



**YOM HASHOAH  
COMMEMORATION 2024**

**מִיר זֵינען דאָ**

**WE ARE HERE**

**אנחנו כאן**



**SUNDAY 5 MAY**

**ROBERT BLACKWOOD HALL,  
MONASH UNIVERSITY**

**MAJOR SUPPORTER**

Community Bank  
Caulfield Park



# WE ARE HERE

**“We Are Here,” the last line of  
*Zog nit keyn mol* – the *Partisan Song*,  
written by Hirsh Glick.**

A declaration to the world that nothing can destroy us,  
nothing can dampen our pride in being Jewish.

Together we will honour the memory of those  
who perished, the legacy of those who survived,  
and the generations that have followed who  
are now custodians of their stories.

79 years after the end of the Shoah –  
our community is proud and strong. We are here.



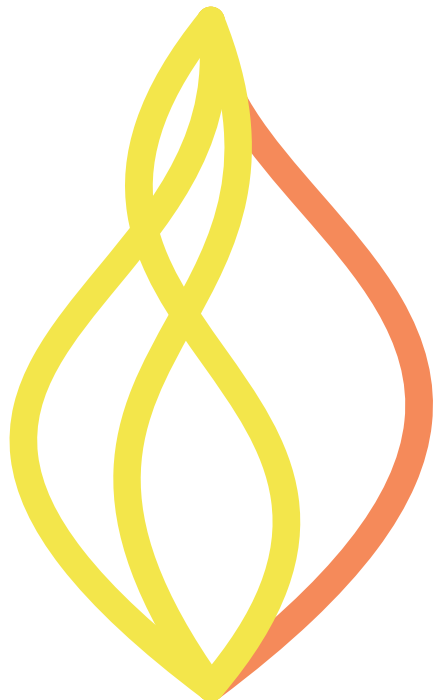
[THE PROOF: WE ARE HERE >](#)

Robert Blackwood Hall  
49 Scenic Boulevard  
Monash University VIC 3800

Box Office: 9905 1111  
[monash.edu/performing-arts-centres](http://monash.edu/performing-arts-centres)

The recording or photographing of this  
performance is strictly prohibited.

All mobile phones and electronic devices  
must be switched off in the auditorium.



# WE ARE HERE

## THE JEWISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF VICTORIA (JCCV) IS PROUD TO ONCE AGAIN PRESENT THE COMMUNITY YOM HASHOAH COMMEMORATION

A key Jewish characteristic and value is our commitment to remember. The word *zachor* appears 169 times in the Torah; each Pesach, we don't just recall but we retell the story of the exodus from Egypt; and since 1951, we have observed Yom Hashoah each year on the 27th of Nissan.

The coordination of the annual Yom Hashoah Commemoration is of great importance for the JCCV. It gives our Jewish community a chance to gather to mourn the loss of six million Jewish people during the Shoah. It is also an opportunity to pay tribute to the many thousands of survivors who built a new life in Australia. It is because of them that our community is strong today. Finally, we must recommit to fighting antisemitism wherever it arises so we can fulfill the pledge: "never again".

# PROGRAM

## WE ARE HERE

<b>Advance Australia Fair</b>	Brett Kaye, Chazzan St Kilda Hebrew Congregation/ National Director of The Joint Australia
<b>Welcome Address</b>	Hayley Southwick, JCCV Vice President
<b>Introduction</b>	Annette Charak
<b>Writings from Within</b>	Presented by youth representatives from AUJS, B'nei Akiva, Habonim Dror, Hineni, Netzer, SKIF
<b><i>Kaddish by the Ruins Excerpt</i></b>	The Bashevis Singers
<b>Candle Lighting</b>	Holocaust survivors and their families
<b><i>El Maleh Rachamim/ Kaddish</i></b>	Rabbi Noam Sendor, Blake Street Hebrew Congregation Brett Kaye, Chazzan St Kilda Hebrew Congregation/ National Director of The Joint Australia
<b>Survivor Testimony</b>	Dr. Henry Ekert AM
<b><i>Mein Shvester Khaye</i></b>	Freydi Mrocki with Tomi Kalinski
<b>Student Reflection</b>	Presented by youth representatives from Bialik College, King David School, Leibler Yavneh College, Mount Scopus Memorial College
<b><i>Shir Tikvah</i></b>	Hilla Inbar with Adam Starr
<b>Closing Remarks</b>	Annette Charak
<b><i>Partisan Song</i></b>	Bialik College, King David School, Leibler Yavneh College, Mount Scopus Memorial College, Sholem Aleichem College
<b><i>Hatikvah</i></b>	

# TESTIMONY & CANDLE LIGHTERS

## TESTIMONY DELIVERED BY DR HENRY EKERT AM

Dr. Henry Ekert AM's remarkable life journey embodies resilience, compassion, and unwavering dedication to improving the world around him. As a three-year-old, he endured the horrors of the Holocaust, arriving in Australia after World War II at the age of 13. His harrowing experiences during the Shoah, along with those of his parents, profoundly shaped his perspective and instilled in him a steadfast commitment to combating prejudice and bullying. Dr. Ekert's legacy is one of resilience, compassion, and the tireless pursuit of a better world, reminding us all of the profound impact of one individual's courage and determination.

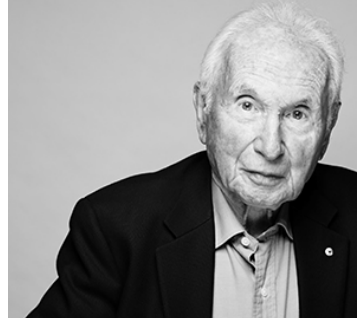
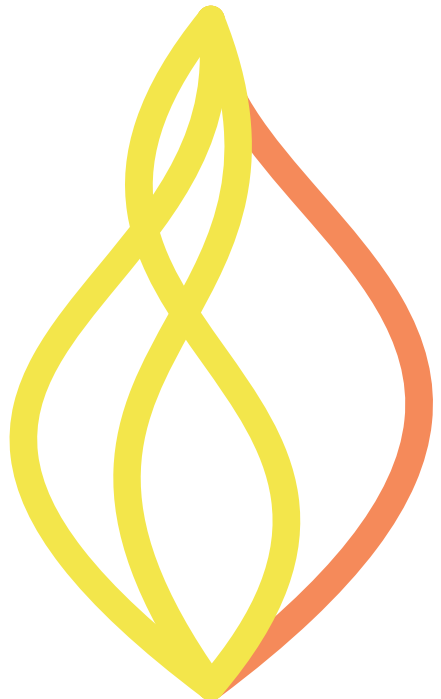


Photo credit: Simon Shiff

## CANDLELIGHTERS

**Michele Huppert**  
**Stephen Chemke**  
**Gilah Leder**  
**Jack Leder**  
**Roza Riaikkenen**  
**Stephen Fleiszig**



# THANK YOU

The JCCV thanks the following volunteers who helped design and create this year's commemoration. Many committee members are themselves the descendants of Holocaust survivors and had family members killed by the Nazis and their collaborators. The dedication of each one of them is testament to the unwavering commitment of our community to preserve the memory of the six million Jewish people who perished.

## **JCCV Yom Hashoah Committee**

Motti Blum

Shani Burnie

Amanda Castelan-Starr

Layla Carmeli-Wolski

Vedran Drakulic OAM

Arek Dybel

Joshua Goodman

Natalie Gunn

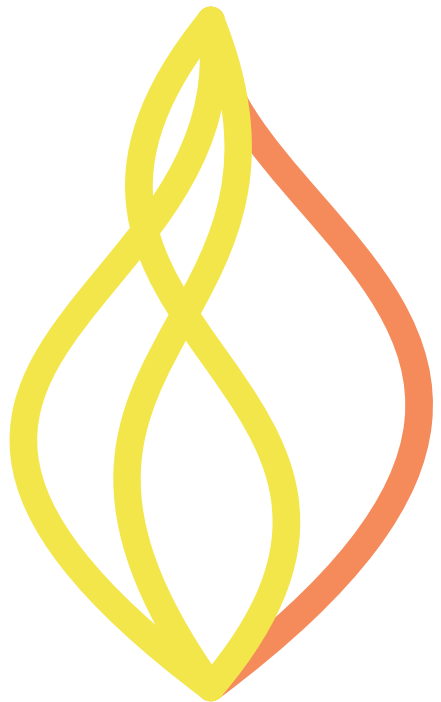
Dr Simon Holloway

Sidra Moshinsky

Pauline Rockman OAM

Aviva Weinberg

Reyzi Zylberman



# THANK YOU

## THE CHAI COLLECTIVE, PERFORMANCE PRODUCERS

Following their success in engaging the Jewish community as the creative team behind the 2023 sell-out production of *Fiddler on the Roof* at Alex Theatre St Kilda, The Chai Collective formed as a much needed vehicle in which to tell Jewish stories through the arts.

Committed to giving life to Jewish stories, such as those you see today, The Chai Collective exists to empower and nurture emerging and experienced artists and groups of all modalities. They have launched their enormously successful 'Live@Shtiebel' nights which provide a safe and nurturing place for Jewish artists to deliver and celebrate their craft.

For more information, click on the links below:

 [@thechaicollective18](https://www.facebook.com/thechaicollective18)

 [@thechaicollective18](https://www.instagram.com/thechaicollective18)

#thechaicollective18



# THANK YOU

## **JCCV Patrons**

Daniel Aghion KC &  
Jenny Aghion  
Grahame Leonard AM  
& Ruth Leonard  
Estate of Jakob Frenkiel  
Gandel Foundation  
Spotlight Foundation  
Victor Smorgon Group

## **Yom Hashoah Sponsors**

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Glenda & Sam Recht  
Miriam & Frank Tisher

## **Yom Hashoah Contributors**

AUJS  
Bialik College  
Bnei Akiva  
Ckaos  
Habonim Dror  
Hineni  
King David School  
Leibler Yavneh  
College  
Melbourne  
Holocaust Museum  
Mount Scopus  
Memorial College  
Netzer  
SKIF  
Sholem Aleichem  
College

## **Performers**

The Bashevis Singers:  
Evie Gawenda,  
Husky Gawenda,  
Gideon Preiss and  
Yoni Ringelblum  
Anette Charak  
Hilla Inbar  
Tomi Kalinski  
Brett Kaye  
Freydi Mrocki  
Rabbi Noam Sender  
Holly Feldman (AUJS)  
Ellie Goldenberg  
(B'nei Akiva)  
Alex Cowan  
(Habonim Dror)  
Joel Raitman (Hineni)  
Josh Kentwell (Netzer)  
Yoni Ringelblum (SKIF)  
Adam Starr  
Nooshi Starr  
Sebi Starr  
Yael Zamir  
Dovi Hanner