

# Visitor Guide



# About the

# Alabama Holocaust Education Center

The mission of the Alabama Holocaust Education Center (AHEC) is to educate the people of Alabama about the history and lessons of the Holocaust in order to create a more just and compassionate world that recognizes the dignity, potential, and humanity of every individual.

#### WHAT WE DO

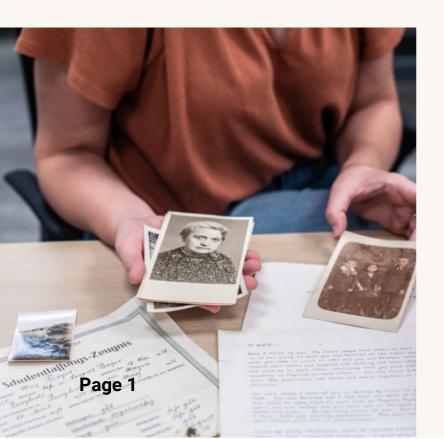
The AHEC offers a variety of educational programs that seek to educate Alabamians about the events of the Holocaust and its lessons for future generations. We also offer educator training to provide teachers with the tools to effectively teach this important history to the students of Alabama

- State-of-the-art facility
- · Annual film series
- Speaker's Bureau
- Teacher workshops
- <u>Traveling exhibit</u>, Darkness Into Life

- Annual International
   Holocaust Remembrance Day,
   Yom HaShoah, and
   Kristallnacht commemorations
   Bearing Witness speakers
- Bearing Witness speakers
  series
- Programs with renowned scholars
- Expansive library and archives
- Teacher scholarships
- Student internships and fellowships

#### Get involved Stay informed

- ahecinfo.org
- f @AHEC.connect
- (a) @ahecinfo



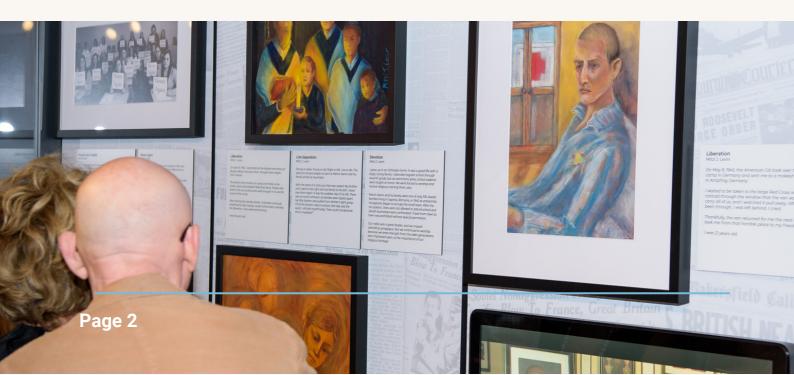
### **Center Rules**

# Please review all center rules and visitor responsibilities with your group before you visit the AHEC

- We do not offer refunds for tickets purchased.
- The exhibitions at the AHEC are not suitable for children under twelve years old.
- No outside food (including gum) or drink is allowed in the AHEC.
- There is no smoking or vaping permitted on the premises.
- No guns, knives, or other weapons are allowed on the premises.
- No large bags, briefcases, or backpacks are allowed. Please plan accordingly.
   Smaller bags and other belongings are subject to a security search.
- Personal photography is allowed in the center so long that it does not disrupt center operations or other visitors' experiences. Professional photography, flash photography, and video are prohibited.

## **Visitor Responsibilities**

- Please do not touch artwork, video screens, or exhibit panels unless instructed by AHEC staff or docents.
- · Always stay with your group.
- When AHEC staff or docents are speaking, visitors should be actively listening.
- During guided tours and debriefing sessions, please raise your hand if you want to contribute to the conversation.
- If worksheets are provided during your tour, please only use pencils to complete the activity. There are no pens allowed in the exhibit halls.





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#### **Helen and Szymon Nagrodski Lobby**

The first exhibition visitors will see is the Helen and Szymon Nagrodski Lobby. The lobby showcases the diversity of Jewish life before the Holocaust. With a guided tour, visitors will learn about what it means to be Jewish, the history of antisemitism, and discover relevancies between their lives and that of Alabama Holocaust survivors and their families.

### **Collat Family Exhibit Hall**

The large, main exhibition space is located in the Collat Family Exhibit Hall. Visitors will interact with the featured exhibit, Darkness into Life, while also investigating supplementary panels about Jewish emigration from Germany before the beginning of WWII and life for Holocaust survivors at the end of the war in displaced persons camps.

#### **Medical Properties Trust Corridor**

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Additional exhibit alcoves, the library and the education resource room are all located in the Medical Properties Trust Corridor. Visitors will reflect on the massive loss of life during the Holocaust, learn about liberation from the perspective of Alabama liberators, and view a student art exhibit.

# FAQS

#### What is the age restriction?

Visitors must be at least 12 years old and/or in 6th grade to tour the center.

# Are there any graphic images in the exhibits?

There are no photographs depicting nudity, dead bodies, or other graphic scenes of the Holocaust within the exhibits. However, there are painted pieces of art and stories within *Darkness into Life* that reflect survivors' horrific experiences during the Holocaust and liberator descriptions of the Holocaust that may be considered graphic. If you are concerned with appropriateness of material for your group, *Darkness into Life* can be previewed in its online format here. Other questions or concerns about age appropriateness can be sent to Zoe Weil at zoe.weil@ahecinfo.org.

# How large of a group can you accommodate?

Standard group tours are offered for a minimum of 15 and a maximum of 30 individuals. If you have a larger group, special accommodations can be made possible. Please contact the AHEC for the options we have available.

#### What should my group bring?

In order to help protect artwork, the exhibition space is kept cool. You may advise your group to bring a sweater. Guests should not bring large bags or backpacks to the AHEC.

#### **5** Is parking available?

Yes, free parking is available in the parking deck directly behind Temple Emanu-El. Please park on the second level or higher. If your group will be traveling to the center on a bus, please contact the AHEC for the parking options we have available.

#### **6** Is the tour guided?

We offer both guided and self-guided tours. Please contact the AHEC to decide which option is best for your group.

# **7** How long should we expect to spend in the center?

We recommend you allow at least 90 minutes for your visit

