

# Group Tour Planning Packet



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9603 Woods Drive Skokie, IL 60077  
[www.ilholocaustmuseum.org](http://www.ilholocaustmuseum.org)

## Thank you for choosing to visit the Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center.

The Illinois Holocaust Museum is dedicated to preserving the legacy of the Holocaust by honoring the memories of those who were lost and by teaching universal lessons that combat hatred, prejudice and indifference. The Museum fulfills its mission through the exhibition, preservation and interpretation of its collections and through education programs and initiatives that foster the promotion of human rights and the elimination of genocide.

### OUR EXHIBITIONS

#### Karkomi Permanent Exhibition

The Zev and Shifra Karkomi Permanent Exhibition tells the story of the Holocaust, from pre-war German life, to ghettos and concentration camps, to eventual liberation and resettlement throughout the world, with a special focus on post-war life in Skokie. More than 500 artifacts, documents, and photographs help illustrate the narrative of the Holocaust, while testimonies from local survivors add personal detail. A German rail car of the type used in Nazi deportation programs sits in the center of the building. The exhibition concludes with a summary film in the Pritzker Theater that connects the lessons of the Holocaust with other genocides.



Illinois Holocaust Museum: Rucksack (courtesy of Boris Kacel); Jewish Stars (courtesy of Rudi Lerf / courtesy of Milton Kohn / courtesy of Sabine and Harry Posmantier); Suitcase (courtesy of Mr. and Mrs. Michael G. Strauss); Child's dress (in memory of Cantor Leopold Fleischer and family)

#### The Legacy of Absence Gallery

The Legacy of Absence Gallery focuses on contemporary artistic responses to genocides and other atrocities, including Cambodia, Rwanda, Argentina, and the Soviet Gulag. Through various perspectives, these galleries help visitors gain an understanding of the lasting effects of the Holocaust, genocide and human rights abuses. The Gallery features contemporary works of art, photographs, and multimedia installations from world-renowned artists such as Samuel Bak, Betye Saar, Natan Nuchi, and Jozef Szajna, among many others.



The Legacy of Absence Gallery



Make a Difference! The Harvey L. Miller Family Youth Exhibition

## Make a Difference! The Harvey L. Miller Family Youth Exhibition

Have fun in this highly interactive space where hands-on activities teach kids ages 8 – 12 to respect differences, address bullying, and take a stand on issues that matter to them!

- Peek inside school lockers to find surprising stories about Rosa Parks, Anne Frank and others who took a stand
- Confront bully frogs in an interactive virtual reality game
- Assemble a giant 3D puzzle to figure out who's being left out at the cafeteria lunch table
- Give advice to kids in sticky situations or tell your own story on video

## Special Exhibitions

### Keep Calm and Carry On: Textiles on the Homefront in WWII Britain

September 29, 2013 – January 26, 2014



*Keep Calm and Carry On* explores Britain's homefront efforts during and after World War II. While millions of British men and women served in the military overseas, England's entire creative class mobilized to win the war on the homefront. Even after the Allied victory, Britain continued to suffer shortages of everyday supplies, and rationing of both food and clothing continued.

This exhibition looks at ways that textiles were put into service on Britain's homefront and how designers created fashions to save on essential wartime materials, and injected style and beauty into the harsh realities of wartime life, convincing the country, as the era's most famous slogan urged, to "Keep calm and carry on." During a decade of extreme hardship, rationing and deprivation in Britain, beauty (in measured amounts) was not frivolous, it was a patriotic duty!

This exhibition was organized by the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.

## Ruth Gruber: Photojournalist February 16, 2014 – June 1, 2014



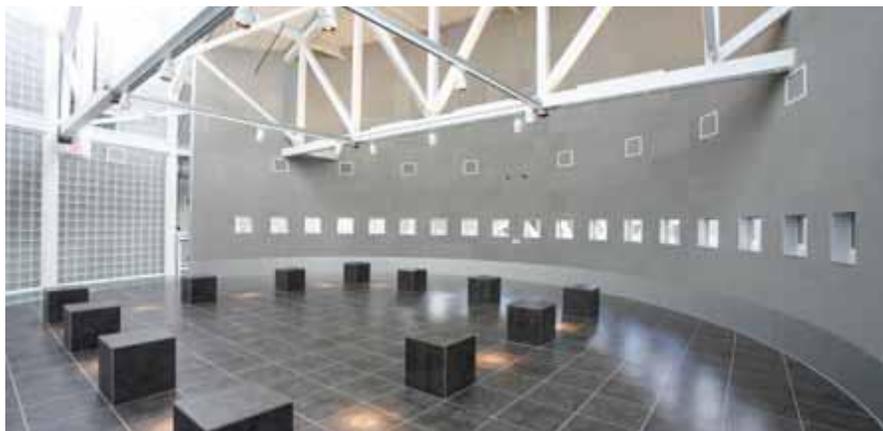
*Ruth Gruber: Photojournalist* celebrates the remarkable life, vision, and heroic tenacity of a twentieth-century pioneer and trailblazing photojournalist. Gruber's work now spans more than five decades on four continents, including her groundbreaking reportage of the Soviet Arctic in the 1930s and iconic images of Jewish refugees from the ship *Exodus* 1947, to her later photographs of Ethiopian Jews in the midst of civil war in the 1980s.

Through vintage and contemporary prints made from Gruber's original negatives, early film footage and personal ephemera from her archive, this exhibition explores the life of one of history's greatest humanitarians and photojournalists.

This exhibition was organized by the International Center of Photography.

## Room of Remembrance and Hall of Reflection

The Room of Remembrance pays special homage to the 6 million Jews murdered during the Holocaust. Representative names of victims line the walls in a moving tribute to those who were lost. The inspirational Pritzker Hall of Reflection provides a forum for peaceful discussion and contemplation for groups and individuals.



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



### Who will be leading my group tour?

All scheduled group tours are guided by a trained, volunteer Museum docent.

### How long is a tour? What Museum exhibitions will we see?

Docent-led group tours are 1 ½ to 2 hours in length, depending on the tour option selected. Tours of the Karkomi Permanent Exhibition, our main historical exhibition, are 2 hours in length. Tours of our Special Exhibition and Legacy of Absence Gallery, which include an orientation to our memorial spaces and main exhibition are 1 ½ hours in length.

### Can my group hear a Holocaust eyewitness during our visit?

Presentations from our Speakers' Bureau can be arranged for scheduled group tours. To book a speaker before or after your tour, please fill out the Speakers' Bureau section of your tour request form. There is an additional fee of \$100.

### When is the Illinois Holocaust Museum open?

The Museum is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday; 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Thursday; and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Last admission is one hour before closing time each day. Please call us or check the Museum website for closures.

### Where can we park?

The Museum maintains bus and car parking spaces in our main lot. There is no fee to park in these spots. Buses cannot remain parked in front of the Museum's main entrance doors.

## May our group bring lunch/snacks to eat before or after our tour?

Dining space is available to book for your group to enjoy before or after your tour. Space must be reserved in advance of your tour, and is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Be sure to request the Dining Hall and/or Museum Café on your group tour request form.

### *Student Dining Hall*

Provides table and chair seating for 75, and offers a space for meals.

### *Museum Café*

Provides table and chair seating for 75, and is an informal gathering space that offers an area for meals and provides on-site vending machines.

Groups that have confirmed Dining Hall and Museum Café reservations are welcome to bring their own meals. Meals will be stored during your tour; refrigeration is not available.

For those who wish to have private use of our Dining Hall and Museum Café, or inquire about a private catered meal, the Museum offers catering and rental options. Please email [eventbookings@ilhmec.org](mailto:eventbookings@ilhmec.org) or call 847.967.4884 for more information on pricing and availability.



Museum Café



Student Dining Hall

## Are there local lodging or dining options for my group?

DoubleTree by Hilton Chicago North Shore is the preferred hotel of the Illinois Holocaust Museum. The hotel offers the perfect combination of contemporary elegance and an ideal location less than a mile from the Museum. Special Museum Rates Available. 9599 Skokie Blvd, Skokie, Ph 847. 679.7000.

For additional lodging options, dining, transportation and activities on the North Shore, visit the Chicago North Shore Convention & Visitors Bureau website – [www.cnscvb.com](http://www.cnscvb.com)

# Arrival/Departure

## Arrival

Please plan to arrive at the Museum 10 to 15 minutes prior to your scheduled reservation time.

Bus and/or motor coach unloading will take place in front of the Museum's main entrance. Buses should enter the signed "Museum Entrance" area and proceed to the "dark side" of the museum building. The tour escort or group contact should enter the Museum to check-in with admissions. Meanwhile, group members should remain seated on the bus.

After your group has unloaded please direct your bus driver to the main Museum parking lot on the west side of the Museum where they will find special bus parking slots. Please direct your driver that bus engines must be turned off when parked. Bus drivers and tour escorts are welcome to tour the Museum free of charge.

## Departure

Following your tour, buses and/or motor coaches should pick up the group in front of the Museum's main exit at your assigned departure time. Buses should enter the signed "Museum Entrance" area and proceed to the "light side" of the Museum building. Please note that if your bus arrives earlier than your scheduled departure time and your group is not ready to depart, they may be asked to "circle" or park elsewhere until the group is ready. Please keep your driver's phone number with you.

## Check-In

The group contact should present their confirmation letter at the Admissions window, where you will receive your group's "admission tags." These "tags" should be distributed to each member of your group prior to entering the Museum, and will need to be worn throughout the duration of your visit.

Please remember that final payment and final group numbers are due 10 days in advance of your visit unless you have made special arrangements with the Museum during the advance reservation process.

Refunds or balance adjustments are not given for absentees or reduced numbers once your final payment is received.

## Security

All visitors must pass through metal detectors and have their belongings scanned. For your safety, all items brought into the Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center are subject to inspection. Please note that outside food/drinks (unless prearranged), chewing gum, candy, and video cameras are prohibited. Photography is allowed in designated areas.

## Accessibility

- Wheelchairs are welcome and may also be checked out from the Museum's Coat Room with a State ID.
- Upon request, the Museum will provide you with a list of ASL interpreters for the deaf with whom you may arrange a Museum visit at your own expense.
- Service animals are permitted.

## AFTER YOUR TOUR

### Legacy Shop

Visit the Legacy Shop for a dazzling array of gifts and homewares:

- Exceptional designer jewelry and purses
- Third world artisan-made homewares and accessories
- Books for adults and children on the Holocaust and respecting differences, including a collection of survivor memoirs and the Museum book, *Memory and Legacy: The Shoah Narrative of the Illinois Holocaust Museum*
- Unique Judaica from around the world



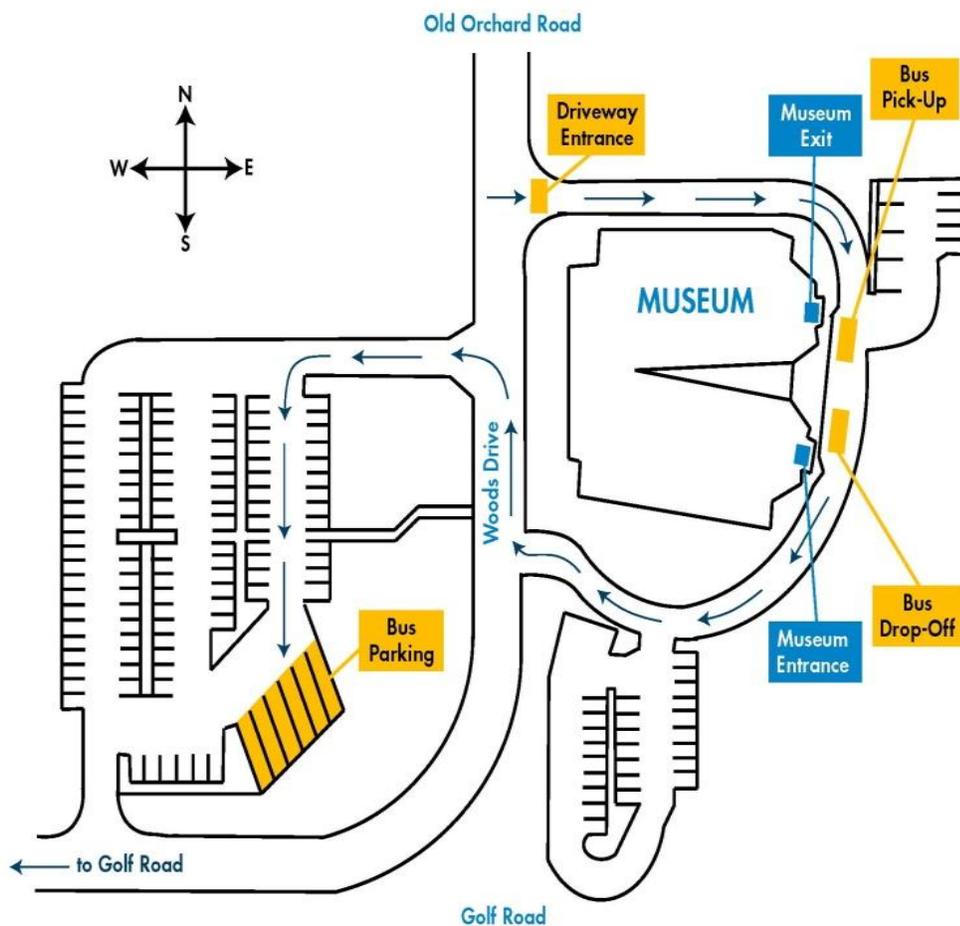
All purchases at the Legacy Shop support the Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center and its educational programs.

Museum members always receive a 10% discount on purchases at the Legacy Shop.

### The Brill Family Resource Center/ Miller Interactive Library

The Brill Family Resource Center concentrates on historiography and documentation of the Holocaust, Holocaust-related literature (fiction and non-fiction), personal accounts of survivors and victims and, the Third Reich. The Center is free and open to the public and houses a core collection of non-circulating books, maps, videos, DVDs, unpublished memoirs, and other printed material.

The Miller Interactive Library has sixteen computers connected to the Internet and is open to visitors for investigation, exploration, and research. The Midwest Visual History Collection of the USC Shoah Foundation Institute for Visual History and Education is available for visitors to view over 2,000 Midwestern Holocaust survivors who participated in Shoah Foundation interviews.



## LOCATION

9603 Woods Drive ■ Skokie, IL 60077

### DRIVING - FROM THE SOUTH via I-294:

Take the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) north to the Dempster St. east (US-14) exit. From the exit ramp, turn right onto Dempster Street (US-14). Drive east about 3.5 miles. Turn left onto Waukegan Road. Drive north about 1 mile. Turn right onto Golf Road. Drive east about 2 miles. Turn left onto Woods Drive. The Museum will be on your right.

### DRIVING - FROM THE SOUTH via I-94:

Take the Kennedy Expressway (I-90/94) west. Merge onto the Edens Expressway (I-94) going west to the Old Orchard exit. From the exit ramp, turn left onto Old Orchard Road. Turn left onto Woods Drive, about 1/4 mile down. The Museum will be on your left.

### DRIVING - FROM THE NORTH via I-94:

Take the Edens Expressway (I-94) east to the Old Orchard exit. From the exit ramp, turn right onto Old Orchard Road. Turn left onto Woods Drive, about 1/4 mile down. The Museum will be on your left.