



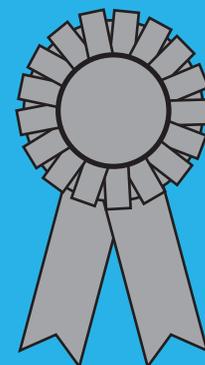
HOLOCAUST  
MEMORIAL  
DAY 27/1

YOUTH

# Youth Champion Toolkit

## Silver award

A guide to completing the  
Youth Champion programme  
for people aged 14-18



# Welcome to the Youth Champion toolkit

**This Youth Champion toolkit will provide guidance on how to complete your silver award and suggest ideas for what you could do to mark Holocaust Memorial Day.**

My name is Jessica, I am an Outreach Officer at Holocaust Memorial Day Trust (HMDT) and I run the HMDT Youth programmes.

You should use this toolkit to learn about the genocides we commemorate on Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) and organise your own HMD activity.

Every HMD activity helps people learn more about the Holocaust, Nazi Persecution and subsequent genocides so that we can work together to create a safer, better future.

If you need any help or support in completing the programme, you can get in touch with me at [youth@hmd.org.uk](mailto:youth@hmd.org.uk)

You can also contact the Youth Board who act as a support network for Youth Champions (14-18) and Youth Advocates (18-25) all over the country. They have experience of holding HMD activities and are keen to hear your ideas!

## When you become a Youth Champion, you will:

- Learn more about the Holocaust, Nazi Persecution and the genocides which followed in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur
- Engage with the experiences of survivors and feel inspired to end hatred and discrimination today
- Gain leadership and communications skills to mark Holocaust Memorial Day
- Be part of a network of young people all over the UK who are making a real difference in their communities

If you haven't already, go to [hmd.org.uk/signup](https://hmd.org.uk/signup) to become a Youth Champion.

After completing your form, you will receive a welcome pack which includes this toolkit.



**Why should I get involved?**



# HMD Youth Board

The Youth Board give us their ideas to expand and improve the HMDT Youth programmes. They gain a lot of skills on the Board and are given responsibility to promote the programme and act as a support network for Youth Champions and Youth Advocates.

You can contact any member of the Board if you need any advice and support. You can see where they are based in the UK below. Don't worry if your region or nation isn't shown, you can still get in touch with any member of the Youth Board or Jessica at [youth@hmd.org.uk](mailto:youth@hmd.org.uk).

You can also contact the Lead Youth Champion if you have any ideas or contributions to add to the programme by emailing [anna.youth@hmd.org.uk](mailto:anna.youth@hmd.org.uk)



**Lead  
Youth Champion**

'My name is Anna and I am the Lead Youth Champion. Welcome to the Youth Champion toolkit!

We hope that you find this toolkit useful when planning your activities for Holocaust Memorial Day. We are here to support you in whatever you do for HMD so if you need any help, feel free to contact me or the Youth Board. Also, don't forget to let us know about what you have done to mark HMD and put your activities on the online activities map!



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Go to [hmd.org.uk/youthboard](https://hmd.org.uk/youthboard) to find out more about the members of the Youth Board

# Youth Champion programme awards

The bronze, silver and gold awards will help you to grow your engagement with HMD each year. You will learn more about the Holocaust, Nazi Persecution and subsequent genocides and improve your leadership and communication skills.

When you have completed your bronze award in your first year, you will go on to complete your silver award. You can use this page as a checklist to tick off each task after you have completed it.



## Bronze

You should complete your bronze award if you are new to the Youth Champion programme. You will:

- Sign up to receive a welcome pack
- Take part in the HMD 2019 Postcard Project
- Mark Holocaust Memorial Day in a small but significant way
- Let us know what you did to receive your certificate and an invitation to the HMDT Youth Conference



## Silver

Once you have completed your bronze award in your first year, you can build upon your knowledge of HMD and experience of marking the day in your second year. You will:

- Sign up to receive a welcome pack
- Encourage others to join the Youth Champion programme
- Take part in the HMD 2019 Postcard Project
- Contribute to our youth-led film project
- Organise an HMD activity
- Submit your activity to our online activities map and send us photos of your HMD activity to receive your certificate and an invitation to the HMDT Youth Conference



## Gold

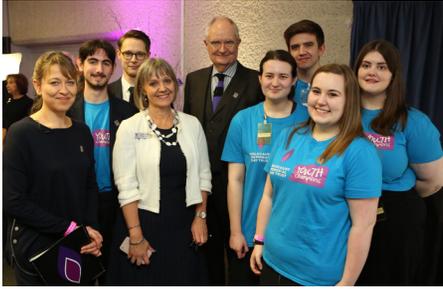
After completing your bronze and silver awards, you will have the knowledge and skills to complete your gold award in your third year. You will:

- Sign up to receive a welcome pack
- Encourage others to join the Youth Champion programme
- Read a book or watch a short film and take action
- Take part in the HMD 2019 Postcard Project
- Contribute to our youth-led film project
- Raise awareness of HMD in your community
- Organise an HMD activity and increase the impact of your event
- Submit your activity to our online activities map and send us photos of your HMD activity to receive your certificate and an invitation to the HMDT Youth Conference

If you are unsure which award you should work towards, please contact Jessica by emailing [youth@hmd.org.uk](mailto:youth@hmd.org.uk) for advice and support.

# Opportunities

You will grow your engagement with HMD each year by completing your bronze, silver and gold award. As you complete your awards, more opportunities will be open to you.



## Attend or volunteer at the UK Ceremony for Holocaust Memorial Day

This is a moving and thought-provoking event to honour the survivors of the Holocaust and subsequent genocides.

## Gain skills and volunteer at the UK ceremony

This is a unique opportunity to assist behind the scenes of a high-profile event.



## Apply to become a member of the Youth Board

You will have the opportunity to apply for a position on the Youth Board to represent young peoples' views and help to develop the HMDT Youth programmes.

## Join us at the annual HMDT Youth Conference on Saturday 23 March 2019

After successful completion of the programme, each year you will receive a certificate and an invite to the annual HMDT Youth Conference where you will:

- Engage with survivors of the Holocaust and subsequent genocides
- Participate in workshops and talks from interesting speakers
- Receive a Youth Advocate certificate
- Meet like-minded young people from all over the UK

There are many other opportunities which may be open up to you in the future.



Gida receives her certificate from Martin Stern MBE, a survivor of the Holocaust, at the HMDT Youth Conference



Members of the HMD Youth Board curate an exhibition at the Wiener Library for the Study of the Holocaust and Genocide



The HMD Youth Board meet Lord Alf Dubs, *Kindertransportee* and Olivia Marks-Woldman, Chief Executive of HMDT

# What is Holocaust Memorial Day?

Holocaust Memorial Day Trust (HMDT) encourages remembrance in a world scarred by genocide. We promote and support Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) which takes place on 27 January.

In 2000, 46 countries (including the UK) came together and decided that there should be an international day of commemoration to remember the six million Jews murdered during the Holocaust and the millions of people killed under Nazi Persecution. They decided on 27 January as it marks the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, the largest Nazi death camp.

In the UK, we also use HMD to reflect on genocides which have taken place since the Holocaust. These are the genocides that followed in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia, and Darfur. These genocides are commemorated on Holocaust Memorial Day because perpetrators have been indicted or convicted for their crimes by an international criminal tribunal.

HMD is for everyone. Each year across the UK, thousands of people come together to learn more about the past and take action to create a safer future by challenging prejudice and the language of hatred.

## The theme for HMD 2019

HMDT chooses the annual theme to provide those organising HMD activities with fresh ideas for interesting and inspiring commemorations. The theme for HMD 2019 is **Torn from home**.

For HMD 2019, the theme **Torn from home** will reflect on what happens when individuals, families and communities are driven out of, or wrenched from their homes, because of persecution or the threat of genocide. The word 'home' is familiar to us all. Although not always the case, 'home' usually means a place of safety, privacy, comfort and security. We will also reflect on the continuing difficulties survivors face as they try to find and build new homes when the genocide is over.

*'I didn't feel like I had a home after the genocide because everything was destroyed. I had no home at all. I had nothing.'*

**Marie Chantal Uwamahoro, survivor of the Genocide in Rwanda**

HMD activities could focus on the idea of 'home' during the Holocaust, Nazi Persecution, and subsequent genocides. Possible areas of focus are:

- The meaning of 'home' before genocide
- Fleeing or being forced from home before or during genocide
- Finding an alternative home and seeking refuge during genocide
- Returning home and rebuilding home after genocide



The Kindertransport © Wiener Library

You can read the full theme vision at [hmd.org.uk/tornfromhome](http://hmd.org.uk/tornfromhome)

# What is genocide?

Genocide is defined by the United Nations as any of the following acts committed with **intent to destroy**, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, as such:

- killing members of the group
- causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group
- deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part
- imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group
- forcibly transferring children of the group to another group

Genocide never just happens. There is always a set of circumstances which occur or which are created to build the climate in which genocide can take place.

Gregory H Stanton, President of **Genocide Watch** developed the 10 stages of genocide which explains the different stages which lead to genocide. At each of the earlier stages there is an opportunity for members of the community or the International Community to halt the stages and stop genocide before it happens.

Go to [hmd.org.uk/tenstages](http://hmd.org.uk/tenstages) to download the poster and learn more about the ten stages of genocide.

Go to [hmd.org.uk](http://hmd.org.uk) to learn more about the genocides we commemorate on Holocaust Memorial Day.



**The Holocaust**  
[hmd.org.uk/holocaust](http://hmd.org.uk/holocaust)



**Nazi Persecution**  
[hmd.org.uk/nazipersecution](http://hmd.org.uk/nazipersecution)



**Cambodia**  
[hmd.org.uk/cambodia](http://hmd.org.uk/cambodia)



**Rwanda**  
[hmd.org.uk/rwanda](http://hmd.org.uk/rwanda)



**Bosnia**  
[hmd.org.uk/bosnia](http://hmd.org.uk/bosnia)



**Darfur**  
[hmd.org.uk/darfur](http://hmd.org.uk/darfur)

**Image credits left to right:** Auschwitz © Rodrigo Paredes, Barbed wire fencing at Auschwitz I, part of the largest Nazi killing camps © Adam Jones; Photographs of people imprisoned at the notorious 'Security Prison 21' – Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum © Christian Haugen; Photographs of people killed during the Genocide in Rwanda at the Kigali Memorial Centre © Trocalre; Gravestones at the Srebrenica-Potočari genocide memorial © Julian Buijzen; Um Ziefa burning village © Brian Stiedle



## Step One

Sign up to receive a welcome pack. Go to [hmd.org.uk/signup](http://hmd.org.uk/signup) and fill out an online form.



You will receive an additional form via email which will need a signature from a parent or guardian. When you have sent this back, we will send you a welcome pack in the post. In your welcome pack, you will receive a:

- Youth Champion Toolkit
- Promotional poster
- Teacher guide and youth group leader guide
- HMDT Youth programmes flyer
- 'About HMD' booklet
- Postcard to take part in the HMD 2019 Postcard Project
- Wristband
- Badge
- T-shirt (optional)

Many of these resources are available to download at [hmd.org.uk/youthchampions](http://hmd.org.uk/youthchampions)

You can order more of these resources to hand out at your HMD activity by emailing Jessica at [youth@hmd.org.uk](mailto:youth@hmd.org.uk)



## Step Two

### Encourage others to join the Youth Champion programme

In your welcome pack, there is a promotional poster. Ask a teacher or youth group leader to display this poster in your school or youth group centre to encourage others to join the programme. Or ask a teacher or youth group leader to mention the programme in an assembly, tutor time or youth group session.

In your welcome pack is a teacher guide and a youth group leader guide which will encourage them to get involved.





## Step Three

Take part in the HMD 2019 Postcard Project to explore the theme **Torn from home**.

You will learn about the experiences of Renee Bornstein, a survivor of the Holocaust, and Sokphal Din, a survivor of the Genocide in Cambodia. You will reflect on how they were forced to leave their homes and share your reflections with them on a postcard. You will receive a reply from them and your postcard may be displayed at the UK Ceremony for HMD 2019.

There is a postcard in your welcome pack. Once you have written your postcard, send it to the address below with a note stating your name and address so you can receive your reply.



Go to [hmd.org.uk/renee](https://hmd.org.uk/renee) to learn more about her experiences



Go to [hmd.org.uk/sokphal](https://hmd.org.uk/sokphal) to learn more about his experiences

You could run the Postcard Project to engage people at your own HMD activity as well. Go to [hmd.org.uk/postcards](https://hmd.org.uk/postcards) to order or download more postcards and download the Postcard Project pack. Here is an example of how you could use it at your own HMD activity:

1. Choose the life story of Renee Bornstein and/or Sokphal Din
2. Read the life stories aloud, discuss in groups or provide copies for people to read themselves at your event
3. Encourage people to write a postcard to Renee and/or Sokphal, reflecting on their experiences
4. Send the completed postcards to HMDT, PO Box 61074, London, SE1P 5BX





## Step Four

Get involved and contribute to our short film, where a survivor of the Holocaust will be interviewed about their experiences. Youth Champions and Youth Advocates can submit a question to a survivor of the Holocaust which may feature in the interview. When the short film is live on our website, watch and share it on social media or screen it at your HMD activity.

Submit your question by visiting [hmd.org.uk/youthfilm](http://hmd.org.uk/youthfilm). You will need to submit your question before **Wednesday 7 November 2018**. If you join the Youth Champion programme after this date, you will not be able to contribute a question. Instead, you should watch and share the short film on social media or at your HMD activity.



When asking your question, think about how their experiences made you feel and what you would like to know more about. For example, you could ask about a specific point in their story that you were particularly interested in. You could think about how it affected their life after the Holocaust and what their life is like today. Think about asking your question sensitively as their experiences and memories may be painful to discuss. You might find inspiration from the 2019 theme, **Torn from home**. Go to [hmd.org.uk/tornfromhome](http://hmd.org.uk/tornfromhome) to read the theme vision.



## Step Five

Hold an activity or event to mark Holocaust Memorial Day in your local community. Here are a few ideas to help you plan your activity:

### Activity Idea One: School assembly

**Raise awareness about Holocaust Memorial Day and share the lessons that you have learnt with your peers.**

Ask a teacher if you can talk about Holocaust Memorial Day at a school assembly. Download the public speaking guidance at [hmd.org.uk/youthchampions](http://hmd.org.uk/youthchampions) to help you to prepare for your assembly. You can download a template assembly which includes a script and a PowerPoint presentation. Could you ask someone to help you deliver the assembly?

Go to [hmd.org.uk/secondaryassembly](http://hmd.org.uk/secondaryassembly) to download the script and presentation.

Alia led a presentation to year 9 and year 10 students about the different groups persecuted by the Nazis and why it is important to mark Holocaust Memorial Day. She also organised workshops for year 9 students to teach them about the subsequent genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur.



## Activity Idea Two: Pledge board

Create a pledge or reflection board in your school or youth group.

To do this activity:

- Choose a life story by visiting [hmd.org.uk/lifestories](http://hmd.org.uk/lifestories)
- Share the life story by reading it out or printing copies for people to read
- Ask people to write their reflections about these stories or write a pledge for how they will help to create a future free from hate on luggage labels, post-it notes or pieces of paper

Arrange these on a noticeboard alongside the posters from your Activity Pack so that people can learn more about Holocaust Memorial Day. Order your free activity pack here:

[hmd.org.uk/activitypack](http://hmd.org.uk/activitypack)

Students from Farnborough Sixth Form College pinned pledges on a display after hearing the story Abdulsalam, a Darfuri refugee.



## Activity Idea Three: Film screening and discussion

Screen a film after school or in a youth club. You could download our suggested film and accompanying discussion questions by visiting [hmd.org.uk/youthgroups](http://hmd.org.uk/youthgroups). Think about:

- **Venue** – where will you screen the film? Could you do it in a university classroom? Could you suggest a screening to a local cinema?
- **Audience** – who will you invite? How will you spread the word about the film screening?
- **DVD** – could you contact your local library to find a copy of the film?



Here are some suggested films you could screen:

### ***Denial* (2016) Rated 12A, 1hr 50mins, available on Netflix**

This film is based on the trial in which Deborah Lipstadt, a Holocaust academic, is sued by Holocaust denier David Irving. Deborah and her legal team must prove that Irving lied about the Holocaust having never taken place.

### ***Another Mother's Son* (2017) Rated 12A, 1hr 43mins, available on Netflix**

This film is based on the story of Louisa Gould who hides an escaped Russian war prisoner in her home. You can read more about Louisa's story at [hmd.org.uk/louisa](http://hmd.org.uk/louisa). You could print out copies of her life story to hand out at your film screening.

### ***Sarah's Key* (2010) Rated 12, 1hr 50mins, available on Amazon Video**

This film tells the story of a journalist's investigation into the roundup of Jews in German occupied France. She finds out about the true story of a little girl who locks her little brother in a cupboard when her family are taken, and keeps the key with her, desperate to get back and save him.

**Make sure you get permission from your teacher or youth group leader and the premises where you will hold the film screening.**

## Activity Idea Four: Song sheets

Telling stories through music is a powerful way to engage your audience.

You could use the HMDT Song Sheets to learn and perform a song at your HMD activity. You can download the resources at [hmd.org.uk/songs](http://hmd.org.uk/songs). Alternatively, you could ask your school choir to sing at your HMD assembly.

Members of the EAGA Choir joined the Youth Champion programme and learnt The Partisans' Song to perform at their HMD activity. They created a video of their performance which you can watch at [youtube.com/watch?v=6zbV01CRIWc](https://youtube.com/watch?v=6zbV01CRIWc)



## Activity Idea Five: HMD information stall

Raise awareness about Holocaust Memorial Day and set up a stall during break or lunch time.

For HMD 2018, Tasnia set up a stall at her school. She used the posters in the HMD Activity Pack to make an eye-catching display. She told people about the importance of marking Holocaust Memorial Day and gave out stickers and 'About HMD' booklets to students. You can order these free resources online at [hmd.org.uk/activitypack](http://hmd.org.uk/activitypack)



## Activity Idea Six: Art project

Create an art project and encourage others to get involved.

Jack and Rose asked other students in their school to help create this banner which they displayed on Holocaust Memorial Day in their school.



Why not ask an art teacher to help you with your project? They could encourage their own classes to get involved.

Youth Champion Megan and Youth Board Member Sohaib used images and symbols alongside quotes from poetry, testimony and commentary related to the Holocaust, Nazi

Persecution and subsequent genocides to create this collage, in the shape of the HMD flame. They also involved their whole school by asking each class to contribute to the collage.

You could use poetry as your inspiration for creating an art project. Visit [hmd.org.uk/poetry](http://hmd.org.uk/poetry) to read poetry written by activity organisers, poets and survivors of genocide.



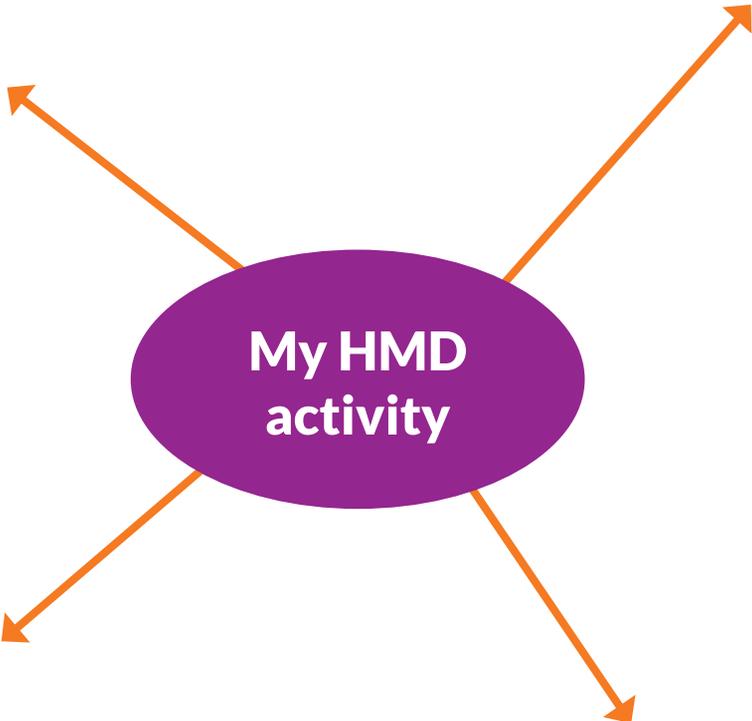
During your HMD activity, make sure you put up a sign letting people know that images will be taken at your event and sent to HMDT. By sending us your photos, you are confirming permissions of everyone in the photo.



There is guidance in this toolkit as well as a support network to help you plan. Contact Jessica at [youth@hmd.org.uk](mailto:youth@hmd.org.uk) or the Youth Board if you have any ideas you would like to discuss or aren't sure where to start!

# Plan your HMD activity

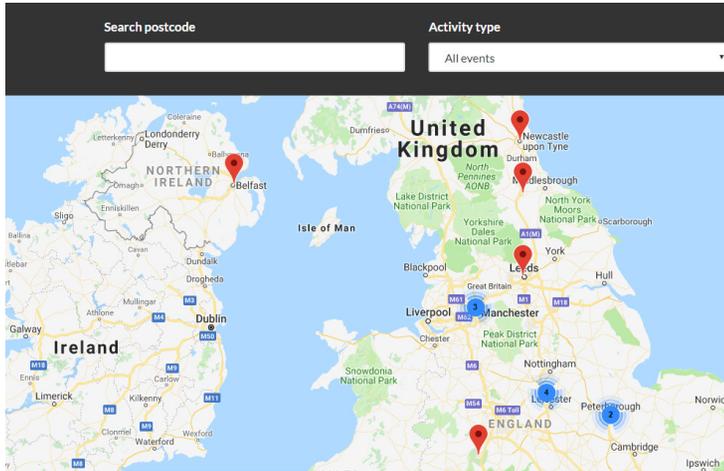
This next section will help you to prepare for your HMD activity. Use this page to brainstorm ideas for your HMD activity.





## Step Six

### Let us know what you did to mark HMD



Submit your HMD activity to our online activities map at [hmd.org.uk/letusknow](https://hmd.org.uk/letusknow). Use the dropdown menu for Organiser Type and select 'HMDT Youth'.

Share what you did to complete your silver award and send your photos to [youth@hmd.org.uk](mailto:youth@hmd.org.uk) after your HMD activity. You will receive your certificate and invitation to the HMDT Youth Conference.

## Checklist

- Activity Pack** – Order a free Activity Pack at [hmd.org.uk/activitypack](https://hmd.org.uk/activitypack). This will provide you with guidance for organising an activity and includes a poster display
- Audience** – Think about who your audience is, could you invite students, parents, councillors or MPs, or members of your local community? Use the invitation template at [hmd.org.uk/youthchampions](https://hmd.org.uk/youthchampions), or write your own!
- Location** – Do you need a venue for your event? If so, where? It could be held in your school, youth group centre or community centre
- Budget** – Does a speaker need travel expenses covered? Will you provide refreshments? Who will fund your event?
- Resources** – We have lots of free resources! Order physical resources through our website here: [hmd.org.uk/activitypack](https://hmd.org.uk/activitypack) or visit our website to explore downloadable life stories, activity ideas, assembly templates and more: [hmd.org.uk/resources](https://hmd.org.uk/resources)
- Preparation** – Could other people help you run the event? Is there a Youth Board Member near you who can offer advice? Go to [hmd.org.uk/youthboard](https://hmd.org.uk/youthboard) to find out more about the Youth Board and where they are based in the UK
- Promote** – Upload your event to our online activities map to get more people to attend [hmd.org.uk/letusknow](https://hmd.org.uk/letusknow)
- Hold the event** – Make sure everyone knows when to arrive and what to do. Remember to take photos!
- Shout about your event!** – Use the template press release at [hmd.org.uk/youthchampions](https://hmd.org.uk/youthchampions) to tell local media about your event and be sure to include photos. Email Jessica at [youth@hmd.org.uk](mailto:youth@hmd.org.uk) and tweet @HMD\_UK to tell us about your activity!

## Don't forget to download or order some of our free resources:

- Wristbands
- 'About HMD' Booklets
- HMDT Youth programmes flyers
- Sticker sheets
- Badges
- Life stories
- Posters
- Theme Vision
- Recipe cards
- Song sheets
- Assembly templates



If you need any help or support in completing your award, you can get in touch with Jessica at [youth@hmd.org.uk](mailto:youth@hmd.org.uk) or contact the Youth Board at [hmd.org.uk/youthboard](http://hmd.org.uk/youthboard)

Find out more...

HMDT Youth programmes: [hmd.org.uk/youth](http://hmd.org.uk/youth)

[hmd.org.uk](http://hmd.org.uk)  
[youth@hmd.org.uk](mailto:youth@hmd.org.uk)

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Learning from genocide - for a better future