

Draft Press Release

Dallas Holocaust Museum Presents Rebirth after the Holocaust

The special gallery exhibit recalls the inspiring true story of Jewish survivors liberated from Bergen-Belsen.

DALLAS, TX, Sept. 29, 2016 – The [Dallas Holocaust Museum/Center for Education and Tolerance](#) is pleased to present Rebirth after the Holocaust: Bergen-Belsen Displaced Persons Camp, 1945-1950. The special gallery exhibit, opening on Thursday, Oct. 6, depicts an inspiring and untold chapter in Jewish history – the story of Jewish survivors liberated from Bergen-Belsen, who emerged from the destruction of the Holocaust determined to rebuild their lives.

Bergen-Belsen was one of Nazi Germany's most infamous concentration camps. Inmates were subject to inhumane treatment; starvation was rampant as were appalling living conditions which led to the spread of disease. Anne Frank and her sister Margot were victims of a typhus epidemic at Bergen-Belsen. Both perished a few months before liberation of the camp by British forces on April 15, 1945.

Shortly after liberation, the British burned the camp to the ground to halt the spread of disease. Survivors were relocated to former military barracks close by. There they were disinfected, clothed and fed. They insisted on retaining the name of the original camp, and it became known as the Bergen-Belsen Displaced Persons Camp.

Over the next five years, Bergen-Belsen became the largest displaced persons camp in Europe, and the only exclusively Jewish displaced persons camp in the British zone of Germany, forming a vibrant center of rehabilitation, reconstruction and rebirth.

"This exhibit recalls the true story of Jewish survivors who experienced the horrors of the Holocaust but maintained a desire for life," said Mary Pat Higgins, president and CEO of the Dallas Holocaust Museum. "We look forward to sharing this important and inspiring story with museum-goers through the end of the year."

To celebrate the opening of the exhibit, the Museum is hosting a ceremony on Thursday, Oct. 6, featuring a reception and talk by Jean Bloch Rosensaft, daughter of Holocaust survivors and assistant vice president for Communications and Public Affairs at Hebrew Union College in New York City. The reception will begin at 5:30 p.m., followed by a discussion at 6:30 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. To attend, please register on Eventbrite [here](#).

Rebirth after the Holocaust: Bergen-Belsen Displaced Persons Camp, 1945-1950 will run through Dec. 31, 2016. The exhibit, organized by the World Federation of Bergen-Belsen Associations, is presented by the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religious Museum. Sponsors include: Dallas Fort Worth International Airport, Fox Rothschild LLP and Clint David, Dallas Office Managing Partner, and Office of Cultural Affairs City of Dallas.

“As the number of Holocaust survivors continues to dwindle, exhibits such as this are pivotal to ensuring their story is told to future generations,” said Clinton J. David, Dallas office managing partner at Fox Rothschild LLP. “We are honored to sponsor this exhibit, which bears witness to the enduring human spirit to embrace life and find joy in the aftermath of unprecedented horror and heartbreak.”

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About the Dallas Holocaust Museum/Center for Education and Tolerance

The Dallas Holocaust Museum’s mission is to teach the history of the Holocaust and advance human rights to combat prejudice, hatred and indifference. The Museum’s education programs have had a profound effect on people of all ages. In 2015, almost 80,000 visitors toured the Museum and many have written, emailed or posted notes that their lives have been transformed by the experience. Through its exhibits and programs, visitors learn about the discrimination, deep-rooted hatred and the attempted annihilation of the Jews and the systematic persecution of others. The Museum is located at 211 N. Record Street, Dallas, Texas 75202. Hours are Monday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, please visit dallasholocaustmuseum.org or call (214) 741-7500.

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