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Regina Turner stepped up to the plate

Many thanks and good wishes to the museum's outgoing board president Regina Turner.

Your patient guidance over the past five years has been most appreciated. When you saw what was missing, you started filling in the blanks.

Your attention to detail and consistent follow through provided

exactly what was needed at a critical time in our history.

Because of your intrepid expertise and spirit, we have entered a new era, the next phase of being a well-respected and professional entity.

The museum staff is grateful for your leadership as we look forward to your successor, Leslie Lawner.

Are you prepared to be an upstander?

by Leslie Lawner, NMHIM board president

Our mission and our vision both contain the word "upstander." As it implies, an upstander is someone who stands up to injustice, mistreatment, and bullying. I believe that upstanding does not come naturally. Often, you are in a situation that is unanticipated. Acting immediately and instinctively is hard. So, you have to be prepared. You have to think about what you would do if you face a bully or hear a racially charged remark. You need to be ready in advance, and your responses have to be automatic. And not just in words. You must feel the injustice, you must feel obligated to step in.

Being an upstander is not only

hard because you have to confront someone and many of us shy from confrontation. Upstanding can be dangerous. So how you respond has to be carefully curated so that you address the situation without escalating it.

Education is key. As a middle school teacher, I worked with my students so that they would be upstanders. We studied the Holocaust in great detail, and we read stories about upstanders, bystanders, and perpetrators. We discussed those stories and wondered why people chose to act the way they did and wondered what we would do in those situations. We came up with ways

(see Are you prepared, page 8)

New Mexico
Holocaust & Intolerance
Museum
Open Wednesday
through Sunday
11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
(last entry at 3 p.m.)
Location: 616 Central Avenue SW
Albuquerque NM 87102
Mail to: PO Box 1762
Albuquerque NM 87103
Web: nmhim.org

Archives *Alive!*

The Claire Lissance Collection

Items convey multifaceted family story

by Camelia Caton-Garcia

NMHIM is honored to be the caretaker of our newest accession, the Claire Lissance Collection. With materials spanning three centuries and as many continents, this group includes objects, photographs, documents, and ephemera that tell the intertwined stories of the Lissiansky (Lissance) and Faludi families.

NMHIM supporter and future museum speaker Claire Lissance has donated items grounded in the family history



Moses Lissiansky, 1917

of her ancestors on both sides. Claire's paternal grandfather, Moses Lissiansky, was a businessman and shoemaker in Odessa, Ukraine. He moved with his family to Vienna in 1905 in part to escape antisemitic pogroms rampaging through Ukraine at the

time. In the Lissiansky Papers, we find reflections that Moses wrote about his life growing up in a Jewish family in Yelisavetgrad (now Kropyvnytskyi), Ukraine, starting a family in Odessa, developing a shoe manufacturing business, and navigating life as an *émigré* to Austria. These reflections, as well as a series of correspondences, are now part of the collection at NMHIM.

Moses and his four children, all adults by the time Austria fell under the threat of the Nazis, were able to escape Vienna, although few took the same path to safety. Some went to the United States, while others fled first to the UK. Their story of survival touches on the various, often uncertain, ways those escaping antisemitic oppression and violence used to travel out of the frying pan of Nazi occupied Europe.

An impressive character, Moses Lissiansky's world comes to life through his writings as well as photographs and objects—such as his gold-plated fountain pen—that give us a concrete glimpse at a particular man, his family, and his place in a complex and harrowing time in history. Personal items like these ground our work at the museum and are vital to our ability to interpret history, while showing the human side of each story.

On Claire's maternal side was grandfather Heinz Faludi. Faludi was born in Vienna, Austria and graduated from the University of Vienna, founding the Engineering



Heinz Faludi's visa carried aboard the SS *Winnipeg*, 1941

Supply Co. in Budapest, Hungary. A frequent contributor to engineering journals, he also authored a book about economics and politics, *S.O.S. 1933: die Tragödie einer irrsinnigen Generation* [*SOS: The Tragedy of a Deranged Generation*]. A Jewish intellectual, Faludi was targeted by the Nazis and deported to the Saint-Cyprien internment camp in the south of France. From there, he obtained a visa to the

(see Multifaceted family story revealed, page 8)

Board welcomes new members, officers, fiscal year

July 1 marked the beginning of a new fiscal year for the New Mexico Holocaust & Intolerance Museum.

New board members were welcomed and officers were elected. Mim Burhans has joined the group along with John Ramming Chappell. Leslie Lawner and Martina Gutierrez were elected president and vice president while Gloria Taradash and Sheri Karmiol were reelected as secretary and treasurer.

MUSEUM BOARD MEMBERS

A daughter of Holocaust survivors, Mim Burhans was born in a displaced persons camp in Stuttgart, Germany and grew up in Springfield, Massachusetts and Long Island. A graduate of Syracuse University, she



Mim Burhans

Holocaust education legacy announced

Shalom House sale benefits community

Following the sale of the David Specter Shalom House, approximately \$4 million in proceeds will be invested in a variety of organizations within the greater Albuquerque Jewish community including our museum. The funds have been entrusted to the Jewish Community Foundation of New Mexico (JCFNM) which will oversee investments through a combination of direct charitable gifts and permanent endowed funds designed to support communal, educational, cultural, and philanthropic initiatives.

Former board president Regina Turner—following a meeting in May with Sarah Winger, executive director of JCFNM—announced that a Holocaust education endowment fund has been established with an initial \$10,000. A remaining \$40,000 will be permanently invested and part of the annual earnings will be distributed to the museum every year.

“Now that the NMHIM Holocaust Education Endowment Fund is established, I’m thrilled to announce that donors can contribute directly to the fund, helping us continue and expand our vital mission. This is truly exciting news—together, we’re creating a lasting legacy for Holocaust education in New Mexico,” said Regina.

ultimately earned a master’s degree in social work. Prior to joining the board, Mim spent several years as a weekly front desk volunteer in the museum.

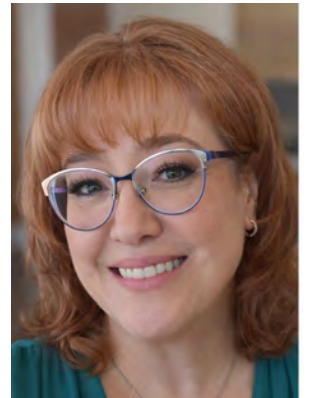


John Ramming Chappell

John Ramming Chappell is a human rights lawyer from Albuquerque. His work has focused on the protection of civilians in US policy around the use of military force and arms transfers.

He has led advocacy campaigns on atrocity prevention in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Ukraine, Sudan, Nigeria, Yemen, Lebanon, maritime Latin America, Iran, and elsewhere.

Martina Gutierrez is a longtime New Mexico educator with a passion for history, civic engagement, and helping others learn from the past. She is honored to serve on the board and looks forward to supporting the museum's educational programs, community partnerships, and mission.



Martina Gutierrez

Most of Sheri Karmiol’s teaching career at UNM centered around the Holocaust, intolerance, and discrimination, as well as the conflict between good and evil.

Since retiring, she served on the museum board off and on since July 1, 2019 and in several positions. What matters most to her is the work she has been



Sheri Karmiol

(see Board welcomes, page 7)

—Corner on Education—

by Alexander King

EXHIBIT DESIGN

Removal and Resilience, our newest exhibit developed in collaboration with Technology Leadership High School in Albuquerque examines the Trail of Tears and the Long Walk, two forced removals that reshaped Native communities and continue to inform their histories today.

The exhibit invites visitors to learn more about the history of forced removal and relocation in the United States and New Mexico. We showcase and honor the resilience of Indigenous communities who survived forced relocation and attempted ethnic cleansing.

Next semester, we're ready to launch a new exhibit design project in partnership with Rio Rancho High School.

We will be partnering with Mr. Brandon Gonzales and his human rights class. Students will work with and be instructed by education coordinator Alexander King to learn how exhibits are developed and built. Then students will use these skills to build an exhibit of their own for display in NMHIM. We are pleased to be empowering young historians in New Mexico.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

NMHIM has also continued its work with professional development for teachers.

On August 4, staffers Lewis Twite and Alexander King led a

seminar at Albuquerque Public School's professional development conference, *APS Rising*.

We instructed teachers on using interpretation in the classroom and how to have students develop exhibits in the classroom.

This was a positive experience working with a wonderful group of APS teachers and we developed some terrific connections.

NMHIM Education is in the process of planning additional professional development opportunities for spring of 2027.

Keep an eye out for announcements if you're interested in attending an NMHIM professional development.

Students hone work skills while serving internships

Education at Work, an organization based in Tempe, Arizona, pairs high school students with a variety of corporations, universities, and non-profits for paid internships.

It was our good fortune to have Kyleigh Begay assigned to us. A 16-year-old incoming sophomore, she moved here recently from Chinle, Navajo Nation.

Over the course of her internship, Kyleigh learned about the Holocaust, explored oral history, and practiced

her research and note-taking skills.

A favorite activity, creating paper collages, was chosen as a medium for her required project. In two months, Kyleigh researched historical topics ranging from the Titanic to the wives of Henry VIII. She also explored the museum's archives and created an art piece about the Kubié family showcasing their incredible collection of family photographs.

Her largest project, a collage over five feet tall, celebrates Navajo culture and the traditions she loves. "I made this because I am proud to be Navajo," Kyleigh writes. "It means everything to me because it is my culture."



Intern Kyleigh Begay stands at the museum windows where her collages are displayed.

Volunteers and interns gain useful experience (and loved it!)



Collections intern Adina Clark

Reflections on collections

by Adina Clark

This summer I had an internship in the museum's collection department under the supervision of Camelia Caton-Garcia. The main work I engaged in was completing condition reports on items in the museum's collection and new items being added to the collection.

Completing a condition report involves carefully looking at an object or piece of art for damage, signs of wear, and anything else that might affect the item's longevity. This is then recorded for future reference and ensures that an item's condition does not worsen over time. To complete a condition report, I used a magnifying glass, a flashlight (for raking light), a measuring tape, and medical examination gloves. When I found cracks, scratches, abrasions, or other notable features I made note of it on the condition report and took a picture of it.

Along with condition reports, I also wrote descriptions of items. Writing descriptions of works of art was sometimes simpler for me than writing them for objects. I found it



Front Desk Volunteers

The museum has been grateful to add several new volunteers to the roster. On Wednesdays, museum visitors were welcomed by two of these new volunteers, Lila Beyal and Alexander Lukes. Both students and Albuquerque natives, Lila and Alexander were drawn to the museum's mission of educating others about the Holocaust and other atrocities. "History repeats itself," Alexander says, a sentiment that Lila echoes when she says "discrimination and prejudice have not been overcome and social change is still necessary."

In addition to their school and volunteer work, both Alexander and Lila enjoy creative pursuits. Lila can often be seen at the front desk creating beautiful artwork, and Alexander has found the time to become a classical pianist. Our museum runs thanks to dedicated volunteers like Lila and Alexander; they are an essential part of bringing our mission to life.

helpful to do research on the object I was trying to describe, meaning I learned about things I never thought I would encounter. Ask me about Royal Vienna Porcelain!

I also helped catalog new items entering the museum's collection. The Claire Lissance Collection is a collection of photographs, papers, and objects that was recently donated to the museum. I cataloged, completed a condition report for, or wrote a description for several items from the collection, including a

fountain pen, bowler hat and hat box, and porcelain cups. The hat box, which belonged to Moses Lissianky, offered a challenge when it came to writing a description. It is a leather box designed to store hats during travel, a piece of luggage not often needed now. I had certainly never seen a hat box like it which also made it a very satisfying object to research. While working with the Claire Lissance Collection I read the autobiography of Moses Lissianky

(see Reflections on collections, page 6)

Unique programs engender friendships

When Regina Turner suggested we forego the grand gala fundraiser for smaller, more intimate gatherings in the museum, who knew what might result? Turns out that the topics—chosen to mirror our museum collections and exhibits—along with the fine food provided by the local restaurants made the fundraisers a draw. Many thanks to those eateries as well as to the individuals and corporations who sponsored the fundraisers with financial support.

The next is scheduled for September 27 when the topic is *Never Again! Stories from Nuremberg*. We will explore, with collections manager Camelia Caton-Garcia, original documents, photographs, and artifacts related to New Mexicans who took part in the trials. Through the personal narratives and materials of Lawrence Rhee and Dorothy Adams Greene, we'll delve into the experiences of those who helped prosecute war crimes and their roles in pursuing global justice, corporate responsibility, and



Collections manager Camelia Caton-Garcia congratulates 2026 Upstander Dr. Richard Hammer during a special fundraiser in his honor

Friendraiser sponsors

Aronson Family Foundation

Beck Total Office Interiors

Chevron U.S.A. Inc.

Goodman Realty Group

Main Bank

WaterBank

Leslie Lawner & Bob Carroll

Dr. Mary V. Pratt

Regina & Bill Turner

Jackie & Michael Wald

rate responsibility, and accountability for crimes against humanity. The Artichoke Cafe will provide the snacks for this one.

Sorry you missed these past fundraisers:

- ❖ *Kurt's Camera Corral: from Vienna to Route 66* (food by Taaj Palace)
- ❖ *Personal Stories of Liberation* (food by M'tucci's Restaurants)
- ❖ **2026 Upstander Dr. Richard Hammer** and *Czech Torah Survives the Holocaust* (food by Slate Street Cafe)
- ❖ *From the Great Black Migration to the Harlem Renaissance* (food by Nexus Blue Smokehouse)

Reflections on collections (continued from page 5)

and letters between him and his children, which are a part of the collection. Reading about his life while taking care of things he had owned made the process of describing, cataloging, and conducting condition reporting even more meaningful and interesting to me.

I owe the opportunity of having had a meaningful and educational internship to the NMHIM staff and board. I learned so much about collections care and management

and about how a museum functions. I am excited to take this knowledge forward with me as I continue on in my education and goal of working in art conservation. Thank you to the NMHIM community for welcoming me this summer!

Footnote: Adina wrapped up her internship and returned to the University of Iowa where her double major is in chemistry and art history

Board welcomes new members, officers, fiscal year

(continued from page 3)

doing in the Silvan Library since 2020, transitioning 4000 books from Dewey Decimal to Library of Congress system. When that chore was completed, she began cataloging the many boxes of donated books which were stacked on every available surface. There are now more than 5000 books in the library.

Leslie Lawner has been working with the museum for over 15 years on the board and the education committee. After 25 years as an attorney in various capacities, she then spent 17 years teaching social studies and language arts at Sidney Gutierrez Middle School in Roswell. She was a teacher trainer for the Olga Lengyel Institute for Holocaust Studies and Human Rights from 2014-2025, facilitating week-long seminars in New Mexico for educators on teaching the Holocaust.



Leslie Lawner

Julie Ornelas moved to New Mexico about 30 years ago to complete her undergraduate social studies secondary education degree with the University of Northern Iowa. She knew New Mexico was home and wanted to start her path as an educator. Julie spent most of her career as a classroom teacher and is currently working at the district office for Albuquerque Public Schools. She continues to travel and seek out new resources



Julie Ornelas

for the teachers and students across New Mexico. Julie's husband, David Ornelas, is also an educator in Albuquerque. They have one son who currently resides in Madison, Wisconsin. Julie is thrilled to be a board member at the New Mexico Holocaust & Intolerance Museum.

No one would dispute that education plays a major role in the life of Dr. Gloria Taradash. The mother of four gifted adults and one highly gifted grandchild, she earned her doctorate in special education with a specialty in gifted. Her career has focused on addressing issues of cultural diversity and the underrepresentation of African American children and families participating in gifted services.



Gloria Taradash

After four years as president, Regina Turner stepped down, proud to have helped guide the museum through challenging times and onto a stronger path. She worked to secure vital funding from the NM Legislature as well as corporate and individual donors. In addition, she launched new initiatives such as our current fundraisers and a new program series for 2026-27 which will kick off in October. In collaboration with the Albuquerque Arts and Culture Department, the museum is now working with the experienced design firm Ideum. For the past several years, Regina also worked closely with arts and culture on another initiative which can hopefully be shared with you in the near future. She is "deeply grateful to have played a part in the museum's renewal and ongoing success."



Regina Turner

APOLOGIES—Pictures and bios not available at deadline for board members Lori Addison and Maggie Hirsch.

Multifaceted family story revealed

(continued from page 2)

United States through American diplomat Hiram Bingham's rescue efforts. This was particularly fortuitous given the very strict US quotas for Jewish refugees that actively prevented many from entering the US at this time. Faludi left Marseille, France in 1941 aboard the storied *SS Winnipeg*, known as the "Ship of Photographers" due to photographers fleeing Nazi persecution who shared this journey.

As you can tell, there is a plethora of stories and insights contained within this incredible collection and this article barely skims the surface. We are still in the early stages of processing this collection and there are many powerful stories of Jewish life and survival represented in its contents.

Our immense thanks to donor Claire Lissance, who has not only given the museum these invaluable objects, but has generously and openly shared with us, through conversations and writings, her knowledge and family expertise. Claire is developing a public presentation about her fascinating family history and we look forward to helping her share these amazing stories more broadly. Interested in finding out more about the Claire Lissance Collection? Get in touch at nmhim-collections@nmhim.org.



The Lissinasky children, from left: Regina, Solomon, Alexander (Claire's father), and Arnold in 1911

Are you prepared to be an upstander?

(continued from front page)

we could stand up to injustice, however we encountered it. The students were readying themselves to make their world better.

That is not only the work of this museum; it is a gift that we have

been given. We have the people, the tools, and the knowledge we need to create a world of upstanders.

I can't think of a better or more fulfilling charge. All of us working together can impact our community and make it a better, more inclusive,

more accepting, and more loving space.

As I start my work, I will have more specific thoughts to share, but for now, focusing on the big picture will help guide our future actions.