

# NEVER AGAIN IS NOW

**SUMMER 2025 PROGRAM MENU** 

**Free In-Person and Zoom Seminars for Students and Communities** 







AS ISRAEL RISKED THE LIVES OF ITS SOLDIERS AND CITIZENS on the home front to block Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons, the genocidal nature of extreme Islamic antisemitism was witnessed around the world. Whereas Israel targeted nuclear infrastructure and military sites, Iran targeted civilians with hundreds of ballistic missiles. Twenty-nine Israeli civilians were killed during the Iranian missile strikes, including 95-year-old Holocaust survivor Ivette Shmilovitz.

In the aftermath of the October 7 massacre, Israel has reminded the world — and Jews everywhere — that the words "Never Again" mean something.

All of these authors and Holocaust memory workers are available to speak with your class or group on Zoom, for free. Please email the Holocaust Education Center (HEC) to be connected to any of them.

Please visit our <u>website</u> for a list of our 12 core presentations that are available year-round.



# Film Screening and Talk: The Commandant's Shadow

The Commandant's Shadow follows Hans Jürgen Höss (OBM), the 87-year-old son of Rudolf Höss, as he faces his father's terrible legacy for the first time. His father

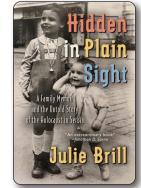


was the camp commandant of Auschwitz and masterminded the murder of over a million Jews; the life of Höss and his family was recently fictionalized in the Academy Award-winning The Zone of Interest. Now, The Commandant's Shadow tells the story of the real people who lived on site at Auschwitz. Directed by Daniela Volker; a Warner Bros. and HBO film; 2024 Yad Vashem Award winner.

# 2 A Family Story and the History of the Holocaust in Serbia

Julie Brill, author of Hidden in Plain Sight,

can share with your class or group how her father survived the Holocaust as a child in German-occupied Belgrade, Yugoslavia. Belgrade was declared Judenfrei, free of Jews, by the spring of 1942. By then, 90% of the capital city's Jews had been murdered by bullets or in mobile gas vans. Julie returned to Serbia with her elderly father on three trips to better understand this story of loss and



resilience. The HEC highly recommends *Hidden in Plain Sight*, which received global media attention this spring.

# The Last Holocaust Survivors: Never Again is Now

This film is a three-part docuseries about the last living Holocaust survivors, in which they pass on their accounts to their grandchildren. Together, they confront the critical question: "Has humanity learned its lesson from the Holocaust?" Following the Holocaust journeys of five families, the film shows how the grandparents are empowered to share



what happened with their grandchildren before it's too late; in turn, the grandchildren begin to make connections to antisemitism today. The series features guest stars like Jonah Platt and Dov Forman. Your school or center can screen the docuseries with a select star Q&A.

Learn more at www.tattletalesproductions.com.

### / A Book By Me

TA BOOK by ME is an intergenerational storytelling project that brings history alive. Students, 18 and younger, are inspired to conduct interviews — in person or via Zoom — then research, write, and illustrate an important story. Since 2003, we've been preserving stories of Holocaust survivors, WWII liberators, and those who hid



Jews. Writing coaches play a crucial role in mentoring participants. Founder Deb Bowen is eager to share how she's developed over 140 biographies direct from the source, complete with matching teaching materials. The writer's guidelines and classroom book sets featuring 10 different titles are available at *understandingworks.org*.

### One in Six Million

One in Six Million by Amy Fish is the incredible true story of Maria, a baby found on the side of a road in Poland in 1942. A Polish couple bravely scooped her up and raised her, but the girl always wondered who she truly was. The book explains how a genealogist from Montreal cracked the case, finding living relatives of the girl (Maria) in Poland. Maria was able to reunite with her family, prove her Jewish identity, and visit Israel. Amy

her Jewish identity, and visit Israel. Amy Fish, in her presentation, will explain how family reunification is still possible today and that we all have a responsibility to bring light into the world.

## Violins of Hope

The HEC is proud to partner with the international project Violins of Hope, for which we have written curriculum materials. Traveling from city to city,



this astonishing set of violins represents dozens of personal accounts from the Holocaust. All of the instruments have been lovingly restored, and the violins are regularly played by students when the Violins of Hope installation comes to town. Some of the violins were used by victims in acts of spiritual resistance, while others were played by inmates on the order of Nazi guards at sites of incarceration. The HEC can deliver a seminar about this remarkable project for your class or group.

### **SURVIVORS:** A Holocaust and Tolerance Teaching Play

Arts for Change presents this powerful one-hour play at schools and community stages. The gifted, young cast enacts the history of the Holocaust through the eyewitness accounts of survivors who immigrated to America. SURVIVORS teaches to never forget the past and encourages all to be upstanders to today's

antisemitism and hatred of marginalized people. Contact us to meet Genie Benson, executive producer, and Wendy Kout, playwright producer, who can help subsidize the performance

fee. SURVIVORS has impacted tens of thousands of students. teachers, and adults in the U.S. and Canada. View the trailer.





RISE the Rock Musical StandWithUs is proud to partner with *Rise! The* Rock Musical, a touring rock musical about women resisters during the Holocaust. You can book a seminar with an HEC educator and the play's creator and producer, Joshua Daniel Hershfield, where your students will view clips from the musical and learn the real-life stories of women who prepared groundwork for revolts in the ghettos by, for example, smuggling arms and messages across Nazi-occupied Poland.

**I Will Protect You Eva Mozes Kor** (1934–2019) was only ten when she arrived with her family in Auschwitz. At the gates, Eva and her twin sister Miriam were separated from their parents and other siblings, never to see them again, and brought to Dr. Mengele's infamous experiment barracks.

During the course of the war, Mengele would experiment on 3,000 twins; only 160 would

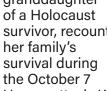
survive — including Eva and Miriam.

Author Danica Davidson recorded Eva's Story in the breathtaking book for fourth grade and up -I Will Protect You. This presentation will discuss major themes in Eva Mozes Kor's experiences. We can arrange a Q&A session with the author upon request.



In the aftermath of October 7, Holocaust historian **Tehila Darmon Malka** began documenting the testimonies of the Gaza envelope communities through Edut 710. Thelia's presentation focuses on the following questions: what is the role of historians in the face of present atrocities? How do we shape the memory of the past for the present and future generations?

From the **Holocaust to** October 7: A **Personal Journey** Adi Gan-El **Chery** from Kibbutz Nahal Oz, granddaughter survivor, recounts





Hamas attack. While her grandmother remained silent about the Holocaust, Adi shares her story of surviving in a shelter with her family while her community lost so many of its members. She carries forward the crucial message of "Never Again."



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