

**QUEENS**  
UNIVERSITY of CHARLOTTE

Stan Greenspon  
Holocaust and Social Justice  
Education Center

# SEEING AUSCHWITZ



CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA  
**JANUARY 26, 2024 - APRIL 15, 2024**

# THE EXHIBIT

An exhibition to critically analyze the photographic evidence of Auschwitz. Created by Musealia together with the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum and in collaboration with the UN and UNESCO.

Auschwitz was the largest and most lethal of all the German Nazi concentration and extermination camps. More than 1,100,000 people were murdered behind its barbed-wire fences between June 1940 and January 1945 in a systematic and industrialized fashion.

Boys and girls, women and men, most of them Jewish of different nationalities, were deported there, murdered, turned into slaves, numbered, dehumanized, and humiliated. Other groups of victims included Poles, Roma and Sinti, Soviet POWs, and minorities of other backgrounds.

Seeing Auschwitz is an exhibition that incorporates 100 photographs, sketches, and testimonies from the German Nazi camp Auschwitz and the Holocaust, with an audio guide that includes testimonies from survivors. The exhibition encourages us to look beyond the four edges of the photograph and through the veil of seemingly ordinary faces to confront the reality of what we are seeing. Visitors are challenged by what it means to share the gaze of the perpetrator, the victim, and the onlooker, and to reflect on what this means for us today.

The 60-75 minute experience consists of images shot by perpetrators, victims, and liberators. It is presented not just as proof of the mass genocide but as a startling glimpse into the human lives lost during the Holocaust. The vast collection of images comes from varying sources including aerial allied pictures of the camps, documentation of the deportation process, living within Auschwitz, as well as insight into life before the camps.

The exhibit is proudly hosted by The Stan Greenspon Holocaust and Social Justice Education Center at Queens University for the *first time in North America*.

# IMPACT

- Projected number of visitors from Fever estimated at +20,000
- Creates opportunities for school groups and other visitors to engage with photographs in a way that encourages reflection, conversation, and a deeper understanding of the consequences of prejudice, 'othering' and indifference.
- Accompanying educator resources are available free of charge



## REVIEWS

*"Thank you for helping me to discover a part of myself I never knew I had. I leave this space a young educated black women who wants to change the world into a better place. More people need to be taught about this because it's a part of us and not knowing is like not knowing yourself."*

*- 13 year old visitor*

*"I had stood there thinking that this would be just like every other educational experience of the Holocaust until I was led further into the museum and proven totally wrong...the exhibition made me realize that their deaths in the Holocaust weren't just a statistic, they were real people that had lived torturous and unfair lives."*

*- 13 year old visitor*

# DATA

Data excerpt from exhibit in London, UK from 2023:



Europa osoko juduak Auschwitzera deportatzeko erabilitako trenbide nagusiak

Principales líneas de ferrocarril utilizadas para deportar a Auschwitz a judíos de toda Europa



**5** - A sensitive and powerfully restrained handling of an immense subject which continues to resonate today. I especially appreciated the measured narration which encouraged careful observation of the poignant photographs, drawings and maps. Inordinately moving. Thank you.

Adult (ages 13+)  
Sarah

**5** - I visited the exhibition with two colleagues from the photography school, that we study. It was part of our assignment and was truly insightful and informative for us. The information was selected to be enough without be boring and was very useful for our assessment. Was so sad and shocking unfortunately but this is the history, can't change it. Thank you for your service, was professional.

Adult (ages 13+)  
Kasia

**4** - Recommended exhibition looking at photos by German officers and prisoners accounts give us a different view of Auschwitz too one we so used to seeing after the liberation of the camp with the piles of bodies. Here we witness them as people loving families. The pictures of the guards relaxing at holiday sites I found the most disturbing that the mass killing they did daily was in their mind so casual.

Adult (ages 13+)  
Craig

**5** - It really was the most thought provoking and movingly simple exhibition I have EVER been to. Consisting of "no more" than photographs and a few sketches it brought home, as no other exhibition on the subject has, the enormity of man's inhumanity to man and the extraordinary resilience of the human spirit. A TRULY GREAT EXHIBITION thank you.

Senior (ages 65+), Student or NHS  
Fiz

# DETAILS

## **Nine Eighteen Nine Studio Gallery at The VAPA Center**

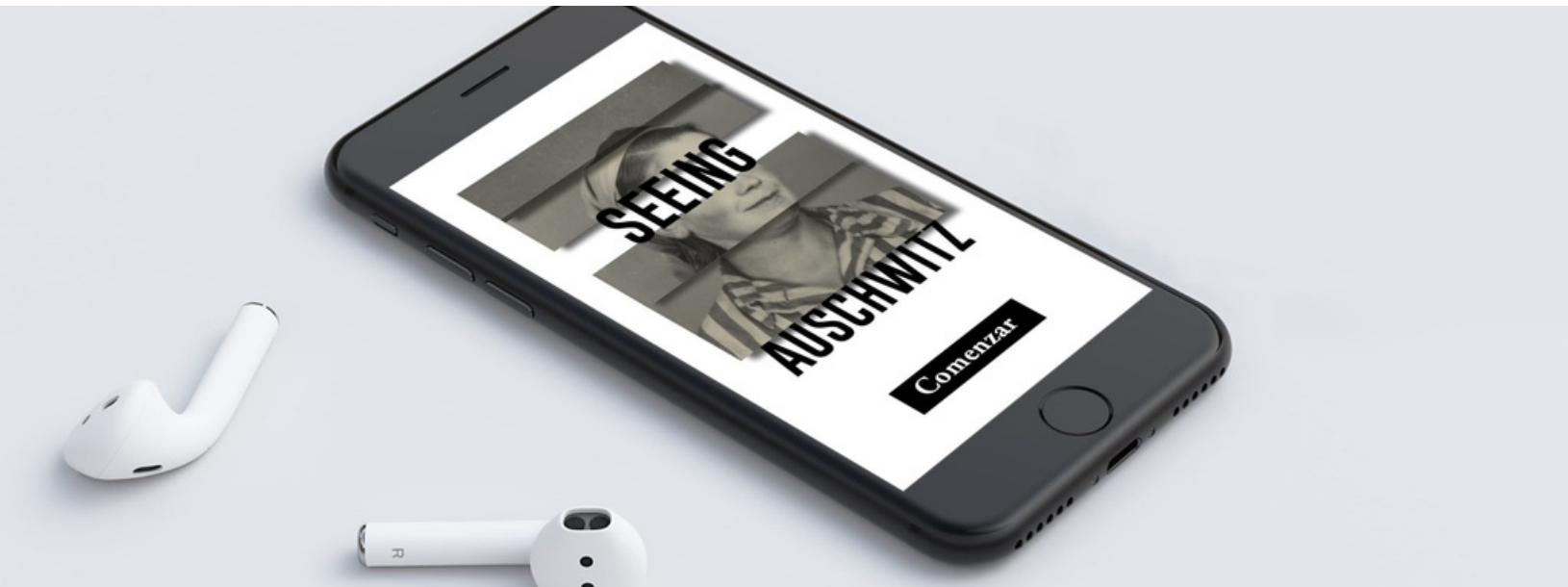
700 North Tryon Street  
Charlotte, NC

### **Tickets**

\$16.00 for adults, \$14.00 for students, and \$10 for 65+ and children.

The audio guide is free of charge and accessible from your mobile phone.

*Parking is free to the public.*

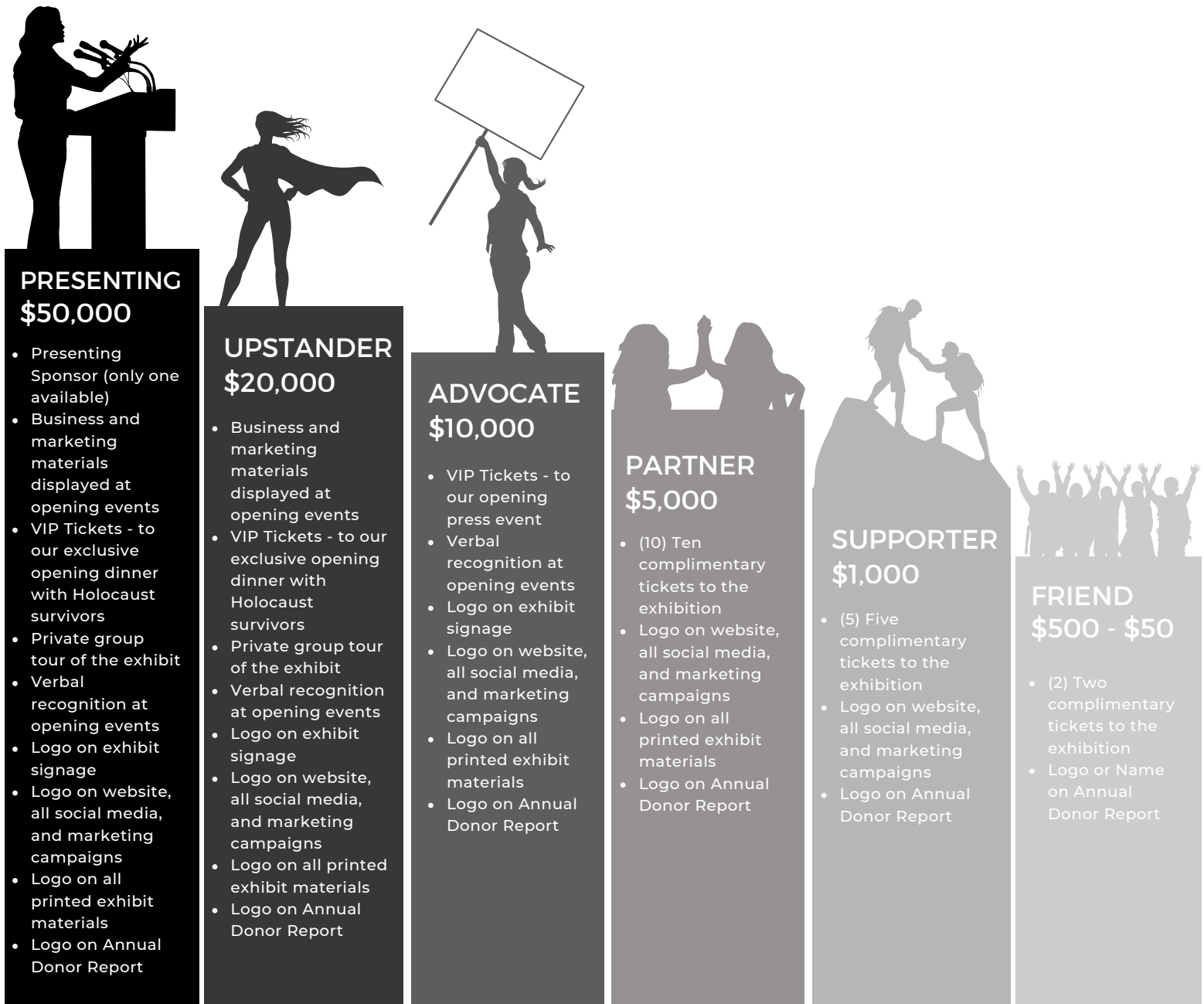


### **Is the exhibition suitable for children?**

Yes. The contents of the exhibition have been developed by a multidisciplinary team of experts in pedagogy, so that each visitor can get the most out of their visit to the exhibition and understand the facts presented in it regardless of their prior historical knowledge. In fact, many of the visitors are high school students studying World War II as part of their history curriculum.

Likewise, the exhibition has been developed with a deep respect for the victims, as well as for our visitors, so no depiction of gratuitous explicit violence is included. Likewise, great effort has been made to consider the emotional impact that this history may have on our visitors, so that they can safely explore the story, try to understand it better, and make sense of it for themselves.

# SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



\* Sponsorship packages can be customized to suit the needs of your organization.