even towards life.

Children who survived were fated to live life very differently from adults who survived. The older survivor had more memories, more Jewish knowledge, was more likely to marry, stay close to other survivors and be identified as a Holocaust survivor — not necessarily a pleasant or chosen identity, but an identity nevertheless.

The younger survivor, with fewer memories, often hidden or helped by Christians, and with less Jewish memory, was frequently placed with a foster family, attended school, and was effectively removed from fellow survivors, while assisted or told to forget the past, to get on with the future.

Unfortunately, the past was important to how that future might evolve and its casual abandonment created a void in the lives of many.

No matter how personally successful the child survivor has become, the void remains.

I believe that recapturing that childhood, even with all its traumas and fears, is essential to the recapture of the identity which was taken from us, not out of malice so much as ignorance.

The fact is that we children also have a history and a story, that most of us are indeed eyewitnesses to those terrible

times, that our accounts are also important in the scheme of things.

The fact is that no one was interested in our stories, not the older survivors, not the general community or for that matter, the Jewish community.

The fact is that as is so often the case, true understanding can be found only within the community of those who have similar experiences and shared a similar fate.

Hence 1991 saw 1600 of us gather in New York for the “Hidden Child Conference.” There was no hiding there! It was easy to talk even for those who endured 4 decades of silence.

Shortly after our return, I suggested to friends to form a Child Survivor Group here in Vancouver in the hope that it would provide an opportunity for long silences to be broken. This has happened and continues to happen.

It will then be possible to take not only our rightful place within the community of survivors, but to accept from those who are older the responsibility to continue Holocaust education as authentic witnesses to the Shoah and commemorative events as the keepers of memory — but no longer alone.

*Moskovitz, Sarah. *Love Despite Hate. Child Survivors of the Holocaust and Their Adult Lives.* Schocken Books – 1985.

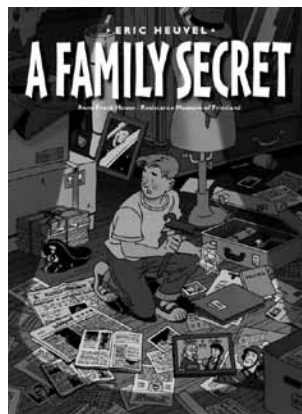
EXPLORING HOLOCAUST HISTORY THROUGH GRAPHIC NOVELS

BY SHANNON MCLEOD

If you are looking for educational material on Holocaust history beyond *Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl*, the format and character-driven narratives make these graphic novels an excellent choice.

A Family Secret and *The Search* narrate the experiences of fictional characters during the German occupation of the Netherlands in the Second World War. They are published by the Anne Frank House and written in cooperation with the Resistance Museum of Friesland and the Jewish Historical Museum with illustrations by Eric Heuvel. The graphic format and style is reminiscent of Hergé's *Adventures of Tintin* and the colourful and expressive illustrations compliment the dense narrative.

In *A Family Secret*, a Dutch teen named Jeroen discovers a number of old scrapbooks in his grandmother Helena's attic. This prompts Helena to discuss her experiences during wartime occupation and her relationship with a Jewish girl named Esther. A broad historical narrative is incorporated into her recollections and includes an introductory look at the rise of Nazism, occupation of the Netherlands, and Japanese occupation of the Dutch Colonies. This graphic novel tells the story of a non-Jewish Dutch family and explores the reactions to occupation including resistance, support, coercion, and compliance. The reader is able to gain an understanding of the implications of war and discrimination on a grand scale and on personal aspects as Helena describes how her family life is torn apart: Helena's father, a policeman begins enforcing Nazi regulations, one of her brothers joins the Resistance and her other brother joins the Nazi war effort against the Russians.



A Family Secret, produced by the Anne Frank House and the Resistance Museum of Friesland. *The Search*, produced by the Anne Frank House in cooperation with the Jewish Historical Museum.



The story of Helena's young Jewish friend, Esther, is explored in greater depth in *The Search*. During a visit from her grandson, Esther describes her life as a Jewish girl living in Amsterdam and her family's fate during the rise of Nazism. They take a trip to a farm where she went into hiding and Esther is later reunited with an old neighbourhood friend named Bob. Esther learns

of her parents' murder at Auschwitz as Bob recounts his experiences at the camp. Notably darker than the first graphic novel, this work covers the brutality and injustices of the Holocaust and the lasting impact on survivors in a manner that is not gratuitous but very effective.

These works are excellent educational resources, recommended for grades 5 and above, that provide multiple perspectives, historical overviews, and character-centered narration. This format makes the content both accessible and evocative, exploring themes including discrimination and brutality, community, disillusionment, resilience, and loss. The storylines provide the opportunity to discuss morally ambiguous situations and character motivations, serving as microcosmic examples for greater ideological and social conflict.



Shannon McLeod is a Librarian at the Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre. She holds a BA in History from Simon Fraser University and a Master of Library and Information Studies from the University of British Columbia.

SEPTEMBER 1 – DECEMBER 16, 2013

SHANA TOVA

Candace & Alan Kwinter & Family, Shana Tova. Harry & Margaret Rosenfeld, Sonia, Ellen & Eric

David & Lila Quastel, A Happy & Healthy New Year. Susan Quastel

Norman & Barb Glick, A Happy & Healthy New Year. Susan Quastel

Melanie & Greg Samuels, A Happy & Healthy New Year. Susan Quastel

GET WELL

Raisa Chudnovsky, Speedy recovery. Survivor Drop-In Group

Joe Segal, Speedy recovery. Ida Kaplan

Norman Gold, Speedy recovery. Hymie & Rome Fox

MAZEL TOV

Irving Kates, Happy Birthday. Anita Shafran & Family

Shoshana Lewis, Happy Special Birthday. Todd & Candice, Elisa & Matthew, Karly & Jonathan, Simone & Howie, Marni & Gerald, Megan & Elliot, Jen & Jason, Cydney & Jordan, Nicki & Steve, Sammy & Mike, Dana & Matthew, Dalia & Brian, Andy & Gabe, Samantha & David, Lisa & Mike, Ali & Steven, Belinda & Sam, Leigh & Itay, Reut & Bo, Robyn & Eric, Janet & Warren, Kyla, Ricki, Michelle & Alain, Jacci & Brett, Juleen & Auby, Dave & Sara, Natalie & Sam, Michi & Matt, Haley & Ryan, Ronit & Doron, Daniel Steiner, Stacey & Chris, Sheryl & Shane, Pola & Mark, Donna & Noah, Carla & Josh, Jon & Leanne, Alisa & Chris, Andrew & Shawna, Brian & Jen, Andy & Alan, Sharon & Dave, Marni & Nir, Randy & Chana, Mel & Adam, Tamar & David, Shelley & Ron, Joelly & Jory, Stacy & Michael, Yaron & Maerav, & Angela, Tara Robens, Anonymous (2)

Cathy Golden, Happy Special Birthday. Arnold & Anita Silber, Bernard & Vera Rozen, Beth & Joe Gubbay, Esther Brandt, Ethel Kofsky, Faye & Richie Elias, Lynn & Larry Moss, Anna & Neal Nep, Marilyn & Perry Ehrlich, Phillip & Sherry Levinson, Hymie & Rome Fox, Rita Akselrod, Ruth Brucar

Aaron Szajman, Happy Special Birthday. David Feldman

Saul Stermer, in honour of your new grandchild. Morton & Irene Dodek

Ralph Aknin, Happy 60th Birthday. Debbie & Ed Lewin, Jeff & Iowana Wachtel

Michael & Sharon Isaacson & Family, on becoming Grandparents. Eddie & Debbie Rozenberg & Family

Bev Imerman, Happy Special Birthday. Eddie & Debbie Rozenberg, Les & Karen Cohen

Marty Charach, Happy 60th Birthday. Faye & Richie Elias

Dr. Steven Whiteside, on your Ph.D. The Cohen Family

Sidi Schaffer, Happy Special Birthday. Marion Cassirer

Steve & Dori Whiteside, Happy Anniversary. Phillip & Sherry Levinson, Ed & Debbie Lewin, Lynne & JF Fader & Family

Lillian Boraks Nemetz, Happy Special Birthday. Marion Cassirer

Richard Kramer, Happy Special Birthday. Peter & Marla Gropper

Rosa Ferera, Happy Special Birthday. Benj & Ruth

Mayer Aronson, Happy Special Birthday. Mendy & Lana Landa

Elizabeth Wolak, Happy Special Birthday. Susan & Joe Stein Family

Jack Kunin, Happy Birthday. Alina Wydra & Bob

Lynne Krygier, Happy 21st Birthday. Lynne & JF Fader & Family

Gisi Levitt, Mazel tov & Thank you. Harvey & Jody Dales, Frieda Miller, Amalia Boe-Fishman, Lillian Boraks Nemetz, Agi Bergida

Nomi Kaplan, on your special birthday. Aron & Neri Tischler

SYMPATHY

Frieda Miller, in memory of your mother, Goldie Miller. Wendy Oberlander, Jason & Wendy

Fran Grunberg & Family, on the loss of your husband & father, Gustav. Frieda Miller & Danny Shapiro

Julie Gutovich & Family, in memory of Henry Gutovich. Anita Shafran & Family, Aron, Sam, & Al Szajman, Bernice Neuwirth, Motola, Datner & Campbell Families, Raber & Samson Families, The Claman Family, Sally &

Sid Coleman, Robert & Marilyn Krell, Esther, Jacob & Jedidiah Blumes, Henia & Jack Perel & Family, Lola Mendelson, Loris Schneider & Gail Schneider, Merle & Bruce Ames & Family, The Claman Family

Lynn Schneider, in memory of Henry Gutovich. The Horwitz Family

Harold Gutovich, on the loss of your father, Henry Gutovich. The Fashler Family, Robert & Marilyn Krell, Robert Haber

Arnold Hughes & Family, in memory of your mother & grandmother, Katy Hughes. Claude & David Romney, Frieda Miller, joy Fai

Rene Merkel, in memory of your Father. Birgit Westergaard & Norman Gladstone

Ian Cohen & Michelle Gelfand, on the loss of your son, Merrick. Esther, Jacob & Jedidiah Blumes

Ruth Weitz, on the loss of your Mother. Anita Shafran

Roy & Lynn Schneider, in memory of your Father. Diane & Peter

Rabbi & Sharon Altshul, on the loss of Sharon's Father. Eddie & Debbie Rozenberg & Family

Linda Hotz, on the loss of your Father. Anita Shafran

Fay Weiss & Family, in memory of your father, Chaim Micner. Robert Haber & Family

Susie Micner & Family, in memory of your husband, father & zaida, Chaim Micher. Dorothy Ullman

Jack Micner, in memory of your father, Chaim Micner. Wendy Oberlander

Ruth Zinkhofer & Family, on the loss of your Mother. Anita Shafran

Carol Modes, on the loss of your mother, Esther. Neri & Aron Tischler

Bev Spring & Family, on the loss of your father & grandfather, Nathan. Frieda Miller & Danny Shapiro, Hymie & Rome Fox & Family

Yvonne Rosenberg & Family, in memory of your mother, Frieda Ullman. Beth & Leon Bogner, Ken Sanders & Sharon Cooper, Ken & Linda Glasner & Family, Lori Braha & Michael Berkson, Phylliss & Michael Moscovitch, Henry & Julie Gutovich, Odie Kaplan, Hymie & Rome Fox, Walter & Beryl Sussel & Family, Judy & Ron Remick

Alisa Franken, in memory of your grandmother, Frieda Ullman. Lori Braha & Michael Berkson

TRIBUTE CARDS

Evelyn Huberman & Family, in memory of your mother & grandmother, Frieda Ullman. Carol & Peter Oreck, Jeanie & Harris Klein, Ken Sanders & Sharon Cooper

Dorothy Ullman & Family, in memory of your mother & grandmother, Frieda Ullman. Estelle Fogell, Ken Sanders & Sharon Cooper, Lynne, Bobby, Taryn, Eleni & Heart Oreck-Wener, Susie Micner & Sam Micner, Brian & Tiki Goldenberg & Family, Zoe Oreck

Evelyn, Yvonne, Dorothy & Families, in memory of your mother, grandmother & great-grandmother, Frieda Ullman. Nora Ferera-Pullmer & Lew Pullmer, Rosa Ferera, Wendy Fouks, Zoe Oreck, Eddie & Debbie Rozenberg, Irene Gutmann & Sasha, Talia, Josh, Bri, & Deborah Budlovsky, Mark, Jacob, Talya & Nirit Rozenberg, Monty & Marcy Glanzberg

Marvin Huberman, in memory of your father, Sam. Richard & Gail Wenner

Clara & David Ginsberg & Family, in memory of Clara's mother. Debbie & Eddie Rozenberg

Sue & Brian Simons, in memory of Sue's mother. Debbie & Eddie Rozenberg

Dodie Katzenstein, in memory of your mother, Mary Sweed Katzenstein. Sheryl Sorokin & Hillel Goelman, Wendy Oberlander

Alix & Kim Campbell, on the loss of your Mother. Judy & Neil Kornfeld & Pamela Divinsky

Ohad Arazi, on the loss of your Father. Karen Alko Bichin & Mark Bichin

Paula Gelmon, on the loss of your mother, Mimi. Mendy & Lana Landa

Denzel Courlander & Family, in memory of Dick. Rosa Ferera

Karen Gelmon, on the loss of your mother, Mimi. Mendy & Lana Landa, Gloria & Robbie Waisman

Debby Senson, on the loss of your Uncle. Susan & Joe Stein & Family

Glenda Love-Hirsch & Family, on the loss of your father, father-in-law & grandfather. Robert Haber

Marie Henry, in memory of John. Sarah Richman

Susan Numerow, on the loss of your Father. Susan & Joe Stein & Family

Debbie & Yossi Havusha, In memory of Debbie's father, Leon Broitman. Seymour & Alberta Levitan

Family of Leon Broitman, in memory of Leon Broitman. Menbere

Mrs. E. Perzow & Family, on your loss. Shoshana & Moshe Fidelman

Ruth Aren, on the loss of your husband, Sandy. Susan & Joe Stein

Danny & Marilyn Rozenzweig & Family, in memory of Danny's mother, Frieda. Debbie & Eddie Rozenberg & Family

Vera & Danny Wollner & Family, on the loss of Vera's mother. Susie & Murray Isman Carly & Adam, Judith Kalla, David & Tamar Bakonyi, Teah, Noah, & Andrew

Erika & Michael Lipton & Family, in memory of Erika's father, Julius Fenyves. Debbie & Eddie Rozenberg

Peter Karasz & Family, in memory of your wife, Joan Karasz. Harvey & Jody Dales, Robert & Marilyn Krell, Jack & Karen Micner & Family, Mikki Dorn, Ethel Kofsky

Paul Karasz, in memory of your mother, Joan Karasz. Harvey & Jody Dales, Esther, Jacob & Jedidiah Blumes, Marilee Sigal, Helen Alko, Robert Haber, Marika Sacks

In memory of Lola Haber. Robert Haber

Gloria Keil, in memory of your Mother. The Micner Family

Linda Steiner & Family, on the loss of your Mother. Susan & Joe Stein & Family

Deborah Ross-Grayman, In memory of Yonia Fain. Sidi & David Schaffer

THANK YOU

Joe O'Connor, Thank you. Bente Nathan Thomsen

Robbie Waisman, Thank you. UBC History 441 Class of 2013 & Richard Menkis.

Rosa Ferera, Thank you Auntie Rosa. Stella & Tito Salzmänn

Kurt, Thank you. Brian & Ann Kramer

Albrecht & Ulrike, Thank you. Brian & Ann Kramer

Keith Morgan, Season's Greetings. Jack Micner

Bob Goodridge, Season's Greetings. Jack Micner

Perry Leslie, Season's Greetings. Jack Micner

THANK YOU TO OUR OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEERS

OUTREACH SPEAKERS

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

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Alex Buckman, Amalia Boe-Fishman, Debby Frieman, Hodie Kahn, Lise Kirchner, Kit Krieger, Susan Krug, Alan LeFevre, Shanie Levin, Ella Levitt, Gerri London, Jack Micner, Cathy Paperny, Marianne Rev, Hilsary Sandhouse, Anita Shafran, Aria Smordin, Stan Taviss, Kevin Veltheer, Gloria Waisman, Robbie Waisman

DOCENTS

Alexandra Campagnaro, Rajiv Cowasjee, Pamela Cyr, Reva Dexter, Myriam Dinim, Sylvie Epstein, Brooke Fowler, Phillipa Friedland, Debby Freiman, Belinda Gutman, Stefanie Ickert, Arlene James, Dodie Katzenstein, Lise Kirchner, Susan Krug, Uma Kumar, Lucien Lieberman, Ivan Linde, Natalee Mangat, Luke McLeod, Ellen Millman, Cathy Paperny, Helen Heacock Rivers, Gita Silver, Wendi Vaisler, Rina Vizer

OUR APOLOGIES FOR ANY ERRORS OR OMISSIONS

INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

MONDAY, JANUARY 27 • 7 PM

NORMAN & ANNETTE ROTHSTEIN THEATRE
950 WEST 41ST AVENUE, VANCOUVER

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: **LOUISE SORENSEN**,
CHILD SURVIVOR OF THE HOLOCAUST

FOLLOWED BY EXHIBIT OPENING AT VHEC
ANNE FRANK - A HISTORY FOR TODAY

Presented by the VHEC in partnership with the Consul General of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the Norman & Annette Rothstein Theatre, with support from Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver and the Province of BC.

Audience members will receive Holocaust Survivor memoirs generously donated by the Azrieli Foundation.

AN INVITATION TO ALL SURVIVORS OF THE HOLOCAUST

To participate in the memorial candle lighting ceremony at International Holocaust Remembrance Day, please call the VHEC by Friday, January 24, 2014: 604.264.0499

MEET IN THE JCC LOBBY AT 6:45 PM

CHUTZPAH! FESTIVAL

SUNDAY, MARCH 2 • 1:30 PM

VANCOUVER HOLOCAUST EDUCATION CENTRE
50-950 WEST 41S AVENUE, VANCOUVER

HIRSCH: A PANEL DISCUSSION

A discussion about the life and legacy of Hungarian-born director John Hirsch, orphaned in the Holocaust at age 13 who found sanctuary in Winnipeg and went on to become a significant figure in Canadian theatre until his death in 1989. Featuring **Alon Nashman** and **Paul Thompson** (creators of the critically acclaimed play), **David Ehrlich** (local Holocaust survivor and a former roommate and friend of John Hirsch) and **Fraidie Martz** (author of *A Fiery Soul: The Life and Theatrical Times of John Hirsch*).

ADMISSION TO PANEL DISCUSSION BY DONATION.

TICKETS TO PERFORMANCES OF **HIRSCH**, FEBRUARY 25 TO MARCH 1 AT THE FIREHALL ARTS CENTRE:
WWW.CHUTZPAHFESTIVAL.COM/SHOWS/

SAVE THE DATE

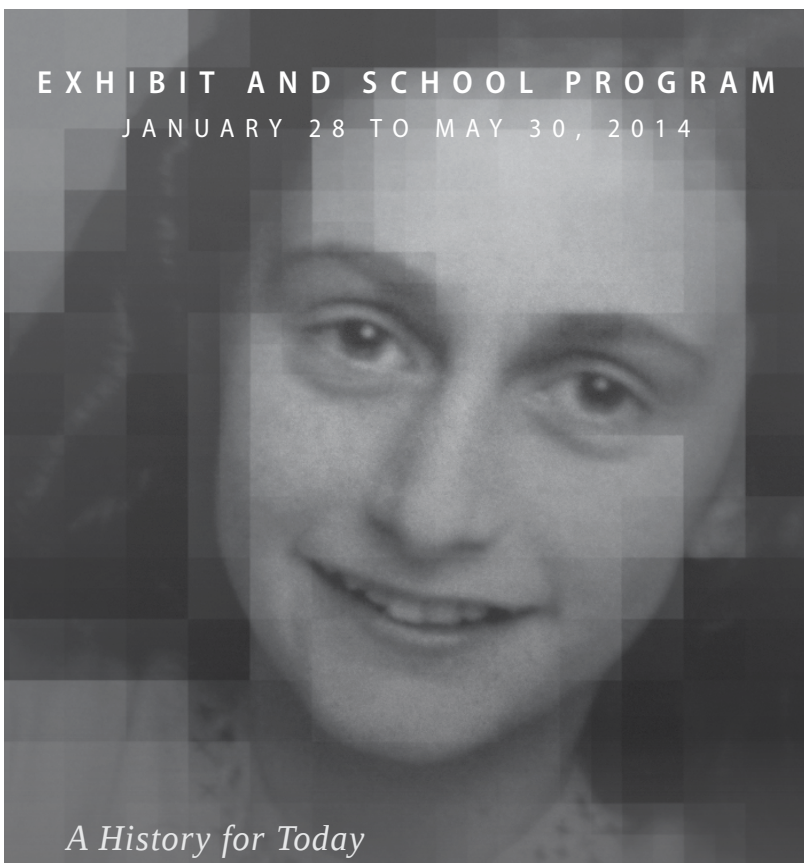
YOM HASHOAH

MONDAY, APRIL 28 • 7 PM

WOSK AUDITORIUM
950 WEST 41ST AVENUE, VANCOUVER

EXHIBIT AND SCHOOL PROGRAM

JANUARY 28 TO MAY 30, 2014



A History for Today

**A N N E
F R A N K**

VANCOUVER HOLOCAUST EDUCATION CENTRE

MONDAY TO THURSDAY • 9-5 PM

FRIDAY • 9-4 PM


SUNDAY OPENINGS • 1-4 PM

FEBRUARY 16

DOCENT-LED TOUR AT 2 PM

MARCH 2

DOCENT-LED TOUR AT 3 PM



*"I honestly believe that the work you are doing
is incredibly important to humanity,
and I admire your courage to share
your experiences with younger generations.*

*Our time spent together has deeply affected me
as a person, and I know that I will carry
that experience with me for the rest of my life.
For that, I am grateful. Thank you, Mr. Waisman."*

~ David, UBC Student

**YOUR GIFT WILL GIVE MORE BC STUDENTS
LIKE DAVID THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN
ABOUT THE HOLOCAUST AND ITS LESSONS.**

PLEASE CALL THE CENTRE TO DONATE TODAY: 604.264.0499. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.



50 – 950 WEST 41ST AVENUE, VANCOUVER, BC V5Z 2N7

