**Descendants of the Shoah Session Descriptions**

**Carrying the Torch – A Conversation With and About the 3rd Generation - Shiri Sandler**

We always love to hear from our 3Gs. What do they feel about Holocaust education and remembrance today, 75+ years after liberation? What is their role in all this? What do they wish they knew? What do or will they tell their own children? This panel, led by Shiri Sandler, promises to be a thoughtful and eye-opening experience for all.

**The Future of Holocaust Memory - Avinoam J. Patt**

Both during and after the Holocaust, the commandment *Zakhor* (remember), became a sacred duty for survivors of the Shoah. Jewish victims and survivors played a central role in creating documentation projects, offering testimony, writing memoirs, and sharing memories of wartime experiences out of an obligation to those who did not survive, in order to bear witness to the crimes perpetrated by the Nazis, and to ensure that future generations would work to prevent such atrocities from ever happening again. But the meaning of that memory has evolved over the past 75 years. With the passing of the last living eyewitness to the Shoah, how and what will we remember in the future?

**My Experience as a USC Shoah Interviewer – Louise Bobrow**

Louise will speak to the group about her experiences as an interviewer.  She will discuss how she became involved with the Shoah Foundation, her training to prepare for interviews, and what it was like to conduct an interview. While all of the interviews had a big impact upon her life, she will highlight a few of them and how they affected her personally as well as her continued relationships with some of the interviewees.  She will speak about the importance of preserving these testimonies for future generations.

**Not Just a Bunch of Thugs! – Barry A. Kosmin**

This lecture will cover a largely unreported fact, that the Nazis controlled the German universities before they controlled the streets of the major cities, the government and the military.  Nazism and its ideology of creating a *Germeinschaft Volk*via “racial science” had an appeal in many elite professional, scientific, intellectual and cultural circles.

**Preparing to Speak in the Classroom – Dr. Sarah Snyder**

Are you a 2G or 3G toying with the idea of speaking in classrooms about your parents’ story and your experience growing up in a survivor household? If so, please attend this session, where you’ll hear from other 2Gs about their classroom experiences and also learn how VOH can help prepare you for yours. Sarah Snyder, PhD in Holocaust education, leads this fascinating and interactive discussion.

**Safekeeping Stories – Jill Sarkozi**

You feel responsible for preserving and sharing the story of your survivor family member, but sit down to put some words on a page and you may feel overwhelmed, frustrated, regretful, or hopeless. Where do you begin? How do you create something that is meaningful with the limited time and energy you have? In this Session, you’ll learn the small but necessary steps that will move your family story project forward and the impact writing a family story has on the well-being of your family now and for the generations to come.

**So, You Want to Write a Book**? **- Dr. Robert Mandel**

This session will talk about how to get a Holocaust manuscript published. As a publisher, Mandel Vilar Press receives numerous manuscript submissions every week. About 20% of these submissions are Holocaust related. More than 50% of the authors who send their manuscripts to us make simple errors that drastically reduce their chances of getting the attention and interest of the Editor or Publisher. My talk will focus on what to do and not do!

**Travels To Our Parents' Hometowns - Lois Berkowitz and Sharone Kornman**

In 2019, Sharone and Lois independently visited their survivor parents’ hometowns in Eastern Europe. They will share their experiences and tips, including how they planned, what they saw when they arrived, what they wish they knew before going, and how they now feel about their trips 3 years later. They hope their presentations will inspire others to consider taking a similar trip!

**Who We Are and Why We Came? – Adele Jacobs**

For this session, we want to hear from you! Who are you, what’s your connection to the Holocaust, and what do you hope to achieve at our conference? We’ll have speaking prompts, break-out groups, and opportunities for meaningful conversation and new friendships. Session is limited to 15 participants.

**Uncovering the Mysteries of Your Artifact - Daphne Geismar**

Daphne will guide participants through a series of techniques to uncover the mystery and meaning in photographs and objects, bringing personal Holocaust stories and histories to life. Geismar will also share the fourteen-year odyssey that resulted in her book, *Invisible Years*, “an artefact of artefacts,” of diaries, letters, interviews, and images that she cut up and sequenced into an intimate, historical and visual story of her family members experiences in the Nazi-ocuppied Netherlands, who, when faced with imminent deportation, refused to comply.