



Message From Our Director

Each year during April we solemnly observe Genocide Prevention and Awareness month when we commemorate many of 20th century's genocides: Bosnia and the genocide in Srebrenica, the genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda, the Khmer Rouge's genocide in Cambodia, Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day), and Armenia. The Johannesburg Holocaust & Genocide Centre as a place of Memory, Education, Dialogue and Lessons for Humanity, is engaging our public the whole year around making connections between the past and today's many challenges. Utilising our permanent and travelling exhibitions, educational programmes and workshops, film screenings, webinars, podcasts and more, our dedicated team continues to offer diverse and impactful contributions.

From November 2022 to April 2023, one of our highlights was hosting the

world-renowned exhibition **Seeing Auschwitz**. We were grateful to the creators and curators of this thought-provoking exhibition, Musealia, Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum, UN and UNESCO and immensely thankful to our generous supporters and partners, the Embassies of Germany, Austria, Poland and Israel as well as the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation. Thousands of visitors engaged with the exhibition and its many affiliated events. Hosting Iris Singer (MORAH, Austria), Paul Salmons (curator, UK) and Paweł Sawicki (Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum, Poland) were just some of its highlights.

The JHGC's team was engaged with many schools, universities, educators' workshops, conferences and our flagship youth leadership programme, the Change Makers Programme (CMP). As the Centre's archive and physical collections are growing, we invite you to engage with it through the innovative and popular series [ArchiveFriday](#) featuring objects and stories from the JHGC archive. Watch, read and listen to the Centre's rich offering including [commemorations and webinars](#), [podcast](#) and [publications](#) among the many others available on our [website](#), [YouTube channel](#) and [Spotify](#) as new and impactful content is added all the time. Please also follow us on our social media platforms.

The JHGC is deeply grateful to all our national and international partners from foundations, museums, universities and embassies. We are also immensely thankful to all the generous donors, members, board members, volunteers and friends who are the backbone of the JHGC's critical work.

With our warmest wishes and happy Freedom Day to our South African friends.

Tali Nates
Director

In Person Events and Lectures

Since our last newsletter in October 2022, over 20 in person events have been hosted by the JHGC. Seminars, commemorations, conferences, lectures and exhibition walkabouts have enriched and educated thousands of people. We have hosted incredible local and international guest speakers, film screenings and exhibition openings, presenting on the Holocaust, the 1994 Genocide Against the Tutsi in Rwanda, and genocide in the 20th Century as well as human rights.

A number of commemorations of significant Holocaust and genocide

dates were observed in grateful partnership with our long time partners. These include Kristallnacht (1938 November Pogroms), International Holocaust Remembrance Day, Kwibuka29 among many others.



H.E. Mr Eugene Segore Kayihura, High Commissioner of Rwanda to South Africa addresses the audience at Kwibuka29, the annual commemoration of the 1994 Genocide Against the Tutsi in Rwanda, 13 April 2023.



Holocaust survivors stand together after a candle lighting ceremony at International Holocaust Remembrance Day, 26 January 2023.

L-R: Adi Wander, Lia Stermer, Helen Lieman, Helene Sieff, Irene Klass, Irene Fainman, and Reverend Joseph Matzner



International writer Simon Sebag Montefiore in conversation with Terry Shakinovsky at the JHGC, 22 March 2023.

Online Events and Lectures

In addition to in-person events, the JHGC has continued to host, partner on and contribute to online and hybrid events, lectures, commemoration and series. In this way we have widened the reach of the JHGC to the larger international community, and broadened South African knowledge with international expertise on the Holocaust, genocide and human rights.



80 Years After
Aktion Reinhard
The Industrial Killing of European Jewry

Public on-line series of the mass killings of the 80th anniversary by the Nazi Regime

Prof. Michael Berenbaum • Chris W. Yaron • Prof. James Young • Caroline Sturdy Colls • Dr. Tamir Hod • Omer Bartov • Dr. Edyta Gawron

All the lectures will be broadcasted live via the Internet and recorded. Programs will be in English with simultaneous translation to Polish. Recorded lectures will be available at the Galicia Jewish Museum YouTube channel

Galicia Jewish Museum (Poland) | Johannesburg Holocaust & Genocide Centre (South Africa) | The Ghetto Fighters House (Israel)

GALICIA JEWISH MUSEUM 

JOHANNESBURG HOLOCAUST & GENOCIDE CENTRE 

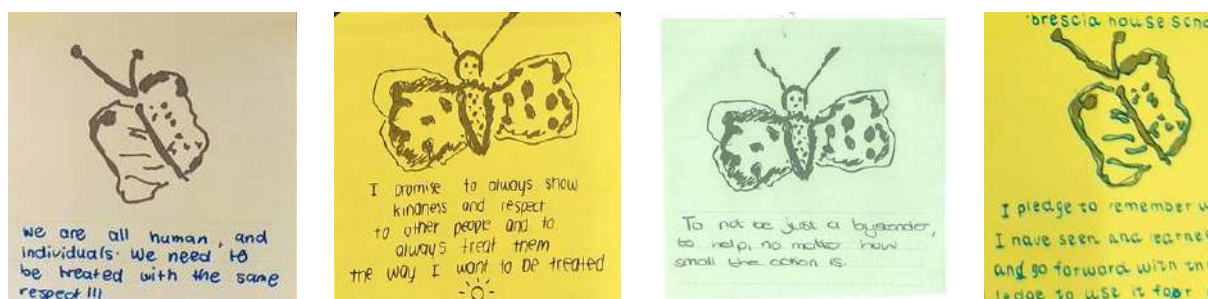
BEIT LOHAMEI HAGHETAOT GHETTO FIGHTERS' HOUSE MUSEUM 

Subscribe To Our Youtube Channel To Watch All Our Webinars

Education

This year started with a wonderful educational commemoration programme on the 27th of January to mark International Holocaust Remembrance Day 2023. In partnership with Education Africa and the United Nations, South Africa, the Johannesburg Holocaust & Genocide Centre hosted 120 grade 9 learners from Masibambane College in Orange Farm. The programme included exhibition guided tours as well as an opportunity to hear a testimony from Holocaust survivor, Irene Klass.

One of the learners reflected on the day, writing: “I learnt a lot about xenophobia and the history of the Holocaust. I also learnt that we need to respect other people’s rights and should all be treated equally.” Another commented: “Anger and conflict blind us. We have to find ways to change the way we think and not let the stupidity of anger blind us.”



The following months were equally busy and fulfilling as we welcomed over 35 different school, university and leadership groups to the Centre. We continued to support our community of learners, educators and JHGC guides through online classrooms, conference presentations, enrichment programmes and educators workshops.

Another highlight of this first quarter was being able work with learner groups in the **Seeing Auschwitz** exhibition which encouraged visitors to look more closely at historical images; equipping learners with critical

thinking skills and encouraging them to connect to the human narrative the Holocaust. The guided tours deepened their knowledge of events, complicated their understanding of the roles of victim and perpetrator and most importantly, reinforced the importance of remembering and honouring the individual victims who were murdered at Auschwitz-Birkenau.

This quote, from a 13 year old learner, describes the power of approaching these difficult topics in a multidirectional way that encourages connection and dialogue:

“Thank you for helping me discover a part of myself I never knew I had. I leave this space a young educated black women who wants to change the world into a better place. More people need to be taught about this because it’s apart of us and not knowing is like not knowing a part of yourself.”



Learners from Masibambane College, Orange Farm, examining objects in the JHGC permanent exhibition.



A grade 9 learner from Kingsmead College, engaging with the **Seeing Auschwitz** exhibition.



High School learners from Lebone II – College of the Royal Bafakeng, travelled from Phokeng in the North West Province, to engage with the **Seeing Auschwitz** exhibition and the JHGC education programme.

[Learn More Here](#)

[Access Our Educator Resources](#)

[Explore One Of Our Virtual Education Tours](#)

Educating Thought Leaders and Educators

In addition to school and university groups, the JHGC has a focus on educating thought leaders and educators. The Change-Makers Programme (CMP), a programme that draws on historical case studies to develop leadership skills, democratic values, and resilience amongst young people in a range of African countries, had a busy few months with two conferences taking place between October 2022 and April 2023. In December 2022, in partnership with University of Leeds (supported by AHRC), the Salzburg Global Seminar and the Contested Histories Institute, delegates from 7 African countries came together at the JHGC to plan the future of CMP, and explore new case studies for each country.

In March 2023, the JHGC in conjunction with Decolonising Peace Education in Africa (DEPA), collaborated with academic partners in the UK (Leeds University) and an NGO in Mozambique (Centro de Estudos de Paz Conflito e Bem Estar, CEPCB), and with input from the Pedagogic University of Maputo (Mozambique) to co-produce a novel approach to the delivery of the CMP by integrating PhotoVoice, Soundscapes and story-telling methodologies. This project culminated in a conference in Mbombela with participants from CMP in Mozambique, UK academics and the JHGC education team.

The JHGC also hosts educator workshops to further teachers' Holocaust and Genocide education and knowledge. In March 2023, we held an educator workshop comprised of two parts, one looking at The Complexity of History and Memories of Auschwitz, led by Paweł Sawicki from the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum. The second part focused on Teaching about Genocide and Propaganda, in which Dr. Nicole Fox,

professor of criminal justice at California State University Sacramento, explored pedagogical tools and strategies for teachers regarding propaganda from several 20th century genocides.

Additionally, the JHGC welcomes adult education groups for tours of the Centre and exhibitions, led by the Centres' volunteers. We are grateful to our long-time volunteer Ronny Silbermann, who gives special interest groups tours of the Centre and exhibitions.



Delegates at the DEPA conference in March 2023 in Mbombela.



Dr Nicole Fox addresses an Educator Workshop at the JHGC in March 2023.



CMP delegates with Judge Richard Goldstone and Noeleen Goldstone at the CMP December 2022 Conference.

[Learn More about Educator Training Here](#)

Learn More about Adult Groups Here

Temporary Exhibitions

From November 2022 to April 2023, the JHGC hosted the world renowned exhibition, **Seeing Auschwitz**. The exhibition was created by Musealia, Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum, the UN, and UNESCO and was held at the JHGC with the generous support of the Embassies of Germany, Austria, Israel, Poland and the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation. **Seeing Auschwitz** focuses on how we “see” Auschwitz, asking viewers to look beyond the intentions of the relatively small number of photographs taken of Auschwitz from an even smaller number of sources that colour our mental image of the camp. Visitors are called on to explore what each photograph reveals, not only of the place and time, but of the photographers themselves. The exhibition saw a record number of visitors to engage with the exhibition in different ways, with walkabouts led by experts, including Paul Salmons, Chief Curator of the exhibition, and Paweł Sawicki from the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum.

Opening this month is the exhibition **Eva’s Story: The Promise** which focuses on the story of Holocaust survivor, Eva Schloss, Anne Frank’s step-sister, her brother Heinz, and his art.



Holocaust survivor, Irene Fainman viewing the **Seeing Auschwitz** exhibition.



Visitors at the opening of **Seeing Auschwitz** at the JHGC.

EVA'S STORY

The Promise

20 April – 20 August 2023

The Johannesburg Holocaust & Genocide Centre invites you to revisit our temporary exhibition *Eva's Story: The Promise*. Explore the story of Holocaust survivor Eva Schloss, her brother Heinz, and his art.



“This exhibition portrays events that tore my family from our home in Austria and filled the world with terror and suffering. It is also a remembrance of my father’s wisdom and zest for life, my mother’s positive outlook and my brother’s artistic gifts, so evident in the paintings and poetry he left behind.”

Eva Schloss, née Geiringer

Contact dowi@jhbholocaust.co.za for bookings and more information



Find Out About Our Exhibitions

Explore Our Online Exhibitions

Podcasts

The JHGC's podcast series has continued to engage various Holocaust, Genocide and Human Rights scholars from various diverse backgrounds strands and countries. In dozens of new podcast, the host, JHGC's Educator Mduduzi Ntuli interviews scholars, youth leaders, filmmakers and more and continues to enhance and deepen our understanding of genocide and its processes. Many short survivor testimonies from the Holocaust and the genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda were also produced. Alongside our popular series' **"In Conversation With..."** and **"Sleepwalking Through the Assault on Democracy"**, listen to the new series on Hate & Bigotry interviewing members of the Consortium on **Bigotry & Hate** that held its annual conference at the JHGC in December 2022. And as we observe genocide awareness month in April, we continue to seek a deeper understanding of genocide, its process and devastating aftermath.

JHGC
in conversation with ...



[Listen To Our SoundCloud](#)

[Listen To Our Spotify](#)

Members Only Events

Our JHGC Annual Membership programme continues to grow and the members enjoy exclusive webinars, walkabouts and special programme learning about art, history and photography. In November 2022 we held a popular members only event, a walkabout of **Seeing Auschwitz** with founder and director of the JHGC, Tali Nates. Members enjoyed her unique knowledge and perspective on the exhibition and Auschwitz itself.

We thank our members for the immense support through your membership contribution of R360 per year and through your presence in our events



Tali Nates leads a members only walkabout of **Seeing Auschwitz**.

[Email Us To Join Our Membership Programme](#)

Archive

The JHGC continues the process of documenting its tangible and intangible archive. The past few months have seen new donations of family collections, unique individual items, and testimonies. We have also been cleaning and evaluating our permanent collection with the help of professionally trained conservators who have kindly volunteered their skills. We have many new archive volunteers who come in weekly to catalogue and digitise the JHGC collection, helping to making it more publicly accessible.

We also continue to explore the collection's interesting artefacts and stories in our popular **ArchiveFriday** series on social media. We invite you start exploring our collection on e-Hive. Please continue to check back as we continue to add more artefact



A volunteer conservator cleaning a trunk belonging to Holocaust survivor Doris Lurie.



Click On The Photos To Watch Part One and Two of our ArchiveFriday on JHGC Auschwitz Survivors.

[Access our E-Hive here](#)

[Follow Us On Instagram](#)

New additions to the JHGC team

Since October 2022 we have been excited to welcome three new additions to the JHGC team:



**Tshegofatso Ramatsetse:
Operations Officer**

Tshegofatso joined the centre in 2023. She holds a BA in Psychology, a BA Honours in Communication Theory and MPhil in Social Policy and Development from the University of Johannesburg. Her previous work experience includes NGOs that specialise in HIV/AIDS programmes.



**Cathy Wilson:
Educational
Facilitator**

Cathy has worked with the education team since 2019, guiding school tours and assisting with workshops. She studied for a BA degree in Politics and a BA Honours degree in Philosophy.



**Vix Appelbaum: Projects
Officer**

Vix joined the centre in 2022. They hold Masters in History of Art from Wits and a Masters in Museum Studies from UCL. They are passionate about museums, collections and archives and how they can be utilised to engage communities and further connection and understanding within society.

All of our activities would not be possible without the generosity of our community. Please consider making a donation.

MAKE YOUR DONATION HERE



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