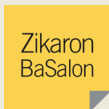


Host Kit

ZIKARON BASALON

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Thank You!



Thank You for deciding to host a Zikaron BaSalon event and congratulations on joining a community of people who choose to commemorate the Holocaust in an intimate and meaningful way.

Zikaron BaSalon is a journey through time – we remember the past to shape the future. It is a unique and authentic tradition of people gathering together to open their hearts to the stories of the survivors, sing, think, read, talk, and most importantly—listen.

Anyone can host a Zikaron BaSalon event in their living room. The decision to hold an event is strongly linked to the sense of responsibility for shaping the way the Holocaust is commemorated both as a community and as an individual. It is easy and simple, and we are here to guide and help you successfully host an event.



Tips for A Meaningful Salon

- 01 Invite your family and friends. Decide on the number of guests according to your preference or ability to host, either in person or virtually.
- 02 We suggest preparing light refreshments and making sure that the physical space in which you are hosting is comfortable, open and welcoming.
- 03 We recommend that the duration of the entire gathering does not exceed two and a half hours.
- 04 If members of your family or other acquaintances survived the Holocaust, try talking about them and telling some of their stories. There is no substitute for personal connection.
- 05 Make room for the feelings of all the participants. There's no right or wrong way to experience Zikaron BaSalon.
- 06 Hosting a Zikaron BaSalon event is simple, but at the end of the day, each event is unique and different.



Past

A personal testimony. The main thing is for us to remember who and what happened during the Holocaust.

We offer several alternatives to live testimony. Written and recorded testimonials that you can read or show in your living room are available on our website.

Start by sharing the personal significance of hosting this gathering. Introduce the survivor or speaker and share some background about the testimony. We recommend that everyone briefly introduce themselves as this helps create a sense of togetherness.

To show your appreciation, at the end of the evening, please present a Certificate of Appreciation to the speaker, honouring and thanking them for sharing their testimony.

We suggest printing and framing the Certificate of Appreciation in advance.

REMEMBER



Present

A time to be together, here and now. Exchange thoughts, and share feelings. A time to share, absorb and process.

On our website, you can find songs, poems and inspiring texts for this part of the Salon.

The second part of the Salon is a transitional stage – giving us some time to process the testimony and to create a safe and open space for a meaningful discussion.

Invite participants to share personal or family stories;
Read a text or recite a poem, play an instrument, sing together, or find the best way for them to express themselves.

On Zikaron BaSalon's website you can find resources such as playlists, complete with the chords and lyrics of the songs, so everyone can join in.





Future

A rare opportunity to converse. Understand what lessons we have learned as individuals and as a society. Discuss how we do not forget but also how and where we take the memory of the Holocaust from here.

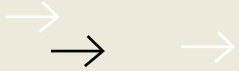
On our website, you can find a variety of proposals for discussion with a view to the future.

The last part of the Salon is an open discussion focusing on the memory of the Holocaust and its significance in our lives today.

Ask: How (if at all) do this testimony and the discussion relate to your life today?

You can choose a topic for the discussion ahead of time or let it develop naturally based on what your guests share in their reflections.

Either way, remember: the conversation doesn't have to reach a single decision or conclusion. We suggest the conversation ends with thoughts and questions the guests can take home and continue to grapple with.



To conclude the event

You can quote Ellie Wiesel, author, Nobel laureate, and Holocaust survivor:

"When you listen to a witness, you become a witness."

Today we had the privilege of hearing the story of one individual. We have all become life-long witnesses to the story and now, we must pass it on to the next generations.



Before we say goodbye

You can leave your guests with food for thought and ask them to consider:

- What is your biggest takeaway from tonight's experience?
- What do you think your responsibility is in remembering?

Thank your guests for joining you today at the Salon event. Invite them to join the circle of people taking responsibility for Holocaust remembrance and suggest they host a Salon next year.

Below are questions that might help you guide the Survivor during the testimony.
Feel free to add your own questions and encourage guests to do so as well.

Life before the war

- 01 Tell us about your family (Family members, profession, Jewish traditions)
- 02 Share about your home community.
- 03 How old were you when the war started?
- 04 Did you experience antisemitism before the war?

Life during the war

- 05 What is your first memory from the war?
- 06 Where was your family during the war?
- 07 Did you have an item/song/story that you carried with you during the time of the war?
- 08 Was there a moment when you had to make a crucial decision?
- 09 Did someone help you along the way?

Life after the war

- 10 Where were you when the war ended? Who were you with?
- 11 Where did you immigrate to? How did you decide where to move to?
- 12 How was your integration into the new community?
- 13 Tell us about your family after the war (marriage/ children/ career)

Over The Rainbow

Yip Harburg

Somewhere over the rainbow, way up high
There's a land that I've heard of once in a lullaby.
Somewhere over the rainbow, skies are blue
And the dreams that you dare to dream,
Really do come true.

Someday I'll wish upon a star
And wake up where the clouds are far behind me.
Where troubles melt like lemon drops,
High above the chimney tops,
That's where you'll find me.

Somewhere over the rainbow, blue birds fly
Birds fly over the rainbow
Why then, oh why can't I?
If happy little bluebirds fly beyond the rainbow
Why, oh why can't I?

The lyrics were written by Yip Harburg, the son of Russian-Jewish immigrants and the music was composed by Harold Arlen, a Jew whose family immigrated from Lithuania.

The song came out in 1939 when the European Jews were under increased hostility. Their freedom was taken, their rights stripped, and many felt isolated. They were trapped, unable to "fly".

The song is about the hope that the bad times will one day be over. It is the feeling of hope that we can all relate to, and it is hope that helped the Jewish people through the Holocaust.

Holocaust Remembrance for future generations

- 01 How relevant will Yom HaShoah be once there are no longer any living survivors?
- 02 What are your thoughts about the terms: forgiving and forgetting?
- 03 What do you think is the biggest threat to the memory of the Shoah?
- 04 What can we learn from Holocaust survivors about strength and hope?

What are the boundaries when we talk about the Shoah?

- 05 Can we laugh about the Holocaust?
- 06 Is it legitimate to use the Holocaust as an instrument in a political debate or other burning ethical issues?
- 07 Where do we draw the red line for making use of the Holocaust?

Global Responsibility

- 08 Is it important to point to and emphasize the uniqueness of the Holocaust in comparison to other instances of genocide?
- 09 What is the lesson learned from the Holocaust regarding mutual responsibility and solidarity?
- 10 How should we, as individuals and as a society, react to situations of hardship and trauma?

Now it is your opportunity
to create your Salon:

Now it is your opportunity
to create your Salon:

Zikaron
BaSalon

Certificate of Appreciation

In Honor of

Thank you for sharing your story,
we were honored to have you with us
during this meaningful event

