LEGACY NEWSLETTER
THE FLORIDA HOLOCAUST MUSEUM NEWSLETTER | WINTER 2017

FROM THEN...

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS!

...TO NOW

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

3  The FHM receives #1 Museum rating!
5  Thank you for your support in 2016
6  Join us for upcoming events and exhibitions
9  Preserving Survivor Stories through 2nd & 3d Generation
FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Happy Anniversary!

Congratulations to YOU for making this significant milestone a reality for The Florida Holocaust Museum! We are here and able to do the amazing work we do because of your generous continued support through your memberships and your donations. To mark this special occasion, we recently launched our 25th Anniversary website and invite you to share your fondest memories from your visits and involvement with The FHM over the past 25 years at TheFHM.org/25th. As you will see on the following pages, we are celebrating our 25th Anniversary year in style with extraordinary programs and exhibitions.

Our newest exhibition, Matzevot (Gravestones) for Everyday Use continues to get national press even in its final weeks just as a past award-winning exhibition of The FHM, Courage and Compassion: The Legacy of the Bielski Brothers, retakes the stage. You can read more about our spring exhibitions (on p. 7). And stay tuned! We’ll be sharing some very exciting news about our 2017-18 season very shortly!

Meanwhile, we invite you to enjoy some of the FREE events The FHM (and its partners) are bringing to Tampa Bay (see p.6).

Our annual gala fundraiser To Life! featuring David Eisenhower sold out so quickly that our heads are still spinning! We are overwhelmed with gratitude for this amazing show of community support but also understand that many people are disappointed that they won’t be able to celebrate with us on February 25th at the Vinoy. We are disappointed too – we would love to celebrate with all of our friends! If you were not able to get a ticket this year, you can still support To Life! by purchasing a Chance Opportunity Ticket online at TheFHM.org/to-life-annual-benefit or by calling 727.820.0100 ext. 251. Each prize package is worth at least $5,000 and there is something for everyone from the opera goer to the sports fanatic!

In sadder news, a few weeks ago, our beloved Eva Gerson passed away. You probably met Eva if you visited the Museum on a Friday because she worked Fridays in the Museum shop from its very beginnings until she grew too ill last year. If you were really lucky, you might have bumped into her by the History, Heritage and Hope wall and she would have pointed out the pictures of her family and told you bits and pieces of her life story.

While a cheerleader for our efforts to film and preserve Survivor testimony, Eva refused to be on-camera herself. It wasn’t until a few years ago that she agreed, at the spur of the moment, to share her story with a group of students whose scheduled speaker had called in sick. It was an emotional experience for everyone. It was hard for her to tell her story but she was so gratified by the response from the students and the letters she received afterwards. “Your story has changed my life” one of the letters began. She continued to speak to students and last year, for the first time and only time, Eva allowed us to film her while she was talking to a student group.

Eva’s story was miraculous, as are all the stories I’ve been privileged to hear from Holocaust Survivors, and I am so glad that we will be able to preserve and share her story for generations to come. That’s the real reason why people become members of The Florida Holocaust Museum. It’s not about free admission, it’s about telling Eva’s story. Thank you for making it possible for us to do so.

Elizabeth Gelman

The Florida Holocaust Museum Leadership Council

Leadership Council

David Barsa, M.D.
Michael D. Bisk
Frantz G. Christensen
Benjamin Diamond
Tony DiBenedetto
Etta Donnell
Ruth Ehreh
Carolyn Ellis, Ph.D.
Judy Genshaft, Ph. D., Honorary
Steve Gersten
Louis Goldfinger* Gary Gould
Bryan Greenberg
William Greenberg, M.D.
Brenda Greenwald
Rochelle Gross
Adam L. Horn
William F. Jeffrey
Mary Johnson, Ph.D.
Randy Meg Kammer
The Hon. Nelly N. Khouzam
Edward Kissi, Ph.D.
Zena Lansky, M.D.
John J. Loftus
Mitchell Lowenstein, M.D.
Catherine McCarthy
Nancy Paikoff
Aakash M. Patel
Joy G. Pollack
Alan Rosh
Mary Anne Reilly
Brendon Rennert
Jack Ross
Marion Samson-Joseph*
Calvin B. Samuel
David Scher
Debbie Seiberl
Jeffrey Shear
Craig Sher
Todd Siegel
Gayle Sierens
Tom Stanton
Bonnie Stein
Robert Stein, M.D.
Linda S. Taggart, M.A.
Howard Teifowitz
Dr. Mary Kay Vona
Mark Wright

*of blessed memory
Our Legacy donors, people just like you, understand that it is imperative that we expand the reach of our resources and our work, and set the moral compass for a new generation.

Help ensure the future of The Florida Holocaust Museum by remembering us in your will, estate plan or as a designated beneficiary. Each gift, big or small, makes a difference. Help us to connect the choices people made in the past to the choices people are faced with today, by using the lessons of the Holocaust to create a better future for all!

To learn more about creating a legacy gift, please contact The FHM’s Director of Development, Maria Johnston at 727-820-0100 x274 or mjohnston@TheFHM.org. If you have already included The FHM in your bequest, please let us know so that we can be sure to include you in our Legacy of Hope Society.

The Florida Holocaust Museum’s Legacy of Hope Society

Janie & Martin Borell
Debbie & Nat Doliner
Amy & Bruce Epstein
Milton (Mickey) & Deborah Heilweil
Halina & Ed Herman
Maria & Barry Johnston
Joyce Hartman Karpay
Helen Levine & Katee Tully
Walter P. Loebenberg
Merrill & Steven Marx
Sonya Miller
Natarsha Nesbitt
Lois & Peter Pardoll
Toni & John Rinde
Michael Robbins
Amanda Saft
Alfred & Rose Schiff
Elizabeth & Tom Sivak
Barrie M. Smith
Emilie Socash
Joyce Tawil
Renee & Tom Walter
Robin K. Warren
Rachael & Donald Worthington

The FHM Begins 25th Anniversary Year with #1 Museum Rating!

In September, The Florida Holocaust Museum was chosen by USA TODAY as the #1 museum to visit in St. Petersburg - Clearwater! This rating comes at a very exciting time as we are now beginning The FHM’s 25th Anniversary year. Upon visiting many of the wonderful museums in the St. Petersburg-Clearwater area, USA TODAY “10 Best Expert” Michelle da Silva Richmond said, “One of the most impressive is The Florida Holocaust Museum, where that sad chapter in history is reverently honored.”

For the past 25 years, The Museum’s focus has been to tell the story of millions who suffered or died during the Holocaust through the personal testimonies, official documentation, photographs and artifacts of individual narratives.

As we continue to hear news stories regarding the hatred and intolerance throughout our nation and the world, The FHM’s commitment to preventing future genocides by teaching the lessons of the past through testimonies, artifacts, and lessons of the past is more important than ever.

Our Legacy donors, people just like you, understand that it is imperative that we expand the reach of our resources and our work, and set the moral compass for a new generation.

Help ensure the future of The Florida Holocaust Museum by remembering us in your will, estate plan or as a designated beneficiary. Each gift, big or small, makes a difference. Help us to connect the choices people made in the past to the choices people are faced with today, by using the lessons of the Holocaust to create a better future for all!

To learn more about creating a legacy gift, please contact The FHM’s Director of Development, Maria Johnston at 727-820-0100 x274 or mjohnston@TheFHM.org. If you have already included The FHM in your bequest, please let us know so that we can be sure to include you in our Legacy of Hope Society.

The Florida Holocaust Museum’s Legacy of Hope Society

Janie & Martin Borell
Debbie & Nat Doliner
Amy & Bruce Epstein
Milton (Mickey) & Deborah Heilweil
Halina & Ed Herman
Maria & Barry Johnston
Joyce Hartman Karpay
Helen Levine & Katee Tully
Walter P. Loebenberg
Merrill & Steven Marx
Sonya Miller
Natarsha Nesbitt
Lois & Peter Pardoll
Toni & John Rinde
Michael Robbins
Amanda Saft
Alfred & Rose Schiff
Elizabeth & Tom Sivak
Barrie M. Smith
Emilie Socash
Joyce Tawil
Renee & Tom Walter
Robin K. Warren
Rachael & Donald Worthington

Thank you for your support!
NEWS FROM EXHIBITIONS & COLLECTIONS

Artifact Conservation Process

One of our artifacts recently received conservation treatment and stabilization in preparation for an outgoing loan to the Canadian Museum for Human Rights.

Caryatid Conservation Services, Inc. treated the painted Masonite sign from the Segregation Era. The object entered The FHM’s collection in 2015 in a damaged state with a complete break, severe warping, and extensive surface accretions.

The repair involved joining the two fragments with Butvar B-98 and adding a support of toned Japanese tissue to the break-line on the back. Fills were undertaken with a mixture of Klucel G, cellulose powder, Japanese tissue fibers, and powdered pigments. This fill material was adapted from one often used for cellulose-based objects. The flaking paint was consolidated with Lascaux medium. Then the surface was cleaned mechanically and with methyl cellulose and distilled water. Iron corrosion products (from contact with another object) were removed with a scalpel. Aesthetic integration was achieved with acrylic paints.

This artifact is now safe for travel and to be displayed on exhibition!

DONOR SPOTLIGHT

Mel Klinghoffer

Mel Klinghoffer has played a vital role within The Florida Holocaust Museum since inception. In the early 90s, Mel was contacted by the Museum’s Executive Director, Larry Wasser, with the idea to build a new Museum. Once Mel learned that the Museum would be dedicated to honoring the memory of millions of innocent men, women, and children who suffered or died in the Holocaust, he had a discussion with his father and the two of them decided to become involved in a big way. Mel donated a quarter of a million dollars and became The FHM’s second largest donor at the time.

“With the inception of The FHM, children and people of the world who weren’t alive during the Holocaust would now have a way to learn that this genocide actually took place and to recognize that it could happen again. It is our job to give them the tools through education to make sure that future atrocities are prevented,” said Mel.

In 1992, The FHM’s founder, Walter Loebenberg asked Mel to come on board and work with him as a co-founder. When the Museum first began, Mel sat on The FHM’s Board and stayed on for several years. As the Museum started growing, he stepped off the Board and became an Honorary Director.

“There are so many great things about The FHM. It hits you in the heart in such a way that you could never forget it,” said Mel.

Mel has a very personal connection to the Holocaust as his aunt was a Holocaust Survivor, along with his grandparents. Mel was very close with his aunt and grew up hearing her first-hand Holocaust stories his entire life.

“My mother instilled in me the importance of supporting education for children. She believed that it was vitally important to ensure that children throughout the world know the real story and never forget what occurred during the Holocaust,” said Mel.

“The fact that so many children have been educated and that you have children from all over coming to see the Museum is incredible.”

Education is very close to Mel’s heart and in 2001, Mel made another substantial donation to The FHM in his mother’s memory. Mel was honored that year by The FHM at its annual To Life gala for his charitable and professional accomplishments within the Museum.

Throughout the years, Mel has helped to support many Museum events and exhibitions. In 2007, Mel Sponsored The FHM’s Anne Frank: A History for Today exhibition. In addition, Mel supports The FHM’s annual To Life gala every year, maintains a Life Membership to The FHM, and assists with various Museum needs as they arise.

“With what is happening right now in the world, the need for education is tremendous. In addition to educating children, adults also need to be educated and to be made aware that the same thing could happen tomorrow. I support The FHM to ensure all the people that the Museum touches never forget and that they have a voice so that it never happens again.”

Kristen Wright The FHM’s Writer and Digital Content Manager
If you have recently visited The Florida Holocaust Museum on a Saturday, it is possible that you have met Erik Durneika. As a volunteer, Erik’s job is to greet guests, explain the proper use of tour devices, and provide visitors with additional information.

Erik began to volunteer at the Museum in the Summer of 2014. His goal was to earn enough service hours to fulfill the Bright Futures Scholarship requirements, but he expanded his “stay” beyond this original plan. Erik is intent on giving back to the community but also has a strong connection to The FHM’s mission, as his personal philosophy focuses on promoting global tolerance, encouraging respectful dialogue, combating hatred, and preventing future genocides. Erik strongly believes that many instances in history have indicated that international conflicts begin with words. By actively volunteering at the Museum, Erik hopes to spread respect for the world’s diversity one step at a time.

“After 25 years, The Florida Holocaust Museum continues to preserve the truth for future generations. This Museum is a living reminder that those who perished during the Shoah are not forgotten. I hope that my contribution to the community will inspire people to learn more about the past and educate others,” said Erik.

To say Erik is dedicated to The FHM is an understatement. In 2016, he had contributed 280 hours of service, not missing a single assignment. Such excellence makes Erik one of the most productive volunteers on our team. Erik is always willing to help, train, and educate new volunteers. Every September on Free Museum Day, Erik is assigned the task of greeting visitors at the front door and helping to organize and direct the arriving crowd to minimize confusion.

Erik is an All-USA 2015 Coca-Cola Bronze Scholar and the first-place prize winner of the Consular Corps of Tampa 2016 Holocaust Remembrance Essay Contest Scholarship. At age 16, he received his Associate in Arts degree from St. Petersburg College. Currently, Erik attends the University of South Florida, St. Petersburg Honors College and maintains the highest GPA in his class. Erik anticipates graduating in the Spring of 2017 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science. His ultimate goal is to earn an M.D. degree to become a practicing physician.

Next time you visit The FHM on a Saturday, please be sure to stop by and thank Erik for his service!
MUSEUM EVENTS & PROGRAMS

To Life: 25th Anniversary Celebration
February 25, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.
The Vinoy Renaissance Resort & Golf Club
501 5th Ave NE, St. Petersburg, FL 33717
A grand celebration of the Past, Present, and Future of The Florida Holocaust Museum! David Eisenhower will be speaking and accepting a posthumous award on behalf of his grandfather and President Dwight D. Eisenhower. A special event recognition of the role played in liberating the Nazi concentration camps and documenting what was discovered to ensure that the Holocaust could not be denied nor forgotten.
For additional information, please visit www.TheFHM.org/to-life-annual-benefit.
To be added to the waiting list for To Life: The FHM’s 25th Anniversary Gala or for information on upcoming 25th Anniversary programs and events, contact The FHM at 727.820.0100 ext. 249.

“Stopping Genocide by Stopping the War Profiteers” GHRAM Lecture by John Prendergast
March 16, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.
Stetson University College of Law (The Great Hall)
1401 61st Street South, Gulfport, FL 33707
Internationally renowned human rights activist John Prendergast will discuss the first genocide in the
21st century, the Darfur Genocide, which began in 2003 and still continues today. Prendergast is a
best-selling author and the Founding Director of the Enough Project, an initiative to end genocide and
crimes against humanity. He has appeared in the Warner Brothers motion picture The Good Lie, starring
Reese Witherspoon and is a primary subject of a the book A Journey to the Dark Heart of Nameless
Unspeakable Evil by Jane Bussmann. Free and open to the public.
Limited seating! To reserve your seat, please call 727.820.0100 ext. 301.

Pass the Plate: The FHM’s 3rd Annual Spring Cook Off
March 26, 2017 at 2:00 p.m.
The Florida Holocaust Museum
Join us in a celebration of family, history, heritage, and delicious recipes! Featuring a cooking
demonstration and sampling from Michael Twitty, culinary historian, food writer, and Judaic Studies
teacher. Twitty’s work is focused on African-American foodways, culinary traditions of African diaspora,
and African influence on food culture in the American South. And as usual, we invite you to bring a
special family dish handed down through the generations. Those in attendance will have a chance to
sample dishes and vote on their favorites to be awarded prizes! Free and open to the public.
Limited seating and dish display room! To submit your family dish and/or to reserve your seat, please
call 727.820.0100 ext. 301.

Author Tilar J. Mazzeo Speaks at USFSP
March 30, 2017 at 11:00 a.m.
USFSP (Lynn Pippenger Hall)
700 4th Street South, St. Petersburg, FL 33701
New York Times bestselling author Tilar J. Mazzeo’s latest book Irena’s Children tells the incredible true
story of Irena Sendler, who risked her life to save 2,500 children from death and deportation in Nazi-
occupied Poland during World War II.
Sendler’s story will be recounted by author Tilar J. Mazzeo as part of the Debbie and Brent Sembler
The Florida Holocaust Museum Lecture series at USF St. Petersburg. Free and open to the public.
EXHIBITIONS AT THE FHM

**Courage and Compassion: The Legacy of the Bielski Brothers**
On display January 14 - June 18, 2017

This original, award-winning exhibition created by The FHM showcases the heroic efforts of three brothers who helped save more than 1,200 people while living in the forest during World War II.

As portrayed in the popular film *Defiance*, the three brothers, Tuvia, Asael, and Zus Bielski, took refuge from the Nazis in the forests surrounding Novogrudok, Belarus. In the forest, they formed a community of men, women, and children. Through the brothers’ leadership, the group survived starvation, harsh winters, and the threat of the Nazis and their collaborators.

*Presented nationally by Bank of America*

---

**The Greatest Crime of the War: The Armenian Genocide During World War I**
On display January 28 - June 25, 2017

The mass murder of the Armenian people in Anatolia, now referred to by most historians and human rights organizations as “The Armenian Genocide,” destroyed a civilization that had resided in Anatolia for thousands of years. This exhibition recounts the history of the genocide and the conditions which led to it as well as its legacy.

---

**Holocaust By Bullets**
On display February 11 - April 16, 2017

Yahad – In Unum, founded by French Catholic priest Father Patrick Desbois, presents its painstaking research in a succinct yet approachable manner that enables the visitor to uncover, step-by-step, the crime committed against Jews and Roma by the Nazi killing units and their collaborators in Eastern Europe.

---

**Jehovah’s Witnesses: Faith Under Fire**
On display February 18 - July 16, 2017

Jehovah’s Witnesses, a Christian community of 35,000 in Germany and occupied lands, refused to confirm to the Nazi ideology of hate. They suffered severely for their belief in nonviolence and their utter rejection of racism. Thrown into Nazi camps, they became eyewitnesses of Nazi genocide. This exhibition documents the story of Jehovah’s Witnesses in the Holocaust and provides an in depth look at ordinary people who followed their conscience in the face of tyranny.
On February 18, 2016, The Florida Holocaust Museum announced a groundbreaking three-year agreement with USC Shoah Foundation - The Institute for Visual History and Education. This partnership will allow both organizations to extend the reach of our educational work. The FHM will become an access point for the USC Shoah Foundation’s Visual History Archive in Florida, making its 53,000 audiovisual testimonies available for research and education. For that purpose, we are undergoing renovation of our library which will turn into a 21st-century research center. The content provided by The FHM will include our Museum’s digital collections of art, historical objects and first-person video testimony.

The USC Shoah Foundation’s state-of-the-art infrastructure will enable the digitization, indexing and integrating Holocaust testimonies of our survivors into its vast repository of Holocaust and genocide testimonies. The process will maintain the provenance of the testimonies as a crucial part of The FHM collection while at the same time ensuring that they will be preserved in perpetuity and made available to worldwide users of the Visual History Archive, extending the reach of The FHM collection dramatically. The FHM will be an invaluable resource for educators, scholars, students, and informal learners throughout the state of Florida, the U.S. and in 52 other countries that USC Shoah Foundation works with.

As part of the educational outreach, The FHM’s digitized artifacts and substantial visual art collection will be integrated into IWitness, USC Shoah Foundation’s educational website, which gives students and teachers access to more than 1,500 testimonies of survivors and witnesses to the Holocaust and other genocides.

In August, I attended a 3-day training at USC Shoah Foundation on the new format of IWitness. I met with an outstanding team of USC Shoah Foundation’s Education Department and exchanged ideas about activities featuring survivor stories pertaining to our Museum and to Florida. I am currently building two IWitness lessons based on our survivor stories and artifacts. The first lesson focuses on non-violent resistance among Jews during the Holocaust and is based on the video testimonies of Helen Fagin and Sam Schryver. The second lesson will be based on refugee experiences of Walter Loebenberg’s family. This lesson will be particularly relevant to the study of the refugee crisis today. These interactive activities will help students explore important parts of Holocaust history and make connections to today. They will help teachers meet Florida Standards and enable them to integrate video testimony into their curriculum. IWitness activities encourage education built on critical thinking, analytical skills, cooperation, and empathy. Students are active participants of the learning process and are able to see the connection between the history lessons and their own lives. By using our own testimonies and artifacts, our Museum helps the legacy of our survivors reach students and teachers locally and worldwide in an effort to help build a safer world for all of us.

Urszula Szczepinska The FHM’s Curator of Education and Director of Research
The FHM’s Educational Programs

Preserving Holocaust Survivor Stories through Second & Third Generation Testimony

On October 26th and 27th at The Florida Holocaust Museum, Second Generation Holocaust educator Sandy Lessig presented Holocaust Museum Houston’s unique program “Through Their Eyes: A Survivor’s Story.” The program, created by Lessig, showcases her late father Walter Breisacher’s story to an audience by featuring segments of his oral testimony along with her live commentary. This allows her the opportunity to interactively tell his personal story through both voices as well as teach important lessons from the Holocaust.

The program’s intent is to involve the Second and Third Generation adult children of Holocaust Survivors in the telling of their parents and grandparents survival stories. Lessig spoke to program attendees about the importance of keeping their family stories alive and explained how to deliver the messages to future generations when there are no longer Survivors to give first hand testimony. She suggested creating a video or PowerPoint presentation of their parent’s wartime experiences, which will give future generations the opportunity to share these important family stories, from generation to generation.

The Tampa Bay area has one of the most active Second Generations groups in the country and the program was very well received by attendees. If you would like more information about “Through Their Eyes: A Survivor’s Story” or our local Generations After group for sons and daughters of Holocaust Survivors and Holocaust Refugees, please contact Sandy Mermelstein by email at smermelstein@thefhm.org.

Sandy Mermelstein  The FHM’s Senior Educator

The FHM’s Group Tours and Teaching Trunks

Since the beginning of the school year, The FHM has welcomed 1,484 students through 44 docent-led tours. As part of their tour, most students are able to meet and hear a Holocaust Survivor or Liberator tell their story. Among those that came in to share their personal stories were Sylvia Richman and Art Sheridan.

Sylvia’s story includes how her family spent time in the Lemberg ghetto, their escape, and how Sylvia was separated from her family and hidden in a Catholic orphanage. She also brought personal mementos to share with the students that her mother had kept for her: a doll and a pair of gloves made by her mother. Art Sheridan spoke at the Museum for the first time on Veterans Day. He served in the US Army during WWII and, along with his troop, helped to liberate concentration camps. His story was informative and touching; there wasn’t anyone in the room that was not moved by his experiences. Personal stories like Sylvia’s and Art’s help students to see past the statistics and to become a witness to a witness by meeting someone who survived the Holocaust. Most of the feedback received from the teachers lists hearing the Survivors and Liberators speak as one of the highlights of their tour.

Through our Teaching Trunk program, we have shipped out 20 trunks since the school year has started and approximately 2,000 students have benefited from them. Most trunks have been sent throughout the state of Florida. One teaching trunk has been sent as far as Missouri. Recently, we had a small group of pre-service social studies teachers from University of Tampa come in to learn more about the Museum and the resources it provides to help educate students on the Holocaust. After listening to a Survivor speak, they toured the Museum, then received an overview of how the Teaching Trunk program works.

If you would like more information regarding the group tours or teaching trunks, please contact Melissa Black by email at tours@thefhm.org or trunks@thefhm.org.

Melissa Black  The FHM’s Resource and Tour Coordinator
FALL & WINTER HAPPENINGS

Behind the scenes look at a very special project in the works in honor of The FHM's 25th Anniversary, featuring The FHM's founder Walter Loebenberg.

Holocaust Survivor Jackie Albin (bottom right) shared her story, via Skype, with over 300 students and about 30 teachers from Santa Fe Catholic High School in Lakeland, FL. Jackie was born in France in 1937 and spent much of her childhood hiding out or concealing that she and her family were Jews living under Nazi occupation.

The FHM's Registrar Victoria King conducted surface cleaning to the Museum railroad boxcar. Using a museum vacuum with HEPA filter to remove dust, dirt, and grime this type of cleaning is done twice a year as preventative conservation care. Boxcar #113 069-5 now rests on original tracks from the Treblinka Killing Center as a silent tribute to those who perished in the holocaust and is featured as part of the History, Heritage and Hope permanent exhibition.

L to R: The FHM's Executive Director Elizabeth Gelman, Photographer Łukasz Baksik, Beth Gemunder, and David Gemunder attend the opening reception for the exhibition Matzevot for Everyday Use: Photographs by Łukasz Baksik. This exhibition was made possible through the generous sponsorship of the Gemunder Family Foundation.

Mentalist and magician Oz Pearlman helped The FHM kick off its 25th Anniversary with a special event at The Palladium Theatre in September. Pearlman has a very personal connection to the Holocaust as his grandmother survived Auschwitz and his grandfather was a partisan fighter.

L to R: The U.S. Department of State's Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Antisemitism Ira N. Forman, The FHM's Curator of Education & Director of Research Urszula Szczepinska, and Board Member Toni Rinde attend a Genocide and Human Rights Awareness Movement (GHRAM) lecture by Ira N. Forman titled, “Global Antisemitism in 2016: What the U.S. Government is Doing to Combat It.”
Holocaust Survivors and their families attended The FHM's annual Survivor Brunch celebration in December.

Museum visitors attend the opening reception for the exhibition Matzevot for Everyday Use in October.

The FHMs Registrar Tori King and Curatorial Intern Alecia Trausch detail The FHMs Kaddish in Wood exhibition.

At The FHMs Board Retreat in September, Board Chair Amanda Saft and Board Member Tammy Li work to identify strategies to aid in the growth of the Museum’s Vision and Mission.

The University of South Florida with Rotary Youth Exchange Florida inbound and prospective outbound students toured The FHM.

Members of the Generations After group for sons and daughters of Holocaust Survivors and Refugees gather at The FHM. 1st row, L to R: Charlene Wygodski, Bonnie Stein, Bebby Merlin, Marilyn Silverman. 2nd row, L to R: Barbara Bergren, Shelly Nadler, Leah Davis, Sheree Klein.


The FHM was seen on ABC Action News “Positively Tampa Bay” with Lissette Campos to discuss the WEDU Be More Awards.

Submit your fondest memories from your visits & involvement with The FHM over the past 25 years at TheFHM.org/25th. For additional photos and information, follow The FHM on Facebook at facebook.com/TheFHM, Instagram @TheFHM, and Twitter @FLHolocaustMus.
The Florida Holocaust Museum honors the memory of millions of innocent men, women and children who suffered or died in the Holocaust. The Museum is dedicated to teaching the members of all races and cultures the inherent worth and dignity of human life in order to prevent future genocides.