

# **The Jewish Foundation for the Righteous**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **JEWISH FOUNDATION FOR THE RIGHTEOUS TO BRING TEACHERS FROM SIX STATES TO GERMANY & THE NETHERLANDS FOR INTENSIVE HOLOCAUST EDUCATION PROGRAM**

NEW YORK – The Jewish Foundation for the Righteous (JFR) has selected 12 middle and high school teachers and Holocaust center personnel from six states to participate in its 2018 European Study Program in Germany and the Netherlands from July 8<sup>th</sup>-July 16<sup>th</sup>. Through lectures and visits to authentic Holocaust sites, these educators will gain a deeper understanding of the complex and tragic history of the Holocaust.

The program is a high-level, intensive and immersive educational experience that includes visits to concentration camps, ghetto sites and Holocaust memorials. Noted historian Peter Hayes, one of the world's leading experts on the Holocaust, is serving as the accompanying scholar for the European Study Program.

The trip will begin with the group traveling to Frankfurt where they will explore the pre-war history followed by the destruction of the city's Jews. Following their excursions within the city, the group will then travel to Speyer and Worms and then on to Buchenwald, Weimar, Dora-Mittelbau, Celle, Bergen-Belsen, Bremen, and Westerbork. The trip will culminate in Amsterdam where the group will spend part of their trip fully immersing themselves in the city's Jewish history: pre-war, during the Holocaust and afterwards. On the last day of the trip, participants will have an opportunity to review and reflect on what they learned during the trip, and how to bring those lessons into their classrooms.

Teachers selected for the program are English or social studies teachers at the middle or high school level, have taught for at least five years, are at least four years from retirement, and currently teach the Holocaust in their classrooms. They must also be Alfred Lerner Fellows and have completed the JFR's Summer Institute for Teachers at Columbia University.

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2018 EUROPEAN STUDY PROGRAM  
TAKE 2-2-2-2

“As we continue to move further away from the Holocaust, it is more important to teach this period in history to the next generation,” said JFR Executive Vice President Stanlee Stahl. “By focusing our efforts on helping teachers actually see and experience the places where these complex events occurred, we believe it enhances their understanding and enables them to be more effective instructors in their classrooms.”

“Visiting and studying at authentic Holocaust sites helps teachers to better understand the enormity of the Holocaust and aids in, making them more effective educators. We designed the program to help educators learn, touch, and see the history of the Holocaust so they can present it in a more meaningful and insightful way to their students and colleagues when they return to their schools,” she added.

The 2018 European Study Lerner Fellows include:

- Tricia Skelton of Opelika Middle School in Opelika, AL
- Kate Gholston of Opelika Middle School in Opelika, AL
- Judith Schancupp of the Georgia Holocaust Commission in Sandy Springs, GA
- Jill Tejada of Livingston High School in Livingston, NJ
- Ann Mollengarden of the Birmingham Holocaust Education Center in Birmingham, AL
- Mary Lee Webeck of the Holocaust Museum Houston in Houston, TX
- Carolina Simon of Loggers Run Middle School in Boca Raton, FL
- Hana Bor of Towson University in Towson, MD
- Kate Sullivan of Forrestdale School in Rumson, NJ
- Maureen Carter of the School District of Palm Beach County in West Palm Beach, FL
- Kristin Rutter of Clark Montessori School in Cincinnati, OH

2018 EUROPEAN STUDY PROGRAM  
TAKE 3-3-3-3

The JFR continues its work of providing monthly financial assistance to some 350 aged and needy Righteous Gentiles, living in 20 countries. Since its founding, the JFR has provided more than \$39 million to aged and needy rescuers – helping to repay a debt of gratitude on behalf of the Jewish people to these noble men and women. Its Holocaust teacher education program has become a standard for teaching the history of the Holocaust and educating teachers and students about the significance of the Righteous as moral and ethical exemplars. For more information, visit <https://jfr.org/>.