

NM^HIM

New Mexico **Holocaust & Intolerance** Museum



FY 2023-2024 Annual Report

On the cover: Students from La Cueva High School installing *Burque Pride* with Director of Programs Nathan Johnson.

Executive Director's Report

Submitted by Raye Cohen

Moving into the Future

FY 2023-2024 was a pivotal year for the New Mexico Holocaust & Intolerance Museum. We ended the fiscal year in the best financial shape ever! Thanks to the support of quite a few New Mexico state legislators, we kicked off the fiscal year with \$310,000 from junior appropriations. Those funds expired on June 30, 2024; we used every penny to pay for staff salaries and operations that helped us achieve our accomplishments listed below:

- Hired a director of programs and a communications manager
- Kicked off our first speakers' series, *Resistance and Resilience*
- Created a new exhibit, *Witnessing Justice at Nuremberg: Nazi War Crimes Trials Through the Eyes of New Mexicans Dorothy Adams Greene and Lawrence Rhee*, from our own collections
- Offered in-person and online teacher training focusing on *Witnessing Justice at Nuremberg*
- Updated our *Seeds* exhibit to an interactive format called *Seeds: The Human Cost*
- Completed the first traveling exhibit, *400 Years of African American Upstanders*, with plans in place to display it in the South Broadway Cultural Center in Albuquerque and other locations around New Mexico
- Planned our expansion of human rights and social justice teacher training across the state beginning next school year
- Started a fruitful collaboration with APS district social studies coordinator
- Premiered our free teacher resources webpage that includes lesson plans and arts-literacy integrated projects for grades 7-12
- Initiated a collaborative project with Albuquerque's La Cueva High School ethnic studies students to create a museum exhibit on the history of the LGBTQ+ community in the US and New Mexico that opened on June 22



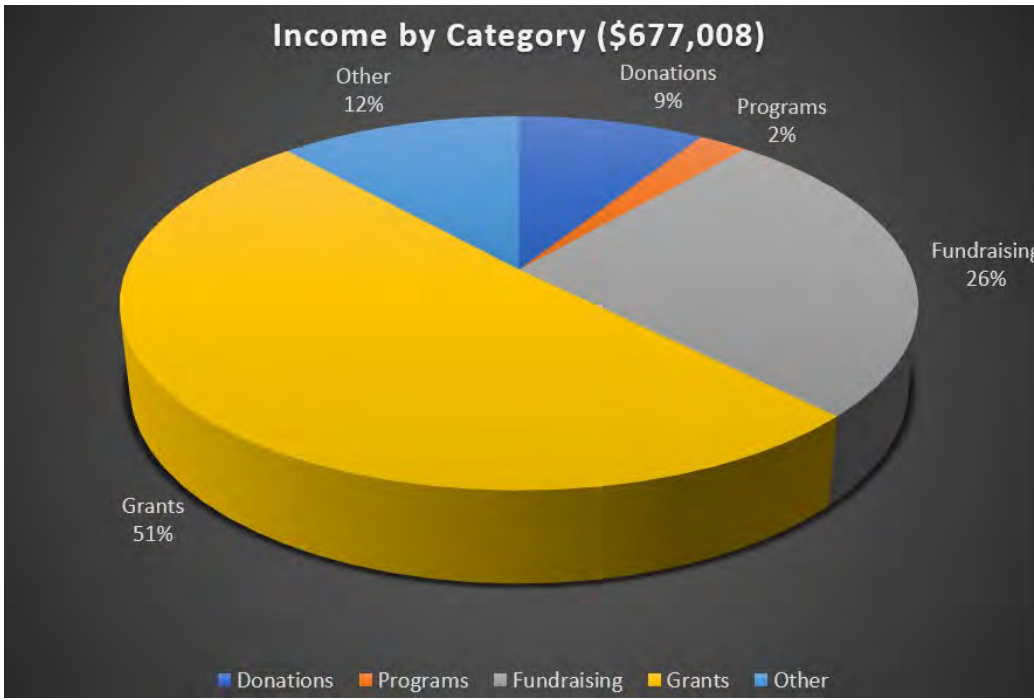
The *400 Years of African American Upstanders* exhibit on display in the South Broadway Cultural Center.

On October 22, 2023, we held our most successful fundraiser to date, adding \$90,600 to our income with an additional \$15,000 received shortly following the event. The total was \$105,600.

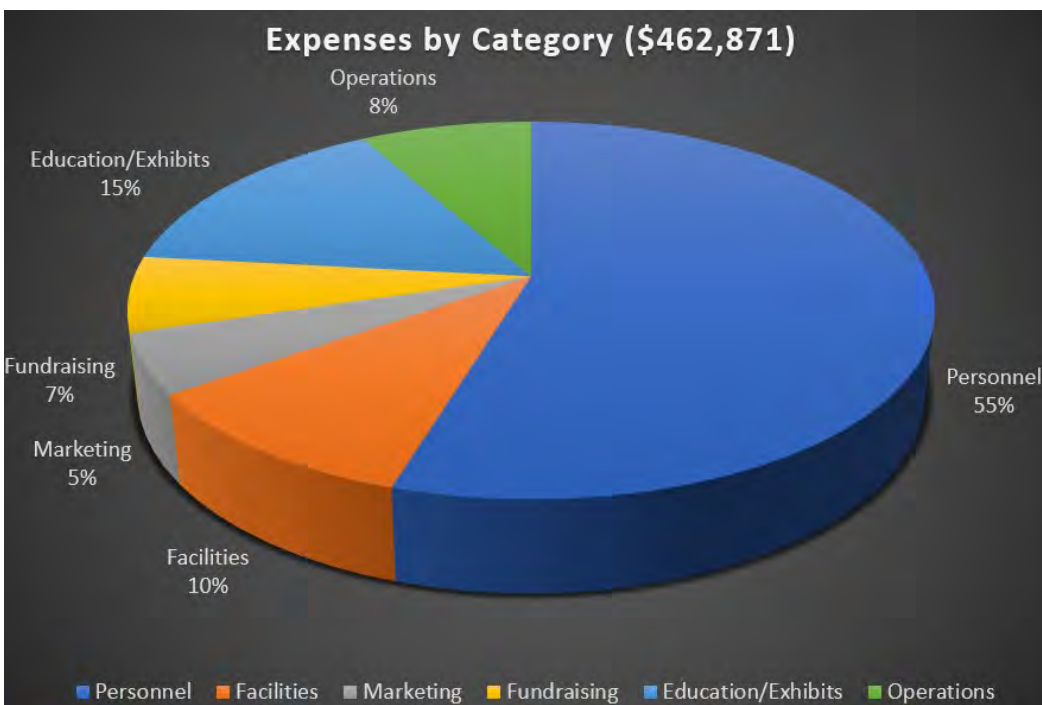
In January 2024, we received capital outlay funds of \$915,250 from the New Mexico legislature. Please note that this amount resides with the City of Albuquerque, our fiscal agent for those funds. There are restrictions on how these funds can be spent.

Though we've had our disappointments in our efforts to find land for a permanent, purpose-built museum, we have located an existing building to lease in the downtown area that is more than adequate for our expanding museum and will satisfy our needs for many years to come. We are hoping to be able to report to you next year at this time that we are happily ensconced in that space.

Financials (unaudited)



Donations: \$60,761
 Programs: \$16,138
 Fundraising: \$177,119
 Grants: \$344,076
 Other: \$78,914



Personnel: \$253,172
 Facilities: \$48,293
 Marketing: \$23,751
 Fundraising: \$30,011
 Education/Exhibits: \$69,810
 Operations: \$37,834

Activities

In October, we hosted the seventh annual fundraising gala. The event was well attended and raised funds for educational endeavors and museum growth.

The *Resistance and Resilience* Speaker Series kicked off in December with an event focused on the history of the Buffalo Soldiers. The series also included successful events in January, February, and April.

The adult education and travel program Road Scholars visited throughout the year, attending special presentations on the museum's collection and learning about our statewide educational outreach.

On May 5, we partnered with Congregation Albert to host a communitywide Yom HaShoah ceremony. Director of Programs Nathan Johnson also gave a presentation about Yom HaShoah and the history of liberators during the Holocaust to around 800 staff members from the Department of Veterans Affairs.

In celebration and commemoration of Juneteenth, museum staff participated in a special event organized by the Black Chamber of Commerce New Mexico. Even though it was an uncomfortably warm day, it was a terrific opportunity to connect with the community and promote the museum and our goals.

Perhaps most exciting is that since last summer, we welcomed four new staff members to our team: Nathan Johnson, director of programs; Mel Sanchez, volunteer coordinator; April Parli, communications manager, and Alexander King, education coordinator.



Rita and Joe Powdrell recipients of the 2023 Upstander Award at the Seventh Annual Gala

Programs



Attendees at the *Angels of Amsterdam* Speaker Series event

We developed a new program called The *Resistance and Resilience* Speaker Series. The four-part series covered topics including the Holocaust, Native/Indigenous Cultural Genocide, Japanese American Exclusion and Incarceration, and Buffalo Soldiers. These themes addressed individual as well as group resistance and resilience. This series was a great success with more than 200 attendees!

The museum began programs on new museum exhibits and started working with organizations such as Veterans Affairs and New Mexico Veterans Memorial Museum, while continuing our work with the Jewish Community Center of Greater Albuquerque.

NMHIM partnered with Veterans Affairs to share a program about liberators and our collections. We also held an event to showcase student involvement in the Mock International Criminal Court.

Visitors

This year we welcomed more than 1,000 general admission visitors into the museum and shared with them the stories contained within our walls. We also received visits from around 1,200 group tour attendees. These groups contained students from summer camps, middle schools, high schools, and university groups.

Each group provided us with a great opportunity to share our message and mission with young people and provide them with knowledge to become upstanders.

Education Outreach

Our education efforts this year focused on educator professional development, lesson plan development, in-school instruction, and school tours.

We hosted and co-hosted several professional development workshops geared to inform teachers on the best ways to teach about the Holocaust, intolerance, and other social issues. The lesson plan development focused on expanding non-Holocaust and New Mexico topics. We visited several high schools to conduct in-class workshops on the *ADL Pyramid of Hate*.

This spring, we partnered with students from La Cueva High School to design and develop an exhibit as part of our arts integrated program. The students created an exhibit on LGBTQ+ history in New Mexico and Albuquerque called “Burque Pride.” This exhibit was the first project Alexander King, education coordinator, worked on. He plans to work with other students to design more educational programs.

We also conducted a one-day arts integrated program focused on photography and the Holocaust for students from Lake Arthur High School.



Tech Leadership High School teachers touring the museum.

Collections and Archives

Submitted by Camelia Caton-Garcia

This has been an extremely productive year for collections at NMHIM. We have seen a stabilization of our collections policies, registration, and cataloging. The collections committee held its first ever retreat leading to a comprehensive review of our collections management policy and the foundations of our registration process. With the [release of our online collections](#), we saw a substantial increase in online searches of the collection and access to archival materials. Throughout the year, our collections committee oversaw the delicate balance of acceptance and resource management with aplomb. Because of their leadership, the museum has been able to actively collect several exceptional collections with confidence.

Facilities received some much-needed attention this year. Remote water sensors have been installed in the exhibit gallery and in storage, giving staff the ability to respond immediately should a leak develop. Our volunteer base is strong. We are proud to say we have two volunteers who have been working in the museum collections for over a year, one for nearly four, as well as consistent interest from new volunteers and students. Collections and programs have also had many fruitful collaborations this past year. Together, we have found new and exciting ways to highlight collections in education, events, and exhibits.

Additionally, collections facilitated the creation and curation of *Witnessing Justice at Nuremberg*, an exhibit based on our very own collections relating to the experiences of New Mexican community members. The exhibit garnered new interest in the museum and reinvigorated our relationships to collections donors and their families. Community trust is the foundation of collection stewardship and this exhibit let NMHIM explore the history of our artifacts, documents, and photographs hand-in-hand with our donors.

Below is a summary of our achievements this year. It is a privilege to care for such a phenomenal collection and I look forward to continuing to find ways to share it more broadly with our staff, volunteers, and our community.

- Accepted six new collections into permanent holdings, including: The Hedy Auerbach Collection, The Peter Grotte Higley Collection, and additions to the Lawrence Rhee Collection
- Entered 260 new records into PastPerfect (bringing totals to 4,792 library records and 799 object, photograph, and archival records)
- Increased online access of our digital collections with over 600 searches
- Deaccessioned non-relevant materials from the permanent collection, freeing up resources for artifacts, photographs, and archival materials
- Launched [Witnessing Justice at Nuremberg: Nazi War Crimes Trials Through the Eyes of New Mexicans Dorothy Adams Greene and Lawrence Rhee](#). Read the *Santa Fe New Mexican* article [here](#)
- Collaborated with programs and education to create lesson plans and curricula related to unique collections, specifically the collections of NM residents and Nuremberg Trials participants Dorothy Adams Greene and Lawrence Rhee



Hedy (Hertha) Bienès Auerbach's Belgium ID registering her as a foreigner. Originally from Frankfurt, Hedy, her twin brother Gunther, and their mother Katharina were living as refugees in Brussels when Nazis occupied Belgium. Katharina, who converted to Judaism when she married Hedy's father, managed to save herself and her twins using ingenuity, subterfuge, and her expired Aryan passport. Their father was turned over to the occupation forces and perished in a deportation to Auschwitz.

(Continued from page 8)

- Increased adult groups programming and collections presentations, including to groups such as Road Scholars, Palo Duro Golden Eagles, CNM DEI executive team, and TOLI
- Partnered with digital exhibit development company IDEUM to enhance exhibits with interactive virtual artifacts
- Updated our NMHIM board orientation to include NMHIM's history of collecting and our accomplishments

Silvian Library & Study Center

Submitted by Sheri Karmioli

February 2024 marked four years having served NMHIM as librarian and keeper of the books. The first two years, which coincided with Covid, were spent labeling every book in the library, as we switched from Dewey to Library of Congress (LOC) classification. Dewey works well in public libraries, but LOC has a much more extensive system better suited for research facilities, which is the goal of our Silvian Library & Study Center.

During my four plus years as volunteer librarian, I have put in an estimated 2,400 hours or more. I isolated in the library when the museum was shuttered during Covid and no one was in the building except me. I spent long hours, three days a week, placing new labels on books and films. During those first two years, I handled every book in the library and got to know the it very well. Obviously I love NMHIM and its Silvian Library.

When visitors to the website look for a book, that search and the results are logged into our Past Perfect cataloguing system. As a result, I am able to see what books visitors are hoping to find and what titles the library might need. Recently, I have been selecting books for the library, mostly newer research studies and translations of diaries and memoirs not previously available. I established a relationship with Yad Vashem in Jerusalem. This museum publishes books not readily available in libraries in the U.S. My goal is to add NMHIM library to WorldCat, at which point our library would become available for online library research. To make NMHIM library a research library, adding titles not easily available elsewhere has become a necessity.

If visitors have books they wish to donate, send an email library@nmholocaustmuseum.org or call the museum (505-247-0606). We are always looking for books. Any donated books that cannot be used, are given to educators and to the ABQ Public Library for book sales. NMHIM is a precious resource in ABQ and NM. Our education program is a valuable resource, as is the museum. I hope all visitors will continue to support NMHIM.

Volunteers

As the museum grows, we are extremely lucky to have a volunteer force that continues to grow with us. This year we welcomed six new volunteers, two of whom are docents. A regular newsletter informs volunteers about events, closures, and special news such as the opening of new exhibits.

We had an increased number of younger volunteers join our team. Several students from UNM and local middle and high schools started volunteering. These students help in a variety of ways and offer us unique backgrounds and perspectives.

Volunteers are critical to our mission, and we can't thank them enough for what they do. We have many volunteer opportunities available, so if you are interested, please apply at: nmholocaustmuseum.org/donate-volunteer/

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