



**Suffolk Center *on the*
Holocaust, Diversity and
Human Understanding, Inc.**

Press Release

**For Immediate Release
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CHDHU DEDICATES EXHIBITION GALLERY AND RESEARCH CENTER

The Suffolk Center on the Holocaust, Diversity & Human Understanding will formally dedicate its permanent exhibit space on March 9, 2005 at 11 a.m. The space is located in the Huntington Library on the Ammerman Campus (Selden) of Suffolk County Community College. College President Dr. Shirley Robinson Pippins and County Legislator Vivian Viloría Fisher will preside over the ceremony. Other presenters will include Dr. M. Vicki Wacksman, chairperson of the CHDHU Board; Rabbi Steven Moss, a member of the board who will deliver the invocation; Andrew Liput, the donor of much of the material in the collection; and Holocaust survivors Inge Auerbacher and Werner Reich. Stanley F. Gordon, deceased, former chairman of the college's board of trustees, will be recognized for his commitment to the principles of tolerance and diversity.

The permanent collection consists of over 200 items, including original photographs, memoirs and documents, books, uniforms and other artifacts. Over 80 items are currently on display. The facility also includes a meeting room for seminars and computers for student research projects.

CHDHU is dedicated to educating the community on historical events of genocide, such as the Holocaust, as well as acts of prejudice and discrimination, and on approaches to preventing such acts and events from occurring in the future. To this end, CHDHU previously sponsored a leadership roundtable on strategies for building a community free of hatred and hosted high school students for a presentation by Holocaust survivors. In March, CHDHU will be sponsoring a display on women in the Resistance along with programs to reinforce the principle that each person can make a difference in ending prejudice.

Andrew Liput, Esq., said, "I intended for this collection to someday be a catalyst for a program to educate youth on the perils of bigotry and indifference. The Suffolk Center on the Holocaust, Diversity & Human Understanding has effectively started this journey and I am excited about the mission that has been developed."

Wacksman said that "CHDHU has plans to sponsor a wide range of programs to enhance understanding on the true meaning of freedom, human life and the inherent worth and dignity of all races and cultures in our world. Future CHDHU programs will demonstrate how freedom is impacted by stereotyping and prejudice."

Steven Schrier, the executive director of CHDHU, said “The facility has already proven to be an inspiration to many students. The college president and board of trustees have clearly recognized the value of this mission by making this space available and dedicating resources to this endeavor.”