

# Yom Ha'Shoah V'Hagvurah

Annual Holocaust  
Commemoration

Sunday, April 12, 2026



*in partnership with*



# WELCOME

*Jeff Dannick, Executive Director, Pozez JCC*

*Bob Budoff, JCRC Board President*

*Gubernatorial Welcomes*

The Honorable Abigail Spanberger

The Honorable Wes Moore

**D'VAR TORAH**

*Rabbi David Kalender,*

*Congregation Olam Tikvah,*

*Fairfax, VA*

## **MEMORIAL TO LOST COMMUNITIES**

“Projections of Life: Jewish Life before World War II”

(Steven Spielberg Film and Video Archive, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum)

**Serenade for Violin and Piano** was composed by Robert Dauber in 1942 in

Theresienstadt (Terezin).

Dauber was killed at age 23 on a transport to Auschwitz.



# MUSICAL INTERLUDE

*Cellist John Kaboff accompanied by Pianist Ching-Yi (Kenny) Lin*

**Prayer, from Jewish Life, No. 1**

Ernst Bloch (1880-1959)

John Kaboff, a Washington, D.C.–area resident since 1995, is an accomplished cellist performing as a recitalist, chamber musician, and concerto soloist. He has appeared at major venues including the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, the U.S. Department of State, Strathmore Hall, and Carnegie Hall, with performances praised as “beguilingly lyrical” and in “top form.” Internationally, he has performed across Europe and Australia.

In 2025, he performed Kaddish by Maurice Ravel at the U.S. Department of Justice for the Federal Interagency Holocaust Remembrance Program. His current projects include lecture-recitals on the influence of Johann Sebastian Bach and performances of transcriptions of Ernest Bloch.

A dedicated teacher, his students frequently win competitions. His ensemble, the “Bow Lightlys,” has performed at Carnegie Hall and collaborated with Yo-Yo Ma. He has been recognized by leading artists and featured in major publications.



Originally from Yunlin, Taiwan, Dr. Lin is an internationally active pianist who has performed at leading venues including Merkin Hall, Weill Recital Hall, the Washington National Cathedral, and National Recital Hall in Taipei. Since 2023, he has appeared in prominent series and festivals such as the Benny C. Morgan Concert Series and the Sevenars Summer Festival.

His recent touring highlights include performances honoring Sergei Rachmaninoff’s 150th anniversary, with a 2025–2026 East Coast tour celebrating Maurice Ravel. An award-winning pianist, he has received top prizes in multiple international competitions, including the Texas State International Piano Competition.

Dr. Lin has collaborated with musicians from major orchestras including the Baltimore, National, and Philadelphia orchestras. A dedicated educator, he has taught at the Peabody Institute and currently serves on the faculty of Montgomery College.

# CANDLELIGHTING CEREMONY

*Introduced by Ellen Blalock, Co-Chair, JCRC Holocaust Committee*

## FIRST CANDLE

### *Daniel Tabak*

Daniel Tabak is Professor Emeritus in the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department at George Mason University (GMU), specializing in electronics. He is known for his long-standing tenure, research in computer architecture and active role in the GMU engineering community. He was born in the former Soviet Union, and after surviving the Holocaust, he served in the IDF. He currently lives in Fairfax, VA.

## SECOND CANDLE

### *Semyon Belkin and Valentina Belkina*

Semyon Belkin was born in Saint Petersburg, Russia in 1934. He graduated from the University of Foreign Languages and the Shipbuilding University in Saint Petersburg with a Doctor of Sciences (Engineering). For over 40 years, he worked as a chief designer of fishing vessels. He took part in voyages in the Atlantic, Pacific and Indian oceans and wrote more than 10 books about ships, oceans and sailors. His books can be found in the Library of Congress.

Valentina Belkina was born in Vinnitsa, Ukraine in 1937 and graduated from the Pedagogical University in Saint Petersburg. For over 40 years, she worked as a teacher in the Art Vocational School in Saint Petersburg.

Semyon and Valentina moved to the United States in 2008. Both are Holocaust survivors. They have two daughters, two grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

## THIRD CANDLE

### *Shelli Klein*

Shelli Klein is the current president of The Generations After and lives in Maryland. She recently retired after 30 years as an Educational Assessment Specialist in English Language Arts, and is enjoying her roles as mother and grandmother.



## **FOURTH CANDLE**

### *Edith Kroo Alexander*

Edith (Edie) Kroo Alexander is the daughter of Holocaust survivor Lilly Rubin Kroo. Lilly was born in Czechoslovakia and was imprisoned in the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp by the Nazis when she was 20 years old. Edie's presentation describes her mother's life before, during and after the terrible experience of the camp.

Edie herself earned a Ph.D. from The Ohio State University, worked for the Department of Defense, and retired from the Defense Intelligence Agency. Dr. Alexander is now a grandmother and is thankful every day that her mother refused to die at the hands of the Nazis.

## **FIFTH CANDLE**

### *Jonathan Liss*

Jonathan Liss shares the narrative of his grandmother, Dina Jacobson, who was born in Libuchora, Poland (now Ukraine) in 1922 and taken to Auschwitz during the Holocaust. She was approximately 17 years old when the war started.

Jonathan is a Managing Consultant with Lodgicka serving the largest owners and managers in the United States and globally with data and software optimization. Jonathan received his B.A. in political science and religion from the University of Rochester. Jonathan and his wife and two children live in Gaithersburg, MD. Jonathan and his family are very active members of the Shaare Torah community in Gaithersburg and he will start his term as president of the Shaare Torah Men's club in May.

## **SIXTH CANDLE**

### *Sawsan Hassan, Head of Public Diplomacy, Embassy of Israel to the United States*

The Public Diplomacy Department of the Embassy of Israel seeks to engage community members, educational institutions, organizations and other key constituencies.

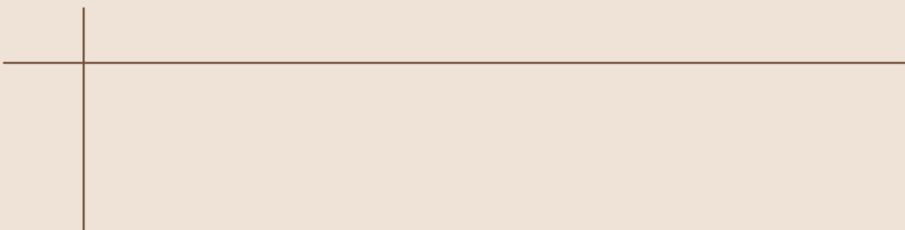
The department helps maintain and enhance relationships with a broad range of communities within the United States by opening channels of communication with the general public and the Jewish world. These channels include culture, academia, politics and social issues.

# ANNUAL RECONFIRMATION OF THE LEGACY OF THE HOLOCAUST

The first World Gathering of Jewish Holocaust Survivors took place in Israel in 1981. Many Holocaust survivors in our local region participated and helped organize a second gathering in Washington, D.C. shortly thereafter. The oaths below were authored and read by Elie Wiesel (ז"ל) at the Kotel. This pledge - and those he wrote for children and grandchildren of Survivors - have become part of our shared Jewish legacy, deeply woven into the rituals of this commemoration and a reminder of our responsibility of *Zachor*, remembrance, throughout the year.

## *Louise Lawrence-Israels recites the Survivors' Pledge*

At six months old, Louise Israëls went into hiding with her family and a friend of her parents. For two-and-a-half years, she lived in an attic, never feeling the sun's rays or the grass under her feet. Sometimes, the only food she had was warm water. But Louise was never afraid because her parents made life as normal as possible for her and her brother: "They never talked about the outside world." On May 5, 1945, Canadian forces liberated Amsterdam. Louise was almost three years old. Louise initially had difficulty adjusting to a world without walls, having never been outside for the duration of the hiding. After the war, the family did not talk about their life in hiding. Shortly thereafter, Louise's father found work in Stockholm, Sweden; the rest of the family joined him during the winter of 1946. The Israëls family moved back to the Netherlands in 1948. Louise earned a degree in physical therapy in the Netherlands, and in 1965 she married Sidney Z. Lawrence, an American medical student in Amsterdam. They moved to the U.S. in 1967. After Sidney retired from the U.S. military in 1994, they settled in Bethesda, Maryland. Louise volunteers at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.



# THE SURVIVORS' PLEDGE

*Survivors are invited to rise if able and recite this pledge:*

## **WE TAKE THIS OATH!**

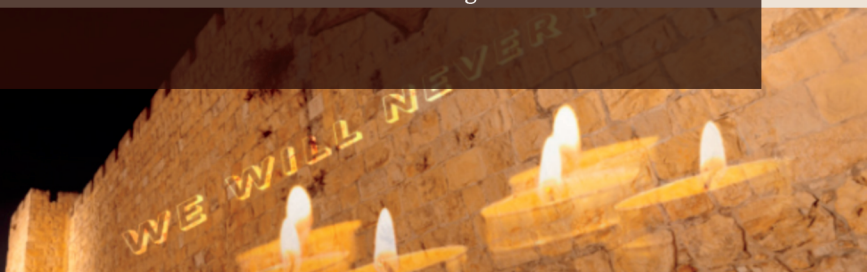
We take it in the shadows of flames, whose tongues scar the soul of our people; we vow in the name of our dead parents and children; we vow with our sadness hidden, our faith renewed; we vow we shall never let the sacred memory of our perished six million brethren be forgotten or erased. We saw them hungry, in fear, we saw them in the loneliness of night, we saw them at the threshold of death, true to their faith. We received their silence in silence, we merged their tears with ours, we are the remaining witnesses: of deportations, executions, mass graves, death camps, mute prayers, hidden souls and cries of revolt. The young, the old, the rich and the poor. The ghetto fighters, the partisans, the scholars and the messianic dreamers, the tradesmen and businessmen, the Chassidim and Misnagdim. Like a cloud we saw them vanish.

## **WE TAKE THIS OATH!**

Vision becomes word, to be handed down from father to son, from mother to daughter,  
handed down from generation to generation.  
Zachor. Remember what the Nazi murderers and their accomplices did to our Jewish people. Remember them with rage and contempt.  
Remember what an indifferent world did to us and to itself. We also must remember the good deeds of the righteous gentiles. In 1981 we took this oath in Israel near the Kotel. There we handed down a legacy to our children in the shadows of the flames of six symbolic candles. Tonight, at this assembly, we reaffirm our oath in the shadows of the flames of these six yearzeit candles honoring the memory of our six million, acheinu b'nai Yisrael, our Jewish brethren.

## **WE TAKE THIS OATH!**

Our memory will become words. Words of history of the Holocaust to be handed down from generation to generation, midor ledor. Unsere K'doshim mir velen eich keinmol nit fargesen.



# PLEDGE OF ACCEPTANCE

*Recited by Michlean Amir*

Michlean Amir is the daughter of two Shoah refugees. Her father was successful in joining the Czech Brigade in the British Army, where he fought against the Nazis for three years in all the big battles. Michlean lost three of her grandparents and many relatives, including a young cousin, in the Shoah. Michlean has been a librarian/archivist and has worked at Jewish institutions, including more than 20 years at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

*All second-generation children of Holocaust survivors are invited to stand as they are able and recite together:*

We, who are your sons and daughters, belong to a generation in which every attempt was made for us to never exist.

We, who represent your victory and your triumph over evil of unthinkable dimensions, accept the responsibility to preserve and protect the legacy of the Holocaust.

**We pledge** to commemorate.

**We pledge** to educate.

**We pledge** to forever remember.

**We pledge** to you, our mothers and fathers, who suffered in ways which words cannot describe, that our commitment is an everlasting commitment

for this generation and for every generation to come.

We dedicate this pledge to our beloved grandmothers and grandfathers, who never lived to see us.

**We pledge to:**

Always remember who we are, where we came from,

and also the traumas our grandparents endured and survived;

Educate people of other ethnic, religious, and cultural groups about our grandparents' experiences;

Commit to use lessons of the Holocaust to support justice, tolerance, peace, kindness, and compassion; and

Accept Survivors' memories and to pass them on to future generations.

# PLEDGE OF CONTINUATION

Accepted by *Kimberly Glassman*

Kimberly Glassman is a member of the education committee for 3GDC and the granddaughter of Holocaust survivors Nissim Menashe of Salonika (Thessaloniki), Greece, and Leon Beck of Blazowa, Poland. Kim is an attorney who represents parents, guardians, and students in special education and school discipline matters, and she also serves as a local PTA President in Montgomery County, Maryland.

*All third-generation children of Holocaust survivors are invited to stand as they are able and recite together:*

We, who are your grandchildren, will carry on the Survivors' legacy to prove to ourselves  
and to others  
that we can carry on your victory, as well as to memorialize those loved ones who  
perished in the Holocaust.

We pledge to:

Always remember who we are, where we came from,  
and also the traumas our grandparents endured and survived;

Educate people of other ethnic, religious, and cultural groups about our grandparents'  
experiences;

Commit to use lessons of the Holocaust to support justice, tolerance, peace, kindness, and  
compassion; and

Accept Survivors' memories and to pass them on to future generations.

# PLEDGE OF REMEMBRANCE

Accepted by *Aviva Singer*, JCRC Student to Student Program Ambassador

Recognizing the rise of antisemitism and other forms of hate across the United States and  
the world, and remembering those who were murdered in the Holocaust.

Believing that the spread of bias and prejudice can be stopped and fought, emphasizing  
that a unique opportunity now exists to reverse this pattern - I pledge to work to fight hate,  
bias, violence, and discrimination.

I commit to using the lessons of the Holocaust to support justice, tolerance, peace,  
kindness, and compassion.

I commit to living a proud Jewish life, in the memory of the Six Million who did not have  
that chance, and to preserve our collective Jewish future.

# EL MALEH RACHAMIM

*Hazzan Adina Ackerman, Shaare Tefila Congregation, Olney, MD*

אל מלא רחמים שוכן במרומים, המצא מנוחה נכונה על כנפי השכינה, במעלות קדושים וטהורים כזוהר הרקיע מזהרים את כל הנשמות של ששת מיליוני היהודים, חלל השואה, שנהרגו שגשגו, שגשגו ושיגשגו על קדושת השם, בידי המרצחים הגרמנים ועוזריהם משאר העמים לכן בעל הרחמים יסיתרם בסתר כנפיי לעולמים, ויצרור בצרור החיים את נשמותיהם, ה' הוא נחלתם, בגן עדן תהא מנוחתם, ויעמדו לגורלם לקץ הימין. ואמר אמן

*El maleh rachamim shochen bameromim, hamtzey menuchah nechonah al kanfey hashechinah, bema'alot kedoshim utehorim kezohar harakiya mazhirim et kol haneshmot shel sheshet milyoneh hayehudim, chalileh ha'Shoah ba'Europa, shenehergu, shenish'chetu, shenisrefu, veshanisfu al kidush haShem, b'yadey hameratzchim hanatzi'im ve'ozrehem.*

*Lachen Ba'al harachamim yastirem b'seter K'nafav le'olamim, v'yitzror bitzror hachayim et nishmotehem.*

*'Adonai hu nachalatam, b'Gan Eden t'hey menuchatam, vey'a'mdu legoralam l'ketz hayamim, v'nomar amen.*

God full of mercy Who dwells high, grant proper rest under the wings of the Divine Presence, in the great heights of the holy and pure who, like the brilliance of the heavens, shine to all the souls of the six million Jews slain in the European Holocaust who were killed, and slaughtered, and burned, and destroyed in sanctification of God's name, at the hands of the Nazi murderers and their assistants.

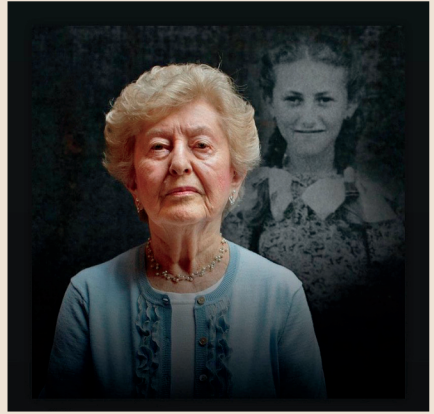
Therefore may the God of mercy shelter them in the shelter of God's wings for eternity, and bind their souls in the bond of life. The Almighty is their inheritance; may the Garden of Eden be their resting place and may they stand for their destiny in the end of days.

**AND LET US SAY, AMEN.**



# KEYNOTE ADDRESS DELIVERED BY IRENE FOGEL WEISS

*Introduced by Dr. Ronald Paul,  
Co-Chair, JCRC Holocaust  
Committee*

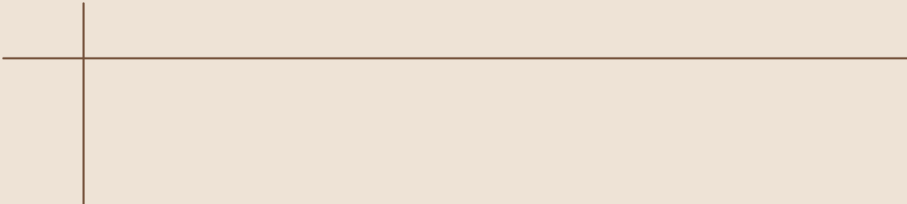


Irene Weiss was born in 1930 in Bótrágy, Czechoslovakia (now Batrad, Ukraine). When Nazi Germany dismantled Czechoslovakia in 1939, her town came under Hungarian rule.

Over a two-month period beginning in May 1944, nearly 425,000 Jews were deported from Hungary to Auschwitz-Birkenau, including Irene and her family. Irene was 13 years old.

After eight months of slave labor in Birkenau, Irene, her older sister, and two aunts were forcibly evacuated on foot from Auschwitz in January 1945 to concentration camps in Germany. In 1947, Irene, her sister and one aunt immigrated to New York.

Irene married Martin Weiss in 1949, and they moved to Northern Virginia in 1953. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Education from American University and taught in Fairfax County Public Schools for 13 years. Martin passed away in January 2013. Irene has three children, six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. A volunteer at the U.S Holocaust Memorial Museum, Irene frequently speaks about her experiences.



# MUSICAL INTERLUDE II

John Kaboff and Ching-Yi (Kenny) Lin

Deux Melodies Hebraiques (1914/1915/1920)

1. **Kaddish** (memorial prayer in Aramaic)

Maurice Ravel (1875-1937)

## MOURNER'S KADISH

Rabbi Jonah Layman, Shaare Tefila Congregation

Yitgadal

יִתְגַּדֵּל

*Auschwitz-Birkenau-Buna, Baranovka, Bergen-Belsen*

V'yitkadash

וְיִתְקַדֵּשׁ

*Belzec, Bialystok, Babi Yar*

Sh'mei raba

שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא

*Bochnia, Bogdanovka, Buchenwald*

B'alma di-v'ra chirutei

בְּעֵלְמָא דִּי בְּרָא כְרַעוּתֵיהּ

*Chelmno, Cracow, Dachau*

V'yamlich malchutei

וְיַמְלִיךְ מַלְכוּתֵיהּ

*Dakovo, Danica, Dora*

B'chayeichon uvyomeichon

בְּחַיֵּיכוֹן וּבְיוֹמֵיכוֹן

*Dumanovka, Ebensee, Edineti, Flossenburg*

Uvchayei d'chol beit yisrael

וּבְחַיֵּי דְכָל בֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל

*Gross-Rosen, Gunskirchen, Gurs*

Ba'agala uvizman kariv

בְּעֵגְלָא וּבְזִמְן קָרִיב

*Herzogenbusch, lasi, Jadovno, Kaiserwald*

V'im'ru: "amen."

וְאָמְרוּ: אָמֵן

Y'hei sh'mei raba m'varach

יְהֵא שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא מְבָרַךְ

L'alam ul'almei almay.

לְעָלָם וּלְעָלְמֵי עֲלְמַיָּא

Yitbarach v'yishtabach <i>Kamenets-Podolskiy, Kishiniev, Kovno, Klooga</i>	יִתְבָּרַךְ וְיִשְׁתַּבַּח
V'yitpa'ar v'yitromam <i>Lodz, Lubin, Lublin, Lvov, Lyons</i>	וְיִתְפָּאֵר וְיִתְרַמֵּם
V'yitnaseh, v'yithadar <i>Majdanek, Mauthausen, Minsk, Natzweiler-Struthof, Neuengamme</i>	וְיִתְנַשֵּׂא וְיִתְהַדָּר
V'yit'aleh v'yit'halal <i>Ohrdruf, Plashov, Papenburg, Ponary</i>	וְיִתְעַלֶּה וְיִתְהַלֵּל
Sh'mei d'kud'sha, b'rich hu <i>Prague, Radom, Ravensbruck, Rehmsdorf, Riga</i>	שְׁמֵה דְקֻדְשָׁא. בְּרִיךְ הוּא
L'eila <i>Sachensburg, Sachsenhausen, San Sabba, Shauliai</i>	לְעֵלָא
Min-kol-birchata v'shirata <i>Skarzysko-Kamienna, Sobibor</i>	מִן כָּל בִּרְכָתָא וְשִׁירָתָא
Tushb'chata v'nechemata <i>Theresienstadt, Transnistria, Treblinka, Vaivara</i>	תִּשְׁבַּחְתָּא וְנַחֲמָתָא
Da'amiran b'alma <i>Vilna, Warsaw, Zemun, Zhitomir</i>	דְאָמִירִין בְּעֵלְמָא
V'im'ru: "amen."	וְאָמְרוּ אָמֵן
Y'hei shlama raba min-sh'maya v'chayim aleinu v'al kol-yisrael,	יְהֵא שְׁלָמָא רַבָּא מִן שְׁמַיָּא וְסַיִים עֲלֵינוּ וְעַל כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל
V'im'ru: "amen."	וְאָמְרוּ אָמֵן
Oseh shalom bimromav, hu ya'aseh shalom aleinu v'al kol-yisrael,	עוֹשֵׂה שְׁלוֹם בְּמִרְוּמָיו הוּא יַעֲשֶׂה שְׁלוֹם עֲלֵינוּ וְעַל כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל
V'imru: "amen."	וְאָמְרוּ אָמֵן

# HYMN OF THE PARTISANS

(Zog Nit Keyn Mol)

*Hazzan Adina Ackerman*

Lyrics by Hirsch Glik, Vilnius Ghetto, 1943 | Music composed by Aleksey Surkov with lyrics later set to the music by Dmitri & Daniel Pokrass

*Zog nit keyn mol az du geyst dem letstn veg, Khotsh himlen blayene farshteln  
bloye teg. Kumen vet nokh undzer oysgebenkte sho - S'vet a poyk ton undzer trot  
- mir zaynen do!*

*Never say this is the final road for you, Though leadened skies may cover over  
days of blue, As the hour that we longed for is so near, Our steps beat out the  
message - we are here!*

*The early morning sun will brighten our day And yesterday with our foe will  
fade away. But if the sun delays and in the east remains, This song as password  
generations must maintain.*

*Therefore, never say the road now ends for you, Though leadened skies may  
cover over days of blue, As the hour that we longed for is so near, Our steps beat  
out the message - we are here!*



# CONCLUDING REMARKS

*Ron Halber, Chief Executive Officer,  
JCRC of Greater Washington*

## HATIKVAH

*Makhayla, Pozez JCC*

Kol od ba'le'vav p'nima  
Nefesh yehudi ho'miyah.  
U'lefa-atei mizrach kadimah,  
Ayim le'Tziyyon tzofiyah.  
Od lo avda tikva-teinu,  
Ha'tikvah bat sh'not al-payim.  
Lih-yot am chofshi b'ar-tzeinu  
Eretz Tziyyon v'Yerushalayim.

כל עוד בלבב פנימה  
נפש יהודי הומיה  
ולפאתי מזרח קדימה  
עין לציון צופיה  
עוד לא אבדה תקוותנו  
התקווה בת שנות אלפים  
להיות עם חפשי בארצנו  
ארץ ציון וירושלים

As long as the Jewish spirit is yearning deep in the heart, with eyes turned toward the East, looking toward Zion, then our hope-the two-thousand-year-old hope-will not be lost: to be a free people in our land, the land of Zion and Jerusalem.



# JCRC HOLOCAUST COMMEMORATION AND YEAR AROUND EDUCATION PROGRAMS

## **DOR L'DOR - CONNECTING OUR YOUTH WITH HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS AND THEIR DESCENDANTS**

JCRC, in collaboration with synagogues throughout Greater Washington, offers intimate opportunities for our Jewish students to hear from and speak with Holocaust survivors and their descendants during the Yom Ha'Shoah period.

## **HOLOCAUST SPEAKERS BUREAU**

Each year, the JCRC arranges for Holocaust survivors and their descendants to speak to over 10,000 students, educators and others at area schools, civic groups, government agencies and houses of worship.

## **MAGGID: GENERATIONS OF THE SHOAH**

As time passes and awareness about the Shoah continues to dwindle, especially among young people, the JCRC's Maggid initiative trains the children of survivors (2Gs) to carry on their parents' legacies by sharing their families' Shoah narratives with new generations of students. Nearly 80 2Gs have completed the program and are speaking all over Greater Washington as part of our Holocaust Speakers Bureau.

## **STUDENT TO STUDENT**

This anti-bias, anti-bigotry program trains Jewish teens to talk about Judaism with their non-Jewish peers, including how to relate the Holocaust and their own families' connections to the Shoah. Student to Student has reached over 4500 students this year.

To arrange any of the above programs for your school, synagogue or community,  
please contact Mandy Book, [mbook@jcouncil.org](mailto:mbook@jcouncil.org).



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## “UNTO EVERY PERSON THERE IS A NAME”

The Chesapeake Bay Region of B'nai B'rith, in conjunction with Yad Vashem-The World Holocaust Remembrance Center in Israel, sponsors “Unto Every Person There is a Name.” This public name reading commemorates children and adults who perished in the Holocaust, restoring some dignity to those who were stripped of their identities and robbed of their lives. Each year at this time we remember the six million individuals lost to the Jewish people by reading as many of their names as possible.

Thanks to Deborah Adler at JSSA for her assistance. Special thanks to our student volunteer readers from Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School, Geshar Jewish Day School, Melvin J. Berman Hebrew Academy and Milton Gottesman Jewish Day School and to the many state and local elected Officials from the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia who also participated.

## THE YELLOW CANDLE PROJECT

Each year the JCRC of Greater Washington and the FJMC International (formerly Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs) partner to distribute special Yom Ha'Shoah yahrtzeit candles throughout our community. We thank Bob Watts for coordinating this project on behalf of FJMC. **Kindly pick up a candle to take home following today's program, and kindle it tomorrow evening, Monday, April 13, after sundown in observance of Yom Ha'Shoah.**



# HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR ORGANIZATIONS

## **HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS - THE LAST GENERATION**

The Holocaust Survivors - The Last Generation is a friendship group of people with similar Holocaust histories as children. The group was formed about 35 years ago when survivors, in general, began to speak of their experiences. It is part of the World Federation of Child Survivors whose Annual Conference is attended by some group members.

## **ONE THOUSAND CHILDREN**

One Thousand Children refers to approximately 1400 children who escaped to the US (1934-45). They came by themselves, unaccompanied, despite hindrance and delay by the US Government, leaving their parents behind in Europe. Most of those parents were ultimately murdered by the Nazis.

**[www.onethousandchildren.yivo.org](http://www.onethousandchildren.yivo.org)**

## **THE GENERATION AFTER**

The Generations After: We are a gathering place for survivors, child survivors, children and grandchildren of the Shoah in the Greater Washington Metropolitan area. Join us for programs on topics of interest, social gatherings, educational projects and social action. We are a multigenerational family that continues the legacy and memory of those impacted by the Shoah.

**[www.genafterdc.com](http://www.genafterdc.com)**

JCRC consults and advocates with state and local legislators and school administrators to ensure robust Holocaust education throughout our school systems, and to advocate on Holocaust-related legislation.

**[www.jrcouncil.org](http://www.jrcouncil.org)**

## **KINDERTRANSPORT ASSOCIATION**

Kindertransport refers to the nearly 10,000 Holocaust Survivor Children who were rescued by the British government, which waived its immigration laws to accept them into the country in 1938/1939.

**[www.kinderstransport.org](http://www.kinderstransport.org)** .

## **3GDC**

As grandchildren of Holocaust survivors, 3GDC constitutes a living memorial that preserves and honors the legacy of our grandparents through education, advocacy and community building.

**Contact AJ Siegel, [engage@3gdc.org](mailto:engage@3gdc.org), or [www.3gdc.org](http://www.3gdc.org).**

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# DONORS

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We thank the following donors who have provided generous support for our 2026 Yom Ha'Shoah Commemoration.

(Inclusive of gifts received as of April 6th, 2026)

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Joyce and Robert Johnson  
Carol and Gary Berman  
Toni and Ronald A. Paul, MD  
Noel Epstein - The Anita Epstein Holocaust Commemoration and Education Fund

## PARTNERS

Ellen and Dan Blalock, in memory of Jeremy Kay  
Meredith Margolis and Gary Goodweather  
Agudas Achim Congregation  
Marilyn and Gary Wind

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Jill and Sam Kastner, In memory of Holocaust survivors Leon and Sonia Kastner  
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The Brill Family  
Marion and Daniel Goldberg

## SUPPORTERS

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Julia Salpeter, in loving memory of my parents Irma and Jenö Illes  
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Shelley and Joseph Brodecki  
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Robert Margolis

# PROGRAM ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

## THE JCRC OF GREATER WASHINGTON

JCRC President Bob Budoff; Chief Executive Officer, Ronald Halber; Chief Operating Officer, Guila Franklin Siegel; Program Associate, Israel and Education Programs, Charlotte Barrios; Assistant Director of Education Programs and Services, Mandy Book; Director of Communications and Marketing, Alan Brody; Director of D.C. Government and Community Relations, Rachel Feinstein; Director of Virginia Government and Community Relations, Vicki Fishman; Office Manager/Program Associate, Nirma Medrano; Director of Maryland Government and Community Relations, Deborah Miller; Tanya Nguyen, Chief Financial Officer; Director; Dr. Stuart Lessans Israel Action Center, Adam Odesser; Director, Intergroup Relations/ Rabbi in Residence, Rabbi Abbi Sharofsky; Director of Operations and Executive Assistant, Lisa Silverman; Director of Education Programs and Services, Sara Winkelman

## HOLOCAUST COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Maryland Holocaust Committee Co-chairs, Albert Bloomfield and Dr. Ronald A. Paul, MD; Northern Virginia Holocaust Committee Co-chairs, Ellen Blalock and Ira Bartfield; Deborah Adler, Susan Banes Harris, Barbara Brenman, Diane Castiglione, Jonina Duker, Sharon Freundel, Judy Frumkin, Dena Hirsh, Louise Lawrence-Israels, Bob Lubran, Manny Mandel, Lisa Mandel-Trupp, Olimpia Nowicka Sulla, Halina Peabody, Barry Perlis, Gary Reiner, Fred Shapiro, Michael Siegel, AJ Siegel, Jacob Tanenbaum, Marsha Tishler, Ayana Touval, Bob Watts, Ilana Weltman, Adam Zimmerman.

## SPECIAL THANK YOU

We gratefully acknowledge our organizational partners for this year's Yom Ha'Shoah Commemoration: Pozez JCC; Congregation Olam Tikvah, Fairfax, VA and Shaare Tefila, Olney, MD.

We thank JSSA, and Deborah Adler, for supporting this commemoration.

Our event today was protected by CSS Volunteers, whom we gratefully acknowledge.

We extend warm appreciation to our JCRC Spring 2026 interns Charlie Keimweiss and Maya Seiler for all their hard work, especially on our Unto Every Person compilation video and our print and slide materials.

Special Thanks To: Dillon Meyer, DFM Media; John Kaboff, Ching-Yi Lin, Makheyah, The Kyle Duarte Company, Frank Kohn.

We extend our sincere thanks to Sharon Freundel and Tobi Bassin, Asher Gendelman and Nikki Korsen, our Maggid: Generations of the Shoah facilitators, whose dedication has strengthened and enhanced our 2Gs' abilities to share personal family narratives and educate the next generation.

Many thanks to The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington (JFGW) for its support of the JCRC.

# SAVE THE DATE

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW** for next year's

Yom Ha'Shoah Commemoration

Sunday, May 2, 2027

2:00 – 3:30 PM

Location TBD in Montgomery County, MD

*Please Remember*

Take home a yellow candle and kindle it tomorrow evening,  
Monday, April 13, after sundown in observance of  
Yom Ha'Shoah.





# jssa HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR PROGRAM

JSSA is the only nonprofit organization in the Washington metropolitan area designated by international funding sources to deliver critical safety net services to the men and women in our community who survived the Holocaust.

JSSA's Holocaust Survivor Program helps 295 vulnerable Holocaust survivors remain independent, safe, and comfortable by providing:

- Ongoing care management
- Homemaker and personal care assistance
- Financial assistance for food, escorted transportation, medications, medical equipment and minor home modifications
- Pro bono dental, eyeglasses, advance care planning, and hearing aid program

Claims Conference money alone has never been sufficient to fully sustain our Holocaust Survivor Program. The Jewish Federation of North America, The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington and a individual donors have generously supported our program since its inception more than 30 years ago. We are grateful for financial contributions that allow us to continue caring for this aging population and help to restore their dignity and pride.

**For more information about JSSA's Holocaust Survivor Program, please visit [JSSA.org](http://JSSA.org).**

## PROGRAM STATISTICS

**JSSA has a 98% success rate keeping survivor clients in their homes and out of institutions**

**Nearly 99% of JSSA's Holocaust survivor clients require moderate or full assistance with activities of daily living**

**94% of our survivor caseload came to the U.S. from the former Soviet Union**

**80% of our caseload is at or below 200% of the federal poverty line**

**Average survivor client age is 89 years old**

**The oldest survivor in our program is 103 years old**