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GALICIA
JEWISH MUSEUM
20th Anniversary



Annual Report **2024**



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It all began in the 1990s, when British photographer Chris Schwarz came to Kraków and began photographing the Jewish material heritage of southeastern Poland (the former western part of the historic Galicia province). In partnership with Prof. Jonathan Webber, a British anthropologist, he traveled to almost every place that had a connection to the once flourishing world of Galician Polish Jews, as well as to the places of their annihilation during the Holocaust. More than a decade later, more than a thousand photographs had been produced. These formed the basis for the establishment of the Galicia Jewish Museum. And so it began: the Museum was established on Dajwór Street in the spring of 2004.

2024 was thus a year of great importance for our institution. The Galicia Jewish Museum celebrated its 20th anniversary. The entire jubilee year was full of important events, which culminated in June during the Jewish Culture Festival in Kraków. During this time, we were happy to express our gratitude to all our supporters, especially our sponsors and benefactors, and to all our friends who contribute to the mission of the Galicia Jewish Museum.

Throughout the year, we organized concerts, lectures, meetings, and other events. We made a short film about us that gave a brief, yet entertaining, explanation of how we began as a Museum and what we want to achieve. To pay tribute to our founder, Chris Schwarz, we opened a new exhibition: May '81. Chris came

to Poland for the first time during the Solidarity revolution in 1981 and documented the political upheaval of the time.

As we celebrate this important anniversary, we are already looking ahead to our next two decades. We want to remain one of the leading points of encounters with Jewish culture in Poland. We want to build on our experiences of the last 20 years and move forward with our core purpose: to promote Jewish cultural heritage in Poland and Polish-Jewish dialogue.

Director
Jacek Stawiski

The Galicia Jewish Museum:
20 Years of Memory, Culture and Engagement

The Galicia Jewish Museum opened in 2004, the same year that Poland became a member of the European Union. As a member state, Poland gained the opportunity to benefit from European networks and influence EU decisions. Today, as part of the international network of Jewish museums, the Galicia Jewish Museum plays a vital role in shaping contemporary European and global society through its cultural events, educational programs, and projects that reach beyond the city of Kraków and the historic region of Galicia.

Looking back over the past 20 years, we are proud of the Museum's evolution and the many achievements that have secured its position on the cultural map of Kraków, Poland, Europe, and the world. What began with a collection of photographs by Chris Schwarz has grown into a diverse range of exhibitions created by the Museum and presented in many locations around the world. Our mission to promote the Jewish heritage of Galicia and to educate about Jewish history in Poland has expanded into ambitious projects that support local Jewish communities, advocate for civic engagement, and foster solidarity. None of this would have been possible without our Visitors and Fans, our dedicated Team and Partners, as well as our dear Friends and Supporters. Thank you for being with us on each step of this journey!

One of the Museum's key goals is the commemoration of the Holocaust, both in its local

and global dimensions. Our cooperation with Holocaust and World War II survivors and witnesses has helped shape new generations of young people who are sensitive to wartime experiences and the importance of remembrance. More recently, we have also become witnesses to the war in Ukraine, following the full-scale Russian invasion in February 2022. Our Galician spirit of solidarity extended to Ukrainian refugees, some of whom have remained in Kraków and now work with the Museum. Then, we were confronted with tragic news from Israel following the attacks on 7 October 2023.

In response to these challenges, we have redoubled our efforts. While planning our Jubilee activities marking our 20th anniversary, we made a symbolic change to brighten the atmosphere by adding new colors to our traditionally black-and-white Museum logo. This new, colorful identity serves as a message of hope and resilience, and it will remain with us into the future.

We hope for better times ahead and that we can help make the world a better place together. In the meantime, our special "JewBeeLee" honey, produced by the bees living in the Museum's rooftop hive, adds a touch of sweetness to our daily work.

*Chairwoman, Galicia Jewish Heritage
Institute Foundation*
Dr. Edyta Gawron



Galicia Jewish Museum 20th Anniversary Events



Anniversary exhibition of photographs by Chris Schwarz | May '81.

During our anniversary celebrations in June 2024, we opened a temporary exhibition paying tribute to the Museum's founder and first director, the late Chris Schwarz.

An online and print catalogue of the exhibition was published in the fall of 2024.

Chris Schwarz's unique archive of photographs is among the Galicia Jewish Museum's most important collections. Chris's legacy was also the topic of a panel discussion at the Museum.



In June 2024, we organized a special ceremony and a birthday party for all our friends, sponsors and donors. We gave special diplomas and gifts to friends, main sponsors and our employees. As at any birthday party, we all got to enjoy a slice of the special cake prepared for the occasion. During the ceremony, we screened a short film about the history of the Museum, which was narrated by Robert Makłowicz. Additionally, as part of the celebrations, we organized a competition for short films on Jewish heritage. Some 20 films were submitted. During the main anniversary events, we also organized an outdoor advertising campaign throughout Kraków (posters, citylights).

Kroke Concert

To celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Galicia Jewish Museum, we organized a concert of the legendary music trio Kroke in April 2024. The members of the trio have been true friends of the Museum for a long time. They were very eager to perform in the Museum's main hall. It was a fantastic concert.

Meeting with Prof. Jonathan Webber

During the celebration of the Museum's 20th anniversary, Prof. Jonathan Webber, a British anthropologist and researcher of Polish Jewish heritage, explained how he and Chris Schwarz worked together in the 1990s to document Galicia's Jewish heritage in photos. Prof. Webber has been a member of the Board of the Galicia Jewish Museum for many years.

Meeting with Prof. Norman Davies

We also invited Prof. Norman Davies, a respected and well-known historian, to give a lecture about his book on the province of Galicia in the Austro-Hungarian Empire. The audience was very interested in Prof. Davies's presentation on the history and society of Galicia.



Special anniversary party



Our mission



The Galicia Jewish Museum is a unique institution created to commemorate the victims of the Holocaust, to celebrate the richness of Jewish history and culture, and to take part in the revival of Jewish life in present-day Poland.

The Museum aims to challenge stereotypes and misconceptions typically associated with the Jewish past in Poland, to educate about the common Polish-Jewish heritage, as well as to work for dialogue and cultural exchange between various communities of Poland and Europe. As an independent NGO, we are actively engaged in civic initiatives that try to promote values of a free and democratic society. The Galicia Jewish Museum is a registered charitable foundation and a member of the Association of European Jewish Museums, the Association of Holocaust Organizations, and the International Council of Museums.



Visitors

2022 • **39 435** visitors

2023 • **73 435** visitors

2024 • **64 943** visitors

Finances

As a non-governmental organization (NGO), the Galicia Jewish Museum is among the few Jewish museums in Europe that are not funded by governments, municipalities or other public institutions. This status ensures our independence from political pressures. It also forces the Museum to be highly effective

in raising and generating the funds that are vital to continuing our work.

The Museum covers most of its operational costs from revenue-generating activities. The remainder is covered by operational grants and donations.

Summary Revenue, Costs and Surplus

2024

Revenue:	PLN 6,080,695
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Costs:	PLN 5,772,824
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Surplus/(Loss):	PLN 307,871
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Main Sponsors

Salomon Calahorry Foundation

Mirisch and Lebenheim Charitable Foundation

Taube Philanthropies

Koret Foundation

Rothschild Foundation

The Lauder Foundation

Ministry of Culture and National Heritage

State Street Foundation

City of Kraków

Kip Knelman

Elizabeth Szancer



Project-related grants were received from:

European Union
US State Department
National Center for Culture
Consulate General of the Republic of Austria in Kraków
Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany in Kraków
Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany (Claims Conference) German Federal Ministry of Finances
Foundation Remembrance, Responsibility and Future (EVZ)
Dutch Jewish Humanitarian Fund
Ministry of Culture and National Heritage
The Polish Book Institute
KPO for Culture Fund (financed by the European Union NextGenerationEU)



*Support
the Galicia Jewish Museum*



The Galicia Jewish Museum needs your support!

Your donation today will allow the Museum to continue its mission. The Galicia Jewish Museum challenges the stereotypes and misconceptions typically associated with the Jewish past in Poland. Your support will help promote democratic values, tolerance, openness and inclusivity, while fighting antisemitism, xenophobia, and hate.

Only together can we build an open and tolerant society, aware of its past, and actively shaping its Polish-Jewish future.

\$ 100 Helps host a school group for a guided exhibition tour or lead a workshop on Polish-Jewish history.

\$ 150 Covers costs for an open lecture or workshop.

\$ 1 000 Helps cover the monthly costs of our educational and cultural programs or an open concert.

\$ 4 000 Supports creating a new exhibition or publishing an accompanying exhibition catalogue.

\$ 10 000 Helps organize a seven-day seminar for teachers, a youth exchange, or a study visit for Polish and Israeli educators, teachers, and guides.

How to Support Us

US DONORS

US donors can make their donation tax-deductible by sending it through Galitzianers – Friends of the Galicia Jewish Museum, operated by Myriad USA.

Gifts by check: Write your check to Myriad USA (formerly the King Baudouin Foundation United States KBFUS), write **Galicia Jewish Heritage Institute** in the memo section of the check, and send it to **Myriad USA, 551 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2400, New York, NY 10176, USA.**

Gifts by credit card: Go to www.myriad.org, click on the ‘**Donate Now**’ button, and select **Galicia Jewish Heritage Institute** through the alphabetical listings.

Gifts by wire transfer or to contribute other types of property: Contact Myriad USA at: info@myriadusa.org

Please also inform us of your donation by sending an e-mail to the museum director at: director@galiciajewishmuseum.org

INTERNATIONAL DONORS

By wire transfer:

Bank Details:

Account Name:

Fundacja Galicia Jewish Heritage Institute

Bank: PEKAO S.A. Oddział w Krakowie,

ul. Józefińska 18, 30-955 Kraków, Poland

Swift: PKOPPLPW Iban: PL

6712404432111000047235276

By PayPal:

Search for: Galicia Jewish Museum

Please also inform us of your donation by sending an e-mail to the museum director at: director@galiciajewishmuseum.org



Exhibitions

The Galicia Jewish Museum runs an extensive program of exhibitions dealing with Jewish history and culture. The museum is home to the internationally acclaimed *Traces of Memory*. This core exhibition of the Galicia Jewish Museum is accompanied by a wide range of temporary exhibitions, both curated in-house and sourced externally, that support the Museum's mission. Our exhibitions regularly travel to venues in Poland and abroad, including major Jewish museums around the world.

Traces of Memory. A Contemporary Look at the Jewish Past in Poland

This unique exhibition is based on many years of research and photography. It began at the end of the 1980s when Professor Jonathan Webber came to Poland to search for the traces of the Jewish past that still randomly and unpredictably dotted the small market towns and villages of southern Poland as well as for the memories still lingering in the minds of local people. Working village by village and town by town, Webber slowly assembled a significant amount of material.

In 1993, he was approached by the brilliant English photographer Chris Schwarz, who visually documented the subject. The two men worked closely together selecting and arranging the photos for the *Traces of Memory* exhibition, which opened with the Galicia Jewish

Museum in 2004, with Chris Schwarz as its founder and first director. The exhibition was updated and expanded in 2016 with new photographs taken by the highly talented American photographer, scholar and essayist Professor Jason Francisco.

By merging the work of the two photographers – Schwarz depicting the reality of post-communist Poland in the 1990s and Francisco documenting the situation in the 2010s – the exhibition presents photos of what Jewish heritage in Poland looked like 25 years ago and how it has evolved into what it looks like today. Thanks to this, the exhibition offers a contemporary and thought-provoking look at Jewish Poland, piecing together a picture of the relics of Jewish life and culture in Polish Galicia that can still be seen today, interpreting these traces in a manner that is informative, accessible, and interesting.

This exhibition also has a travelling version that has been presented all over the world, including in the United States, the United Kingdom, South Africa, and Japan.





fol. East News
Kobiety pracujące w pralni w getcie wiedeńskim (Litzemariestadt) 1942.
Złapkę pochodził ze zbiorów Władysława Czerwonia, dyrektora finansowego getta.



Permanent Exhibitions

An Unfinished Memory: *Jewish Heritage and the Holocaust* *in Eastern Galicia*

The exhibition complements the Museum's acclaimed core exhibition, *Traces of Memory*. With this exhibition, the Museum achieved its long-held goal of extending its thoughtful and provocative approach to the Jewish past to the whole of historic Galicia, including the eastern part that is today in Ukraine.

Keeping with *Traces of Memory*, *An Unfinished Memory* invites visitors not just to gaze upon but to read the everyday world for the sake of Jewish memory. In dramatic photographs and incisive texts, *An Unfinished Memory* studies the continued existence of Jewish heritage in Eastern Galicia, the continuing impact of the Holocaust on the social geography of Western Ukraine, and the challenges of remembrance and preservation.



Ten Polish Cities Ten Jewish Stories



Ten Polish Cities – Ten Jewish Stories is the result of cooperation between the Galicia Jewish Museum and Centropa. Drawing from the vast Centropa archives, it tells the story of ten Polish Jews, all of whom were born in the first decades of the 20th century and were brought up or reached adulthood in interwar Poland. They came from a variety of towns and backgrounds: their families represent the diversity of Polish Jewish communities before the Second World War. The world that they knew fell apart in September 1939. Even though they managed to survive – in ghettos, camps, in hiding, as partisans, in the Soviet army or in exile far away in the East – they lost their families, their homes, and had to rebuild their world from scratch after the war.

In the background of each of these ten stories, one can also see the history of the ten towns. The protagonists of this exhibition recall specific sites they remember from their childhood and stories related to these places: these stories are sometimes funny, sometimes tragic. Seven of these towns are now located in Poland, while the remaining three are in Ukraine. This also points to the very complicated and difficult history of Central and Eastern Europe in the 20th century – yet another element of a narrative that describes the fates of many people who lived through those times in this part of the world.

KEF

Means Fun!

The new permanent exhibition *KEF Means Fun!*, dedicated to children and families, opened in December 2024. Illustrations and interactive elements help visitors learn basic concepts related to Judaism and Jewish tradition, Jewish history, and the life of Jewish communities in Kraków today, especially in Kraków. Since its opening *KEF Means Fun!* has attracted preschools and elementary schools in Kraków and beyond, as well as hundreds of other visitors of all ages and backgrounds.



Róża staje się Marianna, Ariana staje się Elżbieta

Róża becomes Marianna,
Ariana becomes Elizabeth

Odbudowywanie Reżimów

Temporary exhibitions

The poster features a map of Europe with several locations marked: Sachsenhausen, Kaulering, Buchberg, and Bad Gastein. It includes several black and white photographs, including a group of people and a person in a uniform. The text is in Polish and discusses the lives of people during the Nazi era, specifically mentioning the names Róża and Ariana. The poster is part of a larger exhibition, as indicated by the text 'Temporary exhibitions'.



HerStories: In The Footsteps of Jewish Women in Europe

This exhibition, which opened at the Galicia Jewish Museum in February 2024, was created in the framework of the *HerStories* project. It conveys the multifaceted Jewish history of the 20th century in Europe through the biographies of seven Jewish women from Germany, Poland, Greece, Spain, Hungary, Slovakia, and the Czech Republic.

Traveling in the footsteps of seven European Jewish women, we can see where they were in particular moments in history, and what they experienced during the first decades of the 20th century, in the interwar period, during the dark years of the Second World War and the Holocaust, and in postwar Europe.

These stories reveal not only individual views and decisions but also their roles in society, their survival strategies, as well as their worlds falling apart and then being rebuilt in the postwar years. The unique story and experience of each woman, juxtaposed and intertwined with one another, reveal the complexity and diversity of 20th-century European Jewish history.



The exhibition *The Cold Eye* was shown at the Galicia Jewish Museum from March to May 2024. The exhibition was created by the Museum of Natural History Vienna and the Berlin-based foundations Topography of Terror and the Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe.

In 1941 in Vienna, a pseudoscientific project was developed in line with the ideology of National Socialism, the aim of which was to “study the typical racial characteristics of Eastern Jews.” As part of the “research” in German-occupied Tarnów, members of over a hundred Jewish families were photographed, a total of 565 men, women, and children.



The Cold Eye. March 1942: Final Pictures of Jewish Families in Tarnów

Fewer than 30 of these people survived the Holocaust.

The photos that were taken at that time, as well as short biographies of the victims, survived. The exhibition *The Cold Eye* documents pseudoscientific research and tells the story of Jews who lived in Tarnów under the Nazi German occupation.



To leave Something to the World – *Beyond the Pages of Renia Spiegel's Diary*

This temporary exhibition, based on the diary of Renia Spiegel, was shown at the Galicia Jewish Museum from June 2024. The diary of Renia Spiegel (1924-1942), written in Przemyśl from January 1939 to July 1942, is a valuable historical source and a unique record of the last years of the life of this young, talented, ambitious woman, murdered by the German Nazis in July 1942.

“Now one still has to live, has to strive, try, has to leave something to the world...” – these are the words of Renia Spiegel, written in her diary. And they became the title and main idea of the temporary exhibition at the Galicia Jewish Museum. The exhibition *To Leave Something to the World. Beyond the Pages of Renia Spiegel's Diary* was a continuation and extension of the film project based on her writing. The film is an integral part of the exhibition. While the film focuses on Renia's character and the authors give voice primarily to her, the exhibition contains contextual information, quotes and archival photographs that convey the fates of Renia's loved ones and of the diary itself.





Travelling exhibitions

The Galicia Jewish Museum is proud of its comprehensive program of travelling exhibitions.

Over the years, our exhibitions have been shown in numerous venues across Poland and abroad, in small villages and big cities, schools and public libraries, art galleries and acclaimed museums. In this way, the Galicia Jewish Museum extends its impact far beyond its location.

Exhibitions travelling in Poland

The Girl in the Diary. Searching for Rywka from the Łódź Ghetto

- Gabriel Narutowicz Technical High School in Kraków
- Wojciech Bednarski High School No 28 in Kraków
- High School in Miechów
- Stanisław Staszic Public Library in Warsaw
- Synagogue in Łańcut
- Municipal Public Library in Tarnobrzeg

HerStories

- Museum of Mazovian Jews in Płock
- Cultural Centre in Tarnowskie Góry
- Municipal Library in Biecz
- Ekomuseum in Starachowice

Szancer. Imagine That!

- Municipal Library, Pińczow
- Municipal Cultural Center, Suchy Las

Some Were Neighbors. Collaboration & Complicity in the Holocaust **– exhibition organized in partnership with the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.**

The partnership between the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and the Galicia Jewish Museum is one of our most prestigious and important. The GJM has been the key partner for the USHHM in Poland for several years, and our cooperation will be continued and extended in the future.

- Lower Silesia Public Library, Wrocław
- Sienkiewicza Secondary School in Września
- Municipal Cultural Center, Biłgoraj
- National Museum of Przemyśl
- Fischer Museum in Bochnia
- Memorial House in Płońsk

Letters to Sala

- Twierdza Kłodzko
- Public Library, Nowa Ruda
- Karkonosze Book Centre, Jelenia Góra
- Regional Museum, Jawor
- Municipal Public Library, Legnica
- Municipal Cultural Centre, Świebodzice
- Public Library, Sława
- Public Library, Nowa Sól
- National Archives in Wrocław

Houses of Eternity

- The Płońsk Memorial House
 - Public Library in Kazimierza Wielka
-

All the Roads

- Museum of Mazovian Jews, Płock
-





The Galicia Jewish Museum is making great efforts to present our exhibitions abroad. Below are major examples of our exhibitions shown in the United States and Europe.

Sweet Home Sweet. A Story of Survival, Memory and Returns

- Holocaust Museum LA, Los Angeles
- Zekelman Holocaust Center in Detroit

HerStories. In the Footsteps of Jewish Women in Europe

- **2024** - Gerhart-Hauptmann-Haus, Düsseldorf, Germany

Exhibitions travelling internationally

Special project: Animation about Helena Rubinstein.

When the Galicia Jewish Museum opened the exhibition *Helena Rubinstein. The First Lady of Beauty* in 2022, it was hard for us to believe that we were the first institution in Poland to prepare an exhibition dedicated to the life of this outstanding Kraków woman. In 2024, we could announce that we are pioneers again. In the last days of December 2024, just a few days after the 152nd anniversary of Helena Rubinstein's birth, a short animated film about her life, prepared in cooperation with the Kraków animation studio Pigeon Studio, premiered. The project was made possible thanks to the support of the KPO for Culture Fund and financed by the European Union NextGenerationEU.



Republic of Poland



Funded by the
European Union
NextGenerationEU



Main education projects

The mission of the Galicia Jewish Museum is not only to showcase Jewish heritage, but, above all, to attempt to combat traditional stereotypes about Poland's Jewish past. One of the main tools the Museum uses to achieve these goals is its unique education program, one of the largest in this part of Europe. It runs educational projects that take place inside and outside of the Museum and throughout

Poland. These activities are addressed both to Poles and visitors from abroad and focus on various aspects of the history of Polish Jews and Polish-Jewish relations before, during and after the war, as well as today. These projects are of great importance as they provide an opportunity to build a society aware of its past and actively taking responsibility for building a better future. The key to this better future is education.



Teaching the Holocaust in Context

This is a strategic project for the Galicia Jewish Museum and has been running since 2010. The seminars are intended for teachers who would like to expand their knowledge of Jewish history and culture, antisemitism, and the Holocaust, as well as establish contacts and exchange experiences with other educators dealing with these topics.

In 2024, for the first time in its long history, the program consisted of three levels of seminars instead of two. The huge interest of teachers from all over Poland in this program has led us to decide to create an additional program for people who have already participated in previous editions of the seminar but still want to improve their skills and stay in touch with the Galicia Jewish Museum.

As in previous editions, first level of the seminar was intended for people who need basic knowledge of Jewish history and culture, as well as antisemitism and the Holocaust. The second level, available to those who have already participated in the first, is an in-depth look at the Holocaust of Polish Jews and the attitudes of Polish society, as well as the consequences of the Holocaust and the issue of

memory. The new, third level of the seminar is intended for people who have already participated in the previous two and focuses not so much what to teach, but how to teach – how to engage, inspire and activate students so that education about Jewish history and the Holocaust is effective and innovative.

The key partners for the program are the Institute of Jewish Studies of the Jagiellonian University and Yahad-In Unum.

The project is supported by the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, the Foundation Memory, Responsibility, Future (EVZ) and the German Federal Ministry of Finance.



Cooperation with Centropa

In 2024, the Galicia Jewish Museum continued its long-standing cooperation with Centropa by co-organizing seminars for teachers, conducting film competitions, and helping with training programs held online and on-site.



HerStories

A significant part of the Galicia Jewish Museum's cooperation with Centropa this year was devoted to the project "HerStories: Telling Jewish Women's Stories", with Centropa being the leading organization in the international consortium implementing this unique project. "HerStories" is a broad educational program that includes activities for students and adults based on the biographies of seven Jewish women from different European countries.

This EU-funded project conveys the multifaceted Jewish history of 20th-century Europe through the biographies of seven Jewish women from Germany, Poland, Greece, Spain, Hungary, Slovakia, and the Czech Republic, contributing to a better understanding of European history by listening to women's voices and analyzing their perspectives. The project ran from January 2023 until December 2024. The "HerStories" project tells these Jewish women's stories in various formats aimed at educators, students and the general public. Bringing together partners from educational and research institutions throughout Europe allows for combining diverse approaches to contemporary Jewish history.

The "HerStories" project is co-funded by the European Union within the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values (CERV) Program.

Partners: Centropa - Zentrum für Jüdische Geschichte des 20. Jahrhunderts e.V. (Hamburg, Germany), Galicia Jewish Museum (Kraków, Poland) the Jewish Museum of Greece (Athens, Greece), Mozaika (Barcelona, Spain), Centropa Alapítvány (Budapest, Hungary), and Jugend- und Kulturprojekt e.V. (Dresden, Germany), Palacký University (Olomouc, Czech Republic).



Memory Lanes

In 2024, the Galicia Jewish Museum was part of another international team of organizations led by Centropa and implemented an innovative educational project for youth: “Memory-Lanes.”

The “MemoryLanes” project was focused on new ways of remembering Jewish life in Germany, Poland and Serbia. 86 teenagers researched biographies of Jewish residents of their hometowns as well as the digital Centropa archive over the course of two years. Then, they used artistic methods to create their remembrance projects based on six Jewish stories from Kielce, Belgrade, Berlin, and Mannheim. Through these personal works, teenagers told stories of Jewish life in the very places where they live.

With the help of GJM educators, a group of high school students from Kielce researched the biography of Julian Gringras and other materials about local Jewish history. The results of their work – anchoring formerly invisible places of Jewish life as new places of remembrance – were later introduced into an Augmented Reality app by BerlinApp, the organization dealing with the project’s technical aspects. Similar groups of young people simultaneously worked on local projects in Germany and Serbia.

Throughout the project, an exhibition based on Jewish biographies in the project locations was also developed by the participants.



Next Year in Kraków Educational Board Game



The Dutch Jewish Humanitarian Fund has supported the Galicia Jewish Museum in our educational efforts for many years. In 2024, along with the Mifgash Foundation and the Nausika Foundation, we had the opportunity to create an innovative board game and large-format game presenting the cycle of Jewish holidays and the Jewish heritage of major Polish cities. The game was successfully tested during the Jewish Culture Festival, as well as with many groups of potential recipients, and then finally produced and presented to the public in December 2024. The project was particularly important because of the complete lack of such educational tools in the Polish language about Jewish communities in Poland. The game is Shabbat-friendly and has already gained popularity among Jewish and non-Jewish educators in Poland who use it in their work.

The project “It’s Your Turn! New Methods in Teaching about Jewish Holidays and Customs” was made possible thanks to generous support from the Dutch Jewish Humanitarian Fund



Exhibition and Educational Program

By the end of 2024, the Galicia Jewish Museum introduced its unique educational project aimed at its youngest visitors: *KEF Means Fun!* The project includes a new permanent exhibition accompanied by various events and activities, as well as educational materials: handouts with tasks and puzzles for children, a brochure for teachers and educators, and educational films on selected aspects of Jewish culture. The opening of the exhibition was preceded by a special meeting for the media and educators, who had the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the new educational offer based on this exhibition. The grand opening in December 2024 was combined with a concert by the famous band Czereśnie playing their original songs for children.

The exhibition has an interactive, digital version: *KEF – Kazimierz Adventure* is an inte-



reactive online game available on the Galicia Jewish Museum's website. Navigating a map of Kazimierz, meeting historical and contemporary figures, completing tasks, and solving puzzles, users can learn about selected aspects of Jewish history and culture at their own pace.

The game was created in collaboration with the Ale Granda agency.



Ministry of Culture and National Heritage
Republic of Poland

The project was financed by the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage of the Republic of Poland from the Fund for Promoting Culture.

A photograph showing several children's hands reaching down to plant yellow crocus bulbs into a green grassy field. The children are wearing dark clothing. The scene is outdoors, and the focus is on the hands and the flowers.

The Krokus Project

For many years, the Galicia Jewish Museum has been the Polish coordinator of the Crocus Project, initiated by Holocaust Education Ireland. As in previous years, in 2024 the Galicia Jewish Museum ran this project in cooperation with Polish schools. More than 350 schools across Poland have participated in this initiative. The teachers and students planted the bulbs of crocuses together and participated in discussions and educational workshops on the Second World War and the Holocaust. This project brings together younger and older generations, to learn, to pay tribute to the victims of the Holocaust, and to reflect on the universal values: tolerance and respect for every human being.

Internship and volunteering at Galicia Jewish Museum

The Galicia Jewish Museum's internship and volunteering program offers in-depth insights into the workings of a growing, dynamic organization. The Museum cooperates with various institutions providing internship and volunteering opportunities for young people, including Aktion Sühnezeichen Friedensdienste (ASF) from Germany, Austrian Service Abroad, the Jagiellonian University, Georgetown University, the University of Michigan, and McGill University.

The interns and volunteers are trained to guide through the Museum's exhibitions and conduct workshops; they do research, take care of our library, and learn about Polish Jewish history and heritage by travelling together and exploring sites of Jewish interest. In 2024, they visited Biecz and Żabno.





Preserving Memory



Preserving Memory is a special ceremony honoring Poles preserving Jewish heritage in Poland.

Since the establishment of this unique award on the initiative of Michael H. Traison in 1998, several hundred non-Jewish Poles have been recognized for their work to preserve Jewish memory in Poland. This is an effort to recognize the selfless work of dedicated people who often work alone, on their own initiative, to ensure that Poland's Jewish heritage will be remembered. Their heroic stories are a testament to their selfless devotion.

In 2024, the ceremony was organized by the Michael H. Traison Fund for Poland, the Galicia Jewish Museum, and the Jewish Culture Festival.



Cultural events



The Galicia Jewish Museum organizes numerous cultural events, including meetings with authors, seminars, film screenings, concerts and performances.

A distinguishing feature of the Galicia Jewish Museum's cultural events program is its diversity, and the offer is addressed to many groups of recipients. In 2024, we organized over 140 events, including the following series:

20 authors for the 20th anniversary of the Galicia Jewish Museum – meetings presenting literary works and interesting publications published in recent years, representing various genres. We hosted, among others, Joanna

Tokarska-Bakir, Jacek Leociak, Andrzej Stasiuk, Aneta Prymak-Oniszk and Michał Bilewicz. The project was aimed at promoting reading among different age groups and popularizing the activities of the Museum Bookshop, which has been operating in Krakow's Kazimierz district for 20 years and was the beginning of the Galicia Jewish Museum's cultural activities.





Concerts in Galicia the concerts organized in the Museum present multicultural traditions and diverse genres. In 2024, there were several concerts of classical music featuring the works of Jewish composers (including performances by Viva la Classica! and Margaret Fingerhut), concerts of Sephardic Jewish songs (Urszula Makosz), and Yiddish songs (Isabel Frey), as well as Portuguese fado (Kinga Rataj & Janek Pentz). As every year, we also celebrated the National Blues Day – this time with a concert by Magda MAGIC Piskorczyk.



The Space of an Image – the 10th edition of a series of screenings of films on Jewish themes organized by the Galicia Jewish Museum. The only event of this kind in Małopolska. For over a decade, as part of the project, we have been giving audiences the opportunity to view contemporary, ambitious, and non-commercial films that deal with Jewish heritage, the complexities of Polish-Jewish relations, the search for one's own identity, and the life of Jewish communities around the world. In 2024, 10 films were presented to mark the 10th anniversary of the review, including the Israeli film *Golda*, directed by Guy Nattiv, which was nominated for an Oscar. The film screenings are carried out in cooperation with the Kamera Dawida Foundation, which organizes the Warsaw Jewish Film Festival.

Our cooperation with the Warsaw Jewish Film Festival is not limited to “The Space of an Image” and has grown over the years. The Galicia Jewish Museum staff have been members of the Warsaw Jewish Film Festival jury, participated in promoting the festival, and have been annual guests at this event.





JEWISH CULTURE FESTIVAL

and



In 2024, the Galicia Jewish Museum was the key partner of the annual renowned Jewish Culture Festival in Kraków. Every year during the Festival, the GJM organizes and co-organizes approximately 30 accompanying events. These include lectures and workshops on Jewish culture, Polish-Jewish coexistence, contemporary Israel, as well as concerts, performances, etc. The lectures and workshops on Jewish culture in Poland and Central Europe and contemporary Israel are also prepared and presented by Galicia Jewish Museum staff members.

In general, in 2024, the Museum's program of events accompanying the Jewish Culture Festival included 41 different events attended by nearly 2,500 people.





PR & Promotion

The Galicia Jewish Museum partners with various media outlets in Kraków and nationwide. These partnerships allow us to promote our activities in traditional media (such as the public Radio Kraków, the commercial RMF Classic, the commercial Radio Nowy Świat, the public television channel, the commercial news channel TVN24, the commercial channels TVN and Polsat, the newspaper Gazeta Wyborcza, and the magazine New Eastern Europe) and many others. We regularly update our social media channels on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube. Many of our activities are run based on materials designed for social media usage (such as the animation on Renia Spiegel's diary). The City of Kraków supported the Galicia Jewish Museum in the advertising campaign marking the Museum's 20th anniversary.

In 2024, we launched a Patronite profile enabling our visitors to subscribe and support the Museum long-term.

GALICIA JEWISH MUSEUM

ul. Dajwór 18

31 - 052 Kraków

galiciajewishmuseum.org



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