



Centre for Holocaust Education and Scholarship (CHES)

Newsletter, Vol. 5, No. 4, September 2025

Words from CHES Director Artur Wilczynski



CHES Director
Artur Wilczynski

It has been a busy and challenging summer for Ottawa's Jewish community and for CHES. All of us have been affected by how the community has been the target of antisemitic hate crimes; they remind us of how important our work is. Whether it was the vandalism of the National Holocaust Monument (NHM) or the violent attack against a dear member of the Jewish community at the Loblaws on Baseline Road, the incidents of antisemitic hate crime are growing. CHES has been playing its part in responding.

[Read more](#)

Holocaust Education Month Launch, November 10th, 7pm

Holocaust Education and Remembrance in a World of Turmoil:
What We Need to Learn and What We Need to Relearn

By CHES Member Rosalyn Fremeth

The Holocaust, which may seem distant to many today, continues to have much to teach us. With antisemitism seriously impacting communities, including Ottawa, Holocaust denial on the rise worldwide, and fewer survivors and witnesses to share their first-hand. [Read more](#)



Jason and Jenny Shinder

A Special Invitation to TTE Participants



Professor Michael Berenbaum

By CHES Director Kara Goodwin

On the morning of November 11th, CHES' Through Their Eyes(TTE) participants (next generation) are invited to a unique opportunity to meet **Dr. Michael Berenbaum**. It is our great honour to have this opportunity to hear from the leading scholar of our time on Holocaust Education and memorials. [Read more](#)

Mark Your Calendars!

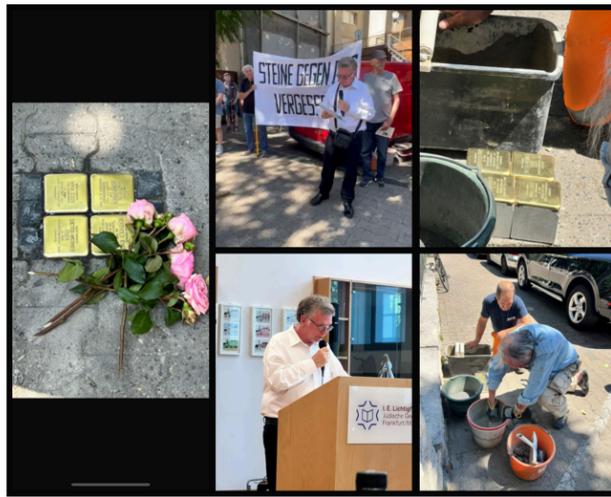
Annual CHES Teachers' Workshop: Adapting Holocaust Education for Today's Classroom and Bringing History to Life with the IWalk App - October 29th, 4pm

By CHES Vice-Chair Alyssa Novick

CHES invites local educators to this year's teachers' workshop, designed to provide timely tools and inspiration for teaching one of history's most difficult but essential subjects: the Holocaust. This year's program reflects the challenges of teaching Holocaust history in the world after October 7th. [Read more](#)



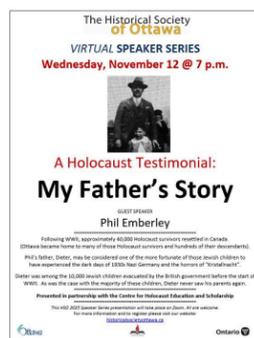
A Walk with My Father: June 30th, 2025



By CHES Member Phil Emberley

Today, I walk the streets of Frankfurt am Main, the hometown of my father, **Dennis Emberley**. During his lifetime, I walked with my father in many cities, but never Frankfurt. Today is a special day, a day of reclamation. The loss of innocence, the loss of lives - those can never be reclaimed. However, today the laying of brass Stolpersteine, or stumbling stones, in the street where my father and his family lived is a rite of reclamation that these victims of the Holocaust once existed and will not be forgotten. [Read more](#)

A Holocaust Testimonial: My Father's Story, November 12th, 2025, 7:00pm



CHES, in collaboration with the Historical Society of Ottawa, invites you to Phil Emberley's presentation of his father's story of survival. He will describe how his father, Dieter Emberley, survived Kristallnacht and experienced the Kindertransport. [Read more](#)

Local Student Awarded the International Young Courage Award for Activism against Antisemitism

By Executive Assistant Ana Cristina Villegas

The Swedish Embassy recently announced that 18-year-old Leah Freedhoff of Ottawa was chosen as one of 13 young people from around the world to receive the Young Courage Award 2025. Leah has become an internationally celebrated young leader who has been using her voice to fight against antisemitism in Ottawa. [Read more](#)



Leah with Signe Burgstaller Swedish Ambassador to Canada.
Credit: Raoul Wallenberg Academy, the Swedish Institute, and the Embassy of Sweden

Cultivating Hope at a Time of Crisis: The 2025 GHRUP from the Zoryan Institute

By Executive Assistant Ana Cristina Villegas

On August 8th, 2025, I was presented with the certificate demonstrating that I completed the 2025 Genocide and Human Rights University Program (GHRUP). [Read more](#)



GHRUP class photo. Ana Villegas is third from the left. Photo Credit: Executive Director Megan Reid

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Newsletter Editor: CHES Director Sheila Hurtig Robertson

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