## CANDLES HOLOCAUST MUSEUM AND EDUCATION CENTER



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Children of Auschwitz Nazi Deadly Lab Experiments Survivors \* Not-for-Profit Organization Founded in 1984 by Eva Mozes Kor

January 10, 2014

Dear Colleagues:

CANDLES Holocaust Museum and Education Center is dedicated to the memory of the twin children who were used in inhumane medical experiments at Auschwitz. We focus on the story of Eva Kor, who as a child was ripped apart from her mother, father, and two older sisters, never to see them again.

In the wake of the Holocaust, global leaders stood together to say "Never Again" should such a horrific man-made catastrophe be perpetrated on this planet. Never again should any child be subjected to the tragedy that Eva Kor overcame, no matter that child's religion, ethnicity, or place of birth. Yet the world's conscience has been repeatedly seared by cases of genocide and mass atrocity since the Holocaust.

This year marks the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the genocide of the Tutsi people that occurred in Rwanda. The world's leading authorities on genocide remembrance, study, and prevention have launched a commemorative program called "Kwibuka20" with a mission to "remember, unite, and renew" global efforts to make "Never Again" a reality.

CANDLES Holocaust Museum and Education Center stands in solidarity with the Kwibuka20 effort, and will participate in commemoration ceremonies and programs from April to July 2014. We encourage our colleagues in the fields of Holocaust education and human rights advocacy to join in this powerful movement for genocide prevention. Below is a listing of our planned commemoration activities. For more information about how to participate, please read the attached letter sent by Kwibuka20 leaders to Association of Holocaust Organization members.

**February 1, 2014:** Lecture by <u>Carl Wilkens</u>, Rwandan genocide survivor and rescuer, at CANDLES Holocaust Museum in Terre Haute, Indiana, USA.

**April 4-12, 2014:** CANDLES mission to Rwanda to meet with genocide survivors and scholars, participate in national remembrance ceremony, and tour memorial sites.

TBD: Educational film screening and discussion session at CANDLES Holocaust Museum.

CANDLES Holocaust Museum and Education Center thanks the Florence and Laurence Spungen Family Foundation for its generous support of Rwanda programming and commemoration activities.

Respectfully,

Kiel Majewski

Executive Director
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CANDLES Holocaust Museum and Education Center

Our mission: CANDLES Holocaust Museum and Education Center shines a light on the story of the Holocaust and Eva Kor to illuminate the world with hope, healing, respect, and responsibility.



Dear Colleagues,

We write to you today with an invitation to join in a milestone moment in history.

As you know, over a period of one hundred of history's darkest days, more than one million Rwandans perished during the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi. 2014 marks the 20th commemoration of this tragedy, offering an opportunity to remember the lives that were lost, show solidarity with the survivors, and unite to ensure it never happens again -- in Rwanda or anywhere else. It also offers an opportunity to learn about Rwanda's evolving story of reconciliation and nation-building.

Kwibuka, which means "remember" in Kinyarwanda, is the global framework for the activities, events, communities, and people that will be part of the commemoration. The official launch of Kwibuka will occur in the capital city of Kigali this **Tuesday**, **January 7** and will be live streamed over the Kwibuka YouTube channel, <a href="https://www.youtube.com/user/kwibuka20">https://www.youtube.com/user/kwibuka20</a>, beginning at **3 am EST.** The event will be available for viewing on the YouTube channel indefinitely. The overall commemoration period will extend through July 4, presenting opportunities for your centers to engage in this truly global initiative. The central clearinghouse for all activities will be the Kwibuka website, which will go live officially on Tuesday and can be accessed at <a href="https://www.kwibuka.rw">www.kwibuka.rw</a>.

As members of AHO, you will receive regular updates about Kwibuka activities. We know that several centers are already planning events to mark the 20th commemoration and look forward to sharing some of these program ideas with you soon. Ultimately, a successful international dimension to Kwibuka depends upon our hearing from each of you as well. As you contemplate your own programs and activities, we kindly request that you add them to the "Register Your Event" section on the Kwibuka web site. We trust you will begin to see the power of being part of a growing global community of reflection and action.

We encourage you to spend a few minutes perusing the Kwibuka website at <a href="www.kwibuka.rw">www.kwibuka.rw</a>. The website will be regularly updated and will be your "go to" resource for historical information, materials, logos, graphics, and event listings. Among the materials soon to be available through the site will be a Kwibuka Poster Set based upon a special exhibition now in production.

As colleagues who labor each and every day to extract meaning and purpose from unimaginable tragedy, we trust that you recognize the great opportunity that Kwibuka presents to educate and illuminate to your respective constituencies the facts of the Tutsi Genocide and its continuing legacy. We are grateful for your commitment and stand ready to assist in this essential task.

Sincerely,

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Kwibuka: remember-unite-renew