

Phoenix Holocaust Association Annual Report 2022

- Phoenix Holocaust Association brought back the postponed Holocaust by Bullets Exhibit to ASU's Tempe campus Feb 27-Apr 17. PHA, in partnership with Genocide Awareness Week, sponsored the Arizona appearance of Father Patrick Debois, founder of Paris-based Yahad-In Unum, the organization that uncovered and documented the Holocaust by Bullets in Eastern Europe. Some 375 people attended his talk on April 4 in person with an equal number online. The following day, Father Desbois spoke to a primarily student audience and had breakfast with faculty.
- PHA was very involved with ASU's Genocide Awareness Week, featuring many of our board members and survivors as speakers and presenters. The week culminated in a program for educators at Scottsdale Community College.
- PHA's continued educational, social and support activities serve a wide spectrum of interests including discussion groups, renowned speakers, book discussions, films, community educational events and social gatherings. The pandemic did not slow us down, but moved many programs online, with a large audience joining us on Zoom for events such as hosting Lucy Adlington, the author of the bestseller *The Dressmakers of Auschwitz* and a discussion Ksenia Coffman, who corrects inaccuracies about the Holocaust on Wikipedia.
- Support to Holocaust survivors has continued with intensified regular telephone check-ins, delivery of monthly meals during the pandemic and a recent return to in-person monthly Café Europa luncheons. In June, with financial support of the Claims Conference, PHA members delivered special gift packages to 62 Holocaust survivors.
- Through a partnership with the Arizona Jewish Historical Society (AZJHS), PHA survivors and descendants present their personal experiences to students and the public through monthly programs. In addition, we supported programs at AZJHS, such as the premier of *Dimensions in Testimony* in November, as well as the new exhibit, *Stories of Survival: an Immersive Journey Through the Holocaust*, which opened on November 9, 2022 at AZJHS and can be seen through August 3, 2023.
- Our speakers bureau continued to reach wide audiences this past year, including school groups and classrooms, local police, community groups, a local law office, and public libraries. Speaking events have been both in-person and online, and include survivors, 2Gs, and 3Gs.
- PHA continued to provide support to teachers and students for teaching the Holocaust in support of the recent state mandate that all students be taught about the Holocaust and other genocides. PHA is involved in the sponsorship of educator training as well as the development of new videos for schools. PHA co-sponsored The Murray and Sabina Zemel Educator Conference on the Holocaust and Genocide at ASU in the fall and hosted teachers from across the state, offering a wide variety of speakers (including State Department Special Envoy Ellen Germaine) and breakout sessions to teach the topic responsibly in their classrooms. In addition, we continue to provide classroom sets of books to teachers who request them and published a set of identity cards of 38 of our local survivors for teachers to use with the USHMM timeline exercise.

- PHA has produced two educational videos with teacher guides featuring local Holocaust survivors. A third video on the descendant experience was filmed in 2022 and will be completed in 2023.
- PHA held its annual Yom Hashoah commemoration virtually on May 1 including the presentation of the annual Shofar Zachor Award to educators Ashley Crose and Janice Friebaum.
- PHA is proud of the success of the dynamic group for grandchildren of Holocaust survivors called 3GAZ. They have brought exciting programs and social opportunities for survivors, 2Gs, 3Gs, and 4Gs.
- The Prison Book Project which began in 2021 with almost 1000 books, was continued in 2022 with additional donations to the Juvenile Prison in Phoenix.
- Last summer, 16 Chaparral High School students brought “I Never Saw Another Butterfly” to the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, one of the world’s biggest and best-known art and media events held annually in Edinburgh, Scotland. PHA was very involved with the production of the play by supporting the actors with books, coordinating Holocaust survivors to speak with the audience members before each show and with the actors separately in a private setting, supplying reproductions of the artwork for the pre-show “museum” display, and printing images of the photographs taken at Terezin.
- PHA continued community partnerships, including the Carefree Menorah Lighting Ceremony in December which featured a local survivor who told his story of survival.
- After revamping our website last year, we added a bi-monthly blog that began in October 2022.
- Our membership grew once again in 2022, to 318 members (up from 275 in 2021 and 247 in 2020). Unfortunately, we said goodbye to several survivors in 2022, including Isaac Blok, Dr. Aime Avniel, Gerda Klein, Dr. Eugene Herzberger, Frieda Mann, Esther Jagerman, Dr. Alexander White, and Doris Martin.
- PHA is fortunate to receive strong support from the community, allowing the organization to continue our programming. This includes many generous donations in the names of survivors and members, honoring their memories.

**THANK YOU TO OUR WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS AND MEMBERS.
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS LOOK FORWARD TO AN ACTIVE AND SUCCESSFUL 2023**

Please check the Events Calendar on the PHA website for a listing of future events

[www. PHXHA.com](http://www.PHXHA.com)