

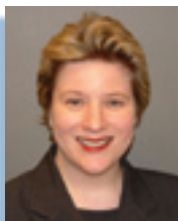


MIDWEST CENTER FOR HOLOCAUST EDUCATION NEWSLETTER

SPRING/SUMMER
2010

Wednesday Evenings at Deadly Medicine

*Program Series Enriches
Exhibition's History and
Contemporary Connections*



March 24
*German Physicians
and Nazi Crimes: The
Medical Profession and
Its Role in Nazi Policy*

Dr. Patricia Heberer, historian with the Center for Advanced Studies at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, will address the role that medical professionals played as planners and implementers of Nazi racial hygiene policy. She will explain how physicians worked to apply two significant aspects of Nazi policy: compulsory sterilization and the clandestine "euthanasia" program, the Nazis' first program of mass murder. Dr. Heberer's presentation will take place in the Arthur Stilwell Room at Union Station.

Continued on Page 5

**For public programs, please
contact the National Archives
at 816-268-8010 or**

kansascity.educate@nara.gov.

**There is no charge for these programs,
but seating is limited and reservations are
required two days prior to the event.**

Exhibit Viewing and Light Reception
at the National Archives at Kansas City
from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

All programs begin at 7:00 p.m.

See page 5 for program venues.

DEADLY MEDICINE CREATING THE MASTER RACE

A traveling exhibition from the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

Presented by the
Midwest Center for Holocaust Education in
partnership with the **National Archives (NARA)** and in
cooperation with the **Center for Practical Bioethics**

MARCH 16 – JUNE 10, 2010
at the
National Archives of Kansas City
400 West Pershing Road, Kansas City, Missouri
Tuesdays through Saturdays • 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Featuring original artifacts, photographs, documents and historic
film footage illustrating how the Nazis' campaign to cleanse
German society of individuals viewed as threats
to the nation's "health" culminated in the Holocaust.


Preview the exhibition at <http://www.ushmm.org/deadlymedicine>.

Find out about free, one-hour docent-led tours for students
in grades 9 and up and adult groups by contacting
Lori Cox-Paul at 816-268-8017 or lori.cox-paul@nara.gov.




See page 5 of this newsletter for information about
school and community programs.

This exhibition is made possible by generous grants to MCHE from the following funders:

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MCHE STAFF



Laurel Maslowski, Fran Sternberg,
Jessica Rockhold, and Dana Smith

Laurel Maslowski

Evening Resource Assistant
resource@mchekc.org

Jessica Rockhold

Director of School Programs
and Teacher Education
913-327-8195
schools@mchekc.org

Dana Smith

Executive Assistant
913-327-8192
assist@mchekc.org

Fran Sternberg

Director of University Programs
and Adult Education
913-327-8194
program@mchekc.org

Jean Zeldin

Executive Director
913-327-8191
jeanz@mchekc.org



Newsletter Editor

Trudi Galblum

Art Director

Janelle Smith



MCHE

913-327-8190
info@mchekc.org
www.mchekc.org

Photos on page 2 courtesy of
James Maidhof Photography.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

MCHE Keeps Getting Stronger

My first term as MCHE president has passed very quickly, and I believe the organization just keeps getting stronger. I would like to reflect on three highlights of the past year.

First, last winter, MCHE brought Jane Redman, an educator at the Anne Frank House in Amsterdam, to Kansas City. Jane put Anne Frank's life into the larger context of the Holocaust. I had the pleasure to visit with Jane and discovered a connection. The most recent school group she had toured around the Anne Frank House was from the high school in my hometown of Liverpool where I taught back in the 1980s!

Next, the exhibit highlight of the year, enhanced by wonderful programs, was *Saving the Little Brown Monkey: The True Wartime Escape of Margret and H.A. Rey*. I particularly enjoyed opening night with artist Allan Drummond, who explained the steps taken by an illustrator in creating a book, and author Louise Borden, who

retraced the steps of the Reys across Europe and South America. Hearing from both artist and author together truly brought the Reys' story to life. I am very grateful to those responsible for bringing the exhibit here and for funding the programming, which not only reminded us how lucky we were to have the Reys' work, but also of the many works that were lost.

Finally, MCHE premiered our documentary film *Kristallnacht* last November and *Auschwitz* in January. Both featured excerpts from MCHE's videotaped testimonies of local survivors with archival and personal photos. I want to pay particular tribute to MCHE's Fran Sternberg for her work in producing these videos. They are a poignant testimony to the importance of MCHE's mission and the quality of its programs.



Mark Adams

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Pondering the Implications

MCHE begins this year on a solemn note with *Deadly Medicine: Creating the Master Race*. In contrast to the colorful images of Curious George and the uplifting story of his creators, this collection of artifacts, photographs and personal testimonies shows how the policies and programs of the Third Reich culminated in genocide. Specifically, it explores how the science of eugenics, coupled with Nazi racial policies and virulent antisemitism, led to the sterilization and murder of German citizens deemed a burden to the state and ultimately to the Holocaust and the "Final Solution."

Like many of our previous initiatives, MCHE is joining with other organizations to reach broad segments of our community, offering *Deadly Medicine* and the accompanying program series in partnership with the National Archives at Kansas City and in consultation with the Center for Practical Bioethics.

MCHE's sponsors and donors for *Deadly*

Medicine reflect diverse perspectives. Medical professionals, humanities councils, corporations, charitable foundations, universities and international organizations have made generous commitments to help raise our community's understanding of Nazi racial theory, personal and collective responsibility, and the need for constant vigilance.

Deadly Medicine explores how the Holocaust could have happened in a nation whose leadership once declared, "Our starting point is not the individual, and we do not subscribe to the view that one should feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, or clothe the naked" (Josef Goebbels, Nazi Minister of Public Enlightenment and Propaganda, 1938). It also presents a valuable opportunity to engage in discussions that can improve the well-being of our community and equip current and future leaders with the useful perspective that only a sense of history can provide.



Jean Zeldin

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STUDENTS

Hannah Jenkins
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ANNE AND EMMETT PLAY EDUCATES ABOUT THE VIOLENT SIDE OF ETHNIC AND RACIAL BIAS

Anne and Emmett, a theatrical production developed by Langhart Communications, LLC, came about as a means of educating people about the violent side of ethnic and racial bias. Written and directed by Janet Langhart Cohen, the one-act play is a fictional conversation between Anne Frank and Emmett Till, two young victims of antisemitism and racism. It provides the first exploration of the commonalities and parallels between their lives.

In commemoration of the anniversary of Brown v. Board of Education, the Brown Foundation is presenting *Anne and Emmett* in partnership with MCHE, Jewish Community Relations Bureau/American Jewish Committee, American Jazz Museum and Negro Leagues Baseball Museum. Cohen will be the mistress of ceremonies for this event.

"If nothing else, we must learn what happens when we allow racism, discrimination and hatred to go unchallenged," says Cohen, a former journalist and co-author of the book *Love in Black and White: A Memoir of Race, Religion, and Romance* with her husband, former U.S. Defense Secretary William S. Cohen. The original score for the play was composed by 16-year old violinist and composer Joshua Coyne.

MCHE Expands Its Witness Archive

MCHE presented the first public screening of *Witnesses to the Holocaust: Auschwitz* at its annual membership meeting on January 27. The date corresponded to the 65th anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz camp complex.

The film uses excerpts from MCHE's videotaped survivor testimonies along with personal and archival photos and maps from the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum to describe the camp's origins and evolution and the operation of its genocidal processes.

Like the four other thematically-organized films in the *Witnesses to the Holocaust* series—*Kristallnacht*, *Ghettos*, *In Hiding*, and *Liberation*—the *Auschwitz* film is part of a larger effort that allows students, educators and the general public to place individual testimonies by Kansas City area survivors, refugees and other witnesses within the historical context of the Holocaust. The production of *Auschwitz* was supervised by MCHE's Fran Sternberg, with voice-over narration provided by Jessica Rockhold, MCHE director of school programs and teacher education.

"These videotapes are treasures, and these films will bring them to the wider community by contextualizing the raw memory in a narrative and historical framework. They will be especially useful as classroom tools, since each film is about 40 minutes long—about the length of an average class period."

Fran Sternberg
MCHE Director of University Programs
and Adult Education

Since 2006, generous grants from the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, the Jewish Federation of Greater Kansas City, and the Jewish Heritage Foundation



Fran Sternberg presented Michael Wunsch, owner of Outpost Worldwide, with an award of appreciation for his company's commitment to helping MCHE document the testimonies of local survivors.

of Greater Kansas City have enabled MCHE to digitize the full-length videotapes, edit them into lengths suitable for classroom use, and craft teaching tools to facilitate their dissemination. Thanks go to Outpost Worldwide for providing technical expertise and special financial consideration in the editing and production of these films.

Nearly 50 testimonies by survivors, camp liberators and other eyewitnesses were originally recorded in 1994 for MCHE's *Witnesses to the Holocaust* project, funded by the William T. Kemper Foundation, David Woods Kemper Memorial Foundation, and Oppenstein Brothers Foundation. Currently available for viewing at MCHE's Resource Center, the unedited testimonies will soon be accessible at the National Archives of Kansas City.

"For nearly a decade, the National Archives has provided safekeeping for the original source tapes of these interviews," said MCHE executive director Jean Zeldin, who served as project coordinator for *Witnesses to the Holocaust*. We are proud to share this collection of memory with the community and with an institution committed to their preservation and mindful of their historical significance."

Anne and Emmett

Sunday, May 16, 2010 • 4:00 p.m.

Gem Theater at Historic 18th & Vine • Kansas City, Missouri

Anne and Emmett tickets, available April 2, are \$10 for general admission with open seating and \$15 for general admission, inclusive of the VIP reception following the play. Tickets will be available through Ticketmaster and may also be purchased online at www.ticketmaster.com, or may be purchased in person or by phone at

The Gem Theater box office at 816-474-6262.

For more information contact The Brown Foundation at 785-235-3939 or brownfound@juno.com or MCHE at 913-327-8190.



Wednesday Evenings Continued from Page 1

April 7

“Nazi Culture”: Daily Life in Germany, 1933-1939—The impact of Nazi policy and programs on “ordinary Germans,” community institutions, and individuals and groups designated “enemies of the regime.”

Presented by the MCHE Holocaust Education Academic Roundtable (HEART)

Moderator: Carla Klausner, Department of History, University of Missouri-Kansas City
Panelists: Bruce Anderson, Department of Political Science, Baker University; Andrew S. Bergerson, Department of History, UMKC; MJ McLendon, Department of English, University of Kansas; Zvi Tannenbaum, Department of Social Science, Missouri State Southern University; and Andrea Weis, Department of American Studies, University of Kansas.
Location: National Archives at Kansas City

April 14

Film and Discussion - “Selling Murder: The Killing Films of the Third Reich”—Examines Nazi propaganda films aimed at justifying “euthanasia” policies of the 1930s and 1940s whereby over 200,000 people were killed on the grounds that they were mentally or physically disabled.

Presented by the MCHE Holocaust Education Academic Roundtable (HEART)

Introduction and Q&A: Cheryl Lester, Department of American Studies, University of Kansas; and Milton Katz, Department of Liberal Arts, Kansas City Art Institute
Location: National Archives at Kansas City

April 21

Confronting Complicity: Professionals in the Third Reich—The involvement of the universities, the clergy, the military, and artists and musicians in advancing Nazi policy and programs.

Presented by the MCHE Holocaust Education Academic Roundtable (HEART)

Moderator: Jeffrey Myers, Department of History, Avila University
Panelists: Brian Cowley, Department of Psychology, Park University; Milton Katz, Department of Liberal Arts, Kansas City Art Institute; James Murray III, Department of Music, Metropolitan Community College, Maple Woods; Hal Wert, Department of

Liberal Arts, Kansas City Art Institute; and George Wiley, Department of Religion and Philosophy, Baker University.

Location: National Archives at Kansas City

April 28

Racial Science in the United States Today—The major organizations, foundations and individuals supporting research and propaganda for racial science, where they fit within their own social and political firmament, what factors contribute to their growth and what factors might inhibit the growth of obviously racist science.

Presented by Leonard Zeskind, President, Institute for Research and Education on Human Rights

Location: National Archives at Kansas City

May 12

Medical Ethics and Nazi Ideology—The dangers of medicine in the service of political ideals, specifically the role of government in determining “national health,” the ethical justifications used by physicians to further these policies, and the contemporary implications of these positions.

Presented by Dr. William F. Meinecke, Jr., Education Department, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

Location: Union Station

May 26

The Perfect Baby: Eugenics, Race and Bioethics—A discussion of eugenics, past and present, both in Germany and the United States.

Presented by Dr. Glenn McGee, John B. Francis Chair in Bioethics, Center for Practical Bioethics

Location: National Archives at Kansas City

June 2

The Doctors’ Trial at Nuremberg: Medicine in the Third Reich.—The American military’s proceedings against German physicians and administrators for their participation in the T-4 “euthanasia” program, medical experimentation on human beings, and the systematic murder of those the Nazis deemed “life unworthy of life.”

Presented by Professor Harry Reicher, University of Pennsylvania Law School

Location: Union Station

DEADLY MEDICINE PUBLIC PROGRAM VENUES

National Archives at Kansas City
400 West Pershing Road
Kansas City, Missouri
April 7, 14, 21 and 28 and May 26

Union Station
Arthur Stilwell Room
30 West Pershing Road
Kansas City, Missouri
March 24, May 12 and June 2



SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

FOR STUDENTS

Docent-Led Exhibition Tours

Bus subsidies of up to \$200 per school are available for high school field trips. Apply at <http://www.mchekc.org/deadlymedicineschooltours.htm>.

FOR EDUCATORS

Education and the Third Reich

May 12, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

National Archives at Kansas City

Dr. William Meinecke, historian at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, will explore the complicity of professional educators in Nazi Germany and the indoctrination of children. University faculty are also invited to attend.

Contact Jessica Rockhold at schools@mchekc.org or 913-327-8195 for more information about student field trips and for reservations to Dr. Meinecke’s presentation.

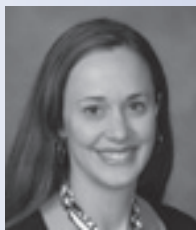
EDUCATORS' BLOG PROVIDES NEW FORUM TO SHARE AND LEARN

Tracy Baker, Pleasant Lea Middle School, wrote about how humanizing the perpetrators enabled her to more effectively teach eighth graders that the majority of German people were not perpetrators but bystanders. Tracy Cobden, Raytown High School, described a book that has helped her introduce the Holocaust to children of different ages.

Jeff Benes, Bishop Miege High School, discussed teaching the Holocaust in Catholic schools.

These are just a few of the topics discussed by members of the Isak Federman Holocaust Teaching Cadre on MCHE's new blog for educators at <http://holocausteducators.blogspot.com/>. Here, cadre members explore resources, teaching techniques and programs they feel are valuable in Holocaust Education.

Interested educators are invited to follow this blog, ask questions and make it a lively forum for getting and sharing ideas. Check back regularly or receive automatic email updates by adding our blog to your iGoogle reader. Please suggest topics you would like to see addressed by emailing Jessica Rockhold at schools@mchekc.org.



Tracy Baker



Tracy Cobden



Jeff Benes

MCHE Offers Three Summer Courses for Educators

PARTICIPANTS WILL EXPAND UNDERSTANDING OF HOLOCAUST HISTORY AND PEDAGOGICAL APPROACHES

Eisenhower and the Righteous Cause: The Liberation of Europe

June 7-11, 2010, Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum, Abilene, Kansas

In the classroom, too often the story of the Holocaust ends prematurely with the arrival of the liberators. This course—presented by the Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum, in partnership with MCHE, the Harry S. Truman Library & Museum and the Lowell Milken Center—is offered in conjunction with the Eisenhower Museum's exhibition of the same title.

Participants will explore the Holocaust with a focus on liberation and aftermath, including displaced persons camps, creation of Israel and the Nuremberg Trials. They will experience the exhibit in depth, consider how best to teach related topics, and discover a wealth of educational resources with emphasis on primary source material.

History and Memory: Using Testimony to Teach the Holocaust

June 22-24, 2010, through Ottawa University at the Jewish Community Campus

This graduate course for educators approaches Holocaust history from the perspective of primary source testimony.

Survivor Testimony in the Classroom

Personal testimony provides one of the most valuable sources for information about the Holocaust. We learn about families, losses, struggles to survive and rebuilding lives after liberation. The story of one individual helps us to personalize six million deaths.

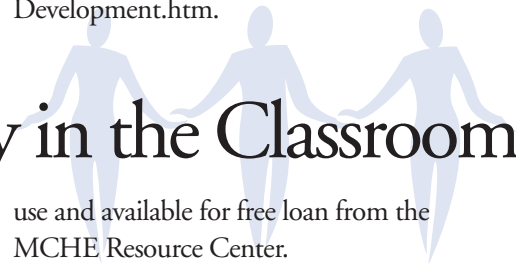
MCHE encourages the use of testimony in classroom settings and develops materials and programs to help teachers incorporate it into their study. First among these resources is the Witnesses to the Holocaust Archive, a collection of dozens of local survivor testimonies specifically edited for classroom

use and available for free loan from the MCHE Resource Center. In addition to featuring local Kansas City survivors in the Witnesses to the Holocaust Archive, participants will examine perpetrator and trial testimony. Special attention will be paid to analysis of testimony, the role of memory in history, and personalizing the Holocaust through effective integration of testimony into Holocaust education. This course is taught by MCHE's Jessica Rockhold.

Holocaust History and Resources for Educators Online Course Dates: June 28-July 30, 2010

This is MCHE's first-ever online course. Taught by MCHE's Jessica Rockhold, it will center on a chronological survey of Holocaust history with emphasis on the evolution of Nazi policy. In addition to learning from content-based readings and web activities, participants will explore cross-curricular teaching techniques appropriate to Holocaust education, become familiar with the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum's "Guidelines for Teaching the Holocaust," and gain hands-on practice with primary source analysis.

For complete details including enrollment information on all of these courses, please visit <http://www.mchekc.org/ProfessionalDevelopment.htm>.



use and available for free loan from the MCHE Resource Center.

A second highly effective way to personalize the history of the Holocaust is to host a Second Generation Speaker. These children of survivors travel to area classrooms to relate their parents' experiences with students. Many share family photographs and clips of a parent's video testimony so students see and hear the survivor as well. To learn more or request a speaker, visit <http://www.mchekc.org/SecondGenerationSpeakersBureau.htm>.

An Original Exhibit

EISENHOWER AND THE RIGHTEOUS CAUSE: THE LIBERATION OF EUROPE

"The things I saw beggar description. . . The visual evidence and the verbal testimony of starvation, cruelty and bestiality were. . . overpowering. . . I made the visit deliberately, in order to be in [a] position to give first-hand evidence of these things if ever, in the future, there develops a tendency to charge these allegations merely to 'propaganda.'"

General Dwight D. Eisenhower,
April 15, 1945

After inspecting the concentration camps in April 1945, Supreme Allied Commander General Dwight D. Eisenhower refused to turn a blind eye. At his insistence, a U.S. congressional delegation and the press toured the camps to view the atrocities first hand.

The Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum in Abilene, Kansas, will present an original exhibit, May 24 – December 31, 2010, that tells the story of the Holocaust, victory in Europe, liberation of the concentration camps, the humanitarian challenge of displaced persons and enemy POWs, de-Nazification of post-war Germany and the Nuremberg Trials.

The exhibit will include photographs, barbed wire, whips, ration cards, registration books and other concentration camp artifacts. Also displayed will be a variety of documents



Photo courtesy of The Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum

and recovered artwork and precious artifacts looted by the Nazis.

The goal of the exhibit is to create greater awareness of the challenge and dangers posed to society by Holocaust deniers—past, present and future—and to provide participants with new knowledge to spark dialogue about how future generations might live in a world where every human life is valued.

Exhibit partners include the National Archives and Records Administration, the U.S. Army Chief of Military History, and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

MCHE's *Portrait 2000* exhibit will be on concurrent display at the Eisenhower Library. For information on liberation of the concentration camps, please go to http://www.eisenhower.archives.gov/Righteous%20Cause/EisenhowerBrochure_final.pdf.

Yom HaShoah 2010

This year's Yom HaShoah service, commemorating the 67th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising and the 47th anniversary of the dedication of the Memorial to the Six Million, will take place on Sunday, April 11 at 1:30 p.m. in the Lewis and Shirley White Theatre at the Jewish Community Campus in Overland Park.

Cindy Foss, daughter of Holocaust survivors Lilly Segelstein and the late Boris Segelstein, will chair the program. Rabbi Arthur Nemitoff of The Temple, Congregation B'nai Jehudah will give the opening remarks; Linda Matorin Sweeney, music director of Congregation Beth Torah, will sing *El Mole*

Rachamim; and Rabbi David Bauman of Kehilath Israel Synagogue will give the closing remarks and recite *Kaddish*.

In commemoration of the 65th anniversary of the end of World War II and the liberation of the camps, this year's program will feature the first public screening of *Witnesses to the Holocaust: Liberation* produced by MCHE as part of its *Witnesses to the Holocaust* film series. In conjunction with the program, MCHE's *Portrait 2000* exhibit, featuring photographic portraits and biographical narratives of local Holocaust survivors, will be on display in the Jewish Community Campus gallery from April 2 – April 29.

THE COMMUNITY REMEMBERS

April 7
Yom HaShoah Service—
Rockhurst University
Kansas City, Missouri
Reading of Names 8:45 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
outdoors on the Kinerk Commons
Prayer Service 2:30 p.m. - 2:50 p.m.
in the Mabee Chapel, Massman Hall
Contact: Bill Kriege at 816-501-4855
or bill.kriege@rockhurst.edu

April 11
And Justice For All
The Heartland Men's Chorus examines civil rights through the music of the movement at Congregation Beth Torah 6100 West 127th Street Overland Park, Kansas, 7:00 p.m. Tickets are available at www.mainstreamcoalition.org or 913-649-3327.

April 14
Student Presentations & Music Inspired by MCHE's Portrait 2000 Exhibit
William Jewell College
Liberty, Missouri
Gano Chapel on the Campus Quad 10:15 - 11:00 a.m.
Exhibit on display April 1-16
Contact: Dr. Andy Pratt, 816-415-7556

April 19
Stories of Freedom: What You Do Matters
Kansas State Holocaust Commemoration Service
Kansas State Historical Museum
6425 Southwest 6th Street
Topeka, Kansas, 1:30 p.m.
Contact: 785-272-6040

April 27
The Story of the Arts of the Holocaust
Featuring performances of music, drama and poetry
Maple Woods Community College
2601 Northeast Barry Road
Kansas City, Missouri, 6:30 p.m.
No admission charge.
Contact: Jim Murray at jim.murray@mcckc.edu or 816-604-3305

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Go to www.mchekc.org
for an on-line version of this
newsletter plus additional
history and resources.

Portrait 2000: Ten Years Later

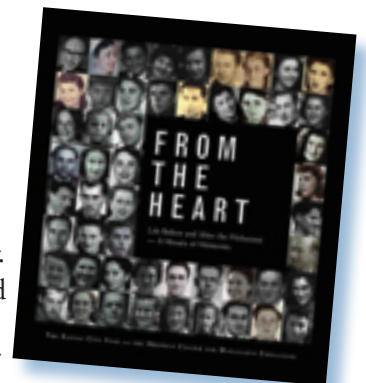
FACES AND STORIES OF 52 LOCAL HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS AND REFUGEES

A decade ago, MCHE interviewed and photographed 52 local Holocaust survivors and war refugees, focusing on their pre- and post-war experience to provide perspectives on Jewish life in Europe prior to World War II and to document personal stories of resettlement and resilience by those whose lives, as they knew them, were destroyed by the Holocaust.

In recognition of the 10th anniversary of *Portrait 2000*, subsequently published by Kansas City Star Books as *From the Heart: Life Before and After the Holocaust - A Mosaic of Memories*, MCHE is featuring individual profiles on its website at www.mchekc.org during each week of 2010. These narratives emphasize the personal impact that the Holocaust had on lives, families and communities.

From the Heart is available for purchase at the MCHE office or on the web at <http://mchekc.org/BookFTH.htm>.

Full audio testimonies of each individual are available for on-site research in the MCHE Resource Center. Patrons interested in donating classroom sets of *From the Heart*



to a school of their choice or organizations interested in exhibiting *Portrait 2000* should contact MCHE executive director Jean Zeldin at 913-327-8191 or jeanz@mchekc.org.

Portrait 2000 will be on display at William Jewell College in Liberty, Missouri April 1-16, at the Jewish Community Campus in Overland Park, Kansas April 2-29, and in Abilene at the Eisenhower Library from May 24 through December 31.