



2019 IMPACT REPORT

OREGON
JEWISH MUSEUM
AND CENTER FOR
HOLOCAUST EDUCATION

Dear Friends,

The approach of 2020 provides opportunity to reflect on highlights of OJMCHÉ's past year. As always, our work is guided by our mission **to challenge our audiences to resist indifference and discrimination and to envision a just and inclusive world.**

In 2019, this meant, among other things, **educating our public in the currently rising tides of hate.** To do so without appropriate urgency and accuracy is to forsake our mission. Accordingly, we offered programs that addressed this mandate – examples included *The Last Journey of the Jews of Lodz* in partnership with the Portland Art Museum; multiple workshops for students, parents and teachers about antisemitism and hate; and a harrowing talk from a lawyer working at the southern border. Of course we also, importantly, know that laughter is essential in building a truly free world. Our current exhibition *Leonard Bernstein at 100* heartens us all with the soaring music of this brilliant man.

Our mission drives us to teach our audiences this singular lesson: that we “minorities” are not isolated cases; that we have a responsibility to one another, and that indifference, passivity, and inaction to injustice can result in public disaster. In short: despite these turbulent times, **our work at the museum is life affirming and gratifying.** OJMCHÉ's success is due to efforts of a community of people who believe fervently that our museum is a critical asset to society. **Your on-going encouragement is essential,** and I offer my heartfelt gratitude for your support.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Judy', followed by a long horizontal line.

Judy Margles

Museum Director



With so many Americans who now either do not know or remember many of the details of the Holocaust or who deny its reality, teaching the lessons of the Holocaust and other genocides is critical.”

— **Judy Margles**

OJMCHE Director, testifying in Salem, February 2019, in support of the Holocaust and Genocide Education Bill.



Oregon Governor Kate Brown on July 15 at OJMCHE signing SB664 in support of Holocaust and Genocide Education in the state.



“I haven't heard my grandfather's voice in 30 years. Hearing him speak on your website was so moving.”

— A member's response to listening to an OJMCHE oral history.

DID YOU KNOW?

OJMCHE holds more than 800 oral history interviews. You can listen to many of them through our website.



Kathi Miller inaugural exhibition in the LAB gallery



Naturalization ceremony at OJMCHE

WHAT'S NEW at OJMCHE

- **The Ron Tonkin Family Museum Shop** features new work by international and local artists.
- Our **Teacher Advisory Board**, composed of 14 educators from around the state and SW Washington, partners with our education team.
- OJMCHE leads workshops for educators that focus on helping teachers to **prevent and respond to incidents of hate and antisemitism**.
- **Student Educator Internships** are available for high school and college students.
- OJMCHE members at the \$150 membership-level and above now receive **reciprocal admission** to select Jewish museums across the country.
- The **Present Future Action Lab** is open for intercultural dialogue.

An Oregon or SW Washington school visits the museum nearly every day.



Leonard Bernstein at 100



Annual Gala 2019

WHAT'S UPCOMING

at OJMCHE

- Watch for our **new website** launching soon.
- Join us on April 26th for **The Pearl in The Pearl**, OJMCHE's 2020 Gala.
- **Education programs** include a partnership with Facing History and Ourselves, family tours, classroom visits, and tours of the Oregon Holocaust Memorial and the museum.
- Upcoming exhibitions include: **Southern Rites**, a visual study of the struggle of a community in the Deep South to confront longstanding issues of race and equality; **NANCY SPERO** featuring a major installation and related works by artist and activist Nancy Spero (1926-2009), whose work continuously engaged with contemporary political, social, and cultural concerns; and **To Bear Witness: Extraordinary Lives**, about refugees who left their homelands for safe haven in Oregon.

The museum received a prestigious federal grant from the Institute for Museum and Library Services in support of the forthcoming exhibition *To Bear Witness: Extraordinary Lives*.

SUPPORT with Your Donations

The Oregon Jewish Museum and Center For Holocaust Education, through exhibitions, archives, and education programming, engages and enriches the region. Community support through generous donations helps to ensure that present and future generations will have access to this vital community resource. **To learn more contact Gail Mandel, gmandel@ojmche.org, 503-226-3600.**

VOLUNTEER at OJMCHÉ

Are you interested in becoming more involved with OJMCHÉ?

Whether it is training to be an education docent, learning how to conduct or transcribe oral histories, volunteering in the museum or helping at our Gala, OJMCHÉ welcomes your time and talent. In addition, OJMCHÉ's Collections Department has opportunities for college interns in our robust internship and archival training program. The museum currently has more than 100 active volunteers! **To learn more contact Heather Brunner, hbrunner@ojmche.org, 503-226-3600.**



OJMCHÉ has brought life to Holocaust Education in Oregon! They go above and beyond to provide authentic learning experiences for students of all ages from across the state. With their continuation of efforts to further Holocaust Education in Oregon, the history will thrive in the lives of our students.



— **Carly Clark**

former teacher at Culver High School



OUR MISSION

The Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education explores the legacy of the Jewish experience in Oregon, teaches the universal lessons of the Holocaust, and provides opportunities for intercultural conversation. OJMCHC challenges our visitors to resist indifference and discrimination and to envision a just and inclusive world.

**Oregon Jewish Museum and
Center for Holocaust Education**

724 NW Davis Street
Portland, OR 97209

Oregon Holocaust Memorial

Washington Park —
SW Washington Way
and Wright Avenue

OREGON JEWISH MUSEUM AND
CENTER FOR HOLOCAUST EDUCATION

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