



WHAT'S NEWS AT FORTUNOFF ARCHIVE?

31 January 2020, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

1010 Vienna, Rabensteig 3, Research Lounge, 3rd Floor

The Fortunoff Video Archive for Holocaust Testimonies has been recording testimonies of survivors, witnesses, and bystanders of the Holocaust since 1979, when the project started as a grassroots effort in New Haven. It currently holds more than 4,400 testimonies, comprising more than 10,000 hours of videotape, recorded by Yale and more than 30 affiliates worldwide. Recently, the archive completed a number of important milestones including the digitisation of its collection, the development of a digital access system, and the launch of an access site program that provides remote access to testimonies at universities and research institutes. While digitization has helped alleviate one concern, i.e. long-term preservation, and opened new means of access, it raises several new challenges, both technical, curatorial and ethical. Please join the staff of the Fortunoff Archive for an introduction to the collection, its history and content, a hands-on demonstration of how to search and use the archive, and a presentation of new initiatives to encourage use and research in this now fully digital collection.



Stephen Naron, Director of the Fortunoff Archive, has worked as an archivist/librarian since 2003, when he received his MSIS from the University of Texas, Austin. He pursued a Magister in Jewish studies at the Freie Universität Berlin and history at the Zentrum für Antisemitismusforschung, TU Berlin. He has a BA in History from the University of Kansas. As the director of the Fortunoff Archive, Stephen works within the wider research community to share access to our collection through the access site program and online consortia programs, as well as presenting at conferences, symposiums and sessions of Yale University classes. He is also responsible for spearheading initiatives such as digital preservation of the collection and a modern access system for the archive's materials.

Jake Kara is a Web Developer in the Digital Humanities Lab and the Fortunoff Video Archive for Holocaust Testimonies. Before coming to Yale, he was a journalist, most recently working as data editor for the non-profit *Connecticut Mirror*, an online publication that focuses on in-depth policy coverage. At the *Mirror*, he worked on data scraping, cleanup, and reproducible data analysis to support the newsgathering process. He also developed interactive data visualisations and database-driven web apps to help tell stories in new and innovative ways. Jake Kara has a bachelor's degree in professional writing from Western Connecticut State University and is working toward a master's degree in software engineering from Harvard Extension School.

Ion Popa is a former VWI-Fortunoff Research Fellow. His research focus lies in the field of Jewish-Christian Relations in Eastern Europe during the Holocaust. His numerous publications include the monograph *The Romanian Orthodox Church and the Holocaust* and the article *The 7th Rosiori Regiment and the Holocaust in Romania and the Soviet Union*, the latter published in *Dapim. Studies on the Holocaust* in 2018.

Nikolaus Hagen is the current Fortunoff Research Fellow at VWI, a historian and lecturer in the Department of Contemporary History at the University of Innsbruck and at the University College for Teacher Education Vorarlberg. He was previously a research fellow and assistant curator at the Jewish Museum Munich.

Please register at anmeldung@vwi.ac.at by latest Tuesday, 28 January, 6.00 pm and bring your ID. Material that will be discussed will be sent to you upon registration.