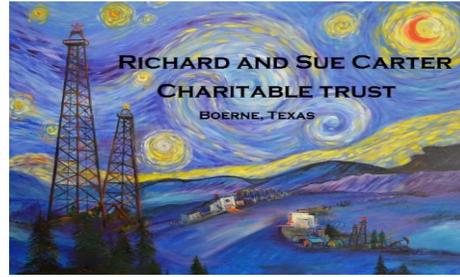




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The goal of this program seeks to educate and expose high school students to the history and atrocities of the Holocaust, with the intent of broadening their world views and empowering them to positively impact the world in which they live.

This program seeks 8 to 10 high school sophomores and juniors, who will be selected for the Holocaust Study Seminar. Students accepted into the program will be expected to attend and participate in a series of 12 to 14 seminars and meetings through the winter and spring of 2017. Each student will also be required to raise \$500 to be used towards trip expenses and will be required to make a post-trip presentation to key stakeholders of the program. All other trip expenses (airfare, ground transport, food, and lodging) will be covered through funding from the *Richard and Sue Carter Charitable Trust*.

This unique program will also include a 10 to 12 day trip to Eastern Europe in June 2017, where the students will learn on site at historical locations. Upon return, students will be expected to share their experiences and thoughts with their schools and communities.

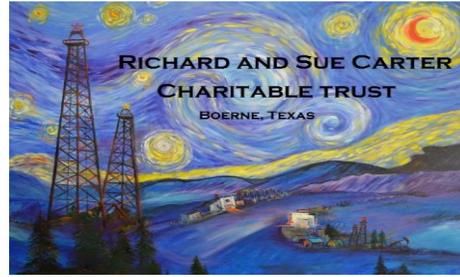
### **Application Process Submit the following:**

1. The general application page including the names of 2 faculty or other individuals asked to write a recommendation letter. Both individuals should write a recommendation letter that goes directly to Education Director, Juana Rubalcava at [rubalcavaj@jfsatx.org](mailto:rubalcavaj@jfsatx.org).
2. A copy of the student's high school transcript.
3. A Personal Reflection/Essay of Intent between 350-500 words that reflects what you value as a person and why you think the study of the Holocaust is important. Your essay should answer the following questions:
  - Why are you interested in this program?
  - What relevance of the Holocaust do you see in our world today?
  - What are you hoping to gain from this experience?
  - What value do you add as a participant in this program?



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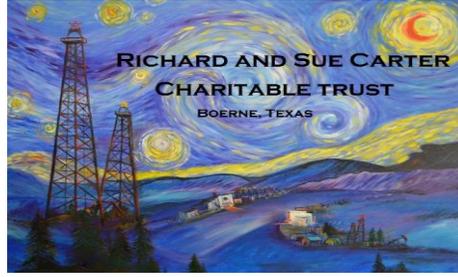
The following individuals are coordinating the program and will be accompanying the students on the trip as chaperones:

- ❖ **Chris Busbee** is the managing partner of the Sue and Richard Carter Charitable Trust. Chris is a native Texan who grew up in the Dallas area before beginning a career in business, finance and consulting that has taken him all over the world. Chris's passion for history and justice began as a young adult and led him to become a life-long student of Germany, WWII and the Holocaust. Chris completed a Bachelor's degree in European History at Washington & Lee University in Lexington, Virginia and a Master's degree in Business Administration at the University of Texas in Austin. In addition, Chris studied in both Munich and Berlin while in college, achieving speaking proficiency in German. Chris is currently the managing partner of the Spur Ventures Consulting LLC. Chris resides in Boerne with his wife Erin and their two children.
- ❖ **Juana Rubalcava** is the Education Director for the Holocaust Memorial Museum of San Antonio. Born and raised in San Antonio, Juana has a Bachelor's Degree in History with a focus in Human Rights and a minor in Latin American Studies. A dedicated educator, Juana has facilitated various teacher workshops for the Museum, including bilingual learning opportunities. She oversees educational programming at the Museum and recently completed her Master's Degree in History with a focus on Human Rights and Genocide Studies in May 2016 at UTSA, where she also worked as a Teacher's Assistant for the History Department.
- ❖ **Ronit Sherwin** is the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Jewish Federation of San Antonio. Ronit began her career in public school education with certifications in both Spanish and ESL. Ronit then worked for the next twenty years in the non-profit sector, working with teens, college students and women of all ages. Ronit served as the Executive Director of Nishmah: The St. Louis Jewish Women's Project and the Hillel at the University of Delaware prior to assuming her current position in March 2014. Ronit holds a bachelor's degree in Education from the Ohio State University and a master's degree in Theological Studies from Harvard University. Ronit is married to Rabbi David Komerofsky, and they are parents to four children.



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**APPLICANT INFORMATION**

Name: [First, Middle, Last]	Address:

Date of Birth:	School Attending:	Current Grade:

Do you have a current US passport?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
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If not, will you be able to obtain a US passport in time for the trip?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
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**PERSONAL RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Please list two Faculty/Staff members of your High School for Personal Recommendations:**

1 <sup>st</sup> Recommendation			
Name:	Connection:	Phone Number:	Email Address:

2 <sup>nd</sup> Recommendation			
Name:	Connection:	Phone Number:	Email Address:

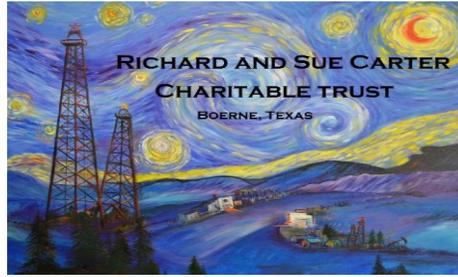
**Outside contact for Personal Recommendation: [optional, ie youth group, etc]**

Name:	Connection:	Phone Number:	Email Address:



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**CONTACT INFO**

Student Email Address:	Parent Email Address:

Student Cell Phone:	Parent Email Address:

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**APPLICATION CHECKLIST**

- |                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Completion of this Applicant Information sheet and all signatures obtained |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Copy of transcript from High School attached                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Personal Reflection/Essay of Intent  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Reference Letters  |

*This trip is sponsored by the Jewish Federation of San Antonio's Holocaust Memorial Museum & the Richard and Sue Carter Charitable Trust.*

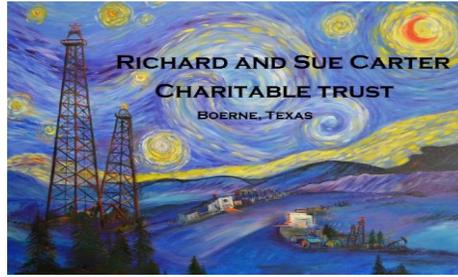
**All materials are due by Friday, December 2, 2016.**

**Please return all materials to Juana Rubalcava at [rubicavaj@jfsatx.org](mailto:rubicavaj@jfsatx.org) or by mail to 12500 NW Military Hwy, San Antonio, TX 78231.**



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### Affinity Excursions ...enlightened travel **Holocaust Study Tour (draft itinerary)\*** June 5-16, 2017 (tentative dates)\*

#### **Mon June 5: Departure from the US**

#### **Tues June 6: Arrival to Berlin**

Upon arrival, meet our guide and driver. Transfer by coach to the hotel, enjoying a panoramic tour en route. At the hotel we will store our luggage and set off for a full day of touring which includes, of course, a sightseeing drive to some of the renowned places in the city.

Star the day of modern Berlin at **Alexanderplatz** with the famous **Red Town Hall** and **TV Tower**, and **St Hedwig Cathedral**. We will also pass **Nikolai Church**, the city's oldest church. We continue to view other well-known sites, such as **Kurfurstendamm**, the famous shopping boulevard and the Berlin Zoo. We will also pass the **Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church** before heading to the **Holocaust Memorial**, opened in May 2005. Its unique design of 2711 outdoor concrete pillars stands on a large square in the historic city center near the parliament and government buildings. Tour the underground **Memorial Center Museum**, with an exhibit that focuses on the victims of Nazi terror throughout Europe, to learn of this terrible period of history. Conclude the morning tour at the nearby **Brandenburg Gate**, the symbol of modern Berlin.

After time out for lunch on own, pay a visit to the **Reichstag**, seat of the German Government. Ascend the Foster-built glass dome from where a 360 degree view of the entire city is visible. The distinctive dome was built to symbolize the reunification of Germany and today is a prominent city landmark. We continue to "**The Topography of Terror**" exhibit, established in 1987 on the site where the buildings that once formed the hub of the National Socialist persecution and extermination system stood. On this site were the Head Security Office, the Secret Police and the underground Gestapo cells where victims were held prior to their deportation to Labor camps. Conclude the touring day back at the hotel at around **4.30pm**, when we check into our rooms and have time to relax and freshen up before dinner at 7.30pm. Overnight: Moevenpick Hotel.

#### **Wed June 7: The Mitte area**

After breakfast, meet our guide in the lobby of the hotel, then depart at **9.30am** and set off for the visit of the **German Historical Museum**, the oldest building on the avenue **Unter den Linden**, and one of the most beautiful buildings of the Baroque period in northern Germany. The building was built on the order of Elector Friedrich III of Brandenburg, later known as King Friedrich I of Prussia. Explore some of the permanent historical sections to get a better understanding of what Germany was like before the Holocaust years.

Our next stop is at the **Hackesche Hoefe**, where we visit **Otto Weidt's Workshop for the Blind**, also known as Otto Weidt's "**hidden workshop**."

We will have a comprehensive tour and learn about this entrepreneur who employed and protected Jewish and non-Jewish deaf and blind workers in his small factory here during the Nazi terror years, and learn how he risked his own life to procure food and forge papers for his employees who were under constant threat of deportation.

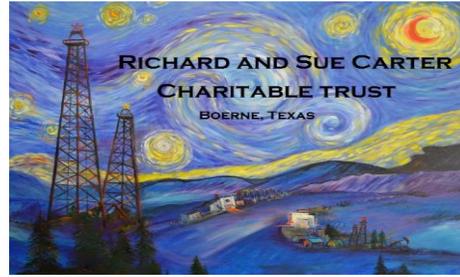
Time out for **lunch on our own**.

Continue to the Spandauer district of Berlin – the affluent prewar **Jewish Quarter** and today a buzzing shopping, restaurant and nightlife area. Here we visit the **New Synagogue** on **Oranienburgerstrasse**, founded in 1866 but partially destroyed during World War II. When it was built, it was the largest, grandest place of Jewish worship in all of Germany. Reconstruction began in 1988 and today it is again a "working" synagogue which also houses a permanent exhibition of



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its history and on Jewish life in Berlin. We will stop at the **Memorial Stone**, dedicated to the victims of the Holocaust, as well as at the former **Jewish Cemetery** on Grosse Hamburgerstrasse, where the philosopher **Moses Mendelssohn** is buried. We will view the Jewish High School, and important highlights of the district such as the **Hackesches Hoftheatre**, a special forum for Yiddish music and theater. Our last stop is at the **Memorial of the Wives of Jewish Husbands** at Rosenstrasse.

Return to the hotel at around 5.30pm and have some time to freshen up. Dinner this evening will be in the Hackescher Hof at the **Restaurant Hackescher Hof**, a famous Berlin restaurant housed in a converted subway arch off the **Friedrichstrasse**. Depart by coach at 7.15pm. After dinner, we are transferred back to the hotel by 9.30pm. (B,D) Overnight: Moevenpick Hotel.

### Thurs June 8: Berlin and beyond – WWII-related sites

After breakfast, depart the hotel at 9.00am. This morning we discover the section known as **Grunewald** – a distinguished Jewish neighborhood which was mostly destroyed by the Nazis. We will visit the **Grunewald Train Station**, which survived WWII and stands as a reminder of the deportation of the Jewish people of Berlin to the death camps. Finally, we tour the **Bavarian Quarter**, once a prosperous, and still a picturesque, section of the city where many prominent Jewish people lived a comfortable life until the rise of Nazism. As we explore this quarter we will note the plaques that mark the **Places of Remembrance: Exclusion and disenfranchisement, Expulsion, Deportation and Murder** of Berlin's Jewish population between 1933 and 1945.

Time out for **lunch on our own**. Continue to suburban **Wannsee** to tour the house on **Lake Grosser Wannsee** where the Wannsee Conference was held on January 20, 1942. It was at this meeting that 15 high-ranking representatives of the Reich's ministries and the SS negotiated how to implement the decision to deport and exterminate the Jews of Europe at various locations in Eastern Europe. Their plan became known as the "**Final Solution**." We tour the permanent exhibition called "**The Wannsee-Conference and the Genocide of the European Jews**," before returning to Berlin, by 5.00 pm. Return to our hotel to freshen up and relax before leaving the hotel on foot to dinner, about a ten-minute walk. Dinner at 7.30pm is in the Sony Center at the **Potsdamer Platz**, the "New Center" of Berlin. After dinner, walk back to the hotel. (B,D) Overnight: Moevenpick Hotel

### Fri June 9-June 13: Berlin-Warsaw-Lublin-Krakow

**We are looking at an option that will take the group** from Berlin to other sites Poland with possible stops in both Warsaw and Lublin before moving on to Krakow

Warsaw: POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews, Warsaw uprising museum. Old town and the Ghetto wall.

Lublin: Majdanek Concentration Camp, Old Jewish Quarter and Lublin Castle.

### Tues June 13 – Jewish Krakow

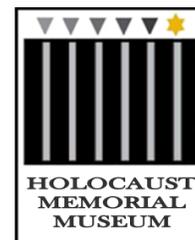
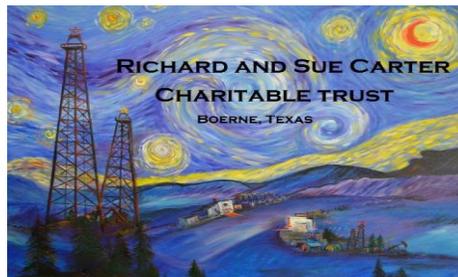
Early arrival into Krakow. Meet at the station, and transfer to the hotel to drop off the bags. We will request an early check in. After breakfast, we depart the hotel for our comprehensive day of discovery of Krakow's rich Jewish heritage. Our first stop is at **Kazimierz** – a suburb where Jews settled when they were expelled from Krakow in the early 15<sup>th</sup> Century. Here we will visit the early 15<sup>th</sup>-Century **Alt Synagogue (Old Synagogue)** now converted into an extensive **Jewish History Museum**. At the other end of the square we will visit another synagogue, the **Remuh**, which is the only functioning synagogue today in the city. We also visit its adjoining cemetery of the same name, and we will stop at the commemorative plaque that marks the headquarters of the **Jewish Combat Organization** dating from the time of the **Krakow Ghetto of World War II**. We pass by the **Schindler Museum** and then enjoy some time out for lunch on our own.

After, we continue to tour the **Plaszow** district, named for Krakow's labor camp which was built as the Krakow Ghetto was being eliminated. Due to difficult and cruel conditions, many Jews also died there. We stop at the **Plaszow Memorial** and also visit "**Under The Eagle**" **Pharmacy** in the Podgorze district in which the Krakow ghetto existed. We hear about the important role that this place and its pharmacist, Tadeusz Pankiewicz, played during the War. After, tour the interior of the



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**Tempel Synagogue**, a Reform synagogue which is a major place of worship and center of Jewish culture, as well as a venue for numerous concerts. We return to the hotel to freshen up and relax. Meet in the lobby of the hotel and depart the hotel on foot for dinner. Overnight: Holiday Inn Hotel, Krakow (B, D)

### Wed June 14 Auschwitz and Birkenau

After a **very early breakfast**, we depart at **6.30am** for nearby **Auschwitz** and **Birkenau**, the most notorious Nazi concentration camps of all. We will have a scheduled entry at **8.15 am**. We will also meet the special guide for the tour of this notorious extermination site. We have requested **Wojciech Smolen** as a guide. It was here that one and a half million people from all over Europe (90% Jews) perished prior to its liquidation at the end of 1944. The site of the camp houses the Auschwitz Museum that displays exhibits and documents concerning Nazi crimes. Block 27 is dedicated to the Jewish martyrs. A boxed lunch is provided. We will tour the Jewish Holocaust Center in Oswiecim which has a restored synagogue and a Center for Holocaust studies before continuing the drive back to Krakow. We will depart Krakow by 4.00pm to arrive back to the city by 5.30pm. We will have time to freshen up before departing the hotel for dinner at 7.00pm

Overnight: Holiday Inn Hotel, Krakow (B, L, D)

### Thurs June 15 – Krakow City

After breakfast depart the hotel with our guide to begin our tour of Krakow. First we will explore **Wawel Hill** with **Wawel Cathedral**, set high above the Vistula River. Hear about the Cathedral's importance and its beautiful exterior architectural features. We will not tour the interior of the Cathedral. We continue to the **Royal Castle** to enjoy the exterior view and Paulina will point out its different styles of architecture as the Castle was destroyed by fire several times over the centuries.

After a time-out for lunch on own, we explore the **Old Town** with the **Old Cloth Hall**, considered to be one of the finest Renaissance buildings in Central Europe. We tour the hi-tech **Underground Museum at Market Square**, which is subtitled "*In the footsteps of Krakow's European identity*" which is laid out like a "journey in time" in which visitors can see and feel the past. We visit **St. Mary's Church**, where, from its tower, a trumpeter appears every hour to play an interrupted bugle call to commemorate the "**Trumpeter of Krakow**" whose warning of an invasion to the citizens of Krakow was silenced by an arrow through his throat. Depart our hotel at 7.15pm for our **farewell dinner** this evening. (B,D)

Overnight: Holiday Inn Hotel, Krakow

### Fri June 16 - Farewell Krakow – Homeward Bound

We have a leisurely breakfast and finish packing the last minute things. Depart hotel in the morning to catch your flight back to the US, via Munich.

**Welcome Home!**

\*The itinerary is subject to change.