



*Masks still mandatory*

## School field trips to museum are back in vogue

Close to 70 students from Taft Middle School visited the museum on two separate days during April, an exciting and busy month of meaningful educational programs.

At the initial outing, students heard a first-person story from docent Andy Holten who was a hidden child during the Holocaust. They also were treated to a comprehensive museum tour. The second group was told an account by docent Brenda Rabinowitz of her parents who met on a ship while fleeing war-torn Europe. In both narratives, the

families who stayed behind were never seen again.

Teacher Theresa Montgomery prepared students using materials created by museum staff and volunteers plus links to appropriate videos.



## Outreach programs on hiatus

by Raye Cohen, Interim Executive Director/Board President

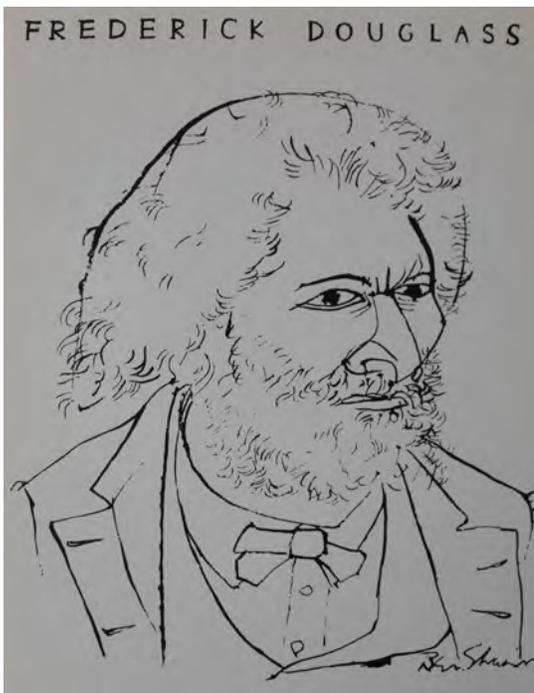
As the school year ends, so do our outreach education programs.

The pilot program for upper elementary students is wrapping up after a late start because of delays in delivering needed books. This literature and art making program was tested in classrooms in

(see Outreach programs take a break, page 4)

# Archives *Alive!*

## Freedom Prints intended to further civil rights



Frederick Douglass, Ben Shahn, date n.d.

This month's feature from the NMHM archives is *The Freedom Prints* (c.1965). This portfolio of nine reproductions of prints was donated by the artists to benefit the Boston, MA chapter of CORE (Congress of Racial Equality).

CORE was founded in 1942 with a mission to further civil rights and social justice. The diverse but Black-led organization was instrumental in the successful direct-action campaigns of the '60s, such as the Freedom Rides and public school segregation protests. The Boston chapter in particular challenged economic and education inequity due to racism in the city and the public schools. CORE's tactics of nonviolent civil disobedience and resistance to the status quo were key to the progress made in desegregation and racial justice during this era. *The Freedom Prints* include works by prominent artists,

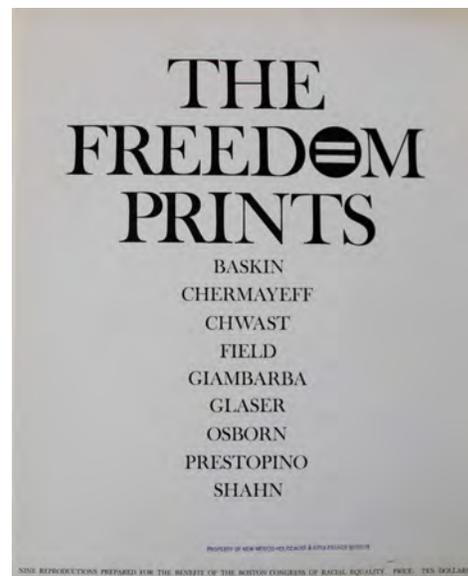
printmakers, graphic designers, and illustrators of the time. Ivan Chermayeff, the creator of the NBC logo, and Leonard Baskin, prominent American artist well known for his figurative Holocaust works, are among the contributors.

This special edition portfolio was offered for \$10 with proceeds benefitting the Boston CORE.



Peace Dove in Black and White, Ivan Chermayeff, c.1960

List of contributing artists



# Yom HaShoah\* commemoration features unique photo exhibit

Local Holocaust survivors participated April 24 in an annual event to commemorate the six million Jews who perished at the hands of the Nazis during the Holocaust. The Yom HaShoah observance in the Jewish Community Center (JCC) also featured an exhibit and film by Hannah Kozak a California filmmaker/photographer. Her documentary,

*My Father's Ghost*, and the accompanying photographs retraced her father's experiences in forced labor camps from 1943 until liberation in 1945. The black and white exhibit, photographed entirely on film, was on display until May 15.

The event marked another collaboration by the museum, the JCC, the Jewish Federation of

New Mexico, and the Jewish Care Program.

\*The first official commemoration of Yom HaShoah occurred in 1951 in Israel eventually becoming law in 1959 when it was designated a national memorial day. Yom HaShoah is observed on the twenty-seventh of Nisan which falls in April or May.



Filmmaker/photographer Hannah Kozak describes her father's journey through forced labor camps, 1943-1945.



Participants in Yom HaShoah included, from left, Raye Cohen, museum director; Andy Holten, survivor and museum docent; Brenda Rabinowitz, museum docent, and Shoshana Dubman, survivor.

## *In Albuquerque*

### Yom HaShoah interfaith events began 43 years ago

A long time ago but not so far away, Yom HaShoah was observed each year in Albuquerque at an ecumenical event.

An editorial in the Albuquerque Journal on April 26, 1987, reports, "Today is Yom Hashoa (sic), Holocaust Remembrance Day. An interfaith service, an annual event in Albuquerque since 1979, is set for 2 p.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church."

Does anyone have memory of these services: how did they get started and when did they stop and anything in between? We are interested in this history. Please call or email Lyn Berner, Director of Administration, (505) 247-0606; lberner@nmholocaustmuseum.org.



Menorah sculpted by local artist Harvey Buchalter

# Outreach programs take a break (continued from page 1)

Albuquerque, Las Cruces, and Bloomfield. Teachers were trained about appropriate Holocaust education for younger students.

We build upstanders through age-appropriate picture and chapter books that tell stories about communities working together to protect their

Jewish residents and individual children meeting challenges of being upstanders in the face of adversity.

This year we purchased class-size picture books, *Hold on to Your Music* and *The Whispering Town*, and the chapter book, *The Children of Willesden Lane: A True Story of Hope and Survival During World War II*. Our intent is to leave the books with the teachers so that they can use them each year as part of an ongoing partnership where we train teachers and supply the resources, materials, and consultation for successful outcomes. We soon will be able to share with you the impact on

students once a final survey is completed.

We are preparing our middle and high school programs

through a collaboration with *Echoes and Reflections*, the premier source for Holocaust educational materials, who will provide lessons and training for New Mexico teachers.

Content will focus on

the Holocaust and other instances of intolerance while acknowledging events that occurred in New Mexico. The arts integration projects that students will undertake next school year range from creating short films and graphic short stories, to other creative writing and will help students make meaning of difficult topics while improving their literacy skills.

After spring break, multiple classes visited the museum for a tour and to hear the stories of our docents, one a hidden child during the Holocaust and the other a second-generation survivor who speaks of what

happened to her family and the impact it had growing up. Teachers report that these encounters have been life-changing experiences for many of their students.

When we ask for your support, it is so we can reach new generations of students with our meaningful programs. We can't do that without you.

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NMHM has some exciting news and it's almost time to share it. The museum is poised to grow. We are working with Gallagher & Associates, an internationally recognized museum planning and design firm. Together, we are envisioning a new, much larger space where we can achieve our goals and dreams to be an education institution relevant to each and every individual in New Mexico. Stay tuned.



Raye Cohen

*The Herald*

~finding its way to you four times a year from staff, board, and volunteers~

## Volunteer spotlight

# Looking at the past sheds light on the present

Marcus Miller-Moore, a steady museum volunteer for more than five months, revealed recently that his education didn't stop with earning a double major UNM degree in history and anthropology.

"I really like helping out with the middle and high school tours. It was during one of those that I learned about the Japanese and Japanese Americans interned in camps right here in New Mexico during World War II."

He added, "I volunteer at the museum because it is a good cause and gives me a chance to do something productive and worthwhile on my day off. An added bonus is that I learn things, too!"

## Is this a good fit for you?

Could you agree with Marcus that the New Mexico Holocaust Museum is a good cause (see Volunteer spotlight, above)? Do you have some spare time to spend with us?

If our mission and vision are in line with your thinking, please consider becoming a volunteer.

Lewis Twite, our programs administrator, will be happy to sign you up. You can apply online at [www.nmholocaustmuseum.org](http://www.nmholocaustmuseum.org) and select About Us, Then Donate/Volunteer or you can call the museum and ask for Lewis: (505) 247-0606.

When not cooking at a Flying Star, Marcus likes to run, work out at the gym, and play video games.

He's an obvious fit for the museum as his way of thinking aligns with our mission. "It's important to have empathy," he stated, "and to accept yourself and others." His particular interest in evolutionary anthropology led him to realize that there are many things we can learn

about ourselves in the present by looking at the past.

Although he was born in Las Cruces, Marcus grew up in New York City. He returned to New

Mexico as a college student at UNM where he will continue his education in the school of law.

Thank you to Marcus and to every one of our volunteers for all of their hard work!



## Our reason for being

The mission of the New Mexico Holocaust Museum is to use lessons and personal stories of the Holocaust and other genocides to educate and inspire communities of upstanders. The museum strives to teach those we serve how to confront hate and bigotry so they can make a difference.

NMHM envisions a world in which individuals respect and stand up for the differences in others. Through the museum's collaborations, both in person at the museum, in schools and community sites, and online, we aspire to be agents of change by encouraging dialogue, building mutual understanding, and taking appropriate actions within our diverse communities to create upstanders.



Every year on April 24  
**International  
Armenian Genocide  
Remembrance Day**

April 24 is a somber national holiday in Armenia. In 1915 more than 200 leaders – religious, political, and intellectual – were arrested and systematically murdered. From 1915 to 1923, 1.5 million Armenians perished at the hands of Turkish nationalists, and over 500,000 were exiled. Together with Assyrians and Greeks, Armenians were persecuted and murdered.

On the occasion of the centenary in 2015, the NMHM presented an updated exhibit, Genocide of Christian Minorities in the Ottoman Empire, which features video testimonials by Greeks, Assyrians, and Armenians.

*The forget-me-not flower became the official logo for the genocide centenary in 2015.*

*Genocide in History*

## Research and development continues for new brochures in museum series

Back in 2011, using a grant from Bernalillo County, we created a reproducible study guide for teachers called *Genocide in History*. It reflected every exhibit in the museum at the time, and brochures were designed for in-house use or to be taken to offsite events. While exhibits have been added and expanded and some even deleted, the information in the brochures is still reliable so we continue to offer them.

Sadly, history provides us with many instances of inhumane treatment by perpetrators of oppression. By expanding our *Genocide in History* series, we can introduce other examples of genocide without needing space for the display of exhibits.

Programs administrator Lewis Twite is the major researcher and writer of the newer brochures which are then created by volunteer graphics designer Rick Bickhart to match the study guide and the brochures he did for us 12 years ago.

The newest handouts are *The Rohingya Genocide*, *A Brief History of Cambodia*, *Japanese American Internment*, and *Yugoslavia: Breakdown and Conflict*. Lewis continues to come up with ideas and, in the sad history of our world, it is doubtful he will run out of them. In addition, Lewis is spearheading and overseeing the translation into Spanish of many museum displays and handouts.

The older brochures include *The Holocaust*, *Greek & Armenian Genocides* (now entitled *Genocide of Christian Minorities in the Ottoman Empire*), *Conflict in Rwanda*, *Changing Destinies of Native Americans*, and the *African American Experience* which covers three topics in three brochures: *Slavery*, *Segregation*, and *Civil Rights*. In between the older and the newer, we added *Propaganda and Hate in America*.

We continue in our quest to educate and encourage upstanders who will confront these acts of intolerance whenever they are witnessed.

*Addressing hate and intolerance by empowering upstanders*



Designed for us by Pennsylvania artist Alex Hannah, the sunflower note cards can be parceled six in a pack to help support Ukraine. Now selling for \$14; half of the proceeds will be sent to a reputable relief agency.

For those who may not be aware, the sunflower (soniashnyk) is the national flower of Ukraine.

### Note cards, masks, and beautiful books

## Now available online and in the museum

We have exclusive note cards which are blank inside for your personal messages. They come in sets of six (Museum and PRIDE, each \$12) with envelopes. In addition, we can bundle sets of cards based on your preference (see sunflower above). These vibrant and unique pieces were all designed by Alex Hannah of Tamaqua, Pennsylvania.

*Where We Once Gathered: Lost Synagogues of Europe* is an exquisite book that contains paintings and text by New York artist Andrea Strongwater. The illustrations depict places of worship that no longer exist because of the Nazis. The book is \$20.

Our cotton masks, which sell for \$15 have pockets so you can insert a filter for an added layer of protection.

Buy online or in museum

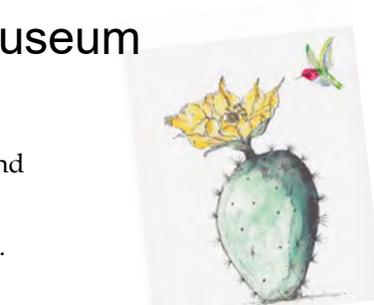
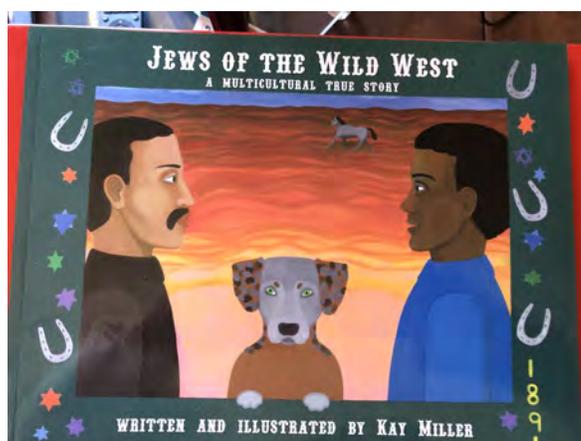
## Jews of the Wild West arrive

A new shipment of the book *Jews of the Wild West* recently arrived at the museum where it is available in the gift shop as well as our online store.

Written and illustrated by New Jersey resident Kay Miller, this multicultural true story is dedicated to the Staabs and Ilfelds of New Mexico. The writer, a retired New York City public school teacher, is a descendent of those families as was Lilo Lang Waxman (1920-2018) who donated the exhibit Hidden Treasures to the museum.

Visit our website to purchase *Jews of the Wild West* and to read more about Hidden Treasures. Or, if you are in the neighborhood, come to the museum to purchase the book and see the hidden treasures.

[www.nmholocaustmuseum.org](http://www.nmholocaustmuseum.org)



Volunteer John Cornish models cotton mask.

(see NMHM gifts now available, page 8)

## Resilience is one theme of YA historical fiction

Telling a story about the Holocaust for a young adult reading level is not an easy feat. A balance has to be struck between including the facts of the Holocaust and doing it in a way that younger readers can comprehend.

*Milkweed*, by Jerry Spinelli, is a haunting story of a young orphan growing up on the streets of Warsaw during World War II.

Over the course of the novel, the young narrator ends up living with the Milgroms, a Jewish family confined in the ghetto. Through the eyes of a young child, the devastating history of the Warsaw ghetto comes to life.

One real-life character we meet is

Janusz Korczak, known as “Doctor Korczak” in the story. Korczak is well known for his dedication to the orphans of Warsaw, and for his refusal to abandon them once the ghetto deportations begin. The narrator describes his famous walk to the trains, remarking that “the orphans were going by. They were marching. Their heads were held high and they were singing the song I had learned.” And of course, “Doctor Korczak led the way” (p. 157).

A theme that will resonate with

young readers is that of resilience and survival. Although conditions in the ghetto are terrible, the young

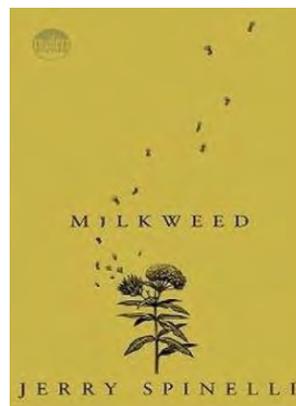
narrator uses his wits and his speed to find food for his family and for Doctor Korczak’s orphans.

Food is not used only for physical survival; in one scene, the narrator searches for pickled eggs to cheer up his friend Janina, who had been listless and depressed.

When he returns to the ghetto with his prize, a hard-boiled egg and a handful of pickle spears, he notes that Janina finally got up and “hugged me. I was surprised she could squeeze so hard” (p. 164). By searching for her favorite food, he is able to restore Janina’s spirit; by the next chapter she “was her old self again, chattering, complaining, shadowing me wherever I went” (p. 166).

Mr. Milgrom, Janina’s father, demonstrates cultural and spiritual resistance when he continues to celebrate Hanukkah, even when his menorah is stolen. He encourages the children to “remember to be happy and proud to be Jews,” and tells them that “we will always survive” (p. 177).

The continuance of this Jewish tradition speaks to the theme of finding humanity even in the most inhumane conditions. Although this novel doesn’t shy away from difficult topics, its repeated messages of hope, resilience, and humanity will resonate with young readers and provide an engaging introduction to Holocaust history.



## NMHM gifts now available in museum and online

(continued from page 7)

