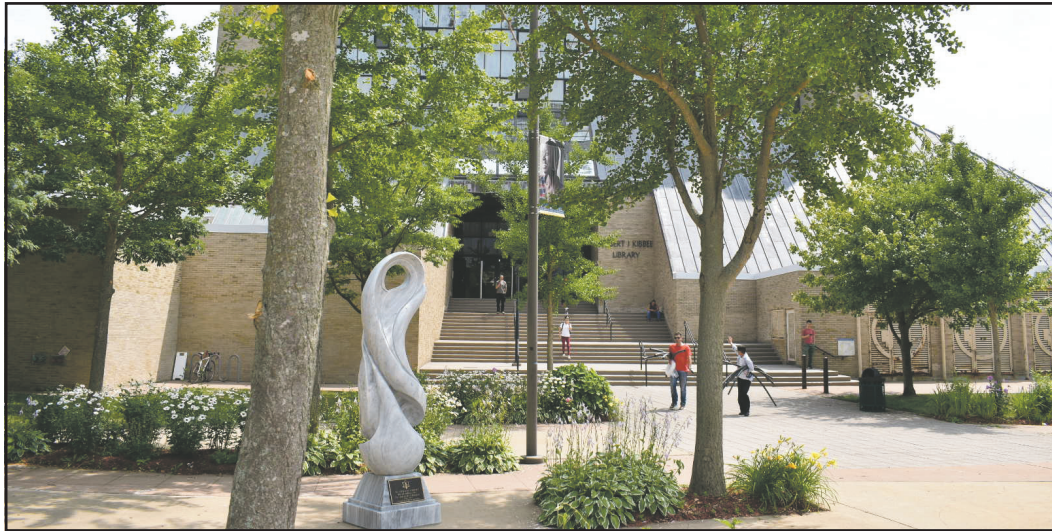


# Preserving History at the Holocaust Center Through Education

BY DR. CLAUDIA SCHRADER

When you approach Kingsborough Community College's Robert J. Kibbee Library, named for the third Chancellor of the City University of New York, you'll find a tall marble sculpture titled "Infinity," which stands to remember both the victims and history of the Holocaust. The statue was donated by the Bykov family, advocates for Holocaust remembrance in the Brooklyn community.

Historically, libraries have been places where information and knowledge have been collected and preserved with the goal of ensuring access to information that we can all continue to learn from and improve our lives. In addition to an extensive and wide variety of collection of print and electronic resources to support student learning and over 45 academic programs, the Kibbee Library further serves to preserve this important history of the Holocaust as home to the Holocaust Memorial Center of Kingsborough Community College (KCC) and Manhattan Beach. Opened in 2018, the Cen-



Situated outside the Library Plaza at Kingsborough Community College is the "Infinity" statue, honoring the victims of the Holocaust.

ter was established to promote the awareness, study and teaching of the Holocaust through education and programming.

Programming has included the collection of oral histories such as those from Dr. Tauba Zipper, professor of English, Kingsborough Community College and daughter of Holocaust Survivors;

Mr. Ernest Biederman, Bearing Witness: Conversations with Holocaust Survivors; and Mr. Seymour Kaplan, An American Soldier at Dachau: The Story of a Concentration Camp Liberator.

In addition to annual Holocaust Remembrance events, recent events have included the online screening of "Who Will

Write Our History" and discussion with the filmmaker; Dr. Laura Morowitz's talk: "Capturing the Unspeakable: Art as a Tool in Learning About the Holocaust"; a field trip to the Museum of Jewish Heritage in Battery Park; "The Art of Survival: Friedl Dicker-Brandeis and Children's Art at Theresienstadt";

and Leo Ullman, author, lawyer and Holocaust survivor sent KCC students copies of his book, "796 Days: Hiding as a Child in Occupied Amsterdam During WWII".

In less than three months, the Holocaust Memorial Center will undergo significant changes thanks to the partnership of New York State Assemblyman Steven Cymbrowitz, who has secured \$700,000 in state funds that will increase the size of the existing Center.

Just as libraries have historically occupied critical spaces in higher education, the Holocaust Memorial Center will continue to occupy a critical space at Kingsborough Community College, in Manhattan Beach, in Brooklyn, and in NYC as it serves as a space where we can learn about the past to ensure that the dark days and atrocities of the Holocaust never happen again. Never again.

*For more information regarding events and programming and/or to share your own experience with the Holocaust, please contact Helen-Margaret Nasser, director, at [Helen.Nasser@kbcc.cuny.edu](mailto:Helen.Nasser@kbcc.cuny.edu).*