



## STATE OF DECEPTION THE POWER OF NAZI PROPAGANDA

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## State of Deception Exhibition Closing October 25th! Don't Miss It!

### WEDNESDAY EVENING SPEAKER SERIES CONCLUDES OCTOBER 22

*State of Deception: The Power of Nazi Propaganda* will end its successful four-month run at the National Archives at Kansas City on Saturday, October 25.

This traveling exhibition, produced by the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, presented by the Midwest Center for Holocaust Education, and hosted by the National Archives at Kansas City, has drawn widespread attention from the media, school groups and the general public. Overflow crowds have turned out for each of the public programs, offered in partnership with the National World War I Museum.

The final program in the eight-part speaker series will feature Harry Reicher, professor at the University of Pennsylvania Law School and scholar-in-residence, Touro College, Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center. His talk, "Trial of the Propagandists," will examine the postwar trial of the major war criminals at Nuremberg, which included the

*Defendant Julius Streicher, editor of the antisemitic newspaper Der Stürmer, on the stand at the International Military Tribunal Trial of Major War Criminals at Nuremberg, April 29, 1946.*

*National Archives and Records Administration, College Park, MD.*



first confrontation in an international court of the role of propaganda in inciting hatred and set a precedent for defining incitement of genocide as a crime against humanity.

### TRIAL OF THE PROPAGANDISTS

October 22 • 7:00 p.m.

National World War I Museum  
100 West 26th Street  
Kansas City, Missouri

Reservations strongly encouraged:  
816.268.8010

[kansascity.educate@nara.gov](mailto:kansascity.educate@nara.gov)

The National Archives will offer extended viewing hours until 6:30 p.m. preceding the October 22 program, with a complimentary light reception from 5:30 until 6:30 p.m.

Small plates and cocktails will be available for purchase at the National World War I Museum from 6:00 until 7:00 p.m.

Normal exhibition hours are Tuesday to Saturday from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

### CLE Credit

1.8 Missouri CLE credits offered in cooperation with UMKC Law School; Kansas CLE pending.

Podcasts of the Wednesday Evening Speaker Series programs are available at <http://mchekc.org/program-podcasts>.

### LOOK INSIDE FOR UPCOMING COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

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# Perspectives on Propaganda

**EXHIBITION STRIKES STRONG CHORD AMIDST  
CURRENT WORLD TENSIONS**

As the *State of Deception: The Power of Nazi Propaganda* exhibition enters its final days at the National Archives at Kansas City, it is clear that this project has had a significant impact on our community.

We can point to many successful outcomes:

- Overflow crowds and generous praise for each of the programs in our eight-part speaker series
- Docent-led tours for 3,500 middle and high school students, including participation by schools new to MCHE programs
- Attention from radio and print media
- Generous financial support from local, state and national foundations and corporations, as well as from individual preview patrons
- Involvement of dozens of volunteer docents and greeters
- MCHE's strong partnerships with the National Archives and the National World War I Museum

Informal and anecdotal data—particularly comments from program

**... PROPAGANDA, WHEN ACCEPTED BY THE TARGET AUDIENCE, BUILDS UPON PREEXISTING PREJUDICES, BELIEFS AND ATTITUDES.**

evaluations and the exhibition comment book—indicate that *State of Deception* has contributed to a greater understanding of the nature and dangers of propaganda and has sparked critical thinking about the messages we receive.

Ironically and tragically, over the course of the past four months, the world has witnessed new evidence of the power of state-sponsored propaganda, especially and once again, when used by tyrants and fanatics for the purpose of denigrating and destroying others. It is perhaps within this context that *State of Deception* has struck a chord with individuals of all political persuasions who value the privilege of free choice.

As documented in the exhibition, the Nazi Party succeeded in systematically creating an exclusionary climate of indifference that promoted widespread acceptance of and participation in a calculated path to genocide.

Independent thinking was subjugated to the goals of the Third Reich. Individual expression was superseded by loyalty to the Fatherland and to the Fuhrer. Still, people made choices, and with few exceptions, they chose to cooperate, if not collaborate.

One of the lessons from the exhibition is that propaganda, when accepted by the target audience, builds upon preexisting prejudices, beliefs and attitudes. Prevalent antisemitism in the 1930s, fueled by racial “science” and anti-Judaism that had flourished in Christian Europe for centuries, provided fertile ground for the Nazis, who employed techniques of stereotyping, suspicion and deception to justify their murderous ideology.

Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young cautioned an entire generation to “Teach Your Children Well.” We would do well to heed their musical advice, for it is our children who are most vulnerable and impressionable. As adults, we must remind ourselves as well to not only recognize and deflect propaganda, but also to assess our own susceptibility, to consider the sources of information we receive, and most of all, to question and to validate.



## In Memoriam Steve Chick, Immediate Past President, MCHE

The Midwest Center for Holocaust Education lost one of its most ardent supporters when immediate past president Steve Chick passed away on July 7. Steve had been involved with MCHE since 2003, helping to plan our 10th Anniversary Celebration that year, and had served on both the board of governors and board of directors before his election as president in 2011. He was a true advocate of our mission, always willing to lend a hand at community programs and special events. We will miss his leadership, his humor and his enthusiasm.



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# MCHE Documentary Featuring Local Survivors Headlines 2015 Free Film Series

Shown for the first time in January 1995, MCHE's award-winning documentary, "The Holocaust: Through Our Own Eyes," provides an overview of the Holocaust featuring excerpts of local eyewitness testimonies, including those from camp survivors, those in hiding, and American liberators.

On January 27, the date designated in 2005 by the United Nations as International Holocaust Remembrance Day—and in commemoration of the 70th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau on January 27, 1945, MCHE will present will present a 20th anniversary screening of "The Holocaust: Through Our Own Eyes" as the first program in its 2015 film series, Documenting the Holocaust.

To mark the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II, other films in the series will focus on various postwar perspectives of the Holocaust. Each is distributed by the National Center for Jewish Film, located on the campus of Brandeis University.

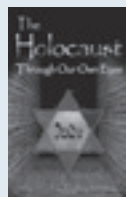
As a memorial tribute to Steve Chick, MCHE's immediate past president and an avid supporter of the arts, and with gratitude to the community for its support of *State of Deception: The Power of Nazi Propaganda*, MCHE is offering the 2015 series at no charge. Advance reservations are encouraged, however, by calling MCHE's automated response line, 913-327-8196, visiting the MCHE office, emailing [rsvp@mchekc.org](mailto:rsvp@mchekc.org) with full contact information, or registering online at [mchekc.org/filmseries](http://mchekc.org/filmseries).

## SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

To help defray costs of licensing fees and publicity, MCHE is inviting sponsorships of \$150 for individual films and full series sponsorships of \$600 (Supporter) and \$1,000 (Patron). Those interested may make their commitments by mail, online at [mchekc.org/filmseries](http://mchekc.org/filmseries), or by calling MCHE's executive director, Jean Zeldin, at 913-327-8191. Donations are also appreciated at the door but not required.

## 2015 MCHE FILM SERIES

**Program Schedule** All films will be shown on Tuesdays in the Social Hall of the Jewish Community Campus. Each program will begin at 7:00 p.m. with an introduction to the film. Doors will open at 6:30 for those with advance reservations. Seating for those without reservations will begin at 6:45.

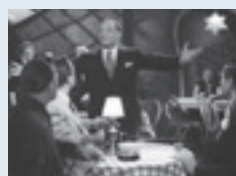
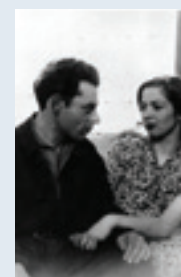


### January 27 - The Holocaust: Through Our Own Eyes

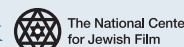
Personal interviews with Kansas City area eyewitnesses, combined with compelling archival footage, lead the viewer from the chaotic aftermath of World War I, through the Holocaust, to the survivors' bittersweet arrivals in the United States. (Running time: 58 minutes - English)

### February 17 - Long is the Road

Shot on location in Landsberg, the largest Displaced Persons camp in U.S.-occupied Germany, this was the first feature film to represent the Holocaust from a Jewish perspective. It follows a Polish Jew and his family from prewar Warsaw through the horrors of Auschwitz to the frustrations and instability of refugee life, culminating in the emergence of hope for rebirth and renewal in Israel. (Running time: 77 minutes - Yiddish, German and Polish with English subtitles)



### March 10 - Singing in the Dark

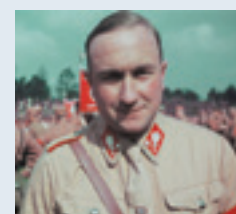


This virtually unknown, independent film is one of the first American features to dramatize the Holocaust and only the second to depict a Holocaust survivor (called "refugee," as the film predates the use of the term "survivor") as the main

protagonist. A musical drama, it stars popular entertainer Moishe Oysher who, despite suffering from traumatic amnesia, becomes a singing sensation. Set in New York, the film includes extremely rare and poignant film material. (Running time: 86 minutes - English) Film Restoration by The National Center for Jewish Film, [www.jewishfilm.org](http://www.jewishfilm.org).

### April 21 - 2 or 3 Things I Know About Him

Family drama and historical truth collide in this film about the painful legacy cast by Hanns Ludin, a prominent Nazi executed in 1947 for war crimes. In this astonishing documentary, Hanns Ludin's son, filmmaker Malte Ludin, breaks 60 years of silence and repression, investigating his father's dark deeds and interviewing his still-denying sisters. The film is an intimate look at the descendants of a Nazi perpetrator, most of whom refused to accept the history of their family and of Nazi Germany more generally. (Running time: 89 minutes - German with English subtitles)



### May 19 - The Buchenwald Ball

Uplifting, full of swagger and joie de vivre, this film tells the story of 45 orphans who escaped the Holocaust and found their way to Australia after their liberation from the Buchenwald concentration camp. Every year on April 11, the anniversary of their liberation, the Buchenwald Boys, as they came to be known, held a ball filled with music, dancing, and an energy that defied their advancing ages and celebrated life, friendship, family and love. The film documents their struggles, their humor, and ultimately the tenacity of their human spirits in the aftermath of unimaginable tragedy. (Running time: 52 minutes - English)

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\*of blessed memory

We regret any errors or omissions and would appreciate your contacting the MCHC office at 913-327-8190 or [info@mchekc.org](mailto:info@mchekc.org) with any needed corrections.

## WHITE ROSE STUDENT ESSAY CONTEST

# 2014-2015 Essay Contest Theme Announced

As the German army retreated toward the interior of Germany in 1945, the death and forced labor camps in the East were evacuated and the prisoners sent on death marches toward the concentration camps in Germany. Conditions in these concentration camps, which were never intended to house the large numbers of prisoners flooding into them, quickly deteriorated. Though they were no longer being murdered in gas chambers, many Jewish prisoners, among them Anne Frank, were unable to survive the conditions in these camps. For many others, not even liberation prevented their eventual deaths. For those who did survive, liberation proved to be both a joyful and a sorrowful experience. In commemoration of these events, the 20th annual White Rose Student Essay Contest theme is

## LIBERATION 1945

Using at least three of the documents provided by MCHE, plus a minimum of two outside resources (at least one of which must be a non-digital print source), students are to prepare an essay that includes the following components:

- **RESEARCH:** Describe the conditions at liberation at Bergen-Belsen, Buchenwald or Dachau (or at one of their sub-camps) as they existed in the spring of 1945. Then, explore the liberation and immediate post-war experience—in Europe—of one Jewish survivor from that camp. Examples may include returning to health, search for family, etc.
- **REFLECTION:** As a result of your research, what single, specific action can you take now to demonstrate what learning about the Holocaust means to you?

The White Rose Student Essay Contest is open to 8th through 12th grade students in 112 counties in eastern Kansas and western Missouri. Entries must be submitted under the guidance of a classroom teacher and postmarked no later than Tuesday, March 31, 2015. Additional information, including complete criteria and details about eligibility, are available at [mchekc.org/WhiteRoseStudentEssayContest](http://mchekc.org/WhiteRoseStudentEssayContest).

### 2013-2014 WHITE ROSE STUDENT ESSAY CONTEST FINALISTS

#### 8th-9th Grade Division

Rachel Asselta - Harmony Middle School  
Breck Bowen - Harmony Middle School  
Mackenzie Clark - Harmony Middle School  
Emma Cosner - Lakewood Middle School  
Parth Daga - Harmony Middle School  
Vandita Garimella - Harmony Middle School  
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Walker Johnson - Harmony Middle School  
Kate Kaufman - Harmony Middle School  
Becca Niederhauser - Lakewood Middle School  
Sarah Zingg - Lakewood Middle School

#### 10th-12th Grade Division

Kyle Angle - Lee's Summit High School  
Anna Daly - Notre Dame de Sion Upper School  
Wendy Hayworth - Lee's Summit High School  
Ama Idun - Lee's Summit High School  
Morgan Maxwell - Lee's Summit High School  
Sydney Nyquist - Lee's Summit High School  
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Dennis Conaghan - Notre Dame de Sion  
Erin Peavey - Lakewood Middle School  
Amanda Schweiger - Lakewood Middle School  
Michelle Sutton - Harmony Middle School

## 2014 Essay Contest Winners

### DEPORTATION OF THE HUNGARIAN JEWS: AUSCHWITZ-BIRKENAU 1944

In recognition of the 70th anniversary of the deportation of the Hungarian Jews, MCHE's 19th annual White Rose Student Essay Contest asked students to research preparations made at Auschwitz-Birkenau in advance of the deportation of the Hungarian Jews and to explore the experiences of one Jewish person or family that was affected by these circumstances.

As the 138 participating students from 15 regional schools learned, between May 14 and July 9, 1944, following the German



2014 Contest Winners Ada Idun and Parth Daga.

occupation of Hungary, approximately 440,000 Hungarian Jews—the last remaining intact Jewish community in Europe—were deported to Auschwitz-Birkenau. Most were subsequently murdered there, despite the neutral powers' knowledge of details of the Holocaust and the Hungarian situation.

In exploring the essay contest theme, students also were to describe a single action they could take now to demonstrate what learning about the Holocaust meant to them.

MCHE announced winners of the 2014 Essay Contest at its annual meeting on May 5.

Ama Idun of Lee's Summit High School was the top prize winner in the 10-12th grade division with her essay about Lidia Rosenfeld Vago. Her sponsoring teacher was Christopher Bobal. Parth Daga of Harmony Middle School won the 8-9th grade division with his essay about Edith Reifer. His sponsoring teacher was Michelle Sutton. Holocaust resources were awarded to each of their schools on behalf of MCHE's White Rose Membership Society.

The winning essays can be read at <http://mchekc.org/white-rose-student-essay-contest-finalists/>.

# Survivor Profiles Online

Since January, MCHE has been posting profiles of Holocaust survivors who were interviewed in 1994 for our Witnesses to the Holocaust oral testimony project and in 2000 for *Portrait 2000* exhibit. Each is supplemented by links to other resources related to that person's experience. The list below, organized by country of origin, represents the full online archive that will be available by year-end. Italic text indicates profiles scheduled for completion in November-December.

## AUSTRIA

Evelyn Bergl  
Felicia Brill  
*Ann Jacobson*  
Erika Mandler  
Kurt Metzl  
Otto Schick

## CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Eugene Lebovitz  
Boris Segelstein  
Lilly Segelstein  
Ernie Simon

## GERMANY

*Frank Adler*  
Ilsa Cole  
Marianne Dennis  
*Gustave Eisemann*  
Klaus Frank  
Reggie Goldberg  
Eva Hartwich  
Werner Hartwich  
Kurt Levi  
Tom Lewinsohn  
*Norbert Lipschuetz*  
*George Rosenberg*  
*Sylvan Siegler*  
Walter Stras

## GREECE

Alegra Tevet

## HOLLAND

Ralph Berets  
Margalith Clarenberg

## HUNGARY

Clara Grossman  
Judy Jacobs  
Kate Lebovitz  
Olga Rothstein  
Malvina Stras  
Frank Szasz

## LITHUANIA

Michael Rothstein

## POLAND

Iser Cukier  
Tola Cukier  
Maria Devinki  
Dora Edelbaum  
Ann Federman  
Isak Federman  
June Feinsilver  
Isaac Feinsilver  
Abe Flekier  
Sonia Golad  
Joseph Greenbaum  
Abe Gutovitz  
*Bertha Gutovitz*  
Joe Gutovitz  
*Dorothy Harding*  
Lea Indyk  
*Abe Kopec*  
Ida Loeffler  
Jack Mandelbaum  
Sigmund Mandelbaum  
*Sara Mittelman*  
*Molly Nagel*  
Mina Nisenkier  
Sam Nussbaum  
Bronia Roslawowski  
Abe Sander  
*Chana Sander*  
Sam Sander  
*Hanna Sukiennik*  
Bernard Tenenbaum  
Ann Walters  
Sam Walters  
Aron Warren  
Sonia Warshawski  
Mania Weindling  
Leo Zemelman  
Rose Zemelman

## ROMANIA

Tiberius Klausner

## YUGOSLAVIA

Zdenko Bergl

# MCHE's Online Witnesses to the Holocaust Archive Appreciated by Children of Survivors

"Having the survivors' testimonies on the website was a wonderful and meaningful way to honor my mother's story. She was proud and touched that her testimony, which was taped a long time ago, is still being used. So grateful that my mother was able to have her story told again and again."  
*Matilda Rosenberg – Daughter of Alegra Tevet, Greece*



Isaac and June Feinsilver

"Having my parents' testimonies and other survivor testimonies available on the MCHE website is wonderful! Since my parents and most other local survivors are no longer around to share their Holocaust experiences and I will not be around forever to tell their story as part of MCHE's Speakers Bureau, I now feel confident that MCHE's website will carry on the legacy that was left and hopefully others can learn from it."

*Evy Tilzer – Daughter of June and Isaac Feinsilver, Poland*

"I have to say my very first feeling on seeing my Dad's profile was pride. I have a copy of his and my Mom's testimonies, and they mean more to me than almost anything I own, especially since I now have grandchildren who never had the pleasure of knowing them. I (of course) knew their stories and so did most of my family and many of my friends, but to be able to share my Dad's words publicly and receive comments of support and admiration was truly a gift. I really try to keep the memory of my parents' lives relevant. I took my adult kids to Poland, I travel to Ukraine and Latvia seeking history to bring back. I seek out Yiddish movies. But NOTHING compares to hearing my Dad telling HIS story in his own words, and knowing there is a permanent record of that. Thank you MCHE for facilitating the profiles and giving my family its most treasured heirlooms!"

*Mary Covitz – Daughter of Rose and Leo Zemelman, Poland*

To learn more about our community's local survivors, please visit [www.mchekc.org/survivors](http://www.mchekc.org/survivors).

## JEWISH REFUGE: Shanghai on the Eve of World War II 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. October 20



Nanking Road, Shanghai, within the International Settlement

### FEATURING

- Public opening of Shanghai Jewish Refugees Museum traveling exhibition, *Jewish Refugees and Shanghai*, on display through November 21
- Live music from the era: Klezmer, Jazz, Classical and Chinese Folk
- Portraits and personal stories of Jewish survivors of the Shanghai ghetto
- Yiddish literature of the Shanghai Ghetto
- Reception with ethnic fare

Presented at the Jewish Community Campus by the University of Kansas Confucius Institute, Center for East Asian Studies, School of Music and Department of Jewish Studies, in partnership with the Jewish Community Center and the Midwest Center for Holocaust Education and with gratitude to the Shanghai Jewish Refugees Museum. **Free and open to the community. Reservations kindly requested, 913-327-8007; walk-ins welcome on a space available basis.**

# Kristallnacht Commemoration 2014

COMMUNITY PROGRAM TO FEATURE PROMINENT MEDICAL ETHICIST



## About Dr. Grodin ...

The descendant of four generations of rabbis and Jewish educators, Professor Michael Grodin teaches Jewish bioethics at Boston University and has served as a consultant for Orthodox, Conservative, Reconstructionist and Reform rabbis as well as Christian theologians in the areas of medicine and Jewish law. He serves as faculty advisor to the Maimonides Society of the Boston University Schools of Medicine and Public Health and as director of the Medical Ethics and Human Rights Programs at Boston University Schools of Medicine and Public Health, where he is also a Professor of Psychiatry, Family Medicine, Health Law, Bioethics and Human Rights.

Dr. Grodin has delivered over 600 invited national and international addresses, written more than 200 scholarly papers, and edited or co-edited 6 books, including *The Nazi Doctors and the Nuremberg Code: Human Rights in Human Experimentation* and *Children as Research Subjects: Science, Ethics and Law*, three textbooks on health and human rights, and two books on bioethics. His talk is based on his most recent book, *Jewish Medical Resistance in the Ghettos and Camps During the Holocaust*.

He is co-director of the joint project in Jewish Legal Bioethics of the Institute of Jewish Law at the Boston University School of Law and a member of the senior faculty and director of the Medicine and the Holocaust Project of the Elie Wiesel Center for Judaic Studies at the Boston University College of Arts and Sciences.

Dr. Grodin's primary areas of interest include Jewish law, medicine and the Holocaust, bioethics, human rights and psychoanalysis. He is the recipient of a special citation from the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in recognition of his "profound contributions—through original and creative research—to the cause of Holocaust education and remembrance."

This year's community remembrance of *Kristallnacht*, the Night of Broken Glass, will feature Dr. Michael Alan Grodin, renowned physician, professor, ethicist and author, who will address the fascinating topic, "Jewish Law and Rabbinic Decisions in the Ghettos and Camps During the Holocaust."

This event, open to the public at no charge, will be held at Kehilath Israel Synagogue, 10501 Conser, Overland Park, Kansas, at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, November 9, the 76th anniversary of *Kristallnacht*.

Lead funding is provided by Kehilath Israel Synagogue, with additional financial support from MCHE and from Marilyn and Kurt Metzl. Additional sponsors are welcome and will be recognized that evening.

## ILLUMINATIONS: THE ART OF SAMUEL BAK

# Artist Captures Struggle for Post-Holocaust Spirituality

*Illuminations: The Art of Samuel Bak*, an exhibition of 28 original works by world-renowned artist and Holocaust survivor Samuel Bak, will be exhibited at the Leedy-Voukos Art Gallery in the Kansas City Crossroads District from March 6 through April 30, 2015.

Bak's paintings and drawings capture the struggle of western civilization in a post-Holocaust era to regain its spiritual footing and are also concerned with the need to repair the intellectual and emotional damage caused by the ceaseless turmoil of wars and other forms of violence.



His art is influenced by his experiences of surviving the Holocaust as a child in Vilna, Poland. He explains: "I certainly do not make illustrations of things that happened. I do it in a symbolic way. In a way which only gives a sense of a world that was shattered."

Paintings in *Illuminations: The Art of Samuel Bak* were donated to Facing History and Ourselves as an educational resource by the artist and his wife, Josee, together with Sue and Bernie Pucker of Boston, Massachusetts. Sponsors of the local exhibition are the Sosland Foundation and Bryan Cave Law Firm, with cooperation from MCHE and the Kansas City Art Institute.

The artist will speak at the Kansas City Art Institute on March 5, co-sponsored by Congregation Beth Shalom, and will be present at the opening of the exhibition the following evening during First Fridays.

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Visit [mchekc.org](http://mchekc.org)  
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## MCHE's Resource Center

is open to the public Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. and on Wednesday evenings until 7:00 p.m. when Blue Valley Schools are in session. (Closed for federal and major Jewish holidays). Over 3,000 titles, including books and films, are available for free loan.



## MCHE'S BENEFIT BOOK SALE • November 11-13

### BARGAINS GALORE!

Select from VHS films and duplicate titles of books from our resource center.  
Most under \$10. Some as low as \$2!

### SHOPPING HOURS

November 11 and 13, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. ▪ November 12, 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Cash preferred. Credit cards accepted for sales totaling \$20 or more.

All sales are final and subject to Kansas sales tax.

### SHOP ONLINE

Visit [mchekc.org/store](http://mchekc.org/store) to purchase resources featuring local survivor testimony.