

Hatikvah Holocaust Education Center

Springfield, Massachusetts



News Briefs – Spring/Summer 2009

www.hatikvah-center.org

Reception at the University of Massachusetts Amherst

Hatikvah Holocaust Education Center and the University of Massachusetts Amherst presented Hatikvah's traveling exhibit "A Reason to Remember: Roth, Germany 1933-1942" at the Herter Gallery during March and April.

A reception at the Fine Arts Center on March 24th marked the opening of the exhibit and was part of a community-wide welcome for Chancellor Robert Holub. Speakers at the reception included Professor James Young from Judaic and Near Eastern Studies and Professor Bailey Jackson from the Social Justice Program.

For the past year, UMass faculty members and graduate students have worked closely with members of Hatikvah's Board of Directors to create an academic partnership between the two institutions. The reception celebrated that partnership.

To see the full text of Chancellor Holub's speech, please visit our website at <http://www.hatikvah-center.org/events/32409.html>.



Chancellor Holub speaking at the opening reception

Hatikvah-UMass Curriculum Project

Since last Fall, a committee including a retired teacher and graduate students and faculty from UMass has been working to complete a state-wide curriculum based on our permanent exhibit. A teacher-training workshop took place on May 17th. The curriculum will be piloted throughout Massachusetts this coming year in four areas: US History II, World History II; High School Language Arts and Middle School Language Arts (centered on "The Diary of Anne Frank").

After incorporating feedback from the pilot classes, the curriculum will be available for all teachers in Massachusetts for Fall 2010.



Traveling Exhibit Spring Schedule

Scottsdale, Arizona

“*A Reason to Remember: Roth, Germany 1933-1942*” was on display at the Bureau of Jewish Education in Scottsdale, Arizona from February 18 through March 17, 2009. It was part of the annual Holocaust Educators Conference hosted by the Board of Jewish Education of Greater Phoenix.



Herbert Roth, Debbie Roth-Howe, and Leah Roth-Howe review the Roth Family panel

Herbert Roth, whose story is featured in the exhibit, spoke to a group of teachers during the conference. Herb, his daughter, Deborah Roth-Howe, and granddaughter, Leah Roth-Howe, also presented a workshop entitled “From Silence and Indifference to Education and Advocacy: Three Generations of One Family Respond to Their Holocaust Legacies”. The workshop covers how three generations were working with their Holocaust legacies in unique and varied ways.

Long Beach, California

From April 17 to May 19, 2009 the traveling exhibit was at the Alpert JCC in Long Beach, California. A community-wide program featured the exhibit. The Hochster family, one of the five stories followed through the exhibit is the family of Dr. Marion Solovei, mother of Robyn Hendricks, Alpert JCC Jewish Life & Cultural Coordinator.

Anaheim, California

The exhibit will remain in California for another month to be part of an educational program for the Anaheim schools and other locations.

Next Spring, we hope the exhibit will return to the West Coast and include several more cities.

Our exhibit is becoming well known among Holocaust Centers, JCC’s and colleges. We have received inquiries from the Tennessee Holocaust Commission and various organizations in Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Chicago, and Omaha about future bookings. Hatikvah’s work is impacting students throughout the country, helping them to learn the lessons of the Holocaust through the traveling exhibit.



The traveling exhibit on display in Long Beach

Expansion of Local Exhibit

This Spring and Summer, volunteers are adding and updating stories to our local exhibit, “*A Living Memorial*”. This portion of the permanent exhibit honors Holocaust survivors who settled in Western Massachusetts. It includes artifacts and stories of these survivors and their relatives as well as pictures of relatives who perished in the Holocaust.

As part of this work, we will be updating the story of Club Hatikvah, the social, support-group that survivors formed in the 1950’s. We will uncover and include the stories of post-war efforts to locate family members.

If you know of someone whose story is not yet included in the local exhibit or to would like to help with these projects, please contact Ellen Perell at (413) 734-7700.



A Living Memorial

Board Reorganization

In March, Michael Engel resigned as Hatikvah Board chair. The nominating committee met and the Board voted to have Ronda Jackowitz complete the term of Board chairperson.

Report for the Academic Year 2008/2009

Once again this year Hatikvah will reach over 3000 students through visits to the permanent exhibit as well as working with teachers representing over 150 classrooms. As always, our board and volunteer committees, including docents, helped schedule and lead school tours and worked on annual programs and special events. Volunteers also coordinated the traveling exhibit and updated the website with additional stories.

Hatikvah is open and staffed from 9:00AM – 3:00PM Monday through Friday. The exhibit is open until 2PM weekdays and Sundays by appointment.

For more information, to book a tour, or to discuss volunteer opportunities, please visit our website at: www.hatikvah-center.org or call Ellen Perell at Hatikvah at (413) 734-7700.