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„We Will Be Building Our Future“ - 30 Year of the Holocaust Educational Trust

Fellowships at Auschwitz for the Study of Professional Ethics 2019

IHRA Grant Programmes
We invite all of you to work closely with us. We would be grateful to receive information about events, projects, publications, exhibitions, conferences or research that we should share with our readers. We also accept proposals for articles.

Please do share information about this magazine with others, particularly via social media.

Paweł Sawicki, Editor-in-chief

Our e-mail: memoria@auschwitz.org

All editions: memoria.auschwitz.org
The Collections of the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum have been enriched with a unique object - the baton of Franciszek Nierychło, the conductor of the first prisoner orchestra established in the autumn of 1940 at the German Nazi concentration camp Auschwitz.

"The camp orchestra aroused controversy among the inmates. Although it saved many outstanding musicians from hard labour and provided emotional experiences during rehearsals and Sunday internal concerts; it was, however, an element of humiliation and terror, especially upon return of the commandos from work, when the completely exhausted prisoners had to enter the camp in the rhythm of military marches or other lively melodies. Several accounts also show that the presence of the orchestra mislead people brought for selection and extermination in Jewish transports from all over Europe, as to the true nature of Auschwitz," the director of the Museum, Dr. Piotr M.A. Cywiński, emphasised.
Hidden for 70 years, a new invaluable contribution to Holocaust literature—the diary of Renia Spiegel—was rediscovered inside a desk in New York.

The latest EHRI Document Blog post by Barnabas Balint (University of Exeter) focuses on ordinary people outside of resistance organisations who helped their friends, neighbours, and acquaintances as ‘anonymous’ resistors in Hungary and looks into the challenges they had to overcome.

During World War II, the U.S. military launched a full-scale effort to find and save pieces of European art stolen by the Nazis. The Monuments, Fine Arts, and Archives program was known as the „Monuments Men“. Less is known about the group's initiative to seize art made by the Nazis—including works by Adolf Hitler himself.

Magda Brown was packed and ready to fly here when she heard the news. Her daughter sat her down and told her: A shooting at a synagogue, around the corner from where Magda was scheduled to give a presentation, the following day, about her experiences surviving the Holocaust. “Now the world needs to hear the message even more,” she said. “Let’s go.”
On October 14, several relatives of former Sobibór extermination camp prisoners, representatives of state and local governments, ambassadors and diplomats, members of associations commemorating Holocaust victims, as well as members of the clergy, met at the Sobibór Memorial and Museum. The event was to commemorate the revolt and escape of prisoners - one of the most important manifestations of Jewish resistance during World War II. The ceremony was organized by the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage in collaboration with the State Museum at Majdanek.

During the commemorations, the Commander’s Cross of the Order of the Rebirth of Poland was posthumously awarded to Lejba Felhendler, one of the leaders of the resistance movement in the camp.

The accompanying letter from Polish President Andrzej Duda, addressed to the participants of the ceremony, was read by Wojciech Kolarski, a minister at the Chancellery of the President. 'The Republic of Poland wishes to honor in a unique way Lejba Felhendler, its valiant hero, who along with Aleksander Peczerski, co-headed the uprising in Sobibór,' he read. The award was received by Professor Nicholas Kittri, the niece of Lejba Felhendler.

'You are gathered at a place that is a testimony to a horrible crime as well as a proud resistance and heroic fight for freedom and integrity,' the President recalled.
In his speech, Professor Piotr Gliński, Vice-President of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Poland and the Minister of Culture and National Heritage, said, "Today is not just about the celebration of the memory of the victims and heroes of Sobibór. It is also meant to remind us about the threat of racism and criminal prejudices towards others. [...] We have the moral imperative to do all within our powers to relieve the world of such acts."

Representatives of the states that co-created the International Steering Committee for the construction of the Museum and Memorial in Sobibór also took the floor: Israeli Ambassador Anna Azari; Angelique Berg, Director General for Public Health at the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport of the Kingdom of the Netherlands; and the Ambassador of the Republic of Slovakia, Dušan Krištofík. The next speaker was Russian Ambassador Sergey Andreev.

Jarosław Sellin - the Secretary of State at the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage and Chairperson of the International Steering Committee for the Construction of the Museum and Memorial in Sobibór - and Dr. Tomasz Kranz, Director of the State Museum at Majdanek, both underlined the significance of the museum for future generations. "I hope you will support the activities of the museum, the primary mission of which is to uphold the memory of the victims and transfer knowledge of the events that took place in Sobibór in the years 1942-1943. The responsibility to give testimony now rests with us," Kranz emphasized.

The construction of the museum and the new spatial plan of the Sobibór Memorial referred to in the speeches is an international venture. Its implementation is managed by the Steering Committee, which was founded in 2008 comprised of representatives of four states: Poland, the Netherlands, Slovakia and Israel.
Fragment of a shoe polish container manufactured by a Warsaw-based company Fabryka Przetworów Chemicznych „Dobrolin”

Glass
H. 2.2 cm, Dia. 7.5 cm
Lager II, area of the former shop building

Fragment pojemnika pasty do butów warszawskiej Fabryki Przetworów Chemicznych „Dobrolin”

Szkło
wys. 2.2 cm, śr. 7.5 cm
Lager II, okolica nieistniejącego budynku sortowni

Wyдобycie z popiołów
In 2013, the State Museum at Majdanek organized an architectural competition for the design of the new Museum. The selected concept includes a concrete wall that runs along the old road via which victims were herded into the gas chambers. It is to surround the place where the gas chambers and mass graves were located, and later where the bodies of the murdered were burnt.

The site of the uprising will be visible from the museum building. It has been erected in an open shell, but works are ongoing to complete it. By August 2019, the building and technical infrastructure will be ready. It will then be possible to proceed with the installation of the permanent exhibition, which we plan to open in spring 2020. Previously, the burial field has been secured by covering it with geotextiles and a layer of white stones.

The second part of the ceremony began with the clergy of various denominations reciting ecumenical prayers for the victims of the Sobibór extermination camp. Then, the ceremony was transferred to the edge of the burial field where participants placed flowers and candles.

Guests had the opportunity to view a special exhibition titled 'Excavated from the Ashes' presenting selected Sobibór museum objects, primarily personal items of the murdered found during archaeological works on the premises of the former camp. Furthermore, on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the prisoners’ uprising, the Museum prepared an album with the same title edited by Tomasz Kranz, consisting of photographs of one hundred museum objects.

They are accompanied by catalog descriptions and information about the places of discovery. The authors of the publication made every effort possible to reconstruct the histories of these objects. The book is available in Polish and English.
The Sobibór camp operated within the structures of 'Aktion Reinhardt' (Operation Reinhardt) from May 1942 to October 1943. Approximately 170,000 Jews were murdered here. This number includes 70,000 Jewish inhabitants of the Lublin region, 34,000 Jews from the Netherlands and 24,000 from Slovakia. Among the victims were also Jews from the Czech Republic, France, Germany and Belarus.

On October 14 1943, an uprising broke out in the camp, as a result of which some of the prisoners managed to escape. Shortly afterwards the camp was liquidated; the buildings containing gas chambers were blown up and all other structures were essentially dismantled. The revolt also became a pretext for Heinrich Himmler to issue an order to exterminate all Jewish prisoners in Majdanek and the labour camps in Trawniki and Poniatowa. The crime that claimed about 42,000 Jews' lives, code-named 'Aktion Erntefest' (Operation Harvest Festival) was carried out between November 3-4 1943.

The State Museum at Majdanek will commemorate these events on November 4 2018 with a symphonic concert titled 'Remembrance of Holocaust Victims', in collaboration with the Henryk Wieniawski Philharmonic in Lublin.

Read more: http://www.sobibor-memorial.eu
EDUCATIONAL CHALLENGES IN AUTHENTIC MEMORIAL SITES

The results of the three-year project “The Future of Auschwitz and the Holocaust Education in Authentic Memorial Sites” implemented by the Auschwitz Museum and the Anne Frank House in Amsterdam were summarised during an international conference held at the Book Gallery in Oświęcim between 10-12 October.

The project consisted of five components: online education, teacher exchanges, study visits for educators of Memorial Sites, training for a group of young leaders, as well as adapting the scenario of a visit to the Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial to the perception of persons with special education needs.

All activities focused on improving the professional competences of teachers and museum educators, primarily in the area teachings on tolerance and respect for human rights, as well as about the history of racism and antisemitism.
'We live in extraordinary, dynamic and challenging times. We are facing a significant challenge today: how to continue to teach? Perhaps we made mistakes in the past regarding education in memorial sites? Do our actions bring about desired results, since we often encounter incomprehension and populism. What next? How do we deal with it? The conference shows us how to work with different people, in different environments, and how to continue our work - at Auschwitz and other memorials,' said the director of the International Center for Education about Auschwitz and the Holocaust, Andrzej Kacorzyk, during the conference opening speech.

In a letter to participants of the conference, the Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to Poland Ron J.P.M. van Dartel wrote: "Never again Auschwitz! Nie wieder Auschwitz! Nooit meer Auschwitz! This motto is known in all languages and expresses the obvious wish of our post-war generation. Over the past decades, and even in the present times, we have witnessed and continue to witness atrocities, which is a source of concern that should stimulate reflection. This wish is seemingly not shared by everyone. Our current world still requires daily effort, to prevent hatred, discrimination and violence. We must remain alert to keep our public wish alive. Education is one of the most significant parts of this effort, undertaken by people, institutions and governments".

The conference was inaugurated by a panel titled “Educational challenges in authentic memorial sites” with the participation of Anna Ziółkowska PhD, director of the martyrdom museum in Żabikowo, Piotr Tarnowski, director of the Stutthof Museum and Bartosz Bartyzel, spokesperson for the Auschwitz Museum. Topics raised during the discussion included among others educational work with the new generation of visitors, functioning of memorial sites in the light of new technologies and social media, challenges related to building relations between a historical event and the present day, and how to build an attitude of activity accountability to threats that we observe in today’s world.
'What is the reaction of societies and nations to genocide and murders? The world looks on and protests but does not counteract. This evil around us, which is continuously developing, is accepted by our passivity' said Anna Ziółkowska.

'In spite of the well-known history and millions of visitors to Auschwitz and other memorial sites we do not hear the voice of protests. The Burmese situation is entirely incomprehensible, given that a Nobel Peace Prize winner is the head of state. We, as think thanks should strengthen the message and remind people how the world strayed when there was no one to say no, said, Piotr Tarnowski

'We ought to inform and sensitise visitors. We should also cooperate with other organisations because as memorial sites we cannot change the world by ourselves. However, we ought to find a way to make the voices from memorial sites not only a story about history but about our education urging people to assume an active and responsible attitude,' stressed, Bartosz Bartyzel

Prof. Marek Kucia and Dr Katarzyna Stec from the Jagiellonian University discussed education about Auschwitz and other former camps in the perspective of sociological research conducted to date. The day ended with a panel devoted to how the context of authentic places of remembrance affects the subject and educational opportunities. It was attended by Magdalena Wolak of Camp des Milles memorial, dr. Alicja Bartuś from the Oświęcim Institute of Human Rights and dr. Joanna Podolska of the Mark Edelman Centre for Dialogue in Łódz.

On the second day, the entire part of the project was presented in detail. The first part contained teacher exchanges between Poland and the Netherlands. As part of meetings at the Auschwitz Memorial, and in Cracow, the participants learned and presented examples of good practices in teaching about the Holocaust and II World War in both countries. Particular emphasis was placed on education in the memorial sites, preparation and summary of visits, educational travelling exhibitions and innovative teaching solutions used in teaching about the Holocaust, such as peer education or work with on-line lessons.

However, during the stay in Holland, the educators visited among others, the Anne Frank House and other Amsterdam institutions, such as the National Holocaust Museum, Jewish Museum, Portuguese Synagogue and the Dutch Resistance Museum. During the stay in Rotterdam, they visited among others Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences, where they had the opportunity to participate in discussions with young educators about their prospects for teaching about World War II. The seminar students also got acquainted with the activities of the Feyenoord football club and the Giovanni van Bronckhorst Foundation operating at the club, whose educators conduct activities on anti-discrimination education. In turn, during the stay in Vught, they visited the Memorial located on the premises of the former German Nazi concentration camp Herzogenbusch and acquainting themselves with its educational mission.

The second part of the project was a study visit by 16 guides and educators of the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum to Holland, who visited Amsterdam and the Westerbork memorial, from where over 90,000 Dutch Jews were deported in 1942-44, mainly to Auschwitz and Sobibor. The guides could visit both the premises of the former Westerbork transit camp, explore the museum’s exhibition and learn more about the work of the Museum, the specifics and expectations of the Dutch groups. Presentations devoted to new educational techniques were particularly impressive, among others, the use of Virtual Reality technology.

The third component of the project is the program for Young Leaders. Its primary assumption was to create a group of young educators, tasked with actively supporting and promoting educational programmes for the Auschwitz Museum, Anne Frank house, and their own circles.
This part of the project was firmly focused on issues associating Auschwitz and the Holocaust with problems of the present day through education about threats related to antisemitism, racism and discrimination. In the years 2017-2018, a group of young leaders from Poland and Holland participated in three meetings: in Wroclaw, Auschwitz Memorial and Amsterdam.

Under the project, an on-line lesson “Auschwitz - German Nazi concentration and extermination camp” developed aimed at preparing young people from 13 years old for a visit to a Memorial. The authors of the lesson scenario are Adam Musiał and Monika Witalis-Malinowska, certified teachers cooperating with the International Center for Education about Auschwitz and the Holocaust.

The lesson methodology is based on short descriptions of the most significant events, elements of the ideology and history of the Third Reich, as well as the concentration and Holocaust camps. In addition to the historical text itself, part of the lesson is a rich archival material containing photos, maps and fragments of documentary films. A significant element of the lesson are exercises for students, allowing for the systematisation of acquired knowledge. The participants were also informed of the mobile exhibition “Auschwitz Experience in the Art of Former Prisoners” the educational materials prepared for it.

During the conference, a panel was also held entitled "Groups with special educational needs in Memorial Sites - theory and practice", attended by Dr. Marcin Owsiński from the Stutthof Museum in Sztutowo, Gabriel Dittrich from Campus Christophorus Jugendwerk, Leszek Szuster from the International Youth Meeting Centre and Piotr Kondratowicz from the Lower Silesian Special Needs and Education Centre Nr 12 for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing in Wrocław.

On the last day of the conference, the participants visited the Auschwitz Memorial according to the tour scenario created by the participants.

The implementation of the three-year project and organisation of the conference “The Future of Auschwitz and the Holocaust Education in Authentic Memorial Sites” was possible thanks to the financial assistance of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands.
This article aims to present the complexity of the management of the collections that are included in the temporary exhibition 'Auschwitz. Not Long Ago. Not Far Away', inaugurated in Madrid in December 2017 in co-operation with the State Museum of Auschwitz-Birkenau, Poland. It is also scheduled to travel around Europe and America in the coming years. The exhibit objects belong to more than twenty international collections concerned with the heritage of the Holocaust.

Over the last year, the Department of Collections Management has worked hand-in-hand with the curators and museography team, facing a series of challenges that have gradually been resolved. Reflection processes have been accompanied by tools and work methods that are consistent with the magnitude and relevance of the project.

It is difficult to approach this type of tragic heritage, the significance of which oscillates between the historical, social and traumatic. Its comprehension goes beyond the known and assumed classification, so the following questions arise:
- What happens when there is no clear classification system for the collections related to the Holocaust?
- What is the conservation procedure?

The documentation provided for the inclusion of the Auschwitz-Birkenau German Nazi concentration and extermination camp (1940-1945) in the List of World Heritage Sites by UNESCO stresses its Outstanding Universal Value, and that it must be preserved as a witness of what crimes human beings have been able to commit, so that it does not happen again. In other words, the objective is to preserve the camp and use it for educational purpose focused on the Holocaust.

The Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum was created in 1947, very soon after its liberation on January 27 1945. It is the owner of the largest collection loaned to the exhibition, and its objects help us to understand the history of the other collections. Each and every one of the objects has, in one way or another, shared space and time (Cywinski, 2018).

These objects provide new information through their narrative as vehicles of transmission of the message in the exhibition 'Auschwitz. Not Long Ago. Not Far Away' (Ferreiro, 2018). To its study as individual objects with diverse origins, materials and manufactures, a new perspective is added: that of a collection of collections related to the period before, during and after Auschwitz (Van Pelt, 2018a).

This set of elements, which individually transmit specific values, contribute a new vision integrated from the narrative in a new global message. That makes it possible to provide more data to the documentary processes of the museums of origin, expanding and enriching their documentary information and cataloging within the framework of the management of the collections of the exhibition.
El campo de concentración de Auschwitz está formado por cinco campos y una prisión. Cada uno de los prisioneros consiste en una extensión colosal situada tras varios hilos de alambrada electrificada. En cada una de las numerosas barracas con dos filas de literas, plantas hechas con piezas de madera. Contemplar tanta tristeza resulta pavoroso.
The diversity in the origins of collections

With more than 600 objects on loan, the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum (ABSM), as well as Yad Vashem in Israel and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM), stand out of the 22 collections that are part of the exhibition.

They form a broad set of institutions such as museums, archives and study centers, as well as private entities and families, with a shared mission: to preserve these witnesses of their history and life, as a reminder of their survival, of their parents, or of the donor families of the objects that now is being guarded by museums (Galán, 2018b).

The typology of collections and their conservation

In order to understand their preservation, the exhibition's Department of Collections has made an initial approximation regarding the cataloging of objects as a logical process of the methodology for their preventive conservation.

A. Objects from before and during deportation

These different objects can be contextualized in two chronological periods:

The first group of artifacts that we document and preserve in the exhibition are comprised of those whose narrative helps us to understand the European background of the beginnings and rise of Nazism. Documentary materials - such as satirical press and illustrations that are displayed in conservation frameworks - belong chronologically between the 19th century and the first decades of the 20th century.

A second group consists of objects within the context of deportation. These are personal objects of everyday life, such as those related to personal identification of the person's country of origin or passports, clothing, hygiene or household items, and also those objects with monetary value (such as jewelry) or symbolic value (like family photographs or metallic plates displaying house numbers). At the time of deportation, these were kept in suitcases on which the deportees had to write down their last name and date of birth. In most cases, these are recognizable materials from 1930s Europe: ceramic, metal, textile and wooden supports, in addition to the paper supports, make up this documentation.

The exhibition includes a large collection of the ABSM, the origins of which relate to the section of the camp called 'Kanada', in which the objects from the deportees' suitcases were stored. Most of the 'Kanada' items were discovered after the liberation in storage areas of the former camp. Since the evacuating SS forces burnt the main 'Kanada' barracks, some items were left on the site and in the ground. They sometimes emerge to the surface and are taken care of by the Auschwitz Memorial Collections.
Particularly striking is the amalgam of half-melted cutlery. The cutlery was melted as the result of burning of 'Kanada' barracks during the SS evacuation of the camp. This amalgam of metal and more than 40 elements of cutlery have been preserved by departments of the ABSM to display the same deformations and evidence of fire, although the metal has been stabilized.

Another relevant group of objects of the deportation period are the letters, some of them thrown from the trains that led to the different camps. These testimony documents have been conserved, among others, by the Camp Westerbork Museum in the Netherlands, and present a good state of conservation in both the paper and inks.

B. Objects – witnesses of survival in the camp

Some of these objects were hidden by their owners, and were carried with them, witnessing their tragic stay in the camp. These type of elements are usually kept by survivors' relatives in a private context, and in some cases donated to museums. This was the case, for example, with the blanket of Siegfried Fedrid, used in a death march to shelter a group of people, on loan from the Holocaust Center for Humanity of Seattle (United States).
There are objects related to the camp system - such as a barrack that was reused after the liberation - or parts of the Nazi administrative system. These include bureaucratic documents generated in the camp, as well as SS officers' instruments, furniture, and clothing; the bunk beds located in the barracks; the simple kitchenware, work and doctors' utensils etc. Furthermore, the collection contains artifacts of the military industry itself, like the wagons of the German railway system, and, perhaps what is most recognizable, the set of textiles that make up the striped uniforms of the prisoners along with wooden clogs.

Another very interesting group of objects is the set of diaries and memoirs written by the survivors, as well as letters, documents and reflections in the international press after the liberation of Auschwitz on January 27 1945.

Photographs depicting events prior to the deportations (mainly from the ghettos), as well as during the process in the camp, are displayed either individually or in collections. Drawings documenting camp life are also included as testimonies of survival and documentary support. In some cases these drawings were found after liberation, placed in bottles or cans and stored in the basements of the barracks. In some cases, the drawings bear a signature, as in the case of the artist David Olère.

**C. The didactic collections**

An interesting group of models has been created exnovo to explain the architecture of the camp (Van Pelt, 2018b).

**Conclusion**

Due to its own identity and great historical magnitude, the exhibition 'Auschwitz. Not Long Ago. Not Far Away' has been a challenge in each phase of its creation and production.

Because of the characteristics of the itinerant exhibition composed of more than 22 different collections, its management and conservation has been one of the milestones of the project.

All management efforts are based on an **open dialogue and constant communication** with entities and families that have temporarily ceded their artifacts, and have therefore placed their trust in both the exhibition management team and the team of the Madrid exhibition hall.

The exhibition 'Auschwitz. Not Long Ago. Not Far Away' forms a complex and significant reality; a message for the defence of human rights where world heritage is the tool by which the past meets the future.

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*Ana Galán Pérez - Collections Manager of the "Auschwitz" exhibition; Anna Biederman - University of Zaragoza, member of research group Observatorio Aragonés de Arte en la Esfera Pública.*
Bibliography:


WE WILL BE BUILDING OUR FUTURE

To date, 37,000 pupils and teachers have taken part in the Lessons from Auschwitz project organized by the Holocaust Educational Trust. HET was established in the UK in 1988 to educate young people from all backgrounds about the Holocaust and to explore the lessons of this tragic history for today’s world. Jack Downes, HET Regional Ambassador, wrote the following letter about his experiences participating in the project.

I am writing this letter on the Holocaust Educational Trust's 200th visit to Auschwitz as part of the Lessons from Auschwitz programme. By today, over 37,000 young people from all over the UK have taken part in this project.

When I came to write this note, I didn’t know how to demonstrate how crucial it is that young people play a role in remembrance of the Holocaust. When I went on my own visit to Auschwitz a couple of years ago, I felt truly and deeply moved, as it gave immeasurable depth to any prior knowledge I had of the Holocaust. As part of the programme, I was fortunate enough to hear the testimony of Holocaust survivor Rudi Oppenheimer. Rudi was held at Westerbork and Bergen-Belsen camps. When Rudi arrived at Bergen-Belsen, he was still with his older brother Paul, younger sister Eve, and their mother and father. Conditions in Belsen deteriorated rapidly in 1944 as increasing numbers of Jewish prisoners were brought to the camp from Auschwitz-Birkenau and elsewhere. As a result, Rudi and his family suffered increasingly dire living conditions.

Jack Downes
With tens of thousands of prisoners now arriving, overcrowding, starvation and disease were rife. In January 1945, Rudi’s mother fell severely ill and died. His father died just two months later. Rudi, Paul and Eve managed to survive the Holocaust, and were eventually reunited. They had an uncle and aunt who lived in London, which is how the siblings ended up rebuilding their lives here in England. I couldn’t believe how much these children had to endure at such a young age – and Rudi’s bravery in sharing his story. Rudi refers to himself as ‘Little Rudi’ when speaking about what he experienced as a child, and I wonder whether that is his way of detaching himself from what he saw.

On the visit, I saw the ruins of the gas chambers that remain at Birkenau. To stand in the spot where so many lives were taken is an indescribable feeling. Whilst we spent time reflecting on the lives of the victims, we also spoke a lot about the perpetrators of the Holocaust. I still cannot comprehend how someone could go to work at a concentration and death camp every day, be responsible to the mass murder of men, women and children, and then return home, only a few hundred metres away, to their family every evening. We can’t write about these people as ‘monsters’; they were normal men and women, who had a choice. To call them monsters dismisses them of their responsibility and their capacity to choose. We must learn from this.

Those of us who have participated now take these deeply important lessons, and share what we have learned with our wider communities, so that they understand what happened during the Holocaust, and how it started with antisemitism and hatred. If I share my experiences from this project with ten friends, and they share something they have learned with ten other friends, the ripple effects multiply throughout our communities.

Today, these ripple effects created through sharing these truths are more important than ever in Holocaust education, driving out antisemitism wherever we see it.

It is important to continue to learn and to remember, as the moral significance of the Holocaust is still so relevant today. Antisemitism, racism and discrimination of all kinds still exist, the world over. This is why it is so crucial that young people are involved in Holocaust remembrance; we are the ones that will be building our future, and I want us to be doing so with a clear understanding of what hate can lead to.

I have taken on the responsibility, with other young Ambassadors for the Holocaust Educational Trust, to ensure that the truth of what happened in the Holocaust is defended, and that future generations learn from this horrendous part of our history; so that we can build a brighter and more tolerant future. I hope that you will all stand with us, in ensuring that the words of people like Rudi live on.
FELLlowships at auschwitz for the study of professional ethics

FASPE is a fellowship program that challenges young professionals to develop as ethical and responsible leaders. In a modern civil society, professionals play a critical role in shaping public discourse and in influencing policies in both the private and public sectors. FASPE impresses upon its Fellows the impact of their roles as professionals. FASPE is now accepting applications for its 2019 programs.

Fellows begin their examination of professional ethics by studying professionals in Nazi Germany, whose failures as ethical leaders enabled devastating policies. Against this historical backdrop, Fellows then consider the ethical issues currently facing professionals in their respective fields, including how to identify and respond to such issues.

All images in this article: FASPE / Dorian Jedrasiewcz
FASPE currently has five Fellowship programs - Business, Journalism, Law, Medical and Seminary - which are offered to graduate students and early career professionals. Each Fellowship takes place over two weeks in Berlin, Krakow and Oswieçim, where Fellows visit sites of Nazi history, including the former Nazi concentration and death camp of Auschwitz.

In addition to site visits, Fellows participate in daily seminars. Each program has its own curriculum of small group discussions, case studies and lectures that are connected to the history and historical sites the program explores. Faculty leadership is provided by recognized academics, practicing professionals, historians and ethicists.

Each year, FASPE accepts between 65 and 75 Fellows across all five disciplines out of a diverse and competitive applicant pool from across the United States and abroad. Each FASPE program travels with at least one other program, allowing Fellows to benefit from cross-disciplinary perspectives and discussions in both formal and informal settings. All Fellowships are fully funded.
FASPE seeks Fellows who are interested in engaging in discussions with their co-Fellows and faculty and who have the intellectual and emotional maturity to unpack difficult and controversial issues responsibly and respectfully in small group settings. FASPE selects its Fellows on the basis of their academic background, personal and professional experiences, capacity for leadership and ability to contribute to the program and the alumni community. All applications are welcome and reviewed.

2019 Program Dates

May 25 2019 - June 7 2019: Business, Journalism and Law

June 15 2019 - June 28 2019: Medical and Seminary

2019 Program Application Deadlines

FASPE Business: Friday, December 28 2018 at 11:59 pm EST

FASPE Journalism: Monday, December 17 2018 at 11:59 pm EST

FASPE Law: Friday, December 28 2018 at 11:59 pm EST

FASPE Medical: Monday, December 17 2018 at 11:59 pm EST

FASPE Seminary: Monday, December 17 2018 at 11:59 pm EST

To learn more about FASPE, please visit the FASPE website at www.faspe-ethics.org.
The International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance calls for grant applications from non-profit organizations and institutions in the field of education, remembrance, and research of the Holocaust and the genocide of the Roma.

The IHRA’s Grant Strategy funds projects in the field of education, remembrance and research with the following objectives:

- To increase capacity of governments and non-governmental institutions to safeguard the record of the Holocaust and the genocide of the Roma and to counter distortion.

- To encourage the international exchange of good practices and promote historically informed policymaking.

- To develop educational approaches that enhance awareness of the continuing relevance of the Holocaust and the genocide of the Roma for the present and the future.

The IHRA Grant Strategy has two programs: Safeguarding the record of the Holocaust and the genocide of the Roma & Countering distortion.
caust. A world without genocide.
Safeguarding the record of the Holocaust and the genocide of the Roma.

Through this program the IHRA seeks to fund projects that contribute to safeguarding the record of the Holocaust and the genocide of the Roma in the following areas:

a) testimonies of survivors and witnesses which have not yet been recorded;
b) mapping and documentation of as yet unidentified and/or unmarked sites pertaining to the Holocaust and/or the genocide of the Roma;
c) archival material that is physically at risk or where there are problems of accessibility.

Countering distortion

The IHRA grants funds for projects that seek effective and meaningful ways to prevent and counteract distortion, which emphasize the sharing of good practices and strengthen international cooperation on this topic as well as increasing the capacity of governmental and non-governmental institutions to address these issues. Through this program the IHRA encourages projects that aim to prevent and counter distortion in the following areas:

a) public discourse, media and particularly social media;
b) education;
c) research;
d) memorialization

Do you have a project idea that you think would fit? Please consult the IHRA Grant Strategy Guidelines for more details on what we fund and how to apply.

Practical information:

IHRA only accepts applications that are submitted online. In order to create an account and fill in an application, please proceed to our online application system.

Applicants must register through the IHRA’s online application system and complete the project summary and the budget sections by 15 January 2019. All other sections can be modified until 31 January 2019. Please note that it is not possible to create an account after 15 January.

Applications must be received by 31 January, 23:59 CET.

We strongly encourage applicants to contact the IHRA Permanent Office far in advance of the deadline in order to seek advice for an application. A preview of the online application system can be viewed here.