

Violins of Hope

STRINGS OF THE HOLOCAUST



As ashes from the Holocaust fell to the ground, hope rose from the strings of violins.

The Stanford Eisenberg Knoxville Jewish Day School is honored to bring *Violins of Hope: Strings of the Holocaust* to Knoxville in March 2025. *Violins of Hope* is a collection of over 50 restored violins that were played by Jewish musicians during the Holocaust. These instruments have survived concentration camps, ghettos, pogroms, and long journeys to tell remarkable stories of injustice, suffering, resilience, and survival.

Nearly 50 years ago, Israeli master violin maker Amnon Weinstein encountered a Holocaust survivor who brought him a violin for restoration, sharing a haunting story of how his ability to play the violin had spared him from death. This man survived by playing the violin while Nazi soldiers marched others to their deaths. When Amnon opened the violin's case, he was horrified to find ashes inside—a stark reminder of his own relatives who had perished. Deeply moved, he put out a call for other violins from the Holocaust, determined to restore them so their stories could be heard once more.

This was the beginning of *Violins of Hope*, an initiative that has since grown into an exhibit and performance series. These events offer a rare opportunity to witness the powerful intersection of history, music, and education. Each violin carries a story of survival and the indomitable spirit of those who played them. Through this project, communities come together to honor the past while building a future rooted in unity and shared understanding, proving that art can unite and educate across generations.

These life-changing opportunities will inspire each visitor to pause, reflect, and reconnect with our shared humanity:

EDUCATION – In March 2025, educators and KSO musicians will tour East Tennessee middle and high schools as well as churches, synagogues, recreation centers, and senior centers with the *Violins of Hope*. This transformative program will reach five thousand students and adults, emphasizing messages of hope, acceptance, and resilience through music, bringing the violins' stories alive.

EXHIBITION – *Violins of Hope: Strings of the Holocaust* will be exhibited in Knoxville from March 3rd - April 9th, 2025. This educational and historical exhibition will be designed by acclaimed architect and exhibition designer Louis Gauci and will guide visitors through the history of the Holocaust as well as the hope represented by the violins, with a message of acceptance and resilience.

PERFORMANCES – The *Violins of Hope* Concert Event will be at the Tennessee Theatre on March 5th and April 8th. The Knoxville Symphony Orchestra will bring the stories of the violins alive in TWO special performances!

We hope that you will accept our invitation to join us as a sponsor for this powerful event. Your sponsorship will help continue the conversation of social justice, hope, resilience and acceptance throughout our community. For more information on becoming a sponsor, please contact Miriam Esther Wilhelm at 865-386-3827.

Thank you,

Sari Kagan
Co-chair

Deisha Finley
Co-chair

Leah Steiger
Co-chair

8042 Gleason Road / Knoxville, Tennessee 37919 / 865-560-9922 / VOH@kjds.org / www.violinsofhopeknox.com

THE STANFORD EISENBERG KNOXVILLE JEWISH DAY SCHOOL IS A 501(C)(3) NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATION. DONATIONS ARE TAX-DEDUCTIBLE TO THE FULLEST EXTENT OF THE LAW. NET PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT THE STANFORD EISENBERG KNOXVILLE JEWISH DAY SCHOOL TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

PERFORMANCES

March 5th & April 8th, 2025
Knoxville Symphony Orchestra
and Violins of Hope
at the Tennessee Theater

EXHIBITION

March 5th - April 8th

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The Stanford Eisenberg Knoxville Jewish Day School is honored to present *Violins of Hope: Strings of the Holocaust* from March 5 to April 8, 2025, in Knoxville. **This powerful exhibit features over 50 restored violins once played by Jewish musicians during the Holocaust.** These violins survived concentration camps, pogroms, and ghettos, and now tell stories of injustice, suffering, resilience, and hope. Through this transformative exhibit, visitors are invited to reflect on our shared humanity and renew their commitment to compassion and respect for others.

A highlight of *Violins of Hope* will be two symphony performances by the Knoxville Symphony Orchestra, along with special guests, at the historic Tennessee Theatre on March 5 and April 8, 2025. These performances will bring the violins back to life, offering a moving tribute to the musicians who once played them. Alongside the concerts, the exhibit will allow visitors to explore the history of each violin, deepening their understanding of the resilience and hope carried by these instruments, and reinforcing the vital lessons of acceptance and unity.

Proceeds from both the exhibit and performances will support the Knoxville Jewish Day School, helping to maintain affordable tuition and ensuring that the school continues to provide high-quality education grounded in Jewish values. By supporting *Violins of Hope*, donors and attendees will not only help keep the memory of the Holocaust alive but also contribute to the education of future generations, ensuring that the lessons of history are never forgotten.

This transformative program will inspire each visitor to take a meaningful pause, reflect on our shared humanity, and renew their commitment to respecting others and embracing differences in daily life.



HOPE | INSPIRATION | RESILIENCE | ACCEPTANCE | COMMUNITY

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KNOXVILLE EVENTS

EDUCATION During March 2025, educators and musicians will tour East Tennessee middle and high schools as well as churches, synagogues, recreation and senior centers with the *Violins of Hope*. This life changing program will reach thousands of students and adults and emphasize messages of hope, acceptance, and resilience through music, bringing the violins' stories alive.

PERFORMANCES On March 5th and April 8th, the *Violins of Hope* will be played by the Knoxville Symphony Orchestra in two performances at the Tennessee Theatre.



EXHIBITION The *Violins of Hope* exhibit is from March 3rd through April 9th. This educational and historical exhibition will be designed by distinguished architect and exhibition designer,

Louis Gauci. Trained docents will lead visitors through the horrors of the Holocaust as well as the hope of the violins with a message of hope, acceptance and resilience.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Throughout 2025, the project will partner with local nonprofit organizations, who will commit to embodying the program theme—Hope, Inspiration, Acceptance, Community—through events that speak to each organization's own mission and vision.

We invite you to be a part of this important initiative.
For more information on how to be a partner, donate or volunteer,
Please contact: Sari Kagan at VOH@kjds.org

PRESENTED BY THE STANFORD EISENBERG KNOXVILLE JEWISH DAY SCHOOL IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:



Violins of Hope

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SPONSOR LEVELS

PRESENTING SPONSOR: \$100,000 (One available)

Premier Title: Your name will be synonymous with Violins of Hope Knoxville.

Website Exclusive: Sponsorship recognition on kjds.org with a link to your website.

Onstage Acknowledgment: Recognition and speaking opportunity at TWO concert events.

Media Coverage: Feature in all event-related press releases and promotional campaigns.

Branding: Prominent logo placement in printed materials and digital communication.

Program Feature: Full-page ad in the program with prime placement.

Social Media Highlight: Individualized social media post.

Exclusive Experience: 20 tickets to pre-concert VIP cocktail hour.

VIP Access: Premium seating for 20 guests at TWO concert events.

MAESTRO SPONSOR: \$50,000 (One available)

Media Mention: In event-related press releases and promotional campaigns.

Branding: Prominent logo placement in printed materials and digital communication.

Program Feature: Full-page ad in the program.

Social Media Highlight: Individualized social media post.

Exclusive Experience: 10 tickets to pre-concert VIP cocktail hour.

VIP Access: Premium seating for 10 guests at TWO concert events.

SYMPHONY SPONSOR: \$25,000 (Two available)

Media Mention: In event-related press releases.

Branding: Logo in printed materials and digital communication.

Program Feature: Half-page ad in the program.

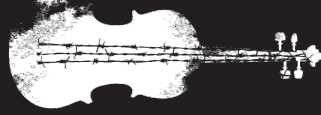
Social Media Highlight: Individualized social media post.

Exclusive Experience: 8 tickets to pre-concert VIP cocktail hour.

VIP Access: Premium seating for 8 guests at TWO concert events.

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SPONSOR LEVELS

ENCORE SPONSOR: \$10,000 (Five available)

Branding: Logo in printed materials and digital communication.

Program Feature: Quarter-page ad in program.

Social Media Highlight: Individualized social media post.

Exclusive Experience: 4 tickets to pre-concert VIP cocktail hour.

VIP Access: Premium seating for 4 guests at TWO concert events.

VIOLIN SPONSOR: \$5,000

Branding: Your name linked with a violin in the exhibition.

Program Feature: Sponsor name listed alongside your violin's story in the program.

Social Media Highlight: Individualized social media post.

VIP Access: Premium seating for 2 guests at TWO concert events.

EDUCATION SPONSOR: \$2,500

Program Feature: Listed as a School Sponsor in the program.

Social Media Highlight: Individualized social media post.

VIP Access: Premium seating for 2 guests at one concert event.



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Sponsor Agreement

We would like to become sponsors of *The Violins of Hope: Strings of the Holocaust*. We would like to partner at the _____ sponsorship level.

- Presenting Sponsor (\$100k)**
- Maestro Sponsor (\$50k)**
- Symphony Sponsor (\$25k)**
- Encore Sponsor (\$10k)**
- Violin Sponsor (\$5k)**
- Education Sponsor (\$2.5k)**

Organization: _____

Contact Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please return this complete form to Violins of Hope with a check payable to Stanford Eisenberg Knoxville Jewish Day School.

via email: VOH@kjds.org

via U.S. Mail: 8042 Gleason Road, Knoxville, TN, 37919

Please call Sari Kagan at 716-863-2441 if you have any questions. Additionally, please send your company's logo in PNG or JPG format to Sari and VOH@kjds.org for inclusion in print materials (if applicable based on level of sponsorship).

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WHAT IS KJDS

Overview

The **Stanford Eisenberg Knoxville Jewish Day School (KJDS)** is a dynamic K-5 institution dedicated to both academic excellence and Jewish values. Since its founding in 2006, KJDS has been serving over 2,500 families in the Knoxville area, offering an inclusive environment for families of diverse backgrounds and affiliations. The school provides a strong educational foundation rooted in Jewish tradition.

Why Knoxville Needs a Jewish Day School

KJDS fills a vital role in the Knoxville community by offering Jewish families a unique educational experience that blends Jewish history, Hebrew language, and core values with academic excellence. The school not only helps retain families who might otherwise leave Knoxville in search of such an education but also attracts new families and professionals from various fields. KJDS plays a crucial part in promoting Knoxville's growth and diversity.

Curriculum & Unique Approach

Accredited by the state of Tennessee, KJDS offers a rigorous academic curriculum enriched with Hebrew language instruction, Jewish holidays, and value-based education. Students consistently perform well on standardized tests and excel in middle school and beyond. The school fosters the development of social and emotional skills, emphasizing empathy, respect, and community service. Students participate in activities such as preparing meals for the elderly and supporting veterans, nurturing them into responsible citizens.

Support from Violins of Hope Concerts

Proceeds from the *Violins of Hope* concerts directly support KJDS, helping to maintain affordable tuition rates. Though the cost to educate each student is \$21,000, KJDS tuition is set at \$13,500. Funds raised from these concerts help bridge the financial gap, ensuring that KJDS can continue to provide high-quality education to its students.

How You Can Help

To learn more about how you can support KJDS, please contact our **Head of School, Miriam Esther Wilhelm** at me@kjds.org.

