

THE MIDWEST CENTER FOR HOLOCAUST EDUCATION PROUDLY PRESENTS

STATE OF DECEPTION THE POWER OF NAZI PROPAGANDA

A TRAVELING EXHIBITION
PRODUCED BY
THE UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST
MEMORIAL MUSEUM

June 24 - October 25, 2014

Host Venue: National Archives at Kansas City
400 West Pershing Road, Kansas City, Missouri

Public Program Series planned in partnership
with the National World War I Museum

PATRON PREVIEW EVENT
Monday, June 23, 2014

Special Presentation by Steven Luckert, Curator

Refer to the insert between pages 4 and 5
for patron opportunities and benefits and
to make reservations for the preview event.

Adolf Hitler recognized early on how propaganda, combined with the use of terror, could help his extremist party gain mass support and votes. Under his leadership, the Nazi Party developed a sophisticated propaganda machine that deftly spread lies about its political opponents, Jews and the need for war.

**"PROPAGANDA IS A TRULY
TERRIBLE WEAPON IN THE
HANDS OF AN EXPERT."**

— Adolf Hitler, *Mein Kampf*, 1924

In order for the Nazis to achieve power and pursue their racial policies and expansionist war efforts, however, a much more nuanced picture had to be painted—one that would appeal to broad swaths of the population, not just a fanatical extreme.

"Adolf Hitler was an avid student of propaganda, who borrowed techniques from the Allies in World War I, his Socialist and Communist rivals, the Italian Fascist Party as well as modern advertising," says *State of Deception* curator Steven Luckert. "Drawing upon these models, he successfully marketed the Nazi Party, its ideology and himself to the German people."

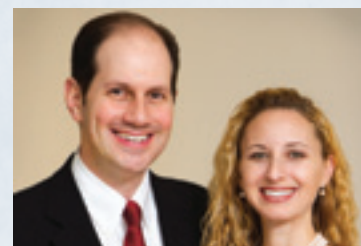
Featuring rarely seen artifacts, *State of Deception: The Power of Nazi Propaganda* draws visitors into a rich multimedia environment, vividly illustrating the insidious allure of much of Nazi propaganda. This most extreme case study emphasizes why the issue of propaganda matters and challenges citizens to actively question, analyze and seek the truth.

Presenting Sponsors - Page 3
School and Community Programs - Page 5

EXHIBITION CO-CHAIRS



Karen and Mike Herman



David and Rachel Sosland

"It is a privilege for us to champion MCHE's deeply inspiring mission and to co-host this timely and compelling exhibition, produced by the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. This is yet another example of the fine work MCHE is doing to educate our community."

Please join us as patrons.



Sharing Their Stories: MCHE Introduces Online Survivor Testimonies

I have said many times that serving as coordinator for "Witnesses to the Holocaust," MCHE's inaugural project that recorded interviews with local Holocaust survivors, was not only my most personally rewarding experience as executive director but also the most significant in furthering our educational goals.

Conducted in cooperation with the Fortunoff Archive for Video Testimonies at Yale University and funded by grants from the William T. Kemper Foundation, David Woods Kemper Memorial Foundation and Oppenstein Brothers Foundation, the project also resulted in two documentaries produced by Outpost Worldwide.

Later, MCHE's *Portrait 2000* exhibit, funded by the Jewish Community Foundation, featured written profiles based on audio recordings of local survivors photographed by Gloria Baker Feinstein and David Sosland. The exhibit led to the publication of *From the Heart* by Kansas City Star Books in 2001.

Enhanced Resources

Aided by technological advances few could have imagined, MCHE is now making its treasure trove of survivor testimonies available online. This project represents the culmination of 20 years of dedicated efforts to collect, edit and reformat interviews by

Kansas City-area survivors. Each profile features the survivor's video or audio testimony, as well as additional resources specific to that individual's experience.

... MCHE HAS REALIZED ITS
VISION OF PRESERVING THE
LEGACY OF OUR COMMUNITY'S
SURVIVORS AND TEACHING
ABOUT THIS HISTORY BY
ILLUSTRATING ITS IMPACT ON
ONE PERSON, ONE FAMILY.

As the original VHS interview format became outdated, generous financial support from the Claims Conference, Jewish Federation and the Jewish Community Foundation, along with special consideration from Outpost Worldwide, provided MCHE with the means to digitize our collection of videotaped interviews and condense the original interviews for classroom use, web postings, and for free loan through our resource center. The full-length narratives, which run from 45 minutes to three hours, may be viewed onsite at MCHE. In addition, MCHE produced six thematic DVDs, which are available for sale.

Preserving the Legacy

The current project, supervised by Jessica Rockhold, MCHE's director of education, allows us to revisit each individual testimony and make corrections to audio transcripts recorded in conjunction with *Portrait 2000*. This process has been greatly enhanced by Elizabeth Perry, a master's degree student in history at the University of Missouri-Kansas City, who is interning with us for the spring semester.

MCHE's next goal is to secure funding to transfer the audio interviews from their original cassette format to digital and MP3 files and to add closed captioning to the six thematic DVD programs.

Being part of this process has been a true honor and privilege, and we are extremely grateful to all those who shared their stories with us and to those who volunteered as interviewers and transcribers. Through their participation, MCHE has realized its vision of preserving the legacy of our community's survivors and teaching about this history by illustrating its impact on one person, one family.

To view pages posted online to date, visit mchekc.org/survivors. See page 7 for a schedule of upcoming postings.



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STATE OF DECEPTION THE POWER OF NAZI PROPAGANDA

This project is made possible by generous grants to MCHE from the following co-sponsors (confirmed as of April 1).

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State of Deception: The Power of Nazi Propaganda
was underwritten in part by grants from
Katharine M. and Leo S. Ullman
and the Blanche and Irving Laurie Foundation,
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Carol H. Sader

Photo Credit: James Maidhof
Photography



Challenges and Opportunities

In my message in the fall newsletter, I suggested that all members of MCHE make a personal commitment to “involvement” if MCHE is to meet the challenging goals before us. Your positive response has not only strengthened MCHE’s ability to advance its primary mission to teach the history and lessons of the Holocaust to prevent its recurrence forever and to preserve and honor the memory of all those who suffered, but it now further inspires us to focus on translating history and memory into responsive and preventive action for today and the future.

The time is NOW for us to address local and global challenges realistically and proactively as they arise in order to ensure that the lessons of the Holocaust remain alive and relevant for our children and grandchildren. In collaboration with like-minded groups and individuals, MCHE must prepare to take on new initiatives

to counter rising antisemitism and hate, extremists who threaten our democratic values, ongoing genocides world-wide, bullying in our local schools and neighborhoods, increasing Holocaust denial and distortion, and uncaring indifference to the suffering of others.

I’m so pleased to note that the board, council, staff and members of MCHE recognize the need to confront these challenges in new and creative ways. Recently, the board adopted “Guidelines for Advocacy” to encourage individual members and MCHE as an organization to speak out more proactively to persuade policymakers and all people to heed the lessons of the Holocaust by thinking and acting with tolerance, compassion and political courage. This year, in recognition of the need to impact and engage younger generations and more diverse audiences for whom the current relevance of the Holocaust becomes more distant with each passing year, MCHE has embarked upon more creative and sophisticated technological approaches utilizing state-of-the-art internet-based tools and social media.

From June 24 to October 25, MCHE will be guiding us from memories and lessons of the Holocaust to preventive action for the future by bringing the outstanding United States Holocaust Memorial Museum exhibition, *State of Deception: The Power of Nazi Propaganda*, to Kansas City. This ground-breaking exhibition informs us of the Nazis’ skilled use of propaganda and lies in the 1920s and 30s to persuade ordinary citizens to engage in and tolerate mass violence and genocide. It forewarns us of the skilled propagandists operating today in our own country and globally who are disseminating intolerance and hatred through new and evolving means of electronic communications to a public unable to cope with such overloads of misinformation.

Through this exhibition, MCHE members and volunteers will be proactively helping people in our community to recognize and respond effectively to biased messages and propaganda campaigns, and we will be teaching young people that they cannot always believe everything they hear or read. The work and support of MCHE members in efforts such as this are what moving from involvement to action is all about and why MCHE’s mission remains so relevant and important.

**THE TIME IS NOW FOR US TO
ADDRESS LOCAL AND GLOBAL
CHALLENGES REALISTICALLY
AND PROACTIVELY.**

MCHE annual memberships are scheduled for renewal in either June or December, depending upon the donation date. June renewals are indicated by italics. Please use the attached envelope to become an MCHE member, to reactivate a lapsed membership, or to renew your current membership. Those received by June 30, 2014, will be recognized in both our fall donor listing and by level in next spring's newsletter and will be current through June 30, 2015.

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*of blessed memory

We regret any errors or omissions and would appreciate your contacting the MCHE office at 913-327-8190 or info@mchec.org with any needed corrections.

State of Deception: The Power of Nazi Propaganda

Wednesday Evening Speaker Series

All programs are scheduled at 7:00 p.m. at the National World War I Museum, with free exhibition viewing and receptions to be held at the National Archives at Kansas City from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. Reservations are requested by calling 816.268.8010 or emailing kansascity.educate@nara.gov.

July 9

The Jewish Enemy: Nazi Propaganda during World War II and the Holocaust

Dr. Jeffrey Herf, University of Maryland, explores the language and metaphors that conveyed the ideological and emotional aspects of Nazi ideology, especially radical antisemitism, addressing the question of why centuries-old antisemitism assumed genocidal proportions between 1941 and 1945.

July 23

Building the Racial State: Nazi Propaganda and the National Community in Germany

Dr. William Meinecke, historian, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, examines how Nazi propaganda shaped German society and prepared the population to accept, support or participate in persecution, war and the mass murder of Europe's Jews and others.

August 6

Hate Mail: Antisemitism on Picture Postcards

Salo Aizenberg, a leading collector of Judaica picture postcards, presents postcard images from the pre-Holocaust era that illustrate deep-seated attitudes of society and the many virulent permutations of antisemitism eagerly exchanged by millions of ordinary people.

August 20

Media, Reeducation and the German Public after the Holocaust

Dr. Robert Williams, Center for Advanced Studies, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, will assess the ways that Soviet and American propaganda curtailed discussion and remembrance of the Holocaust during the early Cold War in Germany.

September 3

Everywhere You Looked: Propaganda in the World War I Era

Dr. Pearl James, University of Kentucky, situates World War I propaganda posters within the larger visual culture of the time, illustrating how a single image moved from newspapers to posters and into animated film, changing the style of advertising and extending its reach in ways that anticipate our current, super-saturated media environment.

September 17

Power of Film Images and the Holocaust

Sharon Pucker Rivo, co-founder and executive director, National Center For Jewish Film, Brandeis University, presents an analysis of film propaganda—newsreels, documentary and narrative films—employed by the Third Reich in their campaign of genocide against the Jewish people.

October 1

State Control and State Engagement with News Media: From the Nazis to Edward Snowden

Art Brisbane, former publisher of *The Kansas City Star* and visiting professor in journalism ethics at Washington and Lee University, explores the spectrum of state influence over new media, from outright propaganda to subtle negotiation between government and news outlets.

October 22

Trial of the Propagandists: Accessories to Genocide

Professor Harry Reicher, University of Pennsylvania Law School, examines the postwar trial of the major war criminals at Nuremberg, which included the first confrontation in an international court of the role of propaganda in inciting hatred, paving the way for major atrocities coming within the crime of Crimes Against Humanity.

Docent-Led School Tours and Bus Subsidies

Free docent-led tours may be scheduled now for students in grades 7 and up. Groups of up to 60 students are recommended, but larger groups can be arranged. Contact Mickey Ebert at the National Archives at Kansas City at 816-268-8013 or mickey.ebert@nara.gov.

Bus subsidies of up to \$250 per school are available through MCHE for field trips. Applications are available at www.mchekc.org/bussubsidy. Those received by May 15, 2014, will receive priority consideration. Contact Jessica Rockhold at 913-327-8195 or jessicar@mchekc.org.

Programs for Educators

Propaganda Workshop (June 24-26), 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at the National Archives at Kansas City.

Participants will gain an extensive understanding of the exhibition while exploring the significance of World War I atrocity propaganda upon future propaganda, Nazification of the German population through propaganda, Allied efforts at postwar de-Nazification, as well as American anti-Japanese propaganda. Presented by MCHE in cooperation with the National World War I Museum, National Archives at Kansas City and the Truman Presidential Library and Museum. Advance registration is required by June 17, 2014. For more information, visit www.mchekc.org/propagandaworkshop. A \$25 fee applies.

Educator Preview (July 23) This free program, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. at the National Archives, includes remarks by Dr. William Meinecke, historian from the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, a tour of the exhibition and a demonstration of on-site activities planned for school groups. Registration is required by July 16, 2014, at www.mchekc.org/educatorpreview.

To apply as a volunteer docent, contact Mickey Ebert at 816.268.8013 or mickey.ebert@nara.gov.



**CONTINUES THROUGH JUNE
AT THE LEAWOOD THEATRE**

ADVANCE TICKETS

Advance tickets may be purchased for \$7.50 by sending payment in the remittance envelope attached between pages 4 and 5 of the newsletter, online at mchekc.org or fineartsgroup.com, or at the MCHE office or the Leawood Theatre box office. A \$1 fee applies to Internet sales. Tickets purchased on the day of the event are \$10.

May 13 – *The Counterfeiters*

This film tells the true story of the largest counterfeiting operation in history, established by the Nazis in 1936. Salomon Sorowitsch, king of counterfeiters, lives a decadent life in Berlin until he is arrested and sent to Mauthausen concentration camp. His exceptional skills land him in the upgraded camp of Sachsenhausen, where he and a group of professionals are forced to produce fake foreign currency under the program Operation Bernhard. Faced with a moral dilemma, Salomon must decide whether his actions, which could prolong the war and risk the lives of fellow prisoners, are ultimately the right ones. (subtitled)

Introduction and discussion by Dr. Brad Prager, Associate Professor of German and member of the Program in Film Studies, University of Missouri



June 17 - *Left Luggage*

After the Holocaust, a survivor from Antwerp, Belgium, endlessly turns over the soil of Antwerp in an attempt to find suitcases he buried while escaping from Nazis. His daughter Chaya, a rebellious university student, is hired as a nanny by a strictly observant Chassidic family even though her secular manners clearly fly in the face of their traditions. Chaya develops a special bond with the youngest of the boys, four-year-old Simcha, so far incapable of speaking. When tragedy strikes, some in the community hold Chaya responsible. (in English)

Introduction and discussion by Dr. Ben Furnish, Managing Editor, BkMk Press, University of Missouri-Kansas City



American Cartoonists: Nazi Germany and the Holocaust



Exhibition Extended through May 8 at the Jewish Community Campus

Following its two-month display at the Central Library in Kansas City, *American Cartoonists: Nazi Germany and the Holocaust* has moved to the Jewish Community Campus through May 8, 2014.

Presented by MCHE in cooperation with the Jewish Community Center, this panel exhibit illustrates the impact Jewish cartoonists had on the comic book industry in the 1930s and 1940s while telling the story of the ways this unlikely medium played a role in exposing hatred and the horrors of the Holocaust.

On loan from New York's Kupferberg Holocaust Resource Center and Archives at Queensborough Community College, the local project is funded by the J-LEAD Fund of the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Kansas City.

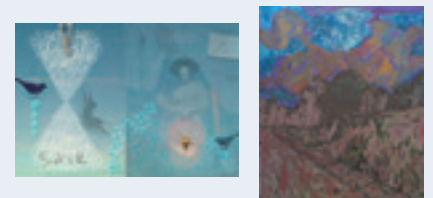
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Looking at After

Four Contemporary Artists
Reflect on Legacy

A Creative Spark

The Art of Anna Ilona Gondos



through May 18, 2014

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www.kcjmc.org (913.266.8414)

Yom Hashoah Commemorations



This year's Yom HaShoah service, commemorating the 70th anniversary of the deportation of Hungarian Jews to Auschwitz, will take place on Sunday, April 27 at 1:30 p.m. in the Lewis and Shirley White Theatre at the Jewish Community Campus in Overland Park.

Mirra Klausner, daughter of Dr. Carla Klausner and Holocaust survivor Tiberius Klausner, will chair the program, which will also feature short readings from the White Rose Student Essay Contest and images from The Auschwitz Album.

April 28, 1:00 p.m.

State of Kansas Commemoration "Confronting the Holocaust"

Featuring Benoit Wesley, leader of the Netherlands' Jewish community and honorary consul of the State of Israel.

Kansas State Historical Museum
6425 Southwest 6th Avenue, Topeka, KS
Contact: 785-272-6040

Sponsored by the Kansas State Holocaust Commission

April 28

Yom HaShoah Services

- Reading of Names, 8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Pergola (near university bell tower)
- Prayer Service, 2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Finucane Jesuit Center
- Prayer service honoring the life of Ilse Marcus, a refugee on the passenger ship *St. Louis*, denied access to the United States in 1939

Rockhurst University
1100 Rockhurst Road, Kansas City, MO

Contact Bill Kriege at 816-501-4885
or bill.kriege@rockhurst.edu.

View Survivor Pages Online

To view pages posted thus far, visit www.mcchec.org/survivors. Additional pages will be introduced each month and announced on Facebook and e-blasts to MCHE members.

To receive automatic updates as new profiles are posted, "like" MCHE on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/MidwestCenterforHolocaustEducation>.

April 2014

- Ann Federman
- Isak Federman
- Jack Mandelbaum
- Sigmund Mandelbaum
- Aron Warren
- Sonia Warshawski

September 2014

- Iser Cukier
- Tola Cukier
- Leah Indyk
- Tibor Klausner
- Ernie Simon
- Rose Zemelman

October 2014

- Reggie Goldberg
- Joseph Greenbaum
- Boris Segelstein
- Lilly Segelstein
- Frank Szasz
- Sam Walters

May 2014

- Abe Flekier
- Abe Gutovitz
- Joe Gutovitz
- Sam Nussbaum
- Sam Sander
- Bernard Tenenbaum

November 2014

- Frank Adler
- Gus Eisemann
- Ann Jacobson
- Norbert Lipschuetz
- George Rosenberg
- Sylvan Siegler

June 2014

- Ralph Berets
- Margalith Clarenberg
- Marianne Dennis
- Maria Devinki
- Ann Walters

July 2014

- Felicia Brill
- Ilisa Cole
- Klaus Frank
- Kurt Levi
- Tom Lewinsohn
- Kurt Metzl

December 2014

- Bertha Gutovitz
- Dorothy Harding
- Abe Kopec
- Sara Mittelman
- Molly Nagel
- Chana Sander
- Hanna Sukiennik

August 2014

- Evelyn Bergl
- Zdenko Bergl
- Michael Rothstein
- Olga Rothstein
- Malvina Stras
- Walter Stras

Katzberg Bench

The family of Holocaust survivors Helen and Leon Katzberg gathered in November to dedicate a memorial bench at the site of the Warsaw Ghetto Memorial at the Jewish Community Campus.

Leon was the last surviving member of the committee from the New American Club, which planned and assumed financial responsibility for the 10-foot by 10-foot aluminum sculpture that originally stood at the entrance of the former Jewish Community Center on Holmes Road.

This memorial to the six million Jews murdered during the Holocaust also stands as a personal monument to the losses sustained by local survivors and is inscribed with the names of 400 family members. Harry S. Truman dedicated the monument, one of the first of its kind, on June 9, 1963.



MCHE Annual Meeting May 5, 2014

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Vice Presidents

Cathy Blake

Raymond Doswell, Ed. D.

Rich Hastings

Lynn C. Hoover

Secretary

Karl Zobrist

Treasurer

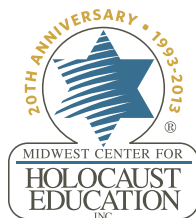
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Annual Meeting 2014

MCHE Annual Meeting and Elections

Monday, May 5, 2014 • 5:00 p.m.

Jewish Community Campus Social Hall

5:00 p.m. Reception | 5:45 p.m. Business Meeting and Elections

Followed by recognition of finalists and announcement of
winners in this year's White Rose Student Essay Contest

Reservations requested by April 30

913-327-8196 or rsvp@mchekc.org

See sidebar for the nominated slate.

05-05@5:00