

Winter 2007

pastforward

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE USC SHOAH FOUNDATION INSTITUTE FOR VISUAL HISTORY AND EDUCATION™



TO OVERCOME PREJUDICE,
INTOLERANCE, AND BIGOTRY
—AND THE SUFFERING THEY CAUSE—
THROUGH THE EDUCATIONAL
USE OF THE INSTITUTE'S
VISUAL HISTORY TESTIMONIES

USC
UNIVERSITY
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CALIFORNIA

One Year Later Winter 2007

By Douglas Greenberg

One year ago, we began a new chapter by becoming part of the University of Southern California College of Letters, Arts & Sciences. Being part of a great university has allowed us to pursue our mission with new energy and effectiveness. I am especially excited to share the contents of this newsletter with you because it tells the story of our first year at USC.

partnering with the Institute to provide access to the archive on their campuses (see pages 10–11).

The testimonies in the archive are also at the core of two educational products launched this year, *Recollections: Eyewitnesses Remember the Holocaust* and *Creating Character*. In each product, the testimonies provide rich, primary source material that brings the past to life for young people to whom it is distant and remote.

“Being on a campus has provided us a way to introduce visual history to the classroom more directly than ever before.” — Douglas Greenberg

Being on a campus has provided us a way to introduce visual history to the classroom more directly than ever before. The Visual History Archive is in use in undergraduate classes not only at USC, but also at other institutions with access to the archive—Rice University, Yale University, and the University of Michigan. Students on each of these campuses are being exposed to visual history testimonies in a variety of classes across many disciplines, including anthropology, film, law, and psychology.

Providing access to the entire archive at universities around the world is possible because of Internet2, a high-capacity network created to allow educators, researchers, and scholars to share large amounts of data efficiently. As you will read in these pages, universities that are a part of the Internet2 community—or its variants in Europe and Australia—are

These projects would not be possible without the generous funding the Institute receives from our donors. Your gifts allow educators and students all over the globe to use the testimonies in our archive for educational purposes. This year, we conducted our first international workshop on visual history in the classroom with five educators from Russia. We hope, with your support, to conduct similar workshops for an increasing number of educators from all parts of the world.

Generous support from partners also enabled us to produce two documentary films that premiered in 2006. *Volevo solo vivere* (I Only Wanted to Live) premiered in Rome and was subsequently screened at the 2006 Cannes Film Festival. Since then, it has appeared at many film festivals around the world and will continue doing so this spring. *Nazvy svoie im'ia* (Spell Your Name), a film about the



Save the Date

Wallis Annenberg will be honored at the Institute's Ambassadors for Humanity dinner on Monday, April 23, 2007 in Los Angeles, hosted by Jerry Seinfeld. The award honors individuals who embody the Institute's goals of promoting tolerance, cultural understanding, and mutual respect around the world. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us as we honor Wallis Annenberg for her remarkable record as a community leader and philanthropist. For further information, please contact Steven Klappholz at 213-740-6051.

Wallis Annenberg (center), with Douglas Greenberg (left), and Steven Spielberg (right), will be honored at the Ambassadors for Humanity dinner on April 23, 2007.

Holocaust in Ukraine, premiered in October in Kyiv, to an audience of nearly 2000, including Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko and Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich. It, too, will appear in many film festivals over the course of the next year.

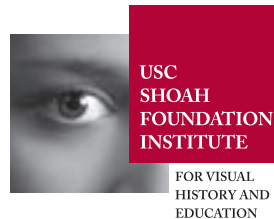
We are also beginning to expand our archive and to think about how to document more recent genocides. In June, I traveled to Rwanda to meet with survivor organizations and government agencies that wish to record survivor testimony. This year, I will return to Rwanda to begin planning a project that we hope will do for the Rwandan genocide what the Shoah Foundation Institute has done for the Holocaust.

In the year ahead, with your help, we will continue to develop educational products and programs and deliver the testimonies in our archive to the broadest possible audience. Thank you for your continued support and loyalty, which guide us each day toward work that fulfills our mission.



Douglas Greenberg

*Executive Director
Professor of History*



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Bringing Visual History to Russian Classrooms

Institute conducts its first international workshop with Russian educators

“**T**he 20th century abounds in examples of hatred, bigotry, and acts of prejudice. The USC Shoah Foundation Institute’s work is concerned with the possibility that the 21st century will

than 7000 Russian-language testimonies. Participants searched for testimonies that relate to the topics they teach, including conflict mediation, history, and psychology, and began incorporating the selected testimonies into lessons.

The educators returned to Russia to continue building lessons, which they will integrate into their teaching for the spring 2007 semester. “We will share our experiences at this workshop with other educators in our schools and our region of the country, so that more stu-



be more of the same. Will we again turn out to be bad students of history? Will we again step onto that same rake? The beginning of this century shows that we might.”

These were thoughts shared with the USC Shoah Foundation Institute staff by Mikhail Goldenberg, one of five teachers from Russia who participated in the Institute’s first international workshop for educators on the use of visual history in the classroom.

In partnership with the Russian Research and Educational Holocaust Center in Moscow, the Institute recruited teachers to attend a weeklong conference in Los Angeles. In addition to Goldenberg, who hails from Petrozavodsk, participants included Elena Belenkaya from Moscow, Svetlana Gorbacheva from Kaliningrad, Irina Lapina from St. Petersburg, and Elena Shakhova from Vladimir.

The workshop presented educators with the opportunity to explore the Institute’s Visual History Archive, which contains more

Goldenberg explained, “The workshop introduced us to the use of visual history testimonies in the classroom and inspired me to think about how I might incorporate visual history into my teaching. I will use these testimonies when I teach world history and the history of Russia.”

The Visual History in the Classroom workshop was made possible through generous contributions from the Schaeffer Family Foundation, Anne Feeley and Jonathan Zimmerman, and the Henry M. Jackson Foundation. “It is important for the USC Shoah Foundation Institute not only to collect Russian-language testimonies but also to make them available for students in Russia, and the right people to deliver those testimonies are Russian teachers,” said Douglas Greenberg, Executive Director of the Institute. “This workshop is one step toward providing Russian educators with the tools necessary to use testimonies effectively in their classrooms. We are grateful to have received funding from generous supporters who share this vision with us.”

dents are exposed to the testimonies as part of their education,” said Shakhova. “The testimonies are a powerful way to introduce topics of hatred and racism, and also tolerance and respect for others.”

Workshops like this provide educators the opportunity to learn about and incorporate visual history into their classrooms. To support more educational workshops, please contact Steven Klappholz at sklapp@usc.edu, or 213-740-6051.

Above: (L to R) Elena Belenkaya views Russian-language testimony; Mikhail Goldenberg searches for testimony for his classroom lessons; Martin Šmok, Senior Program Consultant for Central and Eastern Europe, with Svetlana Gorbacheva, Elena Belenkaya, Elena Shakhova, Mikhail Goldenberg, Crispin Brooks, Curator of the Institute’s Visual History Archive, and Irina Lapina; Svetlana Gorbacheva views testimony.

Looking toward the Future

Polish Holocaust education experts visit Institute

With support from Institute donor Edward J. Phillips, a team of Polish Holocaust education experts visited the USC Shoah Foundation Institute in August. The group included Marek Kucia, professor of sociology at the Jagiellonian University of Krakow; Robert Szuchta, history teacher at LXIV High School in Warsaw; Piotr Trojański, professor of history at the Pedagogical Academy of Krakow; and Anna Motyczka, the Institute's Regional Consultant in Poland.

The team discussed findings of research on the state of Holocaust education in Poland. They also discussed the possibility of creating, in partnership with the Institute and the Auschwitz State Museum, a comprehensive educational kit for distribution to teachers throughout Poland.

Kucia's research findings indicate that 94 percent of history teachers surveyed believe the Holocaust is a very important or important topic to teach. Teachers in rural and small town schools showed particular interest in the topic. However, additional findings show that while the attitudes toward teaching about Jews and the Holocaust among teachers are generally positive, there is also a fair amount of



indifference and some aversion, even instances of anti-Semitism.

The proposed educational kit would be based upon an existing curriculum developed by Trojański and Szuchta, in use in Polish schools since 2000. The team hopes to develop

narratives. Watching testimonies allows us to relate the past to present, to find small things in our lives that link us with survivors and witnesses to the Holocaust.”

Szuchta was also struck by the emotions conveyed in each testimony. “Interviewees’ voices broke; they cried; they gestured, and they looked directly at the camera. It was intense, and as a viewer, I connected with these stories in a way I couldn’t through text,” he explained.

The project was born when Phillips, a supporter of the Institute, expressed interest in bringing visual history materials to students in Poland. It is only since 1999 that Holocaust education has been mandatory in middle and high school curricula, and the number of lessons and amount of time

“Watching testimonies allows us to relate the past to present, to find small things in our lives that link us with survivors and witnesses to the Holocaust.” — Anna Motyczka, Institute Regional Consultant in Poland

a new kit, a practical guide for teachers framed by and completely integrated with video segments from the Institute’s archive.

The kit would encourage Polish students to ask—and seek answers to—fundamental questions about the Holocaust in Polish history and contemporary life.

Trojański, Szuchta, Kucia, and Motyczka spent several weeks at the Institute’s offices in Los Angeles exploring the archive to identify testimonies that might be used in the kit. Viewing testimony had an emotional impact; Motyczka explained, “We may understand a lot about the past from history books; we may learn about facts and understand the reasons of historical events. But from textbooks, we learn very little about ordinary life and read few personal

devoted to Holocaust education is at the discretion of individual teachers or schools.

“In Poland,” said Trojański, “the use of visual media is a new approach, and I believe it will bring students closer to history.”

Above: (L to R) Douglas Greenberg, Institute Executive Director, with Edward J. Phillips, Institute supporter.

Left: Guests and Institute staff share a meal. (standing, L to R) Margee Greenberg; Sherry Bard, Associate Director, Partnerships and International Programs; Douglas Greenberg, Institute Executive Director; and Kimberly Birbrower, Director of Education. (seated, L to R) Marek Kucia; Kim Simon, Director, Partnerships and International Programs; Anna Motyczka; Robert Szuchta; and Piotr Trojański.



Recollections: Eyewitnesses Remember the Holocaust

Holocaust Educational Trust partners with Institute to launch resource for UK students

In October, the USC Shoah Foundation Institute, in partnership with the Holocaust Educational Trust (HET), launched *Recollections: Eyewitnesses Remember the Holocaust*, an interactive DVD, in the United Kingdom.

Recollections is the first resource the Institute has created specifically for schools in the United Kingdom; it is geared toward students 16 years and older studying citizenship, history, or religious studies and is also appropriate for use in English and media studies classes.

Recollections uses testimony from the Institute's Visual History Archive to explore five themes: beginnings, choice, belief, loss, and afterwards. Students are asked to watch different segments of testimony that explore

Witness survivors, survivors of the Nazi eugenics policies, liberators, and rescuers and aid providers.

“Recollections: Eyewitnesses Remember the Holocaust is a groundbreaking resource that will enable students to engage dynamically with visual history testimony through a range of interactive on-screen activities that demonstrate the relevance of the

Holocaust today,” said Rachel Burns, Senior Education Consultant at the HET. “This resource will ensure that, for generations to come, survivors continue to convey their experiences directly to young people, so they will understand and learn about the dangers of prejudice and racism and where they can lead. We hope that by next year, every secondary school in the UK will be using this unique and innovative resource when teaching about the Holocaust and its contemporary significance.”

The HET was established in 1988 to educate young people from every ethnic background about the Holocaust and the important lessons to be learned for today. The HET works in schools, universities, and in the community to raise awareness and understanding of the Holocaust, providing teacher training, an outreach program for schools, teaching aids, and resource material.

In October, Institute Executive Director Douglas Greenberg attended the launch event for *Recollections* at the Pimlico School in



London. Following the launch, the HET conducted a series of training courses for teachers, focusing on issues related to teaching the Holocaust and its lessons for today, and on the use of videotaped survivor testimony in the classroom. Distribution of the DVD and integration into the classroom is scheduled to begin in the next academic year.

Major funding for *Recollections* was provided by the Pears Family Charitable Trust, the Hite Foundation, David Di Donatello, Norman and Joyce Freed, Michael and Ruth Phillips, Richard Ross, and John and Susan Burns.

Above: *Harry Bibring* (center), a *Holocaust survivor* featured in *Recollections*, views the new educational resource with two students from the Pimlico School in London.

Left: *Pimlico School* students pause for a photo with, from left, *Douglas Greenberg*, Institute Executive Director; *Harry Bibring*, a *Holocaust survivor*; and *Solicitor General Mike O'Brien MP* at the launch of *Recollections*.



each theme. Then, students are encouraged to explore the different meanings and implications of each theme—including how the theme is manifested in their own lives—through a series of interactive student activities. The five thematic lessons can be taught separately, or used together in a larger classroom unit.

Eighteen testimonies are included in the resource, including testimony from Jewish survivors, Roma and Sinti survivors, Jehovah's

Creating Character

Institute provides educators with new online resource

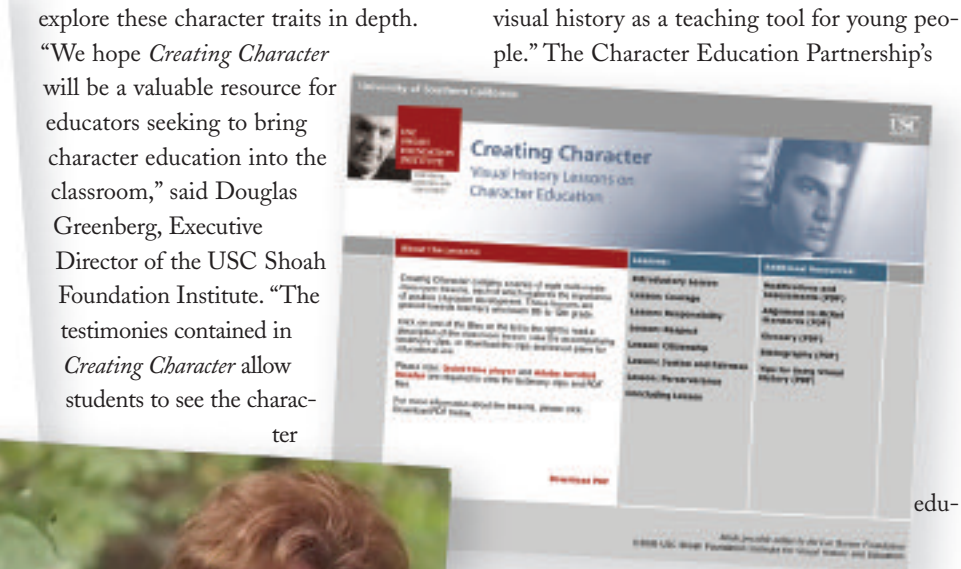
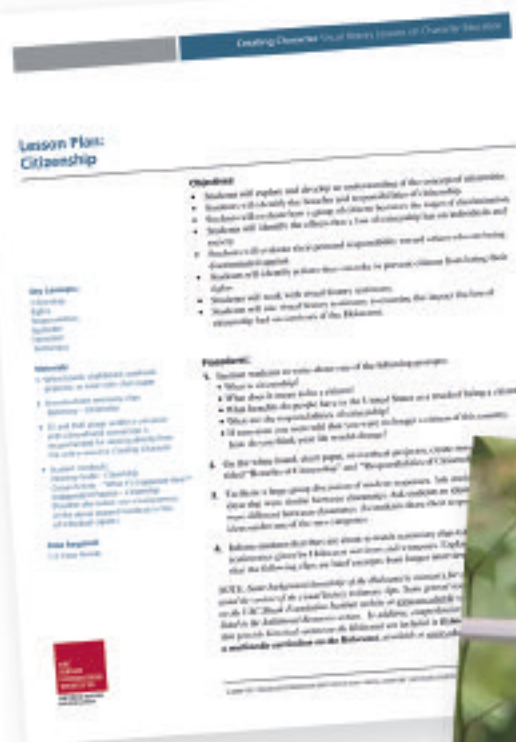
This fall, the USC Shoah Foundation Institute launched a new online educational product, *Creating Character*. The resource, which is

available for teachers at <http://www.usc.edu/vhi/creatingcharacter>,

ment. From a pool of nationally recognized character education traits, the Institute elected to address the themes of courage, responsibility, respect, citizenship, justice and fairness, and perseverance.

The first-person accounts from Holocaust survivors and witnesses that are at the core of *Creating Character* will help students explore these character traits in depth. “We hope *Creating Character* will be a valuable resource for educators seeking to bring character education into the classroom,” said Douglas Greenberg, Executive Director of the USC Shoah Foundation Institute. “The testimonies contained in *Creating Character* allow students to see the character

Programs and Partnerships, at the Character Education Partnership. “Teachers will be pleased that so much thought has gone into creating the resource in alignment with national standards. The visual history testimonies share stories of triumph and tragedy, and in each story, character is revealed. *Creating Character* harnesses the power of visual history as a teaching tool for young people.” The Character Education Partnership’s



ingcharacter,

incorporates streaming video testimony from the Institute’s archive into downloadable character education lessons.

Creating Character contains a series of eight multimedia classroom lessons that educators may use, individually or collectively, with students ages 13 through 18. Each lesson explores the importance of positive character develop-

traits in action and encourage them to engage with the material at a level and in a fashion that matters to them intellectually and personally.”

The Character Education Partnership, based in Washington, D.C., is a national advocate for and leader in the character education movement. “*Creating Character* is a tremendous resource, unique because of the inclusion of testimonies from the Institute’s archive,” said Paul Weimer, Director,

educational website, <http://www.character.org>, provides a link to *Creating Character*.

Funding to develop *Creating Character* was provided by the Maxine and Jack Zarrow Family Foundation and the Anne and Henry Zarrow Foundation. The Leo Rosner Foundation provided funding to make the resource available online. “At the Leo Rosner Foundation, we are excited to support the distribution of *Creating Character* to educators, teachers, and students,” explained William Robbins, President of the Leo Rosner Foundation. “We think this free online resource will be a valuable tool that will help students develop core ethical values and become responsible citizens.”

To learn more about supporting the Institute’s online exhibits, please contact Steven Klappholz at 213-740-6051.

Left: A downloadable lesson plan from *Creating Character* focuses on one of the character education traits: citizenship.^{pastforward}, Winter 2007 **5**

Center: Survivor Dina Gottliebowa-Babbitt’s tes-

National Science Foundation Funds Study That Invites Maryland Educators to Search the Archive

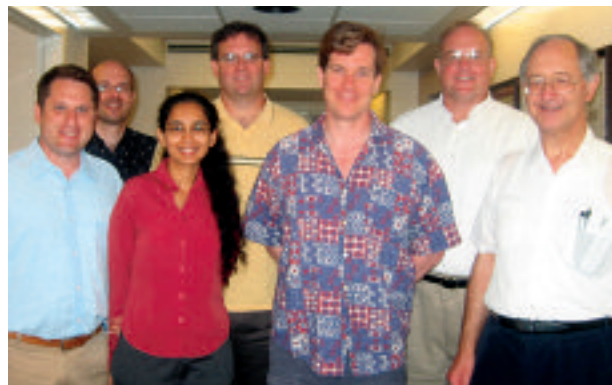
The USC Shoah Foundation Institute is one of six primary participants in the Multilingual Access to Large Spoken Archives project (MALACH), a five-year project funded by a grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF).

The goal of the MALACH project is to develop a state-of-the-art speech recognition program that can accurately record and transcribe spontaneous, emotional, and heavily accented speech in multiple languages. The project team used the Institute's Visual History Archive to study the accuracy of the speech recognition program.

"Spontaneous speech, in multiple languages and dialects, is one of the hardest but most prevalent types of content on the Internet and in our general communications systems today," said Sam Gustman, Chief Technology Officer for the Institute. "The Institute's archive contains 120,000 hours of this type of information, making it extremely suitable to test the speech recognition program."

In August, the Institute, in partnership with the NSF and the University of Maryland, conducted a workshop for educators as part of the MALACH study. Eight educators from Maryland high schools searched a subset of testimonies with a dual purpose: first, to evaluate the speech recognition program as they used it to search, and, second, to find testimony segments to incorporate into their classroom lessons. Participants' feedback about the ease and effectiveness of performing searches using the transcripts produced by the speech recognition program will help the team further refine their program.

Sherri Levi, a teacher of ninth grade U.S. history, attended the workshop. "Many students have difficulty relating to history," she explained. "They don't feel they have anything in common with someone who lived 60 years ago. The testimonies are so valuable because as students watch and listen to a survivor speak about his or her life before, during, and after the war, they get a glimpse of the survivor's entire life and better understand that they do have things in common." At the conclusion



of the five-day workshop, each teacher began to develop lesson plans to implement and share with their colleagues.

Above: Participants in the MALACH project. (L to R): Sam Gustman, Chief Technology Officer for the Institute; Douglas Ballman, Manager of Online Archival Access for the Institute; Bhuvana Ramabhadran, IBM; David Doehrmann, University of Maryland; Bill Byrne, Cambridge University & Johns Hopkins University; Doug Oard, University of Maryland; and Dagobert Soergel, University of Maryland.

Next Step for Testimony to Tolerance Initiative: Little Rock, Arkansas



Recent major gifts have enabled the USC Shoah Foundation Institute to bring the *Testimony to Tolerance Initiative* to Little Rock and its surrounding communities in central Arkansas.

The initiative provides mid-size cities in the U.S. with local collections from the Visual History Archive, workshops for educators, and extensive outreach to students, parents, and the community at

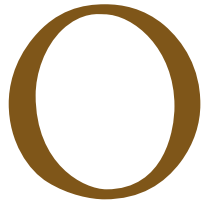
large. The Institute has already implemented the *Testimony to Tolerance Initiative* in Jackson, Mississippi and Des Moines, Iowa.

With a generous grant of \$90,740 from the Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation, a \$30,000 pledge from L'Oréal USA, and a pledge of \$15,000 from the Jewish Federation of Arkansas, the USC Shoah Foundation Institute will commence work on the project with the delivery of the Little Rock Visual History Collection to the Central Arkansas Library System in spring 2007.

"L'Oréal USA has a deep commitment to programs that foster tolerance and diversity," said Pamela Alabaster, Senior Vice President of Corporate Communications, at the company headquarters in New York. "We are proud to be a part of this unique program and to assist in bringing the much needed educational resources of the USC Shoah Foundation Institute to the Little Rock community."

Echoes and Reflections

Full Visual Histories available at <http://tc.usc.edu/vhiechoes>



One year after launching *Echoes and Reflections*, an educational kit the USC Shoah Foundation Institute developed in partnership with the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) and Yad Vashem, the Institute created a web resource to complement the curriculum



and conducted several workshops with educators eager to work with the product.

Full Visual Histories

THIS SUMMER, the USC Shoah Foundation Institute launched *Echoes and Reflections: Full Visual Histories*, a web page that adds to the rich resources contained in the *Echoes and Reflections* educational kit. Institute supporters Dana and Yossie Hollander funded the original *Echoes and Reflections* curriculum as well as the new *Full Visual Histories* web resource.

Full Visual Histories provides students and teachers access to the complete testimonies of 51 Holocaust survivors and other witnesses, clips of whose testimonies are featured in *Echoes and Reflections*. "In the first year of use, we are finding that students often connect emotionally to one or more survivors or witnesses," said Kimberly Birbrower, Director of Education for the Institute. "They are struck by something the interviewee says; the words resonate with them, and they want to hear more from and learn more about this particular person. The *Full Visual Histories* web page allows them to view the entire testimony and, with basic biographical information about the interviewee, helps them better learn about the dimension and details of this person's life."

Outreach to Educators

IN JULY, ADL, along with Yad Vashem and the Institute, hosted 50 educators and ADL staff, all of whom have used *Echoes and Reflections* in their work with students and other educators, at a workshop in New York. The training workshop is just one of the many workshops, trainings, and presentations that have been held for educators around the United States by ADL's network of regional offices.

Kim Klett, a conference attendee, teaches a semester-long course about the Holocaust that draws 150 students a year. "The *Echoes and Reflections* curriculum provides a huge value to my existing course," Klett said, now in her sixth year of teaching the elective class. "I use the testimony segments throughout the semester; for example, my students read the story of survivor Kristine Keren and were in awe to then hear her voice and see her face when I played her testimony. The new *Full Visual Histories* website is fantastic because it makes deeper learning possible for my students. They can watch the full testimony of Kristine or another survivor right in the classroom." Klett attended the workshop in New York to share her experiences using the curriculum over the past year and to learn more about the new *Full Visual Histories* web resource.



IN JUNE, the USC Shoah Foundation Institute conducted a workshop about the *Echoes and Reflections* curriculum and the use of visual history in the classroom. The workshop was part of a four-day conference, *Teaching the Holocaust to Future Generations: Special Conference for Educators*, hosted by Yad Vashem in Jerusalem, Israel. Chaim Singer-Frankes, Associate Director of Archival Access and Special Projects for the Institute, led an introductory workshop on the use of visual history in the classroom. Following the workshop, Singer-Frankes and Richelle Budd Caplan, Director of the Asper International Holocaust Studies Program at Yad Vashem, led attendees through an overview of *Echoes and Reflections*, and participants had an opportunity to work through one of the 10 modular lessons.

To learn more about purchasing *Echoes and Reflections* for the classroom, visit the product's web page, <http://www.echoesandreflections.org>.

Memory and History

Students compare historical accounts of the Holocaust with personal narratives

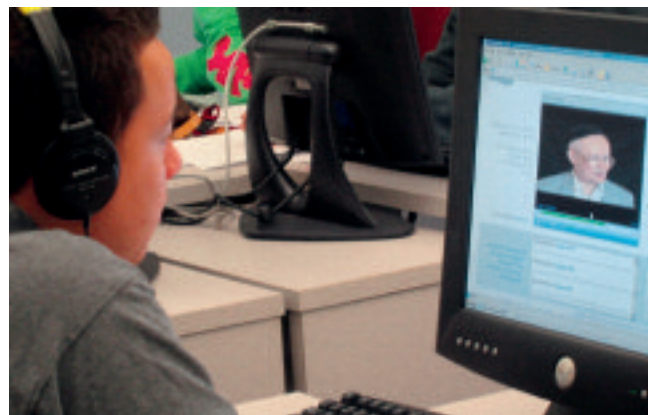
“I am inspired when I hear Holocaust survivors speak about miracles. To be able to describe something as miraculous, in the midst of such suffering, is amazing,” said Raheem Parpia, a student in *Memory and History: Video Testimonies of the Holocaust*, a seminar taught by USC Professor and Institute Executive Director Douglas Greenberg last fall.

Parpia and two classmates, Kathrina Sarmiento and Vicki Yang, explored the theme of miracles and dreams. They searched the archive and found many survivors speaking about the topic. They listened to survivors

In the second part of the course, students completed group research projects for which they selected testimony segments related to a specific theme of their choosing. Parpia and his group were interested in miracles and dreams, while other groups focused on love and sex during the Holocaust, civilian aid providers, the liberation of Dachau, and Amon Goeth, Commandant of the concentration camp at Plaszow. Emily Intersimone, whose group searched for testimony segments about civilian aid

providers, said that weaving testimony into the course helped her better relate to a difficult subject, in part because seeing a survivor’s face and listening to his or her story made it more personal. “The testimony brought an emotional truth that textbooks can’t,” Intersimone explained. During the final weeks of the course, students

presented their projects to the class. Greenberg said teaching a class in which visual history played a major role reminded him of the differences between how students learn today and how they learned in past generations. “This generation of students has a skill set that previous generations did not. Learning to use a mouse and to manipulate materials on a computer screen is part and parcel of their education, like learning to read. I believe it affects the way today’s students learn and express themselves, and I think these are skills that colleges and universities ought to be thinking about nurturing more in the future.”



Above: Garrett Luk views testimony from the Visual History Archive.

Left: Steven Spielberg, seated center next to Douglas Greenberg, attended a class session during which groups presented their final projects on topics, including Love and Sex During the Holocaust, Miracles and Dreams, and Civilian Aid Providers.

Below: Two students in the Memory and History seminar listen to testimony from Holocaust survivors and witnesses.



describing dreams about survival, dreams about the luxury of eating their favorite foods, or about miracles that kept them alive.

In the first part of the course, students examined historical texts about the Holocaust, including *Rethinking the Holocaust*, by Yehuda Bauer; *Collected Memories: Holocaust History and Postwar Testimony*, by Christopher R. Browning; *Reading the Holocaust*, by Inga Clendinnen; and *The Holocaust: A History*, by Debórah Dwork and Robert Jan van Pelt. Concurrently, students viewed survivor and other witness testimony from the Institute’s archive and engaged in discussion about the similarities and differences between how historians write about the Holocaust and how witnesses remember it.



Racism /Antiracism

Hungarian university course incorporating testimonies continues to draw strong interest

“**W**hen a living person is telling me that this happened to him, that this is how he survived or was rescued, it has an elemental strength. These people could walk on the street with

difficult to stop students from questioning and discussing in order to move on with the next part of class. The testimonies trigger the students’ questions—watching an interview creates a charged atmosphere. This is not a common thing in Hungarian education.”

The testimonies Mérei refers to are those from the Institute’s archive, which are central

see these films and watch testimony.”

Over the course of four years, the class has changed very little, though this year brought one significant change. “This year, we made a change in the methodology,” said Mérei. “We stop the interviews at certain points mid-interview to discuss what we just listened to. This forces students to be more attentive and



me, and I would not know what they have been through. This says to me that this can happen to anybody, to ordinary people. These people could have been my grandmother or grandfather.”

Andrea Scheili shared these thoughts recently with USC Shoah Foundation Institute Regional Consultant in Hungary, Luca Illy. Scheili is a college student at Eötvös Loránd University (ELTE) in Hungary, who is enrolled in the class *Racism/Antiracism*.

Now in its fourth year, the class is popular among students at the Hungarian university. “Students in class this year told me they tried to enroll last year, but the course, an elective, filled up too quickly,” said Professor Magdolna Barcy. “This, to me, is one sign of success.”

“The students behave differently in this class than they do in their other classes,” continued Barcy. “They are enthusiastic. They ask questions.” Anna Mérei, who teaches the class with Barcy, concurred: “Very often, it is

to the course curriculum. Testimony segments from survivors and other witnesses are viewed in every class session and are often followed by a historian’s or an expert’s lecturing on a specific theme. “Without first watching testimony,” said Barcy, “I believe students would ask no questions of a guest speaker; they would just listen to him or her speak. The interviews inspire the questions and provide a foundation from which the students become engaged.”

Another student in the class, Zsófia Lénárt, described the effect of watching a testimony. “At the first session, when we watched *Eyes of the Holocaust*, I was struggling with my tears. I could not really speak. Then during the second session, when we watched a testimony, I could hardly speak, again. I had many thoughts and questions, not during the course but after, when I got home. The most important thought I had was that everybody should

to rethink what they see and hear several times as we continue to watch and pause the interview. It is more interactive.”

In the future, Barcy and Mérei will spend more class time on what can be done to combat racism today. Said Barcy, “I’d like to strengthen the link between the interviews and current dilemmas in the world. The class will focus more on the lessons students can draw from the testimonies that apply to their own lives and on the decisions they must make each day.”

Left: *Andrea Scheili is a student enrolled in the Racism /Antiracism class at ELTE University in Hungary.*

Center: *“I have never focused on the Holocaust,” said Zsófia Lénárt, another student in the class. “I knew it was an immense genocide and that a lot of people died. But the number of 6 million was not known to me. It is nearly the population of Hungary.”*

Right: *Professor Magdolna Barcy has taught the Racism /Antiracism class for four years.*

Expanding Frontiers

Freie Universität Berlin first in Europe to access Visual History Archive

“Our goal is simple,” explained USC Shoah Foundation Institute Executive Director Douglas Greenberg. “We must ensure that the largest number of students in the largest number of countries have the broadest possible access to the largest number of testimonies.”



With the vast majority of the nearly 52 thousand testimonies in the Institute’s Visual History Archive catalogued and indexed, today, the Institute is focused on providing access to the testimonies at universities and research institutions around the world.

In December, Freie Universität Berlin in Germany became the first university outside the United States to access the Visual History Archive via Internet2. Greenberg and Karen Jungblut, Director of Archival Access and Special Projects for the Institute, attended the launch event, which drew members of the media, as well as students and faculty from Freie Universität Berlin.

“The Freie Universität Berlin, which was founded after the Second World War, is proud to be the first university in Europe to provide access to the Visual History Archive for researchers and students,” said Professor Dieter Lenzen, President of the Freie Universität Berlin. “In various ways, this unique archive

broadens the opportunities for research on National Socialism, particularly on the Holocaust and on racial persecution, and helps us to intensify the culture of remembrance. History consists not only of facts and figures, but also of individual ways of life and personal destiny—precisely what the archive documents. It opens completely new and additional resources for the numerous research and teaching projects in the respective academic fields at our university.”

Friends of Freie Universität Berlin, a not-for-profit charitable organization located in New York City, was instrumental in creating the collaborative partnership between the USC



Shoah Foundation Institute and the Freie Universität Berlin that resulted in the university’s access to the Visual History Archive.

Making Access Possible via Technology

The technology that makes digital access to the entire archive possible is Internet2, a separate, high-capacity network capable of more effective data transmission than the Internet. Internet2 is designed to promote research and communication among more than 200 universities and research institutions in the United States and among institutions connected worldwide to similar networks. Institutions connected to Internet2, or an equivalent net-

work in the country in which they are located, may collaborate with the USC Shoah Foundation Institute to access the Visual History Archive.

A 2003 grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation enabled the Institute to complete a pilot program of access to the archive via Internet2. Under the auspices of the pilot, the Institute provided archival access to students



and faculty at Rice University and Yale University, in addition to access already provided at the University of Southern California. Today, full archival access is available at these institutions, as well as at the University of Michigan, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and at Freie Universität Berlin.

“The Visual History Archive contains what is by far the largest collection of Holocaust survivor testimonies to be found anywhere in the world,” said Christopher Browning, Frank Porter Graham Professor of History at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. “To make this material readily available to researchers on our campus—whether faculty, graduate students, or undergraduates—is a tremendous service. For my current research project on a complex of factory slave labor camps in southern Poland, I have had to travel as far as Warsaw and Jerusalem to collect materials. Now a major source for my work will be readily accessible here on campus.”

Integrating into Campus Life

At the universities where access has been available, educators incorporated testimonies from the archive into 37 courses across many disciplines, including anthropology, business, film, history, law, psychology, and sociology.



A sample of such courses include: *Creating the Nonfiction Film*; *Genocide, Human Rights, and the Media*; *Text as Property, Property as Text*; *Gender and Symbolism*; *Law and Society*; and *Religion in Eastern Europe under Communism*.

“The experiences the survivors’ testimonies bear witness to are an invaluable, shattering, and unique history of global import,” said Diane Butler, Assistant University Librarian for Information Technology at Rice University. “Rice plans to make the Visual History Archive increasingly accessible on campus, furthering its impact on pedagogy and integration into the life of the mind and, as much as we are able, to bring the archives to other schools and communities of interest.”

Moving Forward

“We cannot underestimate the importance of visual history testimony and oral testimony in the years to come,” said Greenberg. “Books can teach us history, but visual and oral history allow learning to come directly from the source, from someone who lived through a

particular moment of history. Visual history is the medium by which students in the future will learn about the past.”

In 2007, the USC Shoah Foundation Institute will collaborate with a growing number of universities and institutions to provide access to the archive around the world. The University of Minnesota, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, and Monash



University in Melbourne, Australia, will be next to gain access to the Visual History Archive.

Monash University—nearly 8000 miles from the Institute in Los Angeles—will be the first in Australia with digital access to the entire archive. Access at Monash University is being funded by Ms. Lee Liberman, of the LJCB group of companies, and the Pratt Family Foundation. A launch event, planned for early 2007, will acknowledge this milestone.

Universities and institutions interested in accessing the archive work with generous donors to make the project possible. Please contact the USC Shoah Foundation Institute if you are interested in helping to bring the Visual History Archive to additional institutions.



Opposite page left: (L to R) Dieter Lenzen, President of the Freie Universität Berlin, and Douglas Greenberg, Institute Executive Director, discuss the new research opportunities the Visual History Archive provides scholars at the Freie Universität Berlin.

Opposite page center: (L to R) Dieter Lenzen, Werner Bab, a Holocaust survivor, and Douglas Greenberg.

Opposite page right: (L to R) Nicolas Apostolopoulos, Director of the Center for Digital Systems at the Freie Universität Berlin, Hélène Sostarich-Barsamian, Executive Director of Friends of Freie Universität Berlin, and Wedigo de Vivanco, Dean of International Affairs at Freie Universität Berlin, visited the USC Shoah Foundation Institute to discuss making the archive available in Berlin.

Above left: Faculty and staff at the Freie Universität Berlin welcomed Douglas Greenberg and Karen Jungblut from the Institute to the launch event in Berlin.

Above center: Douglas Greenberg (left), and Dieter Lenzen (right), answer questions from the press.

Above right: (L to R) Nicolas Apostolopoulos, Wedigo de Vivanco, Peter Lange, from Freie Universität Berlin, and Douglas Greenberg, at the launch event.

Films Bring Survivors' Experiences to International Stage

Using testimonies from its Visual History Archive as primary source material, the USC Shoah Foundation Institute collaborated with accomplished filmmakers to create 11 documentary films that have been broadcast in 50 countries and subtitled in 28 languages. In 2006, the Institute's 10th and 11th films were released. Volevo solo vivere (I Only Wanted to Live), directed by Mimmo Calopresti, premiered in Rome in January 2006, and Nazvy svoje im'ia (Spell Your Name), a film by Sergey Bukovsky, premiered in October.

Volevo solo vivere (I Only Wanted to Live)

Iwalked out of Auschwitz, but I left behind my heart and soul. We'll always be there." These words are spoken by Holocaust survivor Nedo Fiano in the Italian film *Volevo solo vivere* (I Only Wanted to Live), the Institute's 10th documentary.

I Only Wanted to Live, by Italian film director Mimmo Calopresti, chronicles the Holocaust as experienced in Italy, from the racial laws Mussolini enacted in 1938 through the German invasion in 1943 and the liberation of

Auschwitz in 1945. The experiences are made personal through the use of testimony from the

Institute's archive. Nine Italian citizens, all survivors of Auschwitz, share their stories; their testimonies are woven among personal and historical photographs and additional archival footage



to create a 75-minute narrative. The survivors featured are: Andra Bucci, Esterina Calò Di Veroli, Nedo Fiano, Luciana Nissim Momigliano, Liliana Segre, Settimia Spizzichino, Giuliana Tedeschi, Shlomo Venezia, and Arminio Wachsberger.

Calopresti speaks about making the documentary. "In my films, I sometimes presume that I can tell other people's stories for them. This time, I decided just to listen, to have the strength not to walk away when hearing certain stories became too difficult."

In January 2006, *I Only Wanted to Live* premiered at an event hosted by Rome's Mayor, Walter Veltroni, and the Comune di Roma, with generous support from Rai Cinema. Approximately 1000 guests, including the current Prime Minister of Italy, Romano Prodi, attended the event, held at the city's premier concert hall, Auditorium Parco della Musica. Since then, the film has been released theatrically in five Italian cities and was nominated for the country's main national film award, the David di Donatello Award, in the category of Best Feature-Length Documentary.

Additionally, *I Only Wanted to Live* screened at the 2006 Cannes Film Festival in the Official Selection, Out of Competition. Its success there attracted the attention of film festivals worldwide, and since then, the documentary has screened at the Jerusalem Film Festival, the Montreal World Film Festival, the Annecy Cinéma Italien (2006), the Melbourne and Sydney Jewish Film Festival, the Boston Jewish



Film Festival, the Palm Beach Jewish Film Festival, and the Washington, D.C. Jewish Film Festival.

I Only Wanted to Live is produced by the USC Shoah Foundation Institute, Gagè Produzioni, and Wildside Media, in co-production with funders Rai Cinema, Ventura Film, and RTSI-Televisione Svizzera. Mark Edwards, Laurence Hoffmann, and Mimmo Calopresti worked together as the film's producers, and Francesca Alatri served as associate producer. Additional funding for *I Only Wanted to Live* was provided by Francesca Alatri, Mel and Betty Sembler, and the Comune di Roma.

Above: (L to R) Swiss partners Andres Pfaffli and Elda Guidinetti of Ventura Film; Francesca Alatri, a donor and the film's associate producer; Mimmo Calopresti, the film's director; Laurence Hoffman, producer; and Mark Edwards, producer and Institute Regional Consultant in France attended the 2006 Cannes Film Festival, where *I Only Wanted to Live* screened as Official Selection, Out of Competition.



Nazvy svoje im'ia (Spell Your Name)

Spell Your Name is the Institute's feature-length documentary film about the Holocaust in Ukraine. In it, director Sergey Bukovsky takes viewers on a journey of discovery, as he and three Ukrainian journalism students absorb the testimony of local people who escaped brutal execution and those who rescued friends and neighbors during the Holocaust. "The audience will identify with these students," said Mark Edwards, a producer of the film and consultant for the Institute. "Their reactions to watching testimony, as captured on film, mirror the experiences of an audience that may not have a deep awareness of the Holocaust."

As the men and women featured in the film share the details of their experiences, viewers are also afforded a glimpse of modern-day Ukraine: the ethnic stereotypes that continue to exist and the manner in which post-Soviet society is dealing with the question of how to memorialize the sites where tens of thousands of Jewish families and others were executed and thrown into mass graves.

Spell Your Name is crafted using Ukrainian- and Russian-language testimonies from the USC Shoah Foundation Institute archive and new footage shot on location in Ukraine.

"To prepare for the film," said Bukovsky, "we viewed nearly 500 testimonies from the Institute's archive. As I watched, I could imagine making a film from every single one. This is very difficult material... You cannot simply watch a testimony and then tune out and work

on something else. The interviewees remained with me all the time. They turned into my family, my neighbors."

The testimonies featured in *Spell Your Name* are those of Polina Bel'skaia, Mikhail Fel'berg, Bronislava Fuks, Mariia Egorycheva-Glagoleva, Mariia Gol'dberg, Fenia Kleiman, Zinaida Klimanovskaia, Irina Maksimova, Iurii Pinchuk, Evgenia Podolskaia, Mikhail Rossinskii, Leonid Serebriakov, Tsilia Shport, and Mariia Zanzevich.

The film premiered in Kyiv in October 2006 to an audience of nearly 2000, at the International Center of Culture and Arts (the former Zhovtnevyi Palace).

"It is especially important to raise these issues of tolerance as we commemorate the 65th anniversary of the massacre at Babi Yar," said Douglas Greenberg, Institute Executive Director, in Kyiv. "*Spell Your Name* teaches us all about some of the darkest moments in human history; we hope and expect that it will not only provide education about the past but start a dialogue about the future as well."

At the press conference prior to the premiere, Steven Spielberg, co-executive producer of the film, spoke about the epidemic of racism. "Hatred comes from fear, and we have experienced a century of fear," he said. "Until we get to the bottom of what makes people so afraid of the differences in others, we are going to experience an even greater century of fear. I hope this film, as it explores such a dark historical moment, opens the doors for under-

standing and tolerance and takes a step toward banishing hatred."

A generous grant from Victor Pinchuk made production of *Spell Your Name* possible; Mr. Pinchuk acted as co-executive producer with Spielberg, and the USC Shoah Foundation Institute continues to partner with the Victor Pinchuk Foundation in support of the film.

"It is essential that we learn the lessons of history, and the testimonies gathered by the USC Shoah Foundation Institute that appear in this film are the most compelling teachers for Ukraine and all the world," said Pinchuk. A teacher's guide to accompany the film will be completed this spring, as part of a broader educational program being developed by the Institute in conjunction with the Pinchuk Foundation.

Left: (L to R) Victor Pinchuk, co-executive producer; Steven Spielberg, co-executive producer; Sergey Bukovsky, the film's director; Elena Franchuk; and Douglas Greenberg, Institute Executive Director, at the film premiere in Kyiv. Center: (L to R) Leonid Serebriakov, a survivor featured in the film, speaks with Anna Lenchovska, Institute Regional Consultant in Ukraine, Steven Spielberg, and Douglas Greenberg. Right: (L to R) Victoria Bondar, associate producer; Mark Edwards, producer and Institute Regional Consultant in France; Sergey Bukovsky, the film's director; and Kim Simon, Director of Partnerships and International Programs, at the premiere in Kyiv.

Messages for a More Tolerant Future

Brazilian film incorporates survivor testimonies

“Most school children in Brazil have no idea that the Holocaust took place,” said Anita Pinkuss, the USC Shoah Foundation Institute’s Regional Consultant in São Paulo, Brazil. “I wanted to make a film that would introduce high school students to the Holocaust and draw their attention to the important lessons it teaches us today—namely, that intolerance is growing everywhere in the world, and events like the Holocaust can happen again.”



To begin addressing this issue, Pinkuss produced *Mensagens Para Um Futuro Mais Tolerante* (Messages for a More Tolerant Future), a 40-minute documentary in Portuguese. The film weaves photographs, maps, and archival information together with testimony from seven survivors: Arthur Wolff, Rita Braun, Celina Bornstein, Ben Abraham, Jan Strebinger, Maria Yefremov, and Chaim Korenfeld. All seven immigrated to Brazil after the war. The testimonies come from the Institute’s Visual History Archive.

In April 2006, *Messages for a More Tolerant Future* premiered in São Paulo. Three hundred guests, including two survivors featured in the film, Jan Strebinger and Rita Braun, attended. Pinkuss is now working

with a group of educators and historians to create a teacher’s guide to accompany the film. Her initial goal is to provide the documentary to 200–300 public schools in São Paulo, and later on other places in Brazil.

Pinkuss produced the documentary in collaboration with Projeto Lembrar (Project Remember), a group she founded in 1999 with five former interviewers from the Shoah Foundation Institute, once interviewing in Brazil was complete. Projeto Lembrar is part of Centro Da Cultura Judaica, Casa de Cultura de Israel, a Jewish and Israeli cultural center in São Paulo. The music featured in *Messages for a More Tolerant Future* is composed by Michel Kleinsinger, a survivor whose testimony is also in the Institute’s archive.



Left: Anita Pinkuss, Institute Regional Consultant in São Paulo, Brazil, with Rita Braun, a Holocaust survivor featured in the documentary.

Above: The documentary production team includes, from left, Kátia Lerner, Institute Regional Consultant in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; Anita Pinkuss; Paulo Baroukh, co-producer and director; and members of Projeto Lembrar.

Sharing Methodology

Archivio Centrale dello Stato in Italy to use Institute’s software to index audiovisual collections

More than 10 years ago, when the Shoah Foundation Institute developed a system to catalogue and index digitally the 120,000 hours of video testimony it planned to add to its archive, it envisioned that other institutions might want to adapt it to index their own audiovisual collections. The Archivio Centrale dello Stato, a long-standing partner of the Institute, is the first to pilot such a project.

The collaboration with the Archivio Centrale dello Stato first began in 1999 when it approached the Institute with a pioneering proposal—to send some of its most experienced archivists to Los Angeles to receive hands-on training using the Institute’s indexing system. The program



spanned three years, and the archivists indexed the entire collection of Italian interviews. They returned to Italy with new expertise and copies of more than 400 testimonies, which are now available for public viewing in Rome.

Recently, the partnership expanded further when the Archivio licensed the

Institute’s proprietary system for cataloguing and indexing audiovisual interviews, which it plans to modify for its own collections. Maurizio Fallace, General Director for Archives, explains, “There is an ever-increasing need in many fields to preserve memory by means of individuals’ personal stories of the experiences they lived through as a way to document their perception of facts and events. It is important that archivists make these sources fully searchable as well.”

Above: Micaela Procaccia, one of the archivists from the Archivio Centrale dello Stato in Italy, catalogued and indexed the Italian-language testimonies in the Institute’s archive.

New Visual History Collections

“Future generations will not be able to meet Holocaust survivors. These testimonies at the Center ensure that children will continue to see and hear survivors’ stories.”

— Dale Daniels, Executive Director of the Center for Holocaust Studies at Brookdale Community College

New Collection Highlights

Agency for Jewish Learning

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Testimony of a survivor who lived in Pittsburgh

Anne Frank Zentrum

Berlin, Germany

Testimony of a homosexual survivor

Asociación Yad Vashem de Mexico

Huixquilucan, Mexico

One hundred ten testimonies conducted in Mexico

Auschwitz Jewish Center Foundation

New York, New York

Fifteen testimonies of survivors born in Oświęcim, Poland

Center for Holocaust Studies at Brookdale Community College

Brookdale, New Jersey

One hundred fifty-six testimonies conducted in the Brookdale, New Jersey area

Galt Museum and Archives

Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada

Testimony of a survivor and author who resided in Alberta

Gedenkstätte Deutscher Widerstand

Berlin, Germany

Eighty-nine English-language testimonies describing German aid givers

Illinois School for the Deaf

Jacksonville, Illinois

Four testimonies given in sign language

Instituto Cultural Judaico-Brasileiro Bernardo Schulman

Curitiba, Brazil

Testimonies conducted in Paraná, Brazil

Jewish Museum of Maryland

Baltimore, Maryland

Eight testimonies of survivors from Maryland

Rabbi Lieb Geleibter Memorial Foundation

Brooklyn, New York

Twenty-two testimonies of Orthodox Jewish survivors

Thompson Rivers University

Kamloops, British Columbia, Canada

Seventy-five testimonies conducted in British Columbia

Union Israelita de Caracas

Caracas, Venezuela

Sixteen testimonies collected in Venezuela

Archival Access

The USC Shoah Foundation Institute is dedicated to providing students, educators, researchers, and the general public access to the Visual History Archive. The entire archive is available for viewing at a growing number of institutions around the world (see pages 10–11), as well as at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles, where the Institute is located.

Information about archival usage between January and October 2006:

18 educator requests for testimony segments for use in the classroom

40 requests for testimony footage for inclusion in exhibits, documentary films, or television broadcasts

107 visitors to the University of Southern California to search the archive

479 research inquiries

5500 Visual History Archive user sessions logged at all Internet2 sites (University of Southern California, Rice University, Yale University, and the University of Michigan)

To date, **900 unique users** have accessed the archive at an Internet2 site, and **37 courses** taught at universities with digital access to the archive have included testimony.

New Education Funds

Banchik Family Education Fund

With a gift of \$25,000, longtime supporters Jackie and Howard Banchik helped the USC Shoah Foundation Institute to establish the Banchik Family Education Fund.

“Education has always been a priority to us,” said Jackie. “Supporting the educational work of the USC Shoah Foundation Institute will have a lasting influence on future generations.”

Jackie is a graduate of the University of Southern California and was thrilled to learn that the Foundation had become a part of the

university. “The establishment of the Shoah Foundation Institute at USC is a wonderful development for both organizations; it places the Institute at a world-class university and

also exposes the students, professors, and entire university community to the wonderful resources contained in the Visual History Archive.”

In addition to supporting the work of the USC Shoah Foundation Institute, the Banchiks are very involved in other philanthropic endeavors that benefit education, health care, and social service agencies.

The Banchik Family Education Fund enables the Institute to pursue a wide range of educational activities in public institutions and schools around the world.

Diane & Howard Wohl Family Foundation Western European Education Fund

After a recent visit to the USC Shoah Foundation Institute, the Wohl family made a generous \$75,000 gift, establishing the Diane &



Howard Wohl Family Foundation Western European Education Fund.

“Our fear is that years after all of the survivors are gone, the Holocaust will have been stripped of emotion, relegated to words on pages in history books,” stated Hilary Zalon, daughter of Diane and Howard. “The video testimonials present these events in a powerful context, which we believe will allow future generations to connect with the human aspect of what really happened.”

The fund will enable the Institute to expand its international work, providing the means to support and train its network of regional consultants. The fund also allows the Institute to expand its Visual History on Loan program, through which schools, museums, and cultural organizations are able to borrow documentaries and testimonies from the archive. Additionally, the Wohl’s gift will enable the Institute to explore new partnerships with universities and with government and non-governmental organizations in Western Europe.

Paul & Susan Kester Education Fund

USC Shoah Foundation Institute supporters Paul and Susan Kester have made gifts totaling \$60,000 to establish the Paul and Susan Kester Education Fund. Susan and Paul are both Holocaust survivors; their testimonies are among the nearly 52,000 collected in the Institute’s Visual History Archive.

The Kesters support the Institute’s mission of using visual history testimonies to create educational programs that help eradicate prejudice and intolerance. “We have supported the USC Shoah Foundation Institute as it collected and preserved testimonies, including our own, and believe it is of utmost importance to support them today, as they disseminate the testimonies to the rest of the world,” said Paul.



“With contributions earmarked as Education Funds,” said Steven Klappholz, Executive Director of Development, “the Institute can reach into communities worldwide and provide educators with powerful teaching tools that engage students on a personal level with effective lessons that survivors—like Susan and Paul Kester—teach.”

Left: Howard and Jackie Banchik helped the Institute establish the Banchik Family Education Fund, which will support educational activities around the world.

Center: The Wohl Family Foundation will enable the Institute to expand its international work.

Diane and Howard Wohl’s daughter and son-in-law, Hilary and Zack Zalon, visit the Institute.

Right: Paul and Susan Kester, both Holocaust survivors who have given testimony, are longtime supporters of the Institute.

Recent Visitors



1. Rwandan filmmaker Eric Kabera and Douglas Greenberg (right)

2. (L to R) Sherry Bard, Associate Director of Partnerships and International Programs; Mark Edwards, producer and Institute Regional Consultant in France; Kim Simon, Director of Partnerships and International Programs; and Inna Gogina, Coordinator, Partnerships and International Programs

3. Anna Motyczka (left), Institute Regional Consultant in Poland, and Martin Šmok (right), Senior Program Consultant for Central and Eastern Europe, with Douglas Greenberg

4. Donors Barry and Rikki Kaplan with their sons Sam (front) and Lee (back right)

5. Steven Klappholz, Executive Director of Development, with donor Michelle Wiens (center) and her daughter, Emily Marrs (right)

6. Feliks Dukhovny, Institute Regional Consultant in Russia

7. Donor Gary Belz

8. Ann Mitchell, a researcher from Monash University in Melbourne, Australia, searching testimonies

How You Can Make a Difference

One person really can make a difference. The USC Shoah Foundation Institute counts on your support to continue its important work to overcome prejudice, intolerance, and bigotry.

CASH DONATIONS: Gifts may be made by cash, check, or credit card.

PLEDGES: You may wish to make a gift to the Institute that is paid over several years, following a payment schedule that is most convenient for you.

PLANNED GIFTS: Planned gifts might help you reduce or avoid income, gift, and inheritance taxes. Planned gifts include wills, charitable remainder trusts, charitable lead trusts, and annuities. You may wish to consider funding a planned gift with such assets as cash, life insurance policies, real property, retirement plans, or marketable securities.

MEMORIAL OR TRIBUTE GIFTS: Contributions can be made to honor special occasions, such as birthdays, weddings, or births, as well as to memorialize a friend or family member. The Institute will mail a tribute card announcing the gift.

IN-KIND GIFTS: The Institute accepts gifts of goods or services that fulfill programmatic needs.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Steven Klappholz, Executive Director of Development
USC Shoah Foundation Institute for Visual History and Education
University of Southern California
650 W. 35th Street, Suite 114
Los Angeles, CA 90089-2571
Phone: 213-740-6051

Donor Highlight

Leaving a Legacy

Paul Blank is a Holocaust survivor. Born in 1923 in Belzyce, a town outside of Lublin, Poland, Paul was deported to Juzefow and survived life in six other concentration camps. In 1945, American soldiers liberated Paul during a death march from Dachau. Paul arrived in the United States in 1946. Two years later, he married Mildred, his wife of 58 years.

Education is of utmost importance to Paul and Mildred. As a result of their connection to the USC Shoah Foundation Institute and their interest in education, they have included the Institute in their estate plans. "We want to help ensure that the USC Shoah Foundation Institute has enough funding to carry out their important mission for many years to come," said Paul. "We know the Institute shares our commitment to teaching future generations about the lessons that can be learned from survivors and other witnesses."

Mildred and Paul have two daughters and four grandchildren. Explained Mildred about Paul's testimony, "We want our grandchildren, and their children, to have the opportunity to hear Paul's story, as well as the testimonies of other survivors. If we forget the lessons of the Holocaust, we will be destined to repeat them."

Planned gifts, such as that of Paul and Mildred Blank, leave a legacy that will help the USC Shoah Foundation Institute carry on its mission to overcome prejudice, intolerance, and bigotry—and the suffering they cause—through the educational use of the Institute's visual history testimonies.

There are many ways to make a planned gift, including wills, charitable remainder trusts, annuities, life insurance policies, retirement plans, and real property. For more information about making a planned gift to the USC Shoah Foundation Institute, please contact Steven Klappholz at 213-740-6051.



Paul and Mildred Blank have included the USC Shoah Foundation Institute in their estate plans.

The USC Shoah Foundation Institute wishes to thank the following individuals, foundations, and corporations for their generous support:

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October 2006**

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