# 75th Anniversary of Auschwitz Liberation January 25 - February 2

### Walk in the steps of Eva Kor, Holocaust survivor and forgiveness advocate

January 27th, 2020 marks the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz. Join CANDLES Holocaust Museum and Education Center for an extraordinary experience as we travel to Auschwitz for the commemoration of the anniversary. In 2015, nearly 300 survivors from Poland and across the world attended the commemoration event. More than 50 leaders of countries and international organizations listened to the words of the witnesses. The Auschwitz Museum hopes to see many survivors and prisoners return for the 75th anniversary. Eva Kor is one of the growing number of survivors no longer with us, but we honor her life by attending the commemoration.

In addition to participating in ceremonies by the Auschwitz Museum, trip participants will learn about the history of the camps from museum guides. We will also walk in the footsteps of Eva, hearing the account of her arrival at Auschwitz, separation from her family, experimentation by Nazi doctor Josef Mengele, the struggle for survival, and her and her twin sister Miriam's liberation by the Soviet Army on January 27, 1945.



**Complete travel option:** \$3,400 *Includes economy-class flight from Chicago* 

**Land-only travel option:** \$2,400 *Arrange your own travel to and from Poland* 

Please complete all registration materials and return them to CANDLES with a **\$600 nonrefundable deposit** (+ insurance premium if purchased) to secure your spot. Registration will remain open until **November 8, 2019** or until capacity is full.

Register online at www.candlesholocaustmuseum.org/trips or mail in registration forms to CANDLES Holocaust Museum.



**CANDLES Holocaust Museum and Education Center** 

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### **About CANDLES and Eva Kor**

By providing trip participants with an immersive experience in the historical setting of Auschwitz, we hope to foster powerful breakthroughs in awareness of our respective roles in creating a world based on hope, healing, respect, and responsibility. We want to help our trip participants become witnesses to history, so they can make the world a brighter place. We welcome participants from all walks of life to join us on this once-in-a-lifetime trip.

#### **About CANDLES Holocaust Museum and Education Center:**

CANDLES is a 501(3)(c) non-profit organization that was founded in 1995 by Holocaust survivor Eva Mozes Kor in honor of her twin sister, Miriam. Our mission is to shine a light on the story of the Holocaust and Eva Kor to illuminate the world with hope, healing, respect, and responsibility.

Founded originally as CANDLES, Inc., an organization dedicated to finding surviving Mengele twins around the world, CANDLES has grown into a world-wide movement dedicated to engaging all people in our mission, fostering conversations about important local and global topics, and preserving survivor testimony for future generations.

You can connect with CANDLES online at www.candlesholocaustmuseum.org or on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram - @candlesmuseum.

#### **About Eva Kor:**

Eva Mozes Kor passed away at age 85 on July 4th, 2019. Recipient of the 2017 Sachem award, the highest honor in the state of Indiana, Eva was a survivor of the Holocaust, a forgiveness advocate, and a revered public speaker. With the driving message of "never give up" in mind, Eva emerged through a life filled with trauma as a brilliant example of the power of the human spirit to overcome. She was a community leader, a champion of human rights, and tireless educator of young people. Even in her eighties, Eva traveled across the United States and Europe to share her message, in addition to leading hundreds of people on a journey to Auschwitz each year. Eva was one of the few surviving twins who shared her personal account of the medical experiments supervised by Nazi doctor Josef Mengele at Auschwitz.

In addition to the importance of her account of the Holocaust from a historical perspective, Eva's life lessons and message of survival and forgiveness touched the lives of thousands of people. In 1995, Eva chose to forgive the Nazis. She decided that they would no longer have power over her life. She described forgiving the Nazis as an act of self-healing, self-liberation, and self-empowerment; forgiveness is not about the perpetrator, not about forgetting. It is one step toward repairing the world by helping victims free themselves from perpetrators and remove anger and hatred.

Eva is one of thirteen survivors featured in Dimensions in Testimony<sup>TM</sup>, a new interactive technology created by USC Shoah Foundation to preserve survivor testimonies and continue the dialogue between Holocaust survivors and learners far into the future. Her story is documented in the award-winning film *Forgiving Dr. Mengele* and the popular young adult book *Surviving the Angel of Death: The True Story of a Mengele Twin in Auschwitz*. Her story of forgiveness is also recounted in the German book *Die Macht Des Vergebens* (*The Power of Forgiveness*). In April 2018, Eva's story premiered as the subject of a feature-length documentary, *Eva A-7063*.

In 1995, Eva opened CANDLES Holocaust Museum and Education Center in Terre Haute, IN. The only Holocaust museum in Indiana, CANDLES is also the only organization in the world dedicated to the memory of the twin victims and survivors of medical experimentation at Auschwitz. Thousands of people, including many school groups, have visited CANDLES since it opened. Eva's account of her survival of the Holocaust offers many relevant lessons on the dangers of hate speech and prejudice, and the importance of being an informed citizen. Eva's message of healing reaches across the globe and across social, economic, and cultural boundaries.



## **About the Trip**

### What's Included:

- Economy class flight from Chicago to Krakow ("complete" trip package only)
- Tour bus transportation from Terre Haute, IN to Chicago, IL
- Motor coach transportation in Krakow
- Daily breakfasts, three lunches, and most evening meals
- Hotel accommodations at a 5-star property
- Daily professional guide services
- Two days of Auschwitz touring, including fees, professional guides, and headsets
- One day at the Auschwitz 75th Anniversary of Liberation ceremonies
- Krakow city and Jewish Quarter tours, with headsets
- Wawel Cathedral and St. Mary's Basilica inside visits
- Tour of the medieval salt mines of Wieliczka
- A paperback copy of Eva's book, Surviving the Angel of Death
- Tips on included services
- One copy of Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial: A Guidebook

### Preliminary Auschwitz 75th Itinerary:

Saturday, January 25: Depart USA from Chicago

Sunday, January 26: Arrive in Krakow, get situated at hotel

Monday, January 27: Anniversary ceremonies

Tuesday, January 28: Tour Auschwitz-Birkenau with guides

Wednesday, January 29: Krakow city tour, Jewish Quarter tour, Wawel Castle tour

Thursday, January 30: Tour Auschwitz I with guides

Friday, January 31: Plaszow tour, Wieliczka Salt Mine tour (and honor Eva's birthday)

Saturday, February 1: Free day (with some suggested options)

Sunday, February 2: Return to USA

### **Trip Feedback:**

We have led 12 group tours to Auschwitz since 2005. Our surveys conducted during and after the trip indicate that 100% of trip participants are "highly satisfied" with their experience. Even so, we always strive to improve each year.

"Sometimes there are experiences that you know, as they are happening, that they will change you. This is one of those experiences, and I thank all of you who were a part of my life-changing experience for sharing this moment in time with me." - 2016 Participant

"In so many ways, what I experienced on the trip to Poland can't be summarized in words. I arrived having questions, and having been given the experience to explore them is so meaningful, and will continue to inspire me as I figure out what I want to do, and how I want to leave my impression on the world." - 2017 Participant

### What should I do to become part of this amazing experience?

- Complete pages 9-15 of the registration packet and submit to CANDLES.
- Submit the \$600 nonrefundable deposit (+ insurance premium if purchased) with your registration. Your registration will not be processed and your spot will not be reserved until your deposit has been received.
- Submit a copy of your passport to CANDLES by November 8, 2019 ("complete" trip package only).
- **If you do not have a passport**, apply for it immediately. Those applying for a passport on or after August 8, 2019 should expedite your application and shipping in order to receive your documents by November 8, 2019.
- Pay your balance in full by November 8, 2019.
- Get ready for an amazing experience!

