

e-LEGACY



BIRMINGHAM
HOLOCAUST
EDUCATION
CENTER

Keeping the History and Lessons of the Holocaust Alive

SEPT 2020

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Virtual

HONORING
Susan and David Silverstein

TODAY | 2:00 pm CST
LIVE Online | bheclchaim.swell.gives

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PRESENTING SPONSOR

L'Chaim 2020 was an afternoon to remember, including powerful remarks, reflection, remembrance, musical and dramatic performances, and celebration of achievements. Former U.S. Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright, opened the event with a powerful call to action: "We can share the testimony of survivors, including those who have enriched the life of communities across Alabama...That is the most we can do; that is the least we can do — it is what we owe to the past, it is our hope for the future, and in a larger sense, it is the hope for the world."

The program also included a heartfelt and personal interview of Auburn University's head men's basketball coach, Bruce Pearl. Coach Pearl emotionally talked about his upbringing and reflected on the importance of teacher training and community education. "We need to teach our teachers how to teach one of the world's greatest tragedies of all time to children who have never been exposed to it, and who have no idea what the Holocaust is about — and then help them relate it to things that they are going through in their own lives," said Pearl. Along with the *L'Chaim* 2020's influential speakers were musical and dramatic performances from Red Mountain Theatre Company. Juna Givhan sang two dynamic musical numbers, and Kyra Berger performed a heart-wrenching monologue, which was written by BHEC Board Member Deborah Layman. The highlight of the event was paying tribute to *L'Chaim* 2020 honorees, Susan and David Silverstein. The moving and sincere tribute video about Susan and David's strong and faithful support of Holocaust education included moving words from their children, family, and friends.

Executive Director, Rev. Melissa Self Patrick, and BHEC staff members also spoke of the BHEC's achievements over the last ten years, including Holocaust education for nearly 100,000 Alabama students, and staff reflected their hopes for the future of the BHEC. Former Secretary Albright concluded with a riveting call to action: "We can remember the Holocaust and vow 'Never Again'... We can make certain that the dead shall never be forgotten from our hearts." Thank you to everyone for making *L'Chaim* 2020 a success!

Thanks to generous individual donors and corporate sponsors, L'Chaim 2020 raised

\$388,000

***We are still accepting donations for L'Chaim 2020 and appreciate any support.**

VIEW L'CHAIM 2020 VIDEO

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REMARKS

With *L'Chaim 2020* now a recent and celebrated history, and as many of us prepare to celebrate Rosh Hashanah – and the beginning of the new year 5781, I have turned again to the powerful and empowering stories, photographs, and paintings of our beloved Alabama Holocaust Survivors, featured in our permanent exhibit, *Darkness into Life*. Martin Aaron's New Year's card 5707 (1947) was made in a Displaced Persons Camp at Bergen-Belsen, where he was liberated two years prior, and one year before he would make his way to family in the U.S. Martin's celebration of the beginning of creation in post-WWII Germany, and his legacy of family, service, and work give us hope in these trying times we are living. May you and yours be filled with hope and celebration, and may you enjoy a wonderful Rosh Hashanah and Days of Awe. Shana Tova!

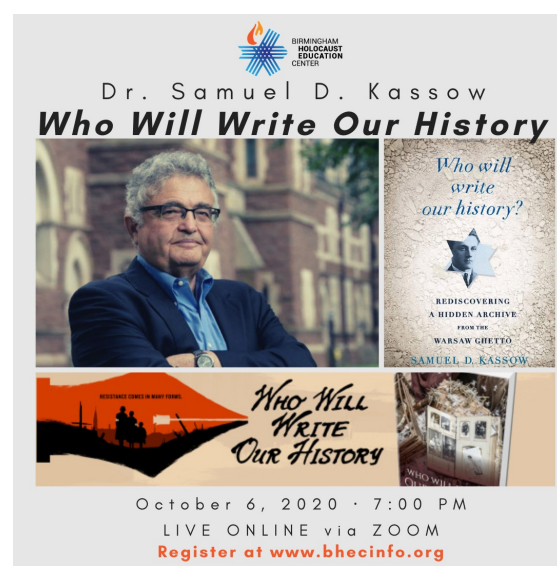
-Rev. Melissa Self Patrick



COMMUNITY ED

October 6, 2020- 7:00 pm CDT
Dr. Samuel D. Kassow

Samuel Kassow is the Charles Northam Professor of History at Trinity College and author of *Who Will Write Our History: Emanuel Ringelblum, the Warsaw Ghetto, and the Oyneg Shabes Archives* (Indiana University Press, 2007). Kassow tells the story of historian Emanuel Ringelblum and his secret organization, Oyneg Shabes, which kept a record of Jewish life in wartime Poland and buried the documents in tins and milk cans under the Warsaw Ghetto. Two caches containing thousands of documents were discovered in 1946 and 1950. A third cache remains buried. Kassow served as a consultant for the documentary film version of *Who Will Write Our History*, which was released in 2019.



He is the co-editor of *Between Tsar and People* (Princeton University Press, 1993) and edited *In Those Nightmarish Days: The Ghetto Reportage of Peretz Opoczynski and Josef Zelkowicz* (Yale University Press, 2016).

Kassow served as lead historian for two of eight galleries of the new POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews, which opened in October 2014 on the site of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising. He is widely recognized as one of the world's leading scholars on the Holocaust and the Jews of Poland.

REGISTER HERE!

BHEC OCT & NOV EVENTS							
OCT '20	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2	3
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	NOV '20
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
29	30						

All events are online except the
Anne Frank Tree Replanting, Nov 15!

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Tues, Oct 6- 7:00 pm
Community Ed & Teacher Cadre
Dr. Sam Kassow
Who Will Write Our History

Sun, Nov 1- 3:00 pm
The Secrets of the Great Synagogue of Vilna
Documentary & Panel

Mon, Nov 9- 12 pm & re-air 7 pm
Partnership with UAB History Department
Jennifer Teege Lecture
My Grandfather Would Have Shot Me

Thurs, Nov 12- 5 pm
Teacher Cadre

Sunday, Nov 15- 2:30 pm
(Kelly Ingram Park)
Anne Frank Tree Replanting

IN MEMORIAM

In January 1942, when Stan Minkinow was ten years old, he and his parents were forced to become residents of the Lodz Ghetto in Poland. Stan and his parents bribed their way from the Lodz Ghetto to the Warsaw Ghetto. Less than a year later, his family made a daring escape. His father distracted a German policeman while his mother bribed a Polish officer. What started in the ghetto with a young boy's curiosity and thirst for adventure played out in Stan's life. In 1951, he saw a U.S. Army recruiting film in Munich. He enlisted and became a member of the elite, newly-created Special Forces. "I am what you would call an adventurer," he said with a smile.



LEARN MORE ABOUT STAN

CONDOLENCES & PRAYERS

Please join us in sending condolences and prayers to the Benn family. On August 23, 2020, Sharon Ann (Boumel) Benn, a loving wife, and mother died after a long illness and complications with COVID-19 at the age of 75. Sharon was born on November 26, 1944, in Washington, D.C. Please send prayers and get wells to Sharon's husband, Alvin, who also contracted COVID-19 and is currently in a rehab center in Selma. Al has taken great interest in the BHEC's work and often provided wonderful photographs for programming. Alvin also has served as a commissioner on the AL Holocaust Commission for years and is one of two officers of the AL Holocaust Foundation.

NEW BABY ALERT!

Rosalie Carlisle Lopez

BHEC's Archivist/Librarian Rachel Jones Lopez, her husband Clark, and big sister Augusta welcome Rosalie Carlisle Lopez! Born on Monday, August 24th, she weighed 8 lbs and measured 20.5 in.

The whole family is happy and healthy.

Please join us in congratulating and sending well wishes to the Lopez family!



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