



THANK YOU!
We couldn't
have done it
without your
support.



In their
footsteps...





A decade of innovative Holocaust Education and Commemoration

In 2026 Learning from the Righteous will be celebrating ten years of delivering educational and commemorative projects. Over that time, we have earned a reputation for devising innovative, high-quality experiences for students, teachers and the wider community. We are proud to have partnered with many of the larger charities and organisations in the field and are committed to continuing to teach about the contemporary relevance of The Holocaust for many more years to come. As the voices of survivors gradually decline, and the spectre of antisemitism continues to rise, our work has never been more important.

This booklet introduces **In their footsteps** the most recent of the many special projects we have been privileged to create.

Antony Lishak MBE
CEO of Learning from the Righteous



Some highlights of the last ten years...

Our workshops have reached thousands of students and teachers in hundreds of schools across the UK.



We have organised 12 study tours to Poland, enabling over 200 teachers to considerably improve the quality of their teaching.

We have curated numerous exhibitions, such as the celebration of the life of Irena Sendler, who saved hundreds of Jewish children in the Warsaw Ghetto, which was displayed in the House of Commons, right.



During the pandemic we converted a campervan into a covid-secure mobile studio to enable Holocaust Survivors to share their testimony with students at home in lockdown. Pictured in the studio, left, is Eva Clarke.

We are proud to have established a partnership with Wigmore Hall to stage an annual HMD commemorative concert.



...and now



In their footsteps...

We are the custodians of the remarkable ceramic shoes that were made by the artist Jenny Stolzenberg in memory of her father – universal, everyday objects that silently scream of unimaginable loss and stolen potential. Our new **In their footsteps** project uses these objects to initiate conversations about the contemporary relevance of the Holocaust. Who were these people? What were their dreams? And, crucially, in memory of those who can no longer leave a mark, what will your footprint-of-change be?



A daughter's response to her father's silence



Jenny Stolzenberg
1947-2016

Jenny Stolzenberg's father, Bill Powell, died in 1990; a loving husband, proud father and doting grandfather. He had arrived in the UK fifty years earlier as Wilhelm Pollak, a Jewish refugee from Vienna, having spent 10 months in concentration camps. He rarely spoke about his wartime experiences. Jenny was born just after the war; the light that helped him emerge from the darkness.

Driven to understand her father's lifelong silence. Jenny created ceramic footwear in his memory, describing the process as the conversation they were never able to have. Before her untimely death in 2016, the shoes were exhibited worldwide to high acclaim, including in the museum at Buchenwald, one of the camps her father was imprisoned in.

Our charity is honoured to have been entrusted by her family to create a lasting legacy for these poignant works of art.



Wilhelm Pollak
1918-1990





The Exhibition



The exhibition consists of 150 ceramic shoes which we display beside six panels that use original documents, correspondence and diaries that tell the story of Jenny's father's incarceration in Dachau and Buchenwald, his arrival in the UK, his subsequent internment in Canada, and the tragic fate of the family he left behind in Austria.

The shoes were the centre piece at this year's Holocaust Memorial Day commemorations at the Commonwealth and Foreign Office and at the recent International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance conference at Lancaster House. In total they were viewed by over a thousand delegates.





The Educational Resource

Throughout the year, we have taken this resource to numerous schools, where students have been invited to create their own shoe-exhibitions in honour of the countless footsteps that were stolen during the Holocaust. Students learn about the historical events that devastated Jenny's family, and the tragic stories of children their age who suffered in The Holocaust and are asked to consider how they can contribute to a world free from hatred, intolerance and extremism.



These workshops have reached over a thousand students and a hundred teachers and have proved to be very impactful. The tragedy of The Holocaust is unfathomable, yet something as universal as a shoe can enable students to recognise the relevance of events that occurred before most of their grandparents were born.

In their footsteps...

Responses



The **In their footsteps** exhibition displayed in a school



Work produced by students from the International School of Monaco,
The Jewish Community Secondary School. UCL Academy in London and
Alderman Peel High School in Norfolk



In their footsteps...

Testimonies

TEACHER COMMENTS

“The workshops left a lasting impression on our students – making them reflect on the significance of the stories behind the shoes.”

•

“I am so proud of our students’ response to this important subject.”

•

“Our students responded so sensitively to this harrowing topic.”

•

“This will stay in students’ minds for the rest of their lives.”

•

“An exceptional project that has given our students a depth of understanding into this never-to-be-repeated time.”

STUDENT COMMENTS

“I don’t think I will ever forget what I have learnt.”

•

“I’m so grateful to have been allowed to commemorate all those who have passed.”

•

“It has been inspiring and life-changing to learn about all those poor children in the war.”

•

“The exhibition was full of sadness from the past, now we can share it in the future.”

•

“The project made me think about the positive difference I could make in the world.”

PARENT COMMENTS

“Beautifully moving exhibits that wonderfully reflect the students’ feelings and creativity.”

•

“A fantastic exhibition, demonstrating the engagement of the young people in a creative and imaginative way.”

•

“I went to Auschwitz many years ago. It is such a moving memory, and this exhibition brings all the emotions back.”

•

“It is so good to see the younger generation, obviously inspired by such talented teaching.”



In their footsteps...

NEXT STEPS

The **In Their Footsteps** Mobile Exhibition...

To broaden the reach and impact of our work, we are creating six mobile **In their footsteps** exhibitions. Each will comprise six display panels and thirty replica shoes.



Each shoe is reproduced on a 3D printer and hand- painted by an artist to produce a replica of the original object.

This will enable us to expand the project's reach to over five thousand students during the next academic year. Participating schools will be able to download supplementary resources to help them curate their own exhibitions of commemorative shoes.

The mobile exhibitions will also be available to be displayed in faith-settings and other civic spaces across the country, extending the impact of the project even further.

The resources will include digital models of each shoe that students can manipulate as if they were handling a real shoe.

Scan the QR code to see how it works...





NEXT STEPS Online Resources...

The learning resources will include a bank of meticulously researched biographies of Jewish child-victims of Nazi persecution. Schools that use our mobile exhibition will also receive fifty unpainted 3D printed shoes that students can use to create “Shoes of Memory” by adorning them with details gleaned from the biographies to illustrate the uniqueness and stolen potential of the individual child being commemorated.

This “shoe of memory” honours Uriel Stern, who was born in Krakow in 1935 and murdered in Belzec Death Camp just before his seventh birthday.



In order to emphasise the contemporary relevance of the Holocaust, the resources will underline the stark warnings it holds for us today. By highlighting the fragility of democracy, the dangers of blindly accepting propaganda and dehumanising others, we hope to foster a world where no child's life is blighted by the pernicious risks of extremism.



SPECIAL EVENTS FOR 2025-2026

We are delighted that the British Embassy in Vienna will be hosting the **In their footsteps** exhibition, in partnership with the Austrian National Fund. It will be particularly poignant to be able to share Wilhelm Pollak's story in the city of his birth.



British Embassy
Vienna



In January 2026, during the weeks leading up to Holocaust Memorial Day, the exhibition will be on display in Westminster Hall, in the Houses of Parliament. We plan to include a wide selection of the work produced by students who have used our resources in these exhibitions.





In their footsteps...



Our charity will be staging its annual Commemorative Concert at Wigmore Hall on 29th January 2026. Entitled “Voices of Justice”, jointly marking the 85th anniversary of the The Nuremberg Trials and 65th anniversary of the Eichmann Trial. Rather than focusing on the defendants we will be highlighting the eye-witnesses whose moving testimony gave voice to the victims. Their words will narrate a carefully selected programme of music reflecting the pan-European nature of The Holocaust.



Among the performers will be students from the Royal College of Music and the recently formed **In their footsteps** orchestra, consisting of young musicians from The German School of London and the Jewish Community Secondary School.



Learning from the Righteous is a small charity that depends mostly upon the generosity of private donors. We are grateful to all those who have supported us over the last ten years, and extend particular thanks to the larger funding bodies, who have recognised our work.



To support our work and leave a lasting legacy
for the future of Holocaust Education, visit
www.totalgiving.co.uk/donate/learning-from-the-righteous

or scan this QR code



For more information about our work
please contact us at **enquires@learningfromtherighteous.org**

www.learningfromtherighteous.org



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