



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**FOLLOWING DESECRATION, NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN JEWISH  
HISTORY LAUNCHES INITIATIVE TO PRESERVE STORIES  
FROM MOUNT CARMEL CEMETERY**

PHILADELPHIA, PA—In response to the recent desecration at Mount Carmel Cemetery in Philadelphia of more than 500 headstones, the National Museum of American Jewish History is embarking on a collecting project to preserve the stories of the people who are buried there.

The Museum is asking those who have friends or loved ones interred at Mount Carmel Cemetery to share a picture of their loved one (and/or the headstone, if available) and a personal story of up to 150 words by posting on <http://MtCarmelStories.tumblr.com> or by emailing [curatorial@nmajh.org](mailto:curatorial@nmajh.org).

The project is also open to those whose families were affected by the desecration that occurred at St. Louis's Chesed Shel Emeth Cemetery last week.

“We would like those who did this to understand that these are not victimless crimes. The individuals buried at Mount Carmel were human beings with names, stories, and families. They contributed to the world while they were here and continue to do so through the loved ones they

left behind. We honor their memories,” said Ivy Barsky, the Museum’s CEO and Gwen Goodman Director.

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#### About the National Museum of American Jewish History

The National Museum of American Jewish History, located on historic Independence Mall in Philadelphia, brings to life the more than 360-year history of Jews in America. Tracing the stories of how Jewish immigrants became Jewish Americans, the Museum invites visitors of all backgrounds to share their own stories and reflect on how their histories and identities shape and are shaped by the American experience. An open door for all, NMAJH honors the past and contributes to a better future by sharing the power of imagination and ideas, culture and community, leadership and service, in ways that turn inspiration into action.

The National Museum of American Jewish History is located at 101 South Independence Mall East at the corner of Fifth and Market Streets in Philadelphia. Museum hours are Tuesday to Friday, 10:00 am - 5:00 pm, and Saturday and Sunday 10:00 am - 5:30 pm. NMAJH is closed most Mondays, including federal holidays and some Jewish holidays. Museum admission is \$12.00 for adults, \$11.00 for senior citizens and youth, free for children 12 and under, Museum Members, and active military with ID. Connect with the Museum on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), and [Pinterest](#). For more information, visit [NMAJH.org](http://NMAJH.org) or call 215.923.3811.