

Not In Our Town's film **Repairing the World: Stories from the Tree of Life** documents Pittsburgh's powerful community response to hate in the aftermath of the deadliest antisemitic attack in U.S. history. Through the voices of survivors, family members, diverse Pittsburgh residents and leaders, the film shows unity in a moment of crisis, the resilience of a vibrant city, and a community working together to understand what it means to be "stronger than hate."

# Resources to help plan, lead, and promote community screening events include:

- Facilitator Guide
- Discussion Guide
- Screening Kit, with sample press release, email template, other materials (download)
- Film Extras (listed on page 3; for social media and/or broadcast)
- The Issues background on key issues addressed in the film
- Social Media Assets (download)
- Trailer link

## Resources available for schools and educational activities include:

- 41-min version of the film & Classroom Guide produced by Facing History
- Case Study of Allegheny County, PA district-wide school activities, inspired by the film
- Video Extras for Schools (listed on next page; for social media and/or broadcast)
- Supplemental K-12 Resources, including lessons for addressing Islamophobia and guides from Facing History & Ourselves, U.S. Holocaust Museum, and Not In Our School

Additional educational resources will be added to the For Schools section of the film website!

# **VIDEO EXTRAS FOR SCHOOLS**

### https://repairingtheworldfilm.org/video-extras-for-schools

## Allderdice High School Basketball Team Remembers the Victims

Students at Allderdice High School in Squirrel Hill were highly affected by the events at Tree of Life Synagogue. Many knew the victims personally, and the entire community was in mourning. In honor of the 11 victims, Allderdice basketball team put 11 seconds on the clock before every home game as a moment of silence. The team and other students also planted trees to remember those who were lost.

### Students Engage in Challenging Conversations

After the attack at the Tree of Life Synagogue, students enrolled in AP Civics class at Allderdice High School studied antisemitism and how it affects the Jewish community. The next semester, they expanded the conversation to examine racism and historical practices of redlining and suppressing voting rights. Students appreciated the opportunity to discuss these challenging topics together with no judgment.

### Global Minds: Creating a Sense of Belonging

At age 15, Allderdice High School student Peyton Klein founded the Global Minds Initiative to bring together ESL students and native English speakers and create an inclusive space in the most exclusive place – high school. This video features student interactions at a Global Minds Initiative club meeting.

#### Havdalah Service: Lest We Forget

On November 9, 2019, students from the Hillel at the University of Pittsburgh held a special Havdalah service to bring a close to Shabbat. The date – November 9 – marked the anniversary of Kristallnacht ("the night of broken glass"), when Nazis destroyed Jewish homes, synagogues, and businesses and killed close to 100 Jews in Germany in 1938. The Hillel students held the service at the Lest We Forget exhibit in Pittsburgh, which displayed 16 intimate, large-scale portraits of Holocaust survivors from the Pittsburgh area. One year after the attack in Pittsburgh, the exhibit allowed people to learn local community members' stories and understand the continued threat antisemitism poses.

## **FILM EXTRAS**

### https://repairingtheworldfilm.org/film-extras

## Laurie Eisenberg and the Memorial Archive

The memorial archive is a collection of the thousands of art and objects that were left by people on the sidewalk in front of the Tree of Life synagogue. Historian and Tree of Life congregant Laurie Eisenberg describes the memorial archive and the process of preserving the items left at the synagogue. The objects ranged from paintings and sculptures to flowers and handwritten notes. People left these items as a display and representation of their grief and support for the victims, their families, and their community. Some of the art that was made in response to the attacks was put into a sidewalk gallery in front of the Tree of Life Synagogue as a beautification project and a way to remember the response. This project is called #HeartsTogether: The Art of Rebuilding and displays 224 different artworks which can also be seen on their website: **treeoflifepgh.org/heartstogether**.

#### 2 for Seder: Honoring a Victim by Sharing Jewish Values at Passover

Marnie Fienberg lost her mother-in-law, Joyce Fienberg during the attack at the Tree of Life Synagogue. Joyce cared deeply about her family and friends, something that showed during Passover when she would invite lots of friends, family, and other people to her seder. Passover is a Jewish holiday that remembers when the Jews escaped slavery in Egypt. It is celebrated through a meal called a Seder. Marnie felt the urge to do something to remember Joyce, and thought Passover would be a good way to do this.

"I think we can push back against antisemitism through education and love and understanding and having people understand who we are as Jews," Marnie said. She started a program called **2forSeder** to encourage families to invite non-Jews to their Passover seder so that they could learn more about the Jewish community and traditions.

#### **Ride of Reflection**

On August 24, 2019, the Mazel Tuffs, the smallest biker group in the **Jewish Motorcycle Alliance**, organized a Ride of Reflection, a motorcycle ride to the Tree of Life Synagogue to remember the 11 victims. The Jewish Motorcycle Alliance is a community of Jewish Motorcyclists who aim to engage their members in "educational and charitable activities that benefit the wider Jewish community and the broader non-Jewish community," according to their website. 71 bikes and 125 people from all over the eastern and midwestern United States ended up joining the event. During the event, the bikers joined Tree of Life Rabbi Jeffrey Myers and the family of one of the victims, Rose Mallinger, for a Havdalah service. Havdalah brings a close to Shabbat on Saturday evening. Rose Mallinger used to say the prayer for peace every Saturday, so to end the service, the Mallingers said the prayer in her memory.