

Zikaron  
BaSalon

# Host Kit

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# Thanks

Thank you for choosing to host Zikaron Basalon event this year and congratulations on joining a community of people who choose to commemorate the Holocaust in an intimate and meaningful way.

Zikaron Basalon events mostly occur on the eve of the Israeli Holocaust Memorial Day and on various other dates around the world. These events take place in tens of thousands of homes and communities in Israel and abroad.

Anyone can host a Zikaron Basalon event in their living room. The choice to hold an event is strongly linked to the sense of responsibility for shaping the way the Holocaust is commemorated both as a community and as an individual. It is easy and simple, and we are here to guide and help you along the way.

## In this kit you will find:

- Details on the structure of the event.
- Tips for a pleasant and meaningful event for you and your guests.
- Certificate of Appreciation for the participating survivor or speaker.
- Directional signs for the event.



# Structure of the Event



We recommend that the duration of the entire event does not exceed two and a half hours



## Past: Testimony

Filmed or personal, told by a Holocaust survivor, a child of one or an expert in the field

🕒 30 min–1 hr



## Present: Expression

Play music, read a poem, or any other way participants would like to express their feelings through a creative lens

🕒 20–30 min



## Future: Discussion

A facilitated discussion that focuses on the memory of the Holocaust and its significance in our lives

🕒🕒 1–1.5 hrs

## Tips for a meaningful and pleasant experience

We suggest organizing light refreshments to make sure that the physical space the guests are in is a comfortable, open and welcoming one

### How many people should I invite?

The number of guests at the event depends on the preference and ability of the host. From past experience the best number falls somewhere between 15 and 40. The idea is to allow for varied conversations where people share different opinions whilst holding on to the intimate atmosphere.

### Who should be invited?

We suggest basing the guest list on your personal social network yet expanding this circle as well. In order to experience an interesting and thought provoking event, it is important to create a forum with varied voices. You can always extend the invitation to larger social circles or include a few different groups together.

Additionally, through our website you can make your event open to the general public.

### Informal setting

Taking the “ceremony” out of the gathering. The informal setting is critical for the success of this event. There is no need for “proper” attire or a minute of silence, nor does the discussion have to be politically correct.

# Testimony



As long as Holocaust survivors are still alive, we strongly encourage hosts to reach out to their communities in order to find and empower survivors to share their stories. This is an exceptional opportunity to get to know your community like never before, specifically the older generation.

In case you are unable to secure a Holocaust survivor in your salon, we suggest looking for children of survivors who will be willing to share their parent's stories. It is only a matter of time until we will find ourselves with no more survivors, and the responsibility of sharing their stories will be laid upon their offsprings, to ensure that the history will never be forgotten.

Another option for a personal testimony is inviting Holocaust experts who would be willing to share their knowledge with participants. It is very important to note that the success of an event does not depend on whether you host a speaker or not.

In our website you will find a guide which will help you find survivors or speakers, how to approach and guide them before, during and after their testimony. Additionally we suggest printing and framing the Certificate of Appreciation attached at the end of this kit in order to honor your speaker and show your gratitude. Once the testimony is over and you've given the participants some time to ask personal questions, you should present the certificate, thank your speaker, and call for a short break until your speaker leaves the house. It is crucial for you to tell your speaker ahead of time that after the testimony, the evening will continue without them in order to ensure an open and comfortable discussion later in the evening.

# Expression



In the second part of the event the guests are invited to express themselves through art of any kind. This part is important as it enables participants to transition from a receptive role into an active and sharing one, which culminates in the discussion part.

In order to further engage your participants in the experience, we suggest you invite them to bring a reading, instruments, a song, a poem or other similar contribution. To be on the safe side, you can prepare a short film segment or any other appropriate presentation. As well, this part is a great way to engage and empower local artists to both share their talent and share the leadership role with you.

In our website you will find resources such as YouTube playlists with songs, complete with chords and lyrics, so that your participants can join in.

# Discussion



In the third and final part of the event, participants are invited to have an open and stimulating discussion. We suggest that this conversation be led by the host, however anyone can lead it. The leader's role is to simply guide discussion and ensure a positive, respectful and flowing conversation. The goal is to have a positive and flowing conversation.

# Discussion guide



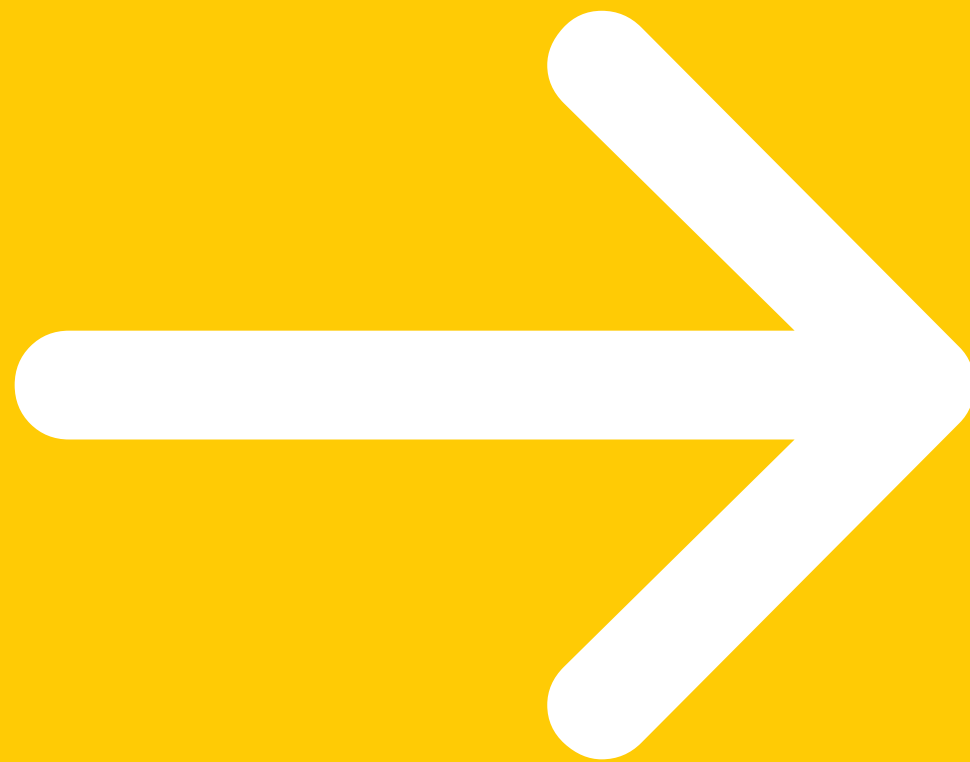
We strongly recommend you use one of the offered Discussion Kits. We have carefully created each one so that every Salon and all the guests can relate to any given topic. This will enable a healthy, appropriate and relevant discussion. Please feel free to use only what is relevant to your salon and exclude the rest.

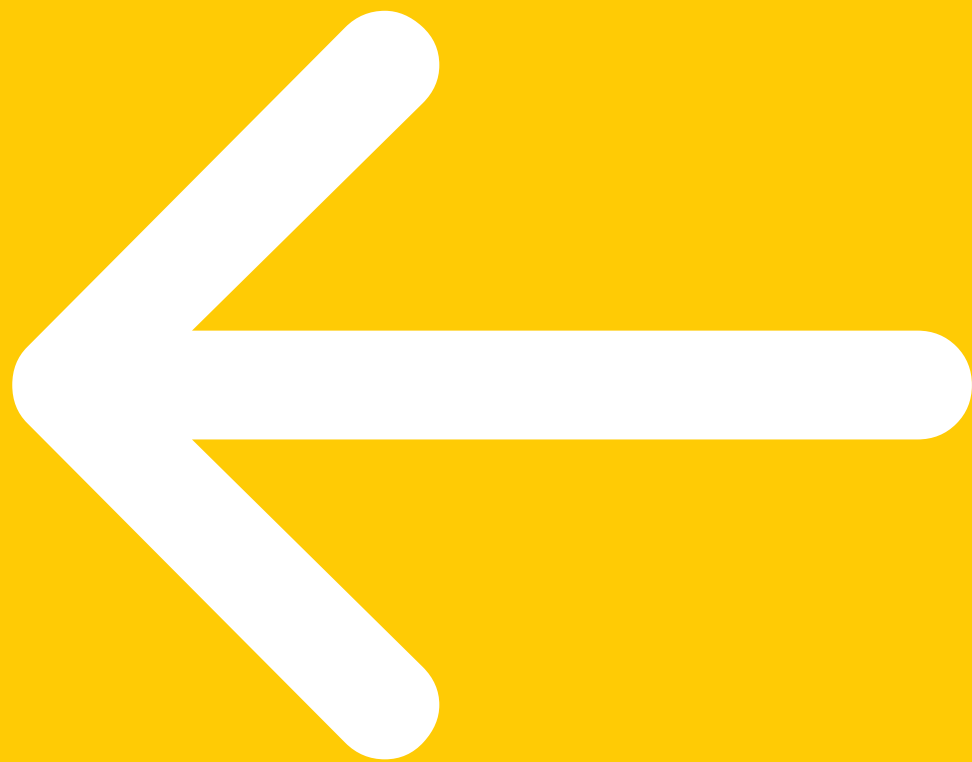
The Discussion Kits are built to be methodologically progressive, meaning from the lighter questions to the heavier ones. Make sure to guide the conversation in the order of these stages, yet remember that there is also no need to present all of the questions in each stage to the participants.

It is encouraged and recommended to use other learning tools such as readings, movies and pictures. Feel free to bring your own in addition to the ones offered online. Remember there is no need for the conversation to end with a single decision or conclusion. It is suggested and encouraged that the conversations end with thoughts and questions that each person can take home and continue to grapple with.

If this is the first time you are hosting, we suggest opening the event with the question "Why are you here?" in order to start a conversation regarding the idea behind this gathering on Holocaust Memorial Day.

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Is  
Here



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It's  
right  
here

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Welcome!  
It's right  
here

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# Certificate of Appreciation

Is hereby presented to

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For your kind efforts and support  
of Zikaron BaSalon.

We were honored to have you with us  
during this meaningful event.  
Thank you!

Date: \_\_\_\_\_