



**HOLOCAUST
MEMORIAL
DAY TRUST**

*Learning from genocide -
for a better future*

Holocaust Memorial Day

2023 *In Review*

Welcome from HMDT

In early 2023 the cost of living crisis, worries about the war in Ukraine, strikes and shortages filled us all with anxiety and activity. It was therefore inspiring for the staff and trustees of the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust (HMDT) to see thousands of communities, groups and organisations all over the UK come together to mark Holocaust Memorial Day in numbers not seen since before the pandemic. Whilst each of us is dealing with uncertainty, this showed just how strongly people feel about commemorating the Holocaust and genocides of the past, as well as facing up to the challenges of the future.

On Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD), we remember the six million Jewish men, women and children murdered during the Holocaust, and the millions of other people killed under Nazi persecution of other groups; we also commemorate the more recent genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur. This year, for the third time, our whole nation 'lit the darkness' including Their Majesties the King and Queen Consort who met, and lit a memorial candle with, Holocaust survivor Dr Martin Stern MBE and survivor of the genocide in Darfur, Amouna Adam. We staged both the in-person UK HMD Ceremony and the UK Online Commemoration. Hundreds of thousands of people up and down the country joined together to learn from genocide for a better future. The wide range of people and groups running highly creative HMD activities, in town halls and school halls, and from parliament to prisons, showed yet again that there is no single way to mark HMD. With the Holocaust at the core, local HMD activities remembered all those affected by genocides of the past and committed to protecting people at risk of persecution today and in the future.

We hope that you will be inspired by reading this short report about just some of the vast array of activities that brought people together for HMD 2023 and the impact these activities had on them. Indeed, we know from research that having marked HMD, people take action for a safer future.

Scan the QR codes below to watch our video about the impact HMD has on local communities and for tips on what you can do to counter prejudice and hatred, the irrefutable but, most definitely not inevitable, precursor to genocide.

Thank you for your continued support. Together, we will learn from genocide for a better future.



Olivia Marks-Woldman OBE
Chief Executive



Laura Marks OBE
Chair of Trustees

Watch our short video

Scan this QR code to watch our video about the impact of HMD.



Take action resource

Scan this QR code for tips on actions you can take for a better future.



HMD at Manchester Hospital School

For Holocaust Memorial Day 2023, pupils across Manchester Hospital School sites watched the National Literacy Trust's Zoom Q&A with Holocaust survivor Mala Tribich MBE, led by author Tom Palmer. In preparation, they had an introductory lesson giving some background to the Holocaust and thinking of questions they might like to ask.

Throughout January, pupils learnt about the Holocaust and undertook reading and creative writing activities based on a story written especially for Holocaust Memorial Day by Tom Palmer.

In the week leading up to HMD, pupils were introduced to the interactive Ordinary Objects, Extraordinary Journeys website. We launched this innovative website in 2022 in partnership with The National Holocaust Centre and Museum and the Jewish Museum of Greece. Manchester Hospital School explored it using our Ordinary Objects, Extraordinary Journeys lesson plan.

'For some of our students, the impact the Ordinary Objects, Extraordinary Journeys lessons had on them was seen through their actions afterwards: they were able to relate elements of the lesson to the story of the survivor interview we watched and also applied their prior knowledge of the Holocaust to elements of the stories. It was effective in helping pupils to understand the Holocaust as an event that had a significant and terrible impact on ordinary people, rather than as just a distant historical event. We will certainly use the resource in future teaching of the Holocaust.'

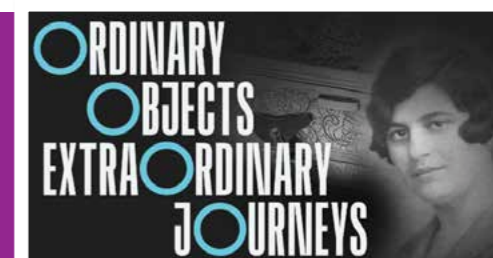
Tom Kelly, Lead Practitioner – Global Curriculum at Manchester Hospital School



Images: Objects belonging to Julie Weiss, whose story is told on the Ordinary Objects, Extraordinary Journeys website

Explore the Ordinary Objects, Extraordinary Journeys website

Scan this QR code to discover the interactive new website.



HMD in the public eye

'I noticed that the number of events and people attending has increased greatly this year and am interested to see how holding these events helps to bring communities together. They offer a chance for people to have more intimate and meaningful conversations together which deepens the connections between us.'

Christine Abbas
UK Online Commemoration
viewer and activity attendee



Above: Kirsty Wark presented the UK Online Commemoration for HMD 2023



Above: Dame Joanna Lumley joined Holocaust survivor Dr Martin Stern MBE to give out commemorative HMD candles in Piccadilly Circus



Above: Screens alongside escalators on the London underground encouraged people to Light the Darkness
Left: HMD trended on Twitter throughout the day

Tens of thousands of people watched the UK Online Commemoration

Right: His Majesty The King and The Queen Consort met Amouna Adam, survivor of the genocide in Darfur and Holocaust survivor, Dr Martin Stern MBE © PA



Over 34K website downloads in January



'Holocaust Memorial Day inspired me to be an activist in anti-genocide movements and to understand the value in talking to and listening to survivors.'

Robyn Bradbury,
UK Online Commemoration
viewer and activity attendee



Top left: HMD featured across both printed and online media

Left: Iconic buildings and landmarks across the UK lit up for the Light the Darkness national moment

Watch highlights of the UK Online Commemoration

Scan this QR code to watch highlights of the UK Online Commemoration for HMD 2023.



See Piccadilly Lights light up

Scan this QR code to watch our video which shows the moment Piccadilly Lights lit up for HMD 2023.



HMD at Poole Lighthouse Centre for the arts

The theme for HMD 2023 was Ordinary People. Bournemouth and Poole Holocaust Memorial Day Committee held an HMD event at Poole Lighthouse Centre for the Arts, which focused on the impact that Ordinary People can have on their local community and wider society. The event began with seven Ordinary People from the local area who go to extraordinary efforts to make society a better place, lighting commemorative candles. Seven young people who are also taking actions for a better future, then read from the Statement of Commitment for HMD.

Attendees heard powerful testimony from Lady Milena Grenfell-Baines MBE, who escaped the Holocaust on the *Kindertransport*, and the book *Martin and Anne* by Nancy Churnin was used to illustrate the Ordinary People theme further; Martin Luther King and Anne Frank were born in the same year and were Ordinary People whose lives had and still have an extraordinary effect on people.

The event was attended by over 400 people, including the Mayors of Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole, Tobias Ellwood MP and former professional footballer and manager Graeme Souness.

'The speakers reminded us of other tragedies that have beset the world since the Holocaust and reminded us that evil acts will persist if it is not spoken about and publicised. I feel that the testimony of a victim is far more powerful than any book, film or video.'

Poole Lighthouse HMD attendee



More than 4,500 organisations marked HMD 2023

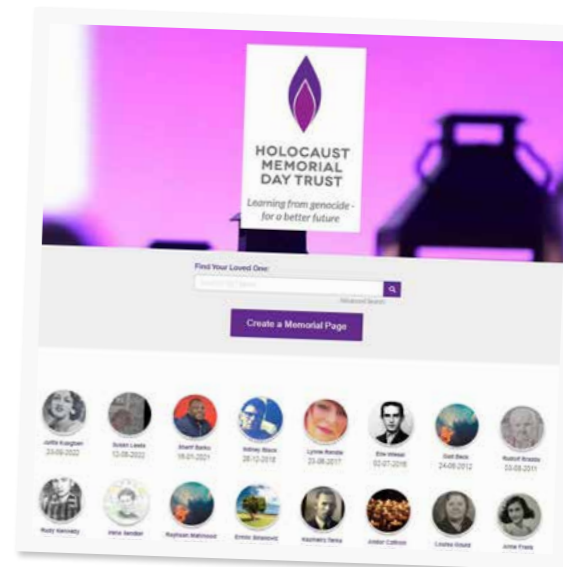


Images: HMD at Poole Lighthouse Centre for the Arts © Karla Gowlett

HMD Memorial Pages

This year we launched our Memorial Pages. They provide a unique digital space where you can both learn about the lives of people affected by genocide, and create a lasting personalised tribute for a loved one affected by genocide, or someone you have learnt about and whose experiences moved you.

We encourage you to explore the Memorial Pages, share them with others, create your own, and make a donation in their memory, to help more people learn about genocide, remember those murdered and take action to protect people at risk of persecution today.



'I recently learned the names and details of how my Grandmother's Dutch family perished. My pages will help to keep their memories alive.'

Nicholas Brown

Contribute to our Memorial Pages

Scan this QR code to explore the existing Memorial Pages and create your own lasting tribute to someone affected by the Holocaust or genocide.



[Extra]Ordinary Portraits Competition

The [Extra]Ordinary Portraits competition offered young people an opportunity to learn about and honour someone affected by the Holocaust, genocide or identity-based persecution by creating a portrait of them. The competition took inspiration from the Ordinary People theme and entrants were asked to highlight the extraordinary elements of seemingly 'ordinary' people. Portraits could be in any art form, provided they could be displayed digitally. After the competition closed, people were encouraged to continue to take part by creating and posting portraits online using the hashtag #HMDEtraOrdinaryPortraits.



Above: Winners Freya Rowson and Jacob Venit were interviewed on Sunday Morning Live on BBC One, alongside our Chief Executive, Olivia Marks-Woldman OBE

'It was a huge honour to be chosen for the [Extra]Ordinary Portraits project, not only as an artist, but as someone passionate about advocating for human rights and Holocaust education. I'm so grateful to the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust for giving me a platform to discuss the continued persecution of the LGBTQ community, as well as the opportunity to meet survivors, hear testimonies and develop my own education on other genocides and human tragedies that continue to happen all over the world.'

Freya Rowson, one of the competition winners

See the digital exhibition

Scan this QR code to see all the winning portraits from our [Extra]Ordinary Portraits competition.



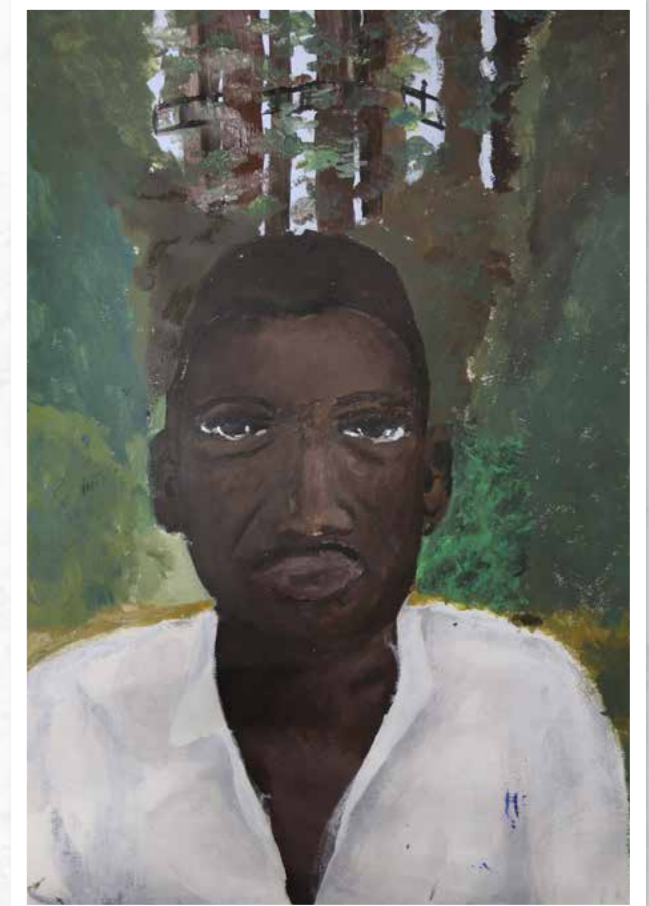
In partnership with:



Generously supported by:



Bronia Snow, who came to the UK on the Kindertransport, by Ali Simmons (age 25)



Sharif Barko, who was murdered during the genocide in Darfur, by Emily Jackson (age 13)



Gad Beck, who survived the Holocaust despite being gay and Jewish, by Minnie Green (age 13)

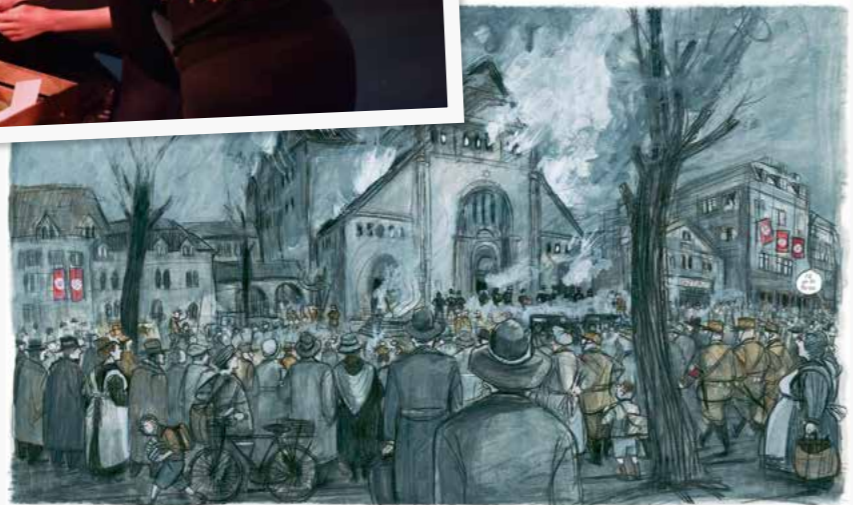


Alina Dabrowska, who survived the Holocaust, by Zion Tyson (age 13)

HMD at Leeds City Council



78% of local authorities marked HMD 2023



Over 400 people attended this year's civic remembrance event, delivered by Leeds City Council with advice from their Holocaust Memorial Day Steering Group and the Holocaust Survivors' Friendship Association.

The event was opened by the Lord Mayor, joined by Wojciech Soczewica, CEO of the Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation. It included an interview with Arek Hersh MBE about his experience of being chosen to be painted by Massimiliano Pironti as one of the seven portraits of Holocaust survivors, commissioned by The Former Prince of Wales.

True to the 2023 theme Ordinary People, Leeds Heritage Theatres' Leeds Actors in Training (LAIT) performed a piece inspired by the graphic novel *Irmina* by Barbara Yelin, designed to make young people think about some of the thoughts and behaviours which led to the Holocaust and other genocides.

There was also music by Rabbi Alby Chait and the UHC choir and a memorial prayer was sung.

The event concluded with a reading of the seven statements of commitment with candles lit by representatives of the different groups persecuted, including Holocaust survivors, people with additional needs, the LGBT+ community and Remembering Srebrenica.

Top image: LAIT performed a piece inspired by *Irmina*

Bottom image: An illustration from Barbara Yelin's graphic novel, *Irmina*

HMD at the Natural History Museum



The Natural History Museum joined iconic buildings and landmarks across the UK in lighting up in purple for the Light the Darkness national moment on Holocaust Memorial Day.

'Learning lessons from the past to build a more diverse, inclusive Natural History Museum is important to us, so we take part in HMD to remind our staff we are part of a wider community that stands together against injustice and discrimination.'

Marion Bentley, Head of Communications and PR at the Natural History Museum

HMD at HMP Magilligan

In 2015, inmates at HMP Magilligan created a Holocaust Memorial Day exhibition where members of the local community in Limavady, Northern Ireland, could learn about the Holocaust and more recent genocides. Each year, for HMD, inmates give tours of the exhibition to local children.

HMP Magilligan Governor, Gary Milling, has described the powerful and lasting impact that marking HMD in this way has had on inmates:



'It's restorative practice for the guys that are living there. They see themselves as valued members of society again.

They have a chance to give something back and hopefully, from their experiences, from the materials we give out, and from the lessons from the past, almost one thousand children [who visit the exhibition] do go on to become better citizens. And from that we all benefit.'

This year, as well as five different groups touring the exhibition, inmates also heard from Holocaust survivor, Dr Martin Stern MBE, who described his experiences to inmates within the setting of the exhibition they had created. Prisoners then lit a commemorative candle.



What impact has HMD had at HMP Magilligan?

Scan this QR code to watch a video of Gary Milling, HMP Magilligan Governor, speak about the impact HMD has had on HMP Magilligan inmates.



HMD in Parliament

We were delighted to work with Mr Speaker to enable survivors to share their testimonies in the heart of parliament. In December, MPs held a moment of silence to mark 80 years since the first public announcement by the British Government of the Nazis' attempt to murder Europe's Jewish population. Seven survivors of the Holocaust watched from the prestigious Speaker's Gallery. Throughout January, Mr Speaker hosted an exhibition in Portcullis House, featuring portraits from Rankin and our Extra[Ordinary] Portrait competition.



He also invited three survivors of the Holocaust and the genocides in Bosnia and Darfur to share their testimonies in the Speaker's State Rooms. They then joined the parliamentary community to light candles at a ceremony to mark HMD.

The House of Commons and House of Lords held debates to consider HMD; parliamentarians reflected on the horrors of the past and the need to build a better future. MPs also attended civic ceremonies, school exhibitions and other local commemorations in their constituencies.

'I was honoured to listen to moving testimonies from Holocaust and genocide survivors. These are people who are our friends and our family. They live among us, and it is important that we listen to their brave testimonies so that we learn the lessons of the past.'

Sir Lindsay Hoyle, the Speaker of the House of Commons



Above: The moment of silence © UK Parliament / Andy Bailey

Right: A Tweet by Kim Leadbetter MP

National HMD Ceremonies



UK HMD Ceremony

The UK HMD Ceremony brought together politicians, faith leaders and Holocaust and genocide survivors for a special ceremony in Central London. It featured music and testimony; a message from the Prime Minister Rishi Sunak MP; and reflections from Michael Gove MP, Angela Rayner MP, Chief Rabbi Sir Ephraim Mirvis and The Archbishop of Canterbury. The Ceremony ended with Holocaust and genocide survivors lighting candles of remembrance.

'All the wonderful witnesses make one feel humble and gave me a feeling of belief in the incredible resilience and courage of people.'

Channa Klein, who attended the UK Ceremony for HMD 2023



Northern Ireland HMD Ceremony

Over 300 people from across Northern Ireland attended the commemoration in City Hall, Belfast. Eve Kugler, a child survivor of the Holocaust, poignantly shared her experiences in the keynote address after spending four days engaging with other groups. Moving filmed testimony of Holocaust refugee, George Bloch, who fled Nazi persecution and settled in Northern Ireland, created by students from Belfast Metropolitan College, was viewed publicly for the first time at the commemoration.



Scotland HMD Ceremony

Civic, faith and political leaders gathered in the Scottish Parliament to hear from Holocaust survivors Henry Wuga and Françoise Robertson, and survivor of the genocide in Bosnia, Sabina Kadić-Mackenzie. Music was provided by local community groups and both the Rt Hon Nicola Sturgeon MSP and the Minister for Equalities and Older People Christina McKelvie MSP spoke about what HMD in Scotland means to them.



Wales HMD Ceremony

Across Wales, 331 organisations marked HMD 2023, up from 222 last year. The Welsh Government and Cardiff Council held an online ceremony at which Joan Salter MBE, a child survivor of the Holocaust, and Antoinette Mutabazi, a survivor of the genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda, spoke about their experiences. The First Minister of Wales, Lord Mayor of Cardiff, Leader of Cardiff Council, our Chief Executive, representatives from faith and other communities and Young Ambassadors from the Holocaust Educational Trust also spoke at the ceremony.

HMDT *finances*

The information on this page relates to the approximate income and expenditure for the year April 2022 - March 2023.

Income

The first chart shows we have received grants from The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) and the governments of the devolved nations, alongside a number of trusts and foundations in the form of restricted grants. We are so grateful to people who donate to support our work, and are delighted with an increase in unrestricted donations.



Expenditure

The chart below shows how our funds were spent in the same period. We have also outlined some of the cost lines per area.

Outreach and Education includes engagement and support expenditure such as devolved nation events, youth engagement, education resources, public office engagement, external digital resource creation and maintenance, and database development and maintenance.

Events and Communications includes media engagement and event management such as website and social media costs, centralised events, survivor engagement and support, and media support.

Operations includes general overheads such as office costs, recruitment and training, HR, governance and staffing our enquiries contact points.



Support our work

Holocaust Memorial Day is for everyone. Our work with people from all backgrounds and corners of the UK enables people to learn more, share what they know with others and take action to protect people at risk of persecution today.



Right: Thanks to the support of our funders and partners, we organised a workshop with the Royal Drawing School where young people heard the testimony of Amouna Adam, a survivor of the genocide in Darfur, and created portraits of her.

Donate today

Scan the QR code to support our work.



Your donation will enable us to support more people across the UK to mark Holocaust Memorial Day every year. It will help us to:

- engage local communities through events and creative projects
- develop new educational resources to help activity organisers deliver engaging and meaningful HMD activities
- create digital campaigns to raise awareness and challenge online hatred and division
- devise new and meaningful ways to remember people affected by the Holocaust and more recent genocides

Become a Friend of HMDT

Scan the QR code to become a Friend of HMDT.



Set up a regular donation to become a Friend of HMDT. You will receive an HMD pin badge, regular newsletters and invitations to special events.

Leave a legacy

Scan the QR code to discover more about leaving a legacy.



By including a bequest in your will to HMDT, you will ensure the future of Holocaust memorial in the UK. Your legacy will be used to remember those lost, educate everyone today and protect future generations from identity-based persecution.

Thank you for supporting our work. Together we will create a better future.

Thank you to our funders



Department for Levelling Up,
Housing & Communities



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government



Thank you to our donors:

Blavatnik Family Foundation
Catherine Lewis Foundation
Gerald and Gail Ronson Family Foundation
Leon Greenman Charitable Trust

And to all those who made generous donations to our work this year.

Thank you to our people

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Sir Ben Helfgott MBE

Honorary Vice President

Rt Hon Lord Eric Pickles

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Amanda King, *Treasurer*
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Trustees who stepped down in 2022

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Dr Joe Mulhall
Dr Anita Peleg
Danny Stone MBE

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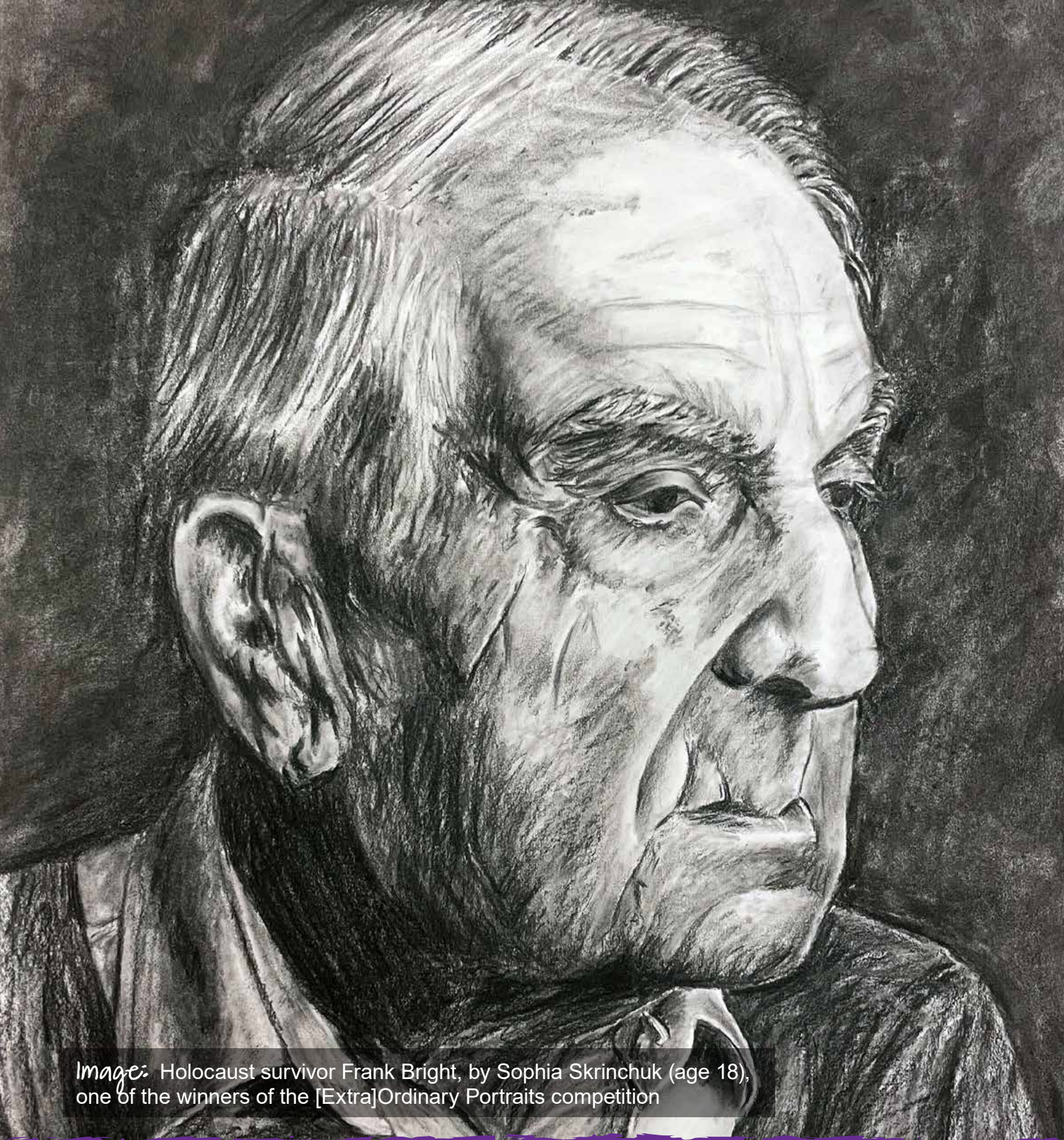


Image: Holocaust survivor Frank Bright, by Sophia Skrinchuk (age 18), one of the winners of the [Extra]Ordinary Portraits competition



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