



To Learn

To Feel

To Remember

To Act



Montreal Holocaust
Memorial Centre

Annual Report 2013 - 2014



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President and Executive Director's Report



We are proud to present the Annual Report of the Centre in this special anniversary year. The Montreal Holocaust Memorial Centre marked the 35th anniversary of the Museum opening on September 16, 2014. Throughout its history, the educational and remembrance mandates of the Centre have grown in recognition, outreach and results. The founding members, composed of representatives of the Association of Survivors of Nazi Oppression and young members of the Jewish community, had the foresight to found the first such organisation in Canada, in fact the first historical Holocaust museum in North America.

From these inspiring though humble beginnings, the Centre and the Museum have become renowned for their innovation and outreach in Holocaust and human rights education. Eleven years ago, the new Museum was launched and it now welcomes about 15,000 visitors annually. Classroom visits continue to grow exponentially.

In 2013-2014, a new iPad and Android friendly app and touch screens in the Museum provided creative and contemporary ways of learning for young and old alike and offers means to educate those who cannot visit our Museum.

Over forty educational events reached a broad diversity of Montrealers last year, through film, panel presentations, discussions and exchanges, linking the past and the present, helping participants explore the relevance of the Holocaust for today, working with a variety of communities on contemporary issues. The Centre's Teachers Conference on the use of recorded oral history in the classroom involved 60 teachers in a day of learning, while our pedagogical tools reached thousands more, through presentations at academic conferences and teachers' symposia, workshops and our website and other new media.

The Centre moved forward and secured considerable funding for an ambitious national project, led by the Montreal and Toronto Holocaust Centres, to assure the full digitisation and perpetual preservation as well as the indexing, access and use, of all Canadian collections of survivor testimony. Much of this work will be done with the USC Shoah Foundation, the world leader in this domain. We are confident that in partnership with the Sarah and Chaim Neuberger Holocaust Education Centre in Toronto, we will raise the remaining funds required to complement the Citizenship and Immigration Canada grant received. But well before this project, the MHMC has done ground-breaking work with Montreal collections of testimony. All 761 testimonies are digitised, 80% are summarised and over half are catalogued. Thematic video clips have been developed and 88 are available to the public on YouTube, as well as through a number of educational means. We are assuring that the legacy of individual survivor stories, the human story of the Holocaust, is passed on to generations to come. They will serve the purposes of memory, education and inspiration, in keeping with the impetus of those who painfully recorded them.

The Centre found it important, in 2013-2014, in keeping with its Public Position Policy, to speak out about the Charter of Quebec Values and the proposed legislation restricting the visible display of religious symbols. Our voice found echo in media coverage including a Le Devoir Op-ed, and with other communities and organisations through a series of events in which we sensitised the public on this issue.

As we reach this 35th anniversary milestone, we wish to acknowledge the remarkable ongoing commitment of Holocaust survivors and volunteers of all ages who have made Holocaust remembrance and education their cause. Their legacy truly reflects the leitmotif of the Centre's work, to inspire the general public To learn, to feel, to remember, to act. Through their own action, they have assured that the public learns about and understands the relevance of the Holocaust and sees their own responsibility to remember and to act on contemporary issues of human rights.



From left to right: Steven Cummings, MHMC Founding President, Susyn Borer, MHMC president 2009 - 2011, Alice Raby, MHMC president 2005 - 2007, Helen Malkin, MHMC president 2013 - 2015, Frank Chalk, MHMC president 1988 - 1990, Miriam Schuster, MHMC president 1996, Sara Tauben, MHMC president 1986 - 1988, 1997, Larry Nachshen, MHMC president 2011 - 2013.

Helen Malkin
President

Alice Herscovitch
Executive Director

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The Museum



Tola Granek, MHMC Founding Member, giving students a tour in the first Commemoration room in the early nineteen eighties.



Since its inception 35 years ago, the Centre has made transmitting the history of the Holocaust its priority. Given this primary mandate, the Museum offer activities adapted to youth and adults, whether individuals or groups. Over 14,800 people visited the Museum this year, 856 of whom discovered it during Montreal Museums Day. They were able to use this open house to ask questions to volunteer guides and meet with Holocaust survivors.

Guided tours remain our greatest outreach tool. In 2013-2014, 242 groups (9,616 people) received a guided tour of the museum. High school students represent 71% of guided visitors, elementary students 18%, adults 11% (CEGEPs, universities, associations, etc.). Groups came from the Montreal region (64%), other regions of Quebec (26%) and from Ontario and elsewhere (10%).



From left to right: Photos 1 & 2: Museum visitors using the new self guiding iPad app and interactive touch-screens; Photo 3: 2014 Montreal Museums Day visitors.



The Museum has taken great leaps forward into the realm of new technology with the creation of a tablet-friendly mobile app for self-guided tours, and the integration of touch screens in the permanent exhibition. Both projects were made possible through a grant from the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications du Québec.

Although the main use of the mobile app is to offer individual visitors a guided tour, it is available online for free, so that anyone can discover our exhibit virtually from around the world. The application offers three themed guided tours to discover the collection through audio commentaries, high resolution pictures of objects and documents and additional excerpts of survivor testimonies. Visitors can choose the general visit "Life Stories of Holocaust survivors", or "Children and Teenagers during the Holocaust", or "Deconstructing Genocide", a visit which focuses on broader human rights issues. In total, over 200 objects and 28 survivor testimonies are accessible through this application.

Touch screens now make it possible for visitors to explore six new interactive timelines and three interactive maps. These devices present the geography and chronology of the events of the Holocaust in a creative and innovative way, deepening visitor knowledge of the subject according to their personal interests and highlight archival photographs and objects from our collection.

242 guided museum tours for 9616 people



To Learn To Feel To Remember To Act

The Collection



1990

Krisha Starker, MHMC director 1983 - 1993, (second from the right) and menorahs from the Montreal Holocaust Memorial Centre's collection on display for the Hanoucca - Fête des lumières exhibit in Nicolet, Qc.



United Talmud Torah student looking at a photo from the MHMC archives during a Jewish Montreal Heritage Week workshop in May 2013.

The Centre holds the largest collection of artefacts and archives on the history of the Holocaust in Canada. It includes more than 11,000 items including 3,000 photographs.

In 2013, acquisitions totaled over 240 documents, most of which are personal items given by Holocaust survivors or their descendants. Among the new acquisitions are objects associated with internment in concentration camps, such as earmuffs worn by Israel Viesel in Auschwitz, Aba Beer's prisoner identification badge and documents related to resistance such as Icek and Mindla Rabinowicz' false papers.

Year after year, the Centre continues to digitize its collections to promote their use and assure conservation. In 2013, thanks in part to the support of the Young Canada Works program and that of our dedicated team of volunteers supervised by the Centre's Curator, over 1,000 objects and documents have been processed. Our collection is now 81% digitized. Document processing has continued, mostly thanks to our volunteers archivists, cataloging close to 900 of the collection's objects.

a collection of 11,077 items, including 3,203 photographs



From left to right: Israel Viesel's earmuffs - donated by Talia Viesel in memory of her husband; Aba Beer's prisoner identification badge - donated by Jeffrey Beer; Icek and Mindla Rabinowicz' fake papers - donated by Daniel Rabinowicz.

Outreach

The Centre responds to many search requests made by researchers or families, in Canada and abroad. To assure that the collection is accessible to a larger public, one third of it is now available online on the Canadian Jewish Heritage Network's website www.cjhn.ca; a site used by over 90,000 people in 2013. New data sheets are made available each month.

The Centre partners with other museums by temporarily offering loans of objects. Max Beer's baby boots have been loaned to the Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21 (Halifax) and 9 objects from our collection will be presented in Winnipeg at the new Canadian Museum for Human Rights when it opens in September 2014.



Max Beer's baby boots on loan at the the Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21 (Halifax)

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April 1, 1984 - Opening lecture of Holocaust Remembrance Month by Dr. Lucjan Dobroszycki. Panel from Left to right: Dr. Eugene Orenstein, Carol-Anne Levine MHMC President 1984 - 1986, Dr. Lucjan Dobroszycki at podium.

The Centre seized opportunities in the past year to publicize and assure use of pedagogical tools for teachers and to offer numerous professional training opportunities in Quebec and Ontario.

The fall 2013 Teacher's Conference, *Telling their Stories: Using Oral Histories in the Classroom*, was a great success, hosting more than sixty teachers and featuring over eight dynamic presenters, including Dr. Steven High, Co-director of Concordia's Centre for Oral History and Digital Storytelling, Kori Street of the USC Shoah Foundation and the Legacy of Hope Foundation on the legacy of residential schools in Canada.

The Centre presented professional development workshops for teachers featuring the MHMC tools at several conferences this year, including the Bronfman Jewish Education Centre conference, LEARN Quebec, as well as l'Association Québécoise pour l'enseignement en univers social (AQEUS). The Education Coordinator was the Holocaust Educator in Residence at the 2013 Holocaust Education Week in Toronto, presenting at four events for teachers, academics, and the general public. Additionally, reaching teachers through various



Sections of our pedagogical tools downloaded 21, 420 times

media-related means was a central component of the MHMC's educational outreach this year. To honour Canada's 2013-2014 chairmanship of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance, the Centre- in partnership with Citizenship and Immigration Canada and the National Film Board – produced an educational webinar for teachers on how to teach about the Holocaust. The webinar has been made available for thousands of teachers across the country via the NFB website.

The Centre works in partnership with the CEETUM (Centre d'études ethniques des universités de Montréal). Along with leading Canadian academics and global Holocaust education experts, in October 2013, the Centre presented its pedagogical approach with teachers at an international conference held in Montreal. A compendium of conference presentations will be published by the CEETUM in late 2014. The Centre will contribute to the development of a guide to compensate for the limited nature of curricula materials in Quebec textbooks about the Holocaust.

Pedagogical Tools:

Many projects destined for a 2014 fall release were "in-development" this year, including a backgrounder on antisemitism in Canada during the Holocaust, and a teacher's listening guide to the Centre's Kristallnacht video. The Centre convened and worked on the development of video clips featuring Holocaust survivor testimony for classroom use with a focus group composed of teachers in winter 2014. This partnership will culminate in the production and distribution of thematically-based testimony clips for use in conjunction with our existing pedagogical tools for teachers and as a means of testing how to best use recorded survivor testimony.



From top to bottom: Keynote address for the teachers' conference given by Dr. Steven High, October 30, 2013; Teachers' conference workshop; NFB Webinar February 4 2014, for the International Day of Remembrance of the Holocaust, from left to right: Julie Guinard, Museum & Collection Coordinator MHMC, Jacqueline Celemencki, Education coordinator MHMC and Line Dubé and Annie Frenette, Montreal teachers, finalists for the CIC award for Excellence in Teaching about the Holocaust.

Events



5,970 participants at over 40 events

From April 2013 to March 2014, the Montreal Holocaust Memorial Centre sensitized and informed the public about the Holocaust and the respect for diversity through a variety of programs. 40 events organized by the Centre allowed us to reach almost 6,000 people. A few highlights from our very successful annual programming include:



In honour of the International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of the Holocaust on January 27th, the MHMC screened the Quebec premiere of the Academy Award winner for Best Short Documentary *The Lady in Number 6*. The film, followed by a discussion with Director Malcolm Clarke, Dr. Henry Greenspan and Holocaust Survivors Ted Bolgar, Rena Schondorf and Jean Kutscher, brought together 174 participants.



The 2013 edition of the Holocaust Education Series explored the theme of resistance and reached 1,504 people through 15 events held at venues across Montreal. The Series opened with the official launch of the new Azrieli Foundation survivor memoirs and short films, attracting over 350 people. Francesco Lotoro presented his life's work, uncovering and researching the music composed in concentration camps, at the Casa d'Italia, inspiring a diverse audience with beautiful music. Events such as the discussion *From the Pink Triangle to the Rainbow Flag* with AGIR – Action LGBTQ avec immigrantEs et réfugiéEs and the Toronto Holocaust Education Centre at the Centre St-Pierre also showcased the strength of our partnerships and our promotion of rapprochement between communities.



over 43 articles in printed media covering the Centre's programs

Media Relations

The Centre was regularly solicited by the media to respond to current day issues, and our events illustrating the links between the Holocaust and current human rights issues were also widely covered by local and national media through articles, columns, television and radio.



In just this past year, the continued commitment of Holocaust survivors and their testimonies, the richness and unique national value of our collection and Centre events, were reported by the press in over 43 articles. The Centre's position on the Quebec Government's proposed Charter of Values gathered remarkable media interest.

From top to bottom, left to right: Renata Zajdman at the Survivor Memoires Book Fair - August 2013; *No Place on Earth* event panel during the 2013 Holocaust Education Series; *Charlotte Delbo: résistante et femme de lettres* event at Librairie Olivieri during the 2013 Holocaust Education Series; *Pologne aller-retour* event during the 2013 Holocaust Education Series; Klezmer event closing the 2013 Holocaust Education Series; Panel discussion during book launch for Myra Giberovitch's *Recovering from Genocidal Trauma* - April 2014; Panel discussion on secularism at Librairie Olivieri - March 2014; Francesco Lotoro in concert at the survivor tribute event in honour of the MHMC's 35th anniversary.



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Centre is 'a warning to the living'

By LAWRENCE SABBATH
Special to The Gazette
"We are not carrying on a vendetta with history. We are recording it with the aid of stories by survivors who were witnesses to the Holocaust. There is no time limit on man's inhumanity to man and no date on which we should tell people 'Now you can forget what happened.'"
—Steven Cherniack, 57-year-old chairman of the committee of the Montreal Holocaust Memorial Centre, opened in 1978, made these comments during a recent discussion.
"The centre, only one of its kind in Canada and one of a handful in North America, is part of Allied Jewish Community Services (AJCS) Centre St. Catherine Rd.) which funds it. In size it's only a fraction of Yad Vashem in Israel which is both a museum and a historical resource.
"Contrary to the impression of people who have not visited the centre, it is not a reconstruction of ovens and rooms. The three small rooms were designed, says Cherniack, "as an educational tool and not to shock viewers. That would have been too scary and might have caused a backlash."
"In modern Jewish history the murder of six million Jews was the most important Jewish event after the destruction of the Temple of Jerusalem in 70 CE. The 70s and 80s were a period in which every Jew was a victim, though not every victim was a Jew. You are not a purely Jewish phenomenon and we have to be constantly aware."
"Architecturally, the little space occupied by the centre has been ingeniously reworked by creating a curved pas-



Curator Janet Blatter says the Montreal Holocaust Centre aims to provoke questions.



Marketing

The Centre continued promoting and publicizing its activities via its website this year, reaching 35,234 unique visitors between April 2013 and March 2014, for a total of 54,278 visits. Social networks have also proven to be a significant outreach tool. The MHMC's Facebook page, updated daily, is now followed by 1,165 people, an increase of 200 compared to last year. Traffic on our Twitter account has also seen a significant due to an increase in followers, with 822 people closely following our news. The Centre's YouTube channel was launched in February; 88 videos have since been posted with 2,016 views to date. Our quarterly newsletter is available on our website and distributed by mail and email to over 617 subscribers.

The Centre also renewed the look of its communication tools this year. Emails, newsletters and flyers have received a dynamic make over and now share the same colourful template, promoting the leitmotif of the Centre: To Learn, To Feel, To Remember, To Act



1981 The Montreal Gazette - Janet Blatter, MHMC's first director and curator presents the Centre, its mission and its objectives. 2003 Journal Métro - The Centre's founding survivors come together for the inauguration of the new Museum in 2003 from left to right: Lou Zablow, Aba Beer and Tola Granek. Together they install the urn filled with ashes from Auschwitz in the new commemoration room.

54,278 visits to the Centre's website by 35,234 unique visitors

2003

Quelques 300 survivants de l'Holocauste ont ouvert des médias les portes du nouveau Musée du Centre commémoratif de l'Holocauste à Montréal. On voit ici quelques-uns d'entre eux avec une urne de cendres prélevées au camp de la mort d'Auschwitz, en Pologne, et qui a été rapatriée au Musée. À partir du 30 juin, les visiteurs pourront consulter plus de 6000 objets personnels et plus de 3000 heures de témoignages audiovisuels qui composent l'exposition. Montréal regroupe la troisième plus grande communauté de survivants de l'Holocauste au monde, et ce Musée sur l'Holocauste est le premier du genre au Canada.

Highlights from this year's media coverage. Clockwise: Le Devoir - The Centre's public position on bill 60; The Montreal Gazette - Feature of the Museum's new app for self guided visits; Facebook followers; The Montreal Gazette - Coverage of the Centre's premiere of *The Lady in Number 6* on January 27, 2014; La Presse - Coverage of Francesco Lotoro's presentation at Concordia University; Canadian Jewish News - Launch of the new theme of the interactive genocide exhibit; Twitter stats.

TWEETS
1,095

PHOTOS/VIDEOS
54

FOLLOWING
491

FOLLOWERS
819

FAVORITES
3

LA PRESSE MONTREAL - Coverage of Francesco Lotoro's presentation at Concordia University

LA PRESSE MONTREAL - Coverage of the Centre's premiere of *The Lady in Number 6* on January 27, 2014

LE DEVOIR - The Centre's public position on bill 60

THE MONTREAL GAZETTE - Feature of the Museum's new app for self guided visits

THE MONTREAL GAZETTE - Coverage of the Centre's premiere of *The Lady in Number 6* on January 27, 2014

CANADIAN JEWISH NEWS - Launch of the new theme of the interactive genocide exhibit

FACEBOOK - 1,165 followers

YOUTUBE - 88 videos, 2,016 views

NEWSLETTER - 617 subscribers

LE DEVOIR. LES SAMEDI 16 ET DIMANCHE
IDÉES

LE PROJET DE LOI 60
Une chartre qui accentuera les pré

Le Centre commémoratif de l'Holocauste à Montréal explique s

App keeps Holocaust stories alive

software deepens museum exhibitions

ADAM KOVAC SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

near, the Holocaust fades more

'Music saved my life'

MONTREAL-MADE Oscar-nominated short documentary tells touching tale of 110-year-old Holocaust survivor Alice Herz-Sommer

BILL BROWNSTEIN GETS A LIFE

her entire life. But she is beyond those matters."

Alice Clarke: "And it's just mind-boggling that she makes no big deal out of going for walks with Kafka — who would not be funny stories — or sit on the knee of Mahler."

But this doc is more than a few talking heads. Production values are impeccable, and Clarke has masterfully created interview footage with a rich classical soundtrack and related images. Unlike most Holocaust films, there is little in the way of arty graphic material — in keeping with the tone set by Herz-Sommer.

"Oddly, I find that the apor

co-ordinator at the museum

1,161 likes

Remembrance



Sara Tauben (MHMC president 1986-1988, 1997) lights the candle with Krisha Starker (MHMC executive director 1983 - 1993) during the Montreal Holocaust Memorial Centre's Yom Hashoah commemoration ceremony.

Commemorations

For well over 50 years, the Montreal Jewish community has commemorated Yom Hashoah. This commemoration offers an opportunity to remember and pay tribute to those murdered in the Holocaust, to honour the survivors and to consider how we can learn from the Holocaust as we look to the future. The Centre strives to make commemoration of the Holocaust meaningful to all Montrealers.

The commemoration, held on April 27, 2014 at the Tifereth Beth Israel Jerusalem Congregation spoke to the horrific events of 1944 and placed special emphasis on the destruction of Hungarian Jewry, most of whom were deported and murdered in the space of a few months in that year. Six Holocaust survivors shared their stories on the screen and lit a candle in memory of the 6 million murdered Jews. The evening included readings and songs performed both by the Bialik High School choir under Lorna Smith's leadership, as well as a Ladino song by Dr. Sharon Azrieli Perez. The audience, over 1,300 Montrealers, was visibly larger than in previous years and there were many young people and young families.



The Centre also took part in the national Yom Hashoah commemoration on May 15th in the Canadian War Museum in Ottawa. Montreal survivor, Leo Dortort was one of the candle lighters on behalf of the MHMC at the ceremony.

1,974 people attended commemorative events

The Kristallnacht commemoration held on November 10th marked the 75th anniversary of the November pogroms. Foremost Canadian Holocaust scholar, Dr. Doris Bergen from the University of Toronto gave an insightful analysis of Kristallnacht, a short video based on the testimonies of four Kristallnacht survivors was shown and the Bialik High School choir was joined by Sidney Zoltak, for this special service.



Survivor testimonies

Personal stories of the Holocaust, tales of destruction and perseverance, hardship and endurance, loss and rebuilding, help students and adults comprehend the individual and human dimension represented by historical facts. Thus the MHMC continues to offer survivor testimony to schools, despite the rapidly dwindling number of survivors who can speak of their experience. Our 24 speakers, who were either children or young adults during the war, told their stories to almost 300 groups, largely schools, reaching over 11,000 people.



From Top to Bottom: Charlotte Lintzel, Ben Gonshor and Leo Dortort light the candle at the Kristallnacht 2013 ceremony; Sidney Zoltak sings with Bialik High School Choir at the Kristallnacht 2013 ceremony; Joe Fellner and his family light memorial candles during the 2014 Yom Hashoah commemoration.

over 11,000 people listened to a survivor testimony

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Oral History



2000

Sam Goldwasser interviewed by Gerry Singer for the Montreal Holocaust Memorial Centre's Witness to History Program.



Recorded Oral History Collection

The Centre is one of few organisations still recording video testimonies. In 2013-2014, 21 new interviews of Montreal Holocaust survivors were conducted for the Witness to History Program. These are a means to assure that these personal histories will be handed down from generation to generation. New volunteer interviewers were recruited and training was offered to all interviewers to improve interview techniques. The Centre has a collection over 761 video testimonies, by far the largest collection in Canada.

In order to increase the visibility and use of our oral history collection, we have started uploading information on our recorded testimonies to the Canadian Jewish Heritage Network, a site that brings together the databases and digitized archival material of the Canadian Jewish Congress Charities Committee National Archives, the Jewish Public Library, the MHMC and other Jewish institutions.

Great strides have been made in developing expertise in video editing and improving public access to survivor oral histories. To reach a wider audience, the Centre produced more than eighty video clips from the recorded testimonies in our collection, which have all been uploaded to the MHMC YouTube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/user/MuseeHolocausteMtl>). Some of these clips are also included in other major projects, such as the application for iPad and Android tablets and the online exhibit *United Against Genocide* (<http://genocide.mhmc.ca/en/>). Others can be accessed through the Centre's quarterly newsletter and pedagogical tools. The Centre has also created clips to mark international days and major events in the history of the Holocaust, such as International Women's Day or the German occupation of Hungary (March 19, 1944) which are made available through Facebook and Twitter.

over 80 testimony clips now available for public education on the MHMC's You Tube Channel



Jean Kutscher (left) and Anny Levy (right) speak with visitors for Montreal Museums Day on May 25, 2014.

In memory of those who participated in the Centre's Witness to History program, who passed away in the last year (From left to Right): Paul Bard, Aba Beer (MHMC Founding member), Barry Davis, Sonia Falda, Dora Fleising, Tola Granek (MHMC Founding Member), Michael Opatowski, Chana Scharf, Freda Schipper, Irene Steg, Ruth Steiner, Annamarie (Anka) Voticky, Renata Skotnicka Zajdman.

To Learn To Feel To Remember To Act

Human Rights



links between past and present are at the heart of the Centre's Human Rights program

Young people asking questions during the Human Rights Committee event of the 2011 Holocaust Education Series on refugee rights, *Seeking Refuge*.



The story of the Holocaust casts a shadow on the world today, all the while giving us a way to better understand many contemporary issues. These links between past and present are at the heart of the Centre's Human Rights program.



For many of its events, the Centre has benefited from the extraordinary contribution of the Human Rights Committee. This group of young adult volunteers is motivated by issues of social justice and human rights, and is committed to these issues in part because of the events of the Holocaust. Themes explored by the Committee include the persecution of sexual minorities in the Third Reich and today, the promotion of hatred and the rise of right wing movements in Europe, and the impact of the residential school system on Aboriginal peoples in Canada. These projects provide the Centre with valuable opportunities to develop partnerships with organizations such as AGIR Montreal and Wapikoni Mobile, and student groups such as the McGill Human Rights Working Group and the Muslim Law Student Association.



The Centre hosted the exhibit *100 years of loss - The Residential School System in Canada* produced by the Legacy of Hope Foundation. It deals with the devastating impact of residential schools on First Nations communities, and the healing and reconciliation initiatives taken today. The Centre also launched the second theme of its genocide exhibit module: *United Against Genocide: Understand, Question, Prevent* and a new associated website (www.genocide.mhmc.ca) developed in partnership with the Armenian, Cambodian and Rwandan communities of Montreal. The exhibit explores issues raised by the pursuit of justice.



Finally, the Centre contributed to the public debate surrounding the "Charter of Values" presented by the Quebec government in the fall of 2013. After presenting a critical analysis of the impact of this initiative in an open letter published in *Le Devoir* and interviews in several media outlets, the Centre filed a brief as part of public consultations on Bill 60. In addition, the Centre worked with several partners to create two public education events on the issues related to respect for religious freedom and diversity at Temple Emanuel and at Librairie Oliveiri. Both panel discussions addressed issues of secularism and the rights of religious minorities.



From top to bottom, left to right: *From the Pink Triangle to the Rainbow Flag* event during the 2013 Holocaust Education series; Louis-Philippe Jannard, (MHMC Human Rights coordinator) and Richard Kistabish from the Legacy of Hope Foundation present the launch of the *100 years of loss - The Residential School System in Canada* exhibit - April 2014; Visitors to the *100 years of loss - The Residential School System in Canada* exhibit - April 2014; Ghislain Shema Ndayisaba (Page Rwanda), Cornélia Strickler (MHMC Project Manager) and Nadine Giramata (Page Rwanda) at the launch of the genocide exhibit's new theme; Father and son discover *United Against Genocide: Understand, Question, Prevent* the MHMC's interactive genocide exhibit

Volunteers



2003

2003 - Group photo of Museum guides.



over 180 volunteers of all ages
13 to 93 years old

The Montreal Holocaust Memorial Centre was established 35 years ago, thanks to the efforts of a group of volunteers, survivors and young members of the Jewish community, in order to create a permanent memorial and assure a historical legacy to the six million men, women and children who were killed during the Holocaust. Today, in a constantly changing world, it takes many people to accomplish our educational and commemorative mission. Our devoted volunteers provide hands-on visitor services, conduct tours, give testimonies to groups and record survivor testimony for posterity. They work behind the scenes in the Centre's many committees and assure the perpetual preservation and the documentation of our artefacts, archives and survivor testimonies. They curate videos for educational use. Others assume leadership positions on the Board of Directors and as committee chairs, or are involved in the ever important work of fundraising and friend-raising.

We extend our sincere gratitude to the many volunteers whose dedication and service are vital to the Centre's success. With their help, we are able to educate, to inspire reflection on contemporary moral questions, and to bring the history of the Holocaust and assure its relevance to tens of thousands of people every year in Montreal, across the country, and around the world. Thank you.

We invite all to take a glimpse at the Centre's history and the accomplishments of volunteers and staff together over the last 35 years at: <https://www.youtube.com/user/MuseeHolocausteMtl>

International Partnerships

The Centre created new partnerships and consolidated existing ones during the past year. In Canada's Chairmanship year of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA), the Centre's Executive Director served as the Chair of the Education Working Group, an active group of over 50 international experts and government officials working on Holocaust Education. Current issues addressed by IHRA include antisemitism and Holocaust denial, the development and sharing of expertise on teacher training, pedagogical programs and tools, social media use in Holocaust education, and teaching about the Holocaust and the Roma and other genocides.

The Centre is currently working with the USHMM on a teacher training program for Quebec teachers and with the USC Shoah Foundation to further preserve and assure accessibility to our collection of video testimonies. We continue to partner with several other Montreal communities affected by genocide, with schools and universities across the province and with organizations of the Jewish and Montreal communities to develop innovative programs and events.



From top to bottom, left to right: Larry Nachshen, Immediate Past President, awards Veronica Crespo, member of the Human Rights Committee for her outstanding volunteer contribution; Julie Guinard, MHMC Museum and Collection coordinator, (Centre) presents the new Museum self guided visit app to some of the Centre's members: Hermann Gruenwald (left) and Guillaume Dufour, MHMC Board Member (right); Hanna Eliashiv, MHMC Board Member and Kristallnacht committee president, awards Dina Steinbruch, Museum Guide since 2001.

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Thank you to our supporters



To all our generous donors who help us educate people of all ages and backgrounds about the Holocaust and the universal perils of antisemitism, racism, hate and indifference, we thank you.



1986
Benefit Committee. Standing are: Maurice Tietolman; Sara Tauben, MHMC chairman; Steven Cummings, founding chairman; Carole Burke, programming; (seated from left) Eva Tietolman; Doris Wisner, fundraising; Helen Levy; and Laruie Usheroff; public relations.

Holocaust Education Series

Patrons:

Platinum Level:

The Azrieli Foundation
Maureen and Jack, Frieda Dym & Family
Bruce Kent Group - Private Investment Management

Gold Level:

Reitmans
Susan and Joanthan Wener

Silver Level:

Mrs. Susan Aberman and Mr. Louis Dzialowski
The Eva and Hermann Gruenwald Holocaust Education Fund
Riva and Thomas O. Hecht

Bronze Level:

The Mitzi and Mel Dobrin Family Foundation
The Helen Kornreich Charitable Fund
Margaret and Larry Nachshen
The Richter Charitable Foundation
The Mireille & Murray Steinberg Family Foundation
The Blema & Arnold Steinberg Family Foundation
William and Nan Lassner

Artefact Donations:

Jewish Public Library, Talia Viesel, Geneviève Lalonde-Martini, Eva Basch, Greta Matus, Henry Rozenblat, Elaine Kalman-Naves, Daniel Rabinowicz, Jeffrey Beer.

President's Circle - 35th Anniversary

Diamond Level:

Maureen and Jack, Frieda Dym & Family

Platinum Level:

Dorel
Riva and Thomas O. Hecht
Margaret and Larry Nachshen

Gold Level:

Bruce Kent Group - Private Investment Management, Narcissus, Reitmans, RBC Banque Royale, RBC Foundation, TD Bank, SAQ, The Eva and Hermann Gruenwald Holocaust Education Fund, The Mendel Family, Joyce and Marvin Tanner. Claudine and Stephen Bronfman Family Foundation

Members:

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Eszter Andor	Remembrance Coordinator
Jacqueline Celemencki	Education Coordinator
Helena Daniel	Museum Agent & Tours Coordinator
Dianne Fallis	Finance Officer
Julie Guinard	Museum & Collection Coordinator
Alice Herscovitch	Executive Director
Louis-Philippe Jannard	Human Rights Coordinator
Leona Kober	Video Archivist Assistant
Audrey Licop	Communications & Events Coordinator
Catherine Person	Communications & Events Coordinator
Karine Seidman	Assistant to the Executive Director
Cornélia Strickler	Video Archivist
Clemens Wipplinger	Gedenkdiener
Pauline Zoldan	Secretary/Receptionist



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