

MEMORY MAKERS ACTIVITY



KEEP THE MEMORY ALIVE
Holocaust Memorial Day 2015



HOLOCAUST
MEMORIAL
DAY TRUST

Engage with the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust's exciting online Memory Makers campaign through this activity sheet. Full of ideas to encourage and support you, your students or your audience to create a response to the Memory Makers campaign and to reflect upon others' responses.

Visit the microsite: <http://keepthememoryalive.hmd.org.uk>

Artists working across a range of media have been paired with Holocaust and genocide survivors living in the UK. Participating artists spent some time listening to the survivors' remarkable stories, before reflecting and creating a work of art in response. The project will challenge artists to reflect upon and interpret the experiences of people who have experienced genocide to make new, contemporary artistic creations.

To coincide with the 70th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz on 27 January 2015, the creative responses will be showcased through a dedicated project microsite and social media campaign to ensure that as many people as possible see and engage with the work. Sharing the images of these works will enable us all to keep the memory alive – one story at a time.

Activity: inspiration

Have a look at the *Moving Portraits* on the Memory Makers website. You can then choose one (or more) of these to explore through some of the following activities, using them to inspire your audience and to start discussions about creative responses to survivors' stories.



We also have a separate resource exploring how you can use the Moving Portraits in more detail: <http://hmd.org.uk/education/classroom-activity-hmd-2015-moving-portraits>

Activity: keep the memory alive – share a story

This is a simple but effective activity which anyone can do. Chose one of the life stories on the website and share it with someone. You could do this via social media or you could come up with a more creative way – send a postcard outlining a life story, or include a life story in your HMD assembly or activity, for example.

Activity: anticipate

The Memory Makers website shares information about the artists and the survivors they have been paired with. The artwork that they create will be launched in January. The artists were interviewed about their initial ideas after they met with the survivor. Can you and your group

anticipate what the artist might create? Make sure that you have a look at the website in January to find out what they came up with!

Activity: reflect

There is a page on the Memory Makers website showcasing artistic responses submitted by members of the public, created in response to the same life stories that the artists are working from. We have an online exhibition which will keep growing as we receive more and more works of art.

- How do these responses make you feel?
- Do they inspire you?
- What does the artistic response add to your understanding of the life story?

Activity: create

Choose and read through one of the life stories from the website and come up with your own creative response to the story, to upload to the website. This could be done individually or collectively, as a class, a youth or community group. Here are some pointers and prompts to get you started:

- Which part of the story interests you the most?
- Are there particular words they use or an image that sticks with you after reading it? The things that stay with you are important – they make you think or feel something, therefore they will be powerful for other people too.
- What art-form will work best for what you want to say? Poetry or creative writing? Photography? Drawing or painting? Music? Film?
- Identify some words, or an image from the story as a starting point.
- Make a spider diagram of the things you'd like to explore.
- Choose one or two clear themes.
- Sketch images you'd like to use.
- Try and keep the artwork related to the life story and theme. You can include how this is relevant to your own life if you'd like, but don't lose the starting point for your inspiration



Hedy's Memories of the Holocaust

By Hannah Martin.

Created for the HMD 2014 drawing competition, inspired by Hedy Klein's life story.

Give your group sufficient time to think about their response, and time to create it. You could exhibit the finished pieces of art and invite others to view the responses.

Please also upload your response (or pictures of the response) at keepthemoryalive.hmd.org.uk for a chance to have your artwork displayed in our online gallery.

There are many more resources that explore the theme for Holocaust Memorial Day 2015, including ones that suggest creative opportunities. You can find all of our resources at www.hmd.org.uk.