

THE
**LAST
GENERATION**





THE LAST GENERATION

is a short documentary featuring a group of teens on a powerful journey of discovery, interviewing Holocaust survivors and learning of the profound resilience of its victims, the pervasive threat of antisemitism then and now, and how to find hope and compassion even in the darkest of times.

GENRE: Documentary Short (<40 minutes)

TEASER TRAILER



MISSION

As we experience a shocking surge in Jewish hate crimes and a disturbing **lack of awareness** among Millennials and Gen Z regarding the Holocaust, it is imperative that we confront the past to safeguard the future.

Through the stories of survivors, our documentary counters the Holocaust denial, distortion, and ignorance prevalent in the current climate. By reflecting on recent events in the lives of Los Angeles teenagers, and contextualizing them with the experiences of survivors, the rise of the Nazi party and the genocide of the Jewish people in the 1930's and 40's, we encourage future generations to recognize and combat antisemitism in all its forms.

Our goal is to arm and empower the next generation with knowledge, understanding, empathy, and resilience, through the lens of experience and wisdom of these Holocaust survivors. This film will become a powerful tool against bigotry and hatred. By documenting these survivor testimonies, the lessons they impart, and sharing them with schools, museums and places of worship, we affirm that

"NEVER AGAIN IS NOW"

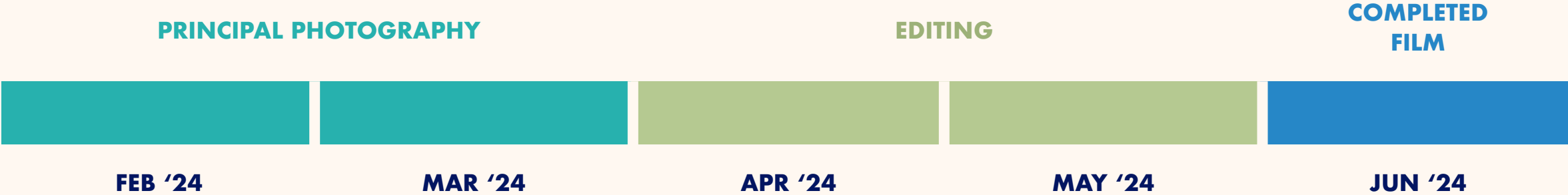
THE PROGRAM

A pressing challenge we face today is the growing gap in awareness and even acknowledgment of the Holocaust among younger generations. Some are unaware, while others question or even deny its occurrence. This film offers an opportunity to hear directly from those who lived this history, allowing us to honor the survivors' legacies by **preserving their stories** for future generations. These intimate conversations will provide a unique generational perspective, through shared history and mutual respect.

Our intended audience is the families of all generations, though we are speaking directly to middle school and high school students, Gen Z and Millennials. It is an intergenerational sharing of stories of survival, resilience and hope that will lead to education, understanding and compassion for the present day and future.



PROJECT TIMELINE



PROJECT FUNDING

Budget available upon request

FISCAL SPONSOR: Blue Card 501(c)3

MAKE A DONATION
(TAX-DEDUCTIBLE)



LILIANA

"My history teacher was teaching us about World War Two. All she said about the Holocaust was there was a man named Hitler who wanted to exterminate a group of people. But I think that it's really important that she should have specified that that group of people was **Jews**."

MIA

"I feel like with anti-Semitism, we see all kinds of hate through every group; every minority. I feel like **there's a double standard with Jews**. We're singled out people. Some other minorities are against us. And it's like, we stick up for you, then why...?"



JOE

"I **never lost faith** and I never stopped believing in God. And I said to myself, I may have a bad day today, but I hope tomorrow would be a better day."

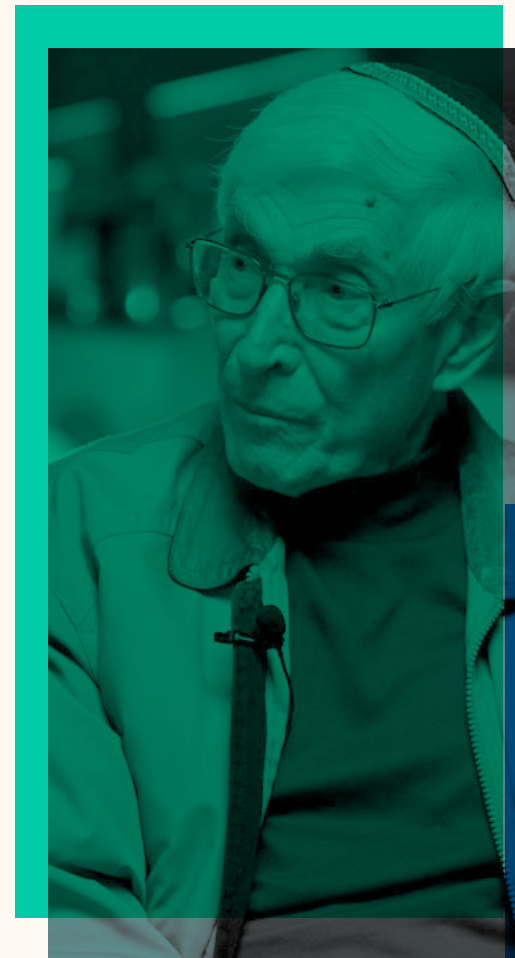
SUSANNE

"Thanks to two incredible humanitarians. I'm here and I'm here to tell the story. And that's the most important thing. And the other also is to be helpful, right? The most important thing is to be **informed** and positive."



HARRY

"Anti-Semitism today, as it's practiced today, is much more sophisticated compared with the way it was during our time, when it was much more crudely practiced where people didn't try and hide their anti-Semitism."



TILI

"Kindness matters because it's a way to get people to feel included and to feel like they belong. And without it, without a **community**, then who are you?"



NATE & JORDANA

"There was a truck passing by in Beverly Hills with a lot of hateful signs towards Jews like kill the Jews and a bunch of other signs that I can't even say."



EVA

" My life is just full of **miracles**.
I mean, we came constantly
really into great danger and
nothing happened. We were
saved at the last minute. "

MIKA

" History always repeats itself.
And if we're not educated in
something, if we don't
understand what's
happening, how are we going
to stop it?"



OUR TEAM



DANIELA POLK

PRODUCER & WRITER

Daniela Polk is deeply connected to Holocaust education, driven by her background as a Holocaust survivors' granddaughter and her participation in the March of the Living. An Emmy award winning producer with two decades of experience in unscripted television, Daniela is a seasoned media strategist with a talent for brand storytelling and content creation across various sectors including entertainment and startups. Daniela uses her expertise to preserve and share stories of resilience, ensuring the lessons of the Holocaust remain impactful for future generations.



EDA BENJAKUL

DIRECTOR & CO-PRODUCER

Eda Benjakul, an Emmy-winning writer/director of Thai and Chinese descent, crafts stories on identity and culture. As Executive Producer at L.A. Times Studios Kitchen, she helmed 'The Survivors' for PBS NewsHour, earning an Emmy nod. Her short, 'Home Restaurant,' won at California and Sonoma Film Festivals and was an AmDocs Official Selection. Featured on PBS KVCR's 'Hope Builders,' it secured Tellys for Directing and Social Impact. Benjakul is a member of the Directors Guild of America and the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences Documentary branch.



OLIVIA GEYELIN

CO-DIRECTOR & CO-PRODUCER

Olivia, a director, producer, and editor, discovered her passion for storytelling with a video camera at thirteen. After studying journalism at Suffolk University, she taught English in Spain, deepening her appreciation for food, language, and culture. In Chicago, she documented the culinary scene before moving to LA to produce content for Chowhound, Tastemade, and Vox Media. Now leading her company, OG Everyday, she creates films on art, food, culture, and society, aiming to inspire and connect.

EVENTS & SCREENINGS

LOS ANGELES

Events and Screenings at
Holocaust Museum, Sinai
Temple and Local Schools

PALM SPRINGS

American Documentary and
Animation Film Festival

MIAMI

Miami Beach Jewish Film Festival

NEW YORK CITY

Partnership with The Blue Card in
NYC to raise money for survivors
who need support.

NEW YORK CITY

Screening at TISCH/NYU hosted by
the President of NYU and Dean of
Global School of Public Health

WASHINGTON DC

Screening/Partnership with
National Holocaust Museum

