

14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL

# Days of Jasenovac

COMMEMORATION CEREMONIES

Sunday, April 26th, 2015

5:00 to 10:00 pm

ANNY & RENE DAVID ALAKAY, SURVIVORS



**LOOKING BACKWARD, LOOKING FORWARD:**  
Remembering the Victims of the Holocaust in Yugoslavia  
on the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Liberation of Jasenovac

New York's Hotel Pennsylvania, 401 Seventh Avenue, New York, NY 10001

EVENT SPONSORED BY:  
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JOURNAL PRODUCED BY:

**Design: Aragón Small Biz**  
aragonsmallbiz.com

**Printing: Parkside Press, Inc.**  
parksidepress.moregreatproducts.com

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*Dear Friends,*

*On behalf of the Board of Directors of JRI, I want to warmly welcome all of you to this year's commemoration, dinner and conference, marking the 70th anniversary of the self-liberation of the prisoners at Jasenovac, and the end of the Holocaust in Yugoslavia.*



*From August 1941, to that day of 22 April 1945 of the prisoner outbreak from Jasenovac, hundreds of thousands of Serbs, Jews and Romas were murdered by the Croatian fascists, the Ustashe, at Jasenovac. In terms of numbers, it was the fourth largest killing site in the Holocaust. In size, at 240 square kilometers, it was the largest. But when we invoke the name of Jasenovac we are, in fact, remembering all of the victims of genocide in wartime Yugoslavia, from the system of some thirty camps in fascist Croatia, to the killing sites in Hungarian, Italian, Bulgarian, Albanian and German controlled territories of Yugoslavia as well.*

*For us, remembering the victims is no mere academic subject, it concerns our biological survival. A failure to remember these crimes is the surest way to allow anti-Semitism, anti-Serbianism, racism of all kinds, not to mention violence, to flourish. And we know that the suppression or denial of this history is a deliberate act of racial hatred. This commemoration in particular, and Holocaust education in general, is an essential action not only in the struggle against racism and fascism, but also in the struggle for reconciliation, for human rights, and for a better world without wars and national hatreds. And now we have reached a new milestone at which point we must prepare for a future when Survivors are no longer with us.*

*So, let us remember today our martyrs and our heroic anti-fascists who fought the Nazis and Ustashe, and rededicate ourselves once again to reminding the world of the lessons of Jasenovac and the Holocaust. I thank all of you who are attending our event, and especially our financial donors who have made this all possible.*

*Sa bratskim pozdravima, (With brotherly greetings)*

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Barry Litzky". The signature is written in dark ink on a white background.

*JRI Founder and CEO*

# Program

- 5:00 Cocktail Reception
- 5:30 Dinner
- 6:00 Welcome by Barry Lituchy & Father Djokan Majstorovic
- 6:15 Messages from:
- Mirjana Živković , Consul General of Serbia
  - Representative of Israel
  - H.E. Mladen Ivanić, President of Bosnia
- 6:30 Dr. René David Alkalay, *Survivor*
- 6:45 Eva Deutsch Costabel, *Survivor*
- 7:00 Dr. Raphael Israeli, *Historian, Jerusalem*
- 7:15 Nenad Fogel, *President, Jewish Community Zemun*
- 7:30 Jovan Mirković, *Historian, Belgrade*
- 7:45 Discussion
- 8:15 Dr. Robert McCormick, *Historian, Univ. of South Carolina*
- 8:30 Aneta Lalić, *Serbian National Council, Zagreb*
- 8:45 Dr. Darko Trifunović, *University of Belgrade*
- 9:00 Discussion
- 9:45 Closing by Barry Lituchy

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Conveyors  
Bake-O trays  
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# HOLOCAUST GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE

## *Lessons from Jasenovac*

**VISION:** to distill lessons from the Jasenovac camps in a setting outside the walls of churches, synagogues, and educational institutions and use those lessons to expose the signs of impending genocide, enable visitors to recognize those warning signs in their own communities, and motivate them to take a stand against it.

**FOCUS:** the plight of children during the Holocaust

**LOCATION:** Kingwood, Texas



Contributors needed for research as well as  
for financial sponsorship of art pieces  
and educational panels.

[www.holocaustgardenofremembrance.org](http://www.holocaustgardenofremembrance.org)



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**DR. ANGELO D'ANGELO, CHAIRPERSON  
ANGELO4NY@AOL.COM**



*In Loving Memory of Our Mothers,  
sisters Sophia Vukcevic and Zorka Lituchy,  
whom we lost in 2014 and to whom we owe so much.*

*Vlado Vukcevic*

*Barry Lituchy*

## Serbian Orthodox Cathedral of Saint Sava, NYC

under the auspices of The Holy Synod of Bishops of the Serbian Orthodox Church

Photo: Copyright Louis Constant Duit



*Father Djokan Majstorovic seen here at the 2014 Annual Day of Jasenovac Memorial at the monument to Jasenovac at the Holocaust Memorial Park in Brooklyn with JRI Director, and last year's keynote speaker, Mira Jovanovic.*

The Reverend Father Djokan Majstorovic has been a driving force behind the church since 1999, when he assumed responsibilities as Dean of the St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Cathedral. He devotes much time to keeping alive the memory of victims of the Holocaust. Father Djokan's leadership and support have been indispensable to the work of JRI.

Born in Vlasenica, Republic of Srpska, he was ordained to the Holy Diaconate while studying and living in England and then emigrated to the U.S. in 1996 with his wife and two children.

# Jasenovac Research Insitute

would like to thank

Mr. Zoran Bajic

and the Danny Travel Agency  
for their assistance with arranging travel  
plans for this year's conference speakers.

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*In Memory of:*

Anny (Alkalay) Kauftheil,  
a most wonderful and amazing person

Ruth and Jack Gruener

In honor of our mother, Anny  
and our brother, David.

Roslyn & Arthur Gruener, and family  
Leonard & Valerie Kauftheil, and family

*In memory of my  
best friend,  
Anny (Alkalay) Kauftheil.*

Isabelle Merrim

## *In Loving Memory*

*of my father, Joseph, my uncles and  
cousins who died in Jasenovac.*

*And in memory of my mother,  
Anny, whose courage and fortitude  
helped us survive two concentration  
camps from 1942 to 1945 and a year  
of hiding in the forests of Yugosla-  
via, and without whom I certainly  
would not be here to commemorate  
her courage and her spirit.*

*René David Alkalay*

*In memory of my mother-in-law,  
Anny, whose greatness of spirit  
is an ongoing inspiration  
in my life.*

*Rachelle Alkalay*

# LEARNING

The Jasenovac Research Institute (JRI) was founded on the belief that the failure to learn the lessons of the genocide committed against Serbs, Jews and Roma during the Second World War by the Croatian Ustashe and other Axis forces rests at the very core of recent events in the Balkans. Jasenovac, which represents the greatest crimes of genocide ever committed in the Balkans, has been largely overlooked by Western scholars, while its legacy has been distorted and its victims have been either ignored or victimized yet again by Holocaust revisionists. Central to the lessons of Jasenovac is the slogan "Never again!"

However, the failure to observe this warning and to recognize the great crimes committed at Jasenovac has reaped not only the expected consequences of a revival of fascism in the Balkans, but with it, a deadly, racist demonization of the Serbian people. For these reasons, this foundation, and all individuals and work connected to it, are dedicated both to preserving the memory of Jasenovac and to the search for justice for its victims.

The JRI's work includes the publishing of scholarly and testimonial literature on the Holocaust in the former Yugoslavia, the organizing of conferences and other educational events to promote Holocaust awareness as it concerns the victim nationalities of fascist Croatia, and advocating for recognition and redress for the victims of Ustashe genocide. The JRI also strives to aid and give voice to the victims of the renascent neofascist movements active in the Balkans since the 1990's and to show the links between the crimes of these groups and those of their WWII-era antecedents.

# FROM THE PAST

The JRI published the book, *Jasenovac and the Holocaust in Yugoslavia*, a collection of scholarly analyses and survivor testimonies from the First Annual Conference and Exhibition on the Jasenovac Concentration Camps. It also re-published, with a comprehensive English language summary, *The Crimes of the Fascist Occupants and Their Collaborators Against the Jews in Yugoslavia*.

The “Black Book,” as it’s also known, is one of the most authoritative volumes on the Jewish Holocaust in Yugoslavia but saw very limited distribution in its original issue over 60 years ago. The JRI won the approval of the City of New York to establish the first public monument to Jasenovac victims outside the former Yugoslavia, in Brooklyn’s Holocaust Memorial Park.

The Institute is a litigant in a class action suit against the Vatican Bank in the matter of the looting and laundering of Holocaust victims’ assets, and assists in the collecting of data for the processing of victims’ claims. The JRI commissioned photographer Elizabeth Bieber to travel to Kosovo, where she documented the desperate situation of minority Roma and Serbs, victims of shameful pogroms carried out under UN-KFOR occupation following the 1999 NATO bombing campaign.

The JRI is a registered section 501(c)3 non-profit corporation and welcomes donations from the public. For more information, please visit our website or contact us.

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# JASENOVAC RESEARCH INSTITUTE

*Let the truth be known.*





Pictured above: Jewish children being sent to Jasenovac

*Let the truth be known!*

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LOOKING BACKWARD, LOOKING FORWARD:  
*Remembering the Victims of the Holocaust in Yugoslavia  
on the 70th Anniversary of the Liberation of Jasenovac*

Every year we gather to commemorate April 22, 1945, the day of the self-liberation of the last prisoners of Jasenovac, and the end of the Holocaust in Yugoslavia. We honor the hundreds of thousands of Serbs, Jews, Romas and anti-fascists who were murdered by the Ustashe and Nazis, and we recall the lessons of the Holocaust. Today we reflect on the 70 years that have passed, and contemplate what lies ahead for future generations.

It is our belief that we can build a better world based on human rights and compassion for all peoples only through an understanding of the lessons of Jasenovac and the Holocaust. And, therefore, it is vitally important to educate the world about these lessons, and pass along this dedication to remembering the victims to younger generations.

The last starving, exhausted and unarmed prisoners of Jasenovac who decided to throw their bodies at machine guns and barbed wire on that day of liberation, did so with only one purpose – so that at least one of them would survive and tell the world what happened there. They died for us, and for all future generations, to let the truth be known, and to never forget! We hear the victims speak to us still and say: NEVER AGAIN!



**JASENOVAC RESEARCH INSTITUTE**