Dear Friends,

I am honored to serve on the Host Committee for Holocaust Museum Houston’s 2015 Lyndon Baines Johnson Moral Courage Award Dinner. The event will be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 30, 2015 at the Hilton Americas-Houston. I invite you to become an event underwriter.

Holocaust Museum Houston presents the annual award to individuals who have displayed moral courage. Award recipients have taken a stand against injustice, hatred and prejudice, and used their skills and influence to make a better world for all people. This year, the Moral Courage Dinner will honor the late Dr. Feng Shan Ho and the late Chiune Sugihara. The awards will be accepted by Manli Ho, daughter of Feng Shan Ho, and Michi Sugihara, daughter-in-law of Chiune Sugihara.

This year, Holocaust Museum Houston is exceptionally privileged to have The Honorable Li Qiangmin, Consul General of the People’s Republic of China in Houston and The Honorable Nozomu Takaoka, Consul General of Japan in Houston, serving as Honorary Event Chairs.

Dr. Feng Shan Ho served as the Chinese Consul-General in Vienna from 1938 to 1940. Unlike his fellow diplomats, Ho issued visas to Shanghai to all individuals requesting them, even to those wishing to travel elsewhere but needing a visa to leave Nazi Germany. It was only after his passing that evidence by survivors who benefited from Ho’s aid began to reach Yad Vashem. In 2000, Feng-Shan Ho was awarded the title of Righteous Among the Nations from Yad Vashem for his humanitarian courage in issuing Chinese visas to Jews in Vienna.

Japanese Vice Consul Chiune Sugihara was sent to open a consulate service in Kaunas, Lithuania in 1939. After Hitler invaded Poland on Sept. 1, 1939, Jewish refugees began streaming into Lithuania. Defying direct orders from the Japanese government, Sugihara issued 2,000 visas in less than one month, saving over 6,000 lives. Today, descendants from those 6,000 Jewish refugees number more than 100,000. He also was named Righteous Among the Nations from Yad Vashem for his humanitarian courage in issuing Chinese visas to Jews in Vienna.

Your generous support allows HMH to educate this generation about the Holocaust and other genocides, as well as the lessons to be learned from them. The educational programs of Holocaust Museum Houston encourage youth to become upstanders, young men and women who take a positive stand on behalf of themselves and others to ensure a just outcome. To purchase a table, please complete and return the enclosed form to the Museum. To ensure that you are included in all print materials, please return your underwriter form no later than March 6, 2015. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Krista Heide, Director of Development, at 713-527-1612 or kheide@hmh.org.

Please join us on April 30, 2015 and, together, we will Stop Hate. Starting Here.

Sincerely,
Chiune Sugihara
In March 1939, Japanese Vice Consul Chiune Sugihara was sent to Kaunas to open a consulate service. Kaunas was the temporary capital of Lithuania at the time and was strategically situated between Germany and the Soviet Union. After Hitler's invasion of Poland on Sept. 1, 1939, Britain and France declared war on Germany. By 1940, Chiune and his wife, Yukiko, had three children and lived a comfortable, peaceful life in Kaunas. However, in late July, their idyllic existence was suddenly disrupted by the appearance of hundreds of Jewish refugees demanding entrance to the consulate for transit visas to escape the Holocaust. Sugihara had barely settled down in his new post when Nazi armies invaded Poland and a wave of Jewish refugees streamed into Lithuania. They brought with them chilling tales of German atrocities against the Jewish population. They escaped from Poland without possessions or money, and the local Jewish population did their utmost to help with money, clothing and shelter.

Sugihara defied the direct orders of the Japanese government, and with his family's support, he decided to issue the life-saving visas. In less than one month, he issued 2,000 visas, resulting in his saving over 6,000 lives. Today, the descendants of these survivors number more than 100,000, according to the Visas for Life Foundation. He also was named Righteous Among the Nations by Yad Vashem in 1985.

Dr. Feng Shan Ho
Feng Shan Ho, the Chinese Consul General in Vienna, was given the title of “Righteous Among the Nations” by Yad Vashem in Israel for his humanitarian courage in issuing Chinese visas to Jews in Vienna in spite of orders from his superior to the contrary.

After Austria's annexation to Nazi Germany in March 1938, the 185,000 Jews there were subjected to a severe reign of terror, which resulted in intense pressure to leave the country. In order to do so, the Nazis required that Jews have entry visas or boat tickets to another country. However, the majority of the world's nations refused to budge from their restrictive immigration policies, a stance reaffirmed at the Evian Conference in July 1938.

Unlike his fellow diplomats, Ho issued visas to Shanghai to all requesting them, even to those wishing to travel elsewhere but needing a visa to leave Nazi Germany. Many of those helped by Ho did indeed reach Shanghai, either by boat from Italy or overland via the Soviet Union. Many others made use of their visas to reach alternate destinations, including Palestine, the Philippines and elsewhere, such as the parents of Secretary-General of the World Jewish Congress and vice chairman of the Yad Vashem Council, Dr. Israel Singer, who traveled to Cuba. After a long diplomatic career, Ho retired in 1973 and died in 1997, at the age of 96.
Name (Please print) ____________________________________________

(As you would like name listed in printed materials)

-OR-

Organization _______________________________________________________

Contact Person _____________________________________________________

Phone ___________ Fax ___________ Email _________________________________

Address ___________________________________________________________

City ______________________ State ___________ ZIP _______________________

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

☐ Moral Courage Presenting Underwriter $100,000
☐ Champion $50,000
☐ Upstander $25,000
☐ Hero $15,000
☐ Protector $6,000
☐ Premier Seating (for two people) $2,000

My Total Payment: $ ____________________________

☐ Please invoice me. ______________________________

☐ Pay by Check: Please make check payable to Holocaust Museum Houston.

☐ Pay by Credit Card: AMEX MasterCard Visa Discover

Card No. __________________________ Security Code ______ Exp. Date __________

Name as it appears on card ____________________________________________

Signature __________________________________________________________

Sponsorships: I/We wish to sponsor a seat(s) for a Holocaust survivor(s) for $ _________.

Donation Only: I/We cannot attend, the gift will be a donation. Please accept our contribution of $ _________.

Acknowledgment: I/We wish to remain anonymous.

Tickets: A formal invitation with the opportunity to purchase individual tickets will be mailed in early spring.

The fair market value of this event is $185 per person. Please return this completed form to Holocaust Museum Houston 5401 Caroline St., Houston, Texas 77004.

The deadline for sponsorships to be included in the invitation is March 2, 2015.

Questions? Call Krista Heide at 713-527-1612 or email hmhdinner@hmh.org.
SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

All sponsor levels listed below receive acknowledgment on dinner invitation and program.

Moral Courage Presenting Underwriter - $100,000

- The finest table, prominently located front and center and set for 12
- An invitation for four to the private reception with honorees, keynote speaker and dignitaries
- An invitation for table hosts and guests to attend the VIP reception with honorees and keynote speaker
- Opportunity for table hosts and guests to be photographed with honorees and keynote speaker
- Hand-scribed place cards on your table for you and your guests
- Priority valet parking for table hosts and guests
- Opportunity to host one private event and/or tour at the Museum *(catering excluded)*

Champion - $50,000

- An exquisite table, prominently located and set for 12
- An invitation for table hosts and guests to attend the VIP reception with honorees and keynote speaker
- Opportunity for table hosts and guests to be photographed with honorees and keynote speaker
- Opportunity to host one private event and/or tour at the Museum *(catering excluded)*

Upstander - $25,000

- Exclusive table, prominently located and set for 10
- An invitation for table hosts and guests to attend the VIP reception with honorees and keynote speaker
- Opportunity for table hosts and guests to be photographed with honorees and keynote speaker
- Opportunity to host one private event and/or tour at the Museum *(catering excluded)*

Hero - $15,000

- Exclusive table, prominently located and set for 10
- An invitation for table hosts and four guests to attend the VIP reception with honorees and keynote speaker
- Opportunity for table hosts and four guests to be photographed with honorees and keynote speaker

Protector - $6,000

- Preferred table, set for 10

Premier Seating (for two people) - $2,000