

January 2025

PHOENIX HOLOCAUST ASSOCIATION WWW.PHXHA.COM SO? NU? WHAT'S NEW? WELCOME 2025

12701 NORTH SCOTTSDALE ROAD #122 SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85254





Tevet - Shevat 5785

Dear PHA Members and Friends

This is my last letter as president of the Phoenix Holocaust Association (PHA). It has been a memorable six years in this position. I hope you agree that the association has made great progress over the past several years. While there have been many positive achievements, there have also been challenges - primarily operating during the pandemic. I feel we did the best we could by pivoting to online programming, delivering Café Europa meals to survivors, and arranging for all survivors (who wanted) to receive vaccines just as soon as they were available. We also lost so many survivors during my tenure which is extremely painful.

I am thankful for having an active board of directors, a hardworking Executive Director, generous donors, and members who support the organization. You will be receiving an invitation to vote on two matters: the 2025 board slate (including the incoming president, Eva Flaster) and the bylaws change consolidating the recording and corresponding secretary roles.

I hope many of you will join the board on Sunday, January 12 at 1 pm at Beth El Congregation for our annual meeting when the new board of directors will be installed and outgoing board members recognized.

Wishing the best to you in 2025!

Sheryl Bronkesh, President Sherylbronkesh.pha@gmail.com

Thank you to everyone who helped make our last Cafe Europa of the season a memorable and joyous event! It was a beautiful turnout of Holocaust survivors and PHA community celebrating Chanukah while enjoying delicious treats and entertainment by Cantor Sarah Bollt. A special thank you to our honored guests Sean Dunn and high school students Ryan Scarpone and Maddie Siegel. Mr. Dunn donated gift bags to all our Holocaust survivors in attendance and Maddie assisted three Holocaust survivors in reciting the Hamotzi.







UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Upcoming Book Discussion of Georgia Hunter's We Were the Lucky Ones: Thursday, January 9, 2025, at 2:00pm MST. Discussion led by Sheryl Bronkesh, Phoenix Holocaust Association Discussion via ZOOM. Register: https://www.azjhs.org/we-were

AZJHS PresentsOur Escape from Essen to America: January 10, 2025 at 10am MST Featured Guest: Holocaust survivor, Benjamin Raphael (refugee experience) Pre-Recorded Seminar, Please join AJHS for this upcoming program, as Ben will recount his survival & refugee experience. Register: afusco@azjhs.org

PHA is a co-sponsor of Valley Beit Midrash's event "From the Warsaw Ghetto to America a Holocaust Survival Story" featuring Holocaust survivor Dr. Stephen M. Felton. January 13, 2025, from 7:00pm - 8:00pm MST in-person and online. Dr. Felton will read excerpts from his mother's memoir, "I Shall Lead You Through the Nights", and recount his journey to America and his later return to Poland. Register: https://www.valleybeitmidrash.org/event/from-the-warsawghetto-to-america-a-holocaust-survival-story/

In Honor of International Holocaust Remembrance Day please join the Phoenix Holocaust Association in partnership with the Center for Jewish Philanthropy, for an evening with author Georgia Hunter and Actor Busy Philipps: January 23, 2025 from 6:00-7:30pm MST and VIP Reception: 7:30pm-9:00pm MST. Paid PHA members: \$18 General admission: \$36 Holocaust survivors are free (We can provide a Lyft for survivors). Register: phxha.com/events/we-were-the-lucky-ones/

2025 Holocaust Remembrance Day Commemoration

PHA is proud to be partnering with The Phoenix Symphony for our annual community-wide Holocaust Remembrance Day Commemoration. The commemoration will be held at Symphony Hall on Sunday, Ápril 27, 2025. On April 27, the Symphony's concert will perform at 2:00 pm MST and will be followed by the Holocaust Remembrance Day commemoration at 5:00 pm MST.

https://phxha.com/events/2025-community-wide-yom-hashoah-commemoration/



Cafe' Europa PHA Annual Meeting & Board Installation January 12, 2025 @ 1:00 PM Please see enclosed flyer for details.

You are listed as a member of PHA. Members are eligible to vote for the 2025 Board of Directors. You can vote by mail, email, phone or attend the Annual Meeting and Café Europa (January 12) and vote at that time. See enclosed ballot.

2024 memberships expired on December 31, 2024. Please renew your membership at https://phxha.com/support

DONATIONS

Café Europa Jeffrey Cain Helena Slavsky Julie Gutfreund Café Europa in Honor of

Nancy Feiges' Birthday Ike Feiges

Donation to PHA's General Fund

Amy Cohn Cheryl Palay Elena Slavsky Emily Bronkesh-Buchbinder Judith Gardenswartz Lori Pollock Helaine Wasser Karen Perna Marvin and Barbara Aal Sister Mary Anne Hines Michael Kornreich and Dona Levy

Richard Kaspar Susan Weil Ernst Frank and Stephanie Jacobson Edie Wade Abe Wagen Jeffrey Nieman Eva Flaster

> Stuart Siefer Renee Karson Peter and Roberta

Van der Walde Get Well Wishes to Marian Weinzweig

Rise Stillman Sheryl Bronkesh Monique Mendel

Hilton Family Holocaust Education Center

Lori Kahn Helen Locke Sandra Flayton Holocaust Education Adela Weinstein Harold Hoffman Carol Dresner Julie Kirschner Martha Maness Molly Jekel Dr. and Ms. Stephen and Marcy Cohen Oskar Knoblauch

Holocaust Education in Memory of Peter Jekel Molly Jekel Holocaust Education in

Memory of Emil Schoenbrun

Carol Dresner
Holocaust Education in Memory of the Mendel/ Neufeld Familes Monique Mendel

In Honor of PHA Outgoing President, Sheryl Bronkesh Marc Lato

Frank and

Stephanie Jacobson Ann Arbitman and Tom Carrick Judy and Barry Friefield Helen and Marty Locke Zaneta and Ron Ruff Esty Kurti Sandra Flayton Sherry Cohen Abbie Fink Trisha Beran Sandor Lubisch

Janice Friebaum In Memory of Alexander B. White

Inez White In Memory of Bina Buchwald Arthur Rothstein

In Memory of the Helberg and Altman Families Tom Helberg

In Memory of Sara and Jacob Micflikier Reva and Allan Micflikier In Memory of Rosa and Sam Zeesman

Susan Kadar

PHA is supported by a grant from the Center for Jewish Philanthropy of Greater Phoenix.

PHA is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. All contributions are tax deductible. Please consider a regular, monthly donation to Phoenix Holocaust Association.

CONDOLENCES

With sadness, the Phoenix Holocaust Association mourns the passing of Holocaust survivor Benny Katz. Benny was born in Romania in 1929. Our condolences to his wife Loti and the rest of his family. May his memory be for a blessing.

Socialization ("Café Europa") programs for Jewish Nazi victims have been supported by a grant from the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany.