# Newsletter October 2009 Volume 1 Issue 4

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# **Dear Friend of the Johannesburg Holocaust Centre (JHC)**

We have had a busy few months with learner and educator workshops both at a national and local level. The workshops have been extremely well received with requests for more coming in all the time. We extend our grateful thanks to the Claims Conference and the Mott Foundation for the continued sponsorship of many of these workshops.





Using the portable exhibition, The Holocaust - lessons for Humanity, facilitators from the JHC explain and discuss the lessons for humanity arising out of the Holocaust.



"... the in-depth approach to the Holocaust and the Rwanda genocide and the eye-opening approach as to how we as Curriculum Implementers and other educators can approach our work to avoid such atrocities happening again."

Curriculum Implementer, Mpumalanga.

SOUTH AFRICAN HOLOCAUST FOUNDATION HOLOCAUST CENTRES: CAPE TOWN - DURBAN - JOHANNESBURG



# **Facilitators' Training**

Due to the increasing national demand for educator and learner workshops, the Johannesburg Holocaust Centre conducted its first pilot workshops for facilitators at the Johannesburg and Durban Holocaust Centres.





# The Learning Company Workshop

We were so fortunate to have 3 experts from The Learning Company, the Netherlands, join us and some of our stakeholders, for 2 days to workshop and hold discussion sessions around areas of importance to the future development of the Centre. The Learning Company offer support on learning and development issues world-wide. For more information on their work, go to <a href="http://www.kessels-smit.com">http://www.kessels-smit.com</a>



# **Public Speaking**

- •The 2009 Conference of the South African Society for History Teaching, entitled *History* and technology Media makes Magic, was held at Crawford College in Johannesburg. Tali Nates was invited to speak on, *Using Film and Media when teaching the Holocaust*.
- •Guest of the Association of Holocaust Organisations, Tali Nates spoke about *Holocaust Education in South Africa* at the Simon Wiesenthal Centre, New York, on the 22 October.

#### Israel

Thuli Malinga, our Office Manager, recently returned from an educational trip to Israel.

"I would like to thank the organisers for the amazing opportunity I was given to travel to Israel in August as part of the 10-day Partnership 2000 Shoah Mission 2009. I joined a group of 8 South African and 3 Israeli Educators. Some highlights of the trip were visits to the Ghetto Fighters Museum (Lohamei Hageta'ot), in the Western Galilee and Yad Vashem, in Jerusalem. At Yad Vashem we were privileged to have Professor Yehudah Bauer lecture on, 'The unprecedentedness of the Holocaust'. It was the most enriching lecture I have heard. What I cherish most about the trip is the closeness I felt with the members of the group. I feel empowered and look forward to learning more and teaching about the Holocaust, by bringing the Human element to the number 'six million'".





#### Rwanda

#### **South Africa and Rwanda Study Tour**

In July, the Johannesburg Holocaust Centre, in partnership with Monash University (Melbourne, Australia and Johannesburg campuses), organised and led an intensive two-week study course in South Africa and Rwanda.

http://www.monash.edu.au/news/monashmemo/assets/includes/content/20091021/stories-monash1.html

As part of their course-work, the 29 students and academics studied Apartheid in South Africa and the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, with a particular focus on reconciliation and reconstruction.

The trip to Rwanda included visits to museums and memorial sites.



The group was privileged to attend Gacaca proceedings in Nyanza accompanied by Mama Lambert, who survived the genocide with her year-old baby, Lambert, while her husband and five of their children were murdered.

Students from the Maranyundo Girls' School and the group shared songs and dances.



### **Anne Frank Exhibition and Events**

#### Anne Frank exhibition travels to Soweto

After a most successful 2-month stay at Constitution Hill (which was extended due to popular demand), the *Anne Frank Exhibition – A History for Today* has begun its journey around schools in the greater Gauteng area. Young learner-guides were trained to share the exhibition with their peers.

One learner commented in answer to the question, "What it meant to be an exhibition guide?"

"I learned tolerance, respect and that we should be instruments of change to eradicate all forms of hatred and predjudice....."

Grade 10 learner, Orlando West High School





# **Limmud Johannesburg**

The depth and diversity of the 3rd annual 2009 Limmud SA Johannesburg Conference programme, in August, ensured a stimulating and exciting 2 days for the 1 000 participants. Guests of the South African Holocaust Foundation (SAHF), international scholars, Professor Deborah Dwork and Mark Weitzman, were included in the wonderful line-up of presenters.





# Forthcoming events

- The Johannesburg Holocaust Centre in partnership with the Goethe Institute and the Rabbi Cyril Harris Community Centre (RHCC) will mark the commemoration of Kristallnacht on the 8 November at the RCHCC at 7:30pm. An Axel Corti film entitled, *God does not believe in us anymore*, will be shown. No charge for admission but booking essential. For bookings contact Hazel or Rene (011 728 8088/8378) or email: mailto:hazelc@greatpark.co.za
- The last meeting for 2009, of the **Friendship Forum**, will be held at 2:30pm on the 8 November at the Gerald Horwitz Lounge, Golden Acres.

Remembering Kristallnacht: Our Memories, Our Music.

A programme in two parts:

- 1) In memory of Kristallnacht, 2) A Musical performance of Yiddish and Traditional pieces, by Dr Jonathan Salitan, a Second Generation Survivor.
- 27 January 2010 marks the *United Nations International Day of Commemoration in honour of victims of the Holocaust* details of these events to be advised.