

# REPORT / RECOMMENDATION



**To:** HRRC

**Agenda Item #:** VI.A.

**From:** Annie Coyle  
Staff Liaison

**Action**   
**Discussion**   
**Information**

**Date:** November 26, 2013

**Subject:** Year In Review Presentation

**Action Requested:**  
**None.**

**Information / Background:**

HRRC members will present a powerpoint presentation about the work of the HRRC over the last year.

**Attachment:**

Year in Review Powerpoint.



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## 2013 Year in Review



## Quasquicentennial

**Day:** Thursday, December 12, 2013

**Time/Location:** 5:00pm-6:00pm Tours of Cahill School and Grange Hall

6:00pm-8:00pm Edina City Hall Program and Refreshments

- The City is celebrating its 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2013.
- Founders Day is December 12<sup>th</sup> and will feature historic open houses, music by the Edina Chorale, a timeline display created by HRRC, and a program featuring a “125 Years of Edina History in 45 minutes” by Marci Matson, Executive Director of the Historical Society.



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## Tom Oye Award

- Recognizes individuals who live and work in Edina whose leadership and actions promote human relations and advance human rights.
- Accepting Applications until January 31, 2014.
- Additional information is available at [www.EdinaMN.gov](http://www.EdinaMN.gov)



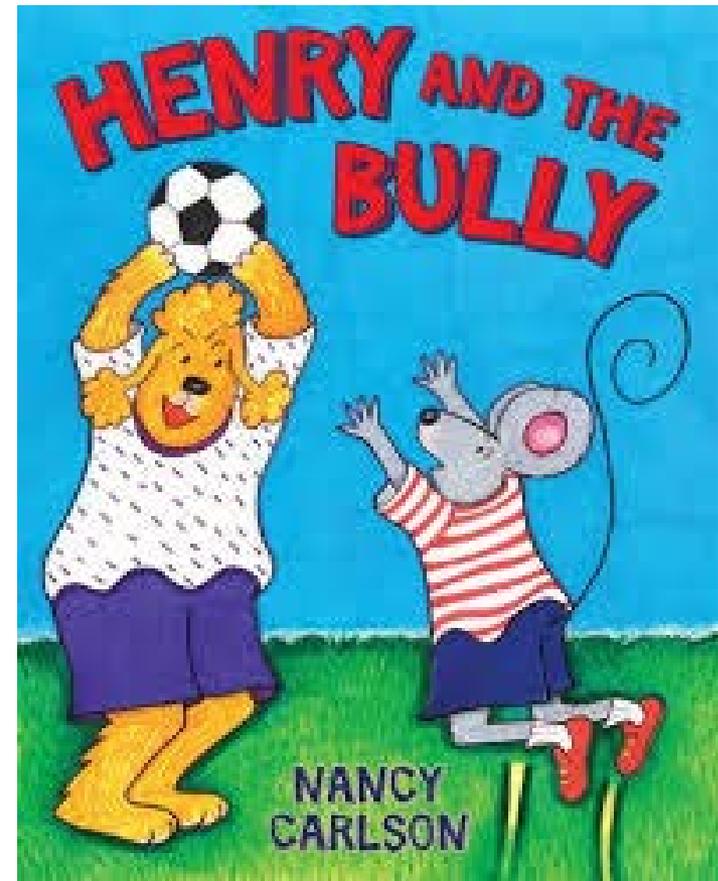
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## Anti-Bullying- Edina Reads

- **2013 Event**
  - April 22, 2013 at the Edina Senior Center
  - Featured Book: The Thinking Man's Bully
- **2014 Event**
  - Saturday, February 8<sup>th</sup> 10:30 am
  - Fireside Room, Edina Senior Center
  - Featured Book: Henry and the Bully with Edina Author Nancy Carlson

*Other Sponsors: Edina Reads, Friends of the Edina Library, Edina Community Foundation, Edina Senior Center, Friends of the Hennepin County Library, Edina High School, Edina Community Education and Edina Resource Center*



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## Bias/Hate Crime Response Plan

- The Edina Human Rights and Relations Commission (EHRRC) provides or coordinates support to victims of bias/hate crimes and leadership in the community in the prevention of bias/hate crimes through education and collaborative community action against prejudice and bigotry.
- Plan participants include: Edina Police Department, City Manager, Mayor & Council, Edina School District, Community Resource Network and Local Media.



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## City Council Actions Supporting Marriage Equity

- *HRRC In Support of Marriage Equality*
  - Edina Resolution No. 2012-47
    - HRRC approved in 2012 and unanimously adopted by City Council
  - State of Minnesota same sex marriage law implemented August 1, 2013



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# City Council Actions to Promote City's Ability to Extend Health Care Coverage

- *HRRC In Support of Domestic Partner Health Benefits*
  - Edina Resolution No. 2012-178
    - Approved by HRRC in 2012 and unanimously by City Council
  - Current MN State Bill to allow cities to define dependents for health coverage is pending in legislature



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## Resolution Proposed to City Council in favor of Immigration Reform

- Supports a comprehensive immigration reform to advocate for basic human rights and needs, as immigration laws impact Edina employers and residents
  - At just over 9%, the City of Edina’s foreign born population is above average for the state
  - Foreign born residents of Edina nearly doubled in the last decade (2000-2010)



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## Community Outreach and Engagement

- **Goal:** Identify changing community needs as a result of demographic trends.
- Sponsor Listening Sessions to generate feedback from all Edina communities
- **Community partners** include: Edina Police Department, Edina Parks and Recreation, Edina Public Schools, Edina Resource Center, and volunteers



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## Respecting Everyone

- Religious Observance Policy
- Days of Remembrance 2013
- Days of Remembrance 2014
- Genocide Awareness





## Religious Observance Policy

- Provides a framework for Edina to remove barriers to participation in public meetings.
- Good Friday (Christian)
- Christmas Eve (Christian)
- Evening before and day of Yom Kippur (Jewish)
- Evening before and two days of Rosh Hashanah (Jewish)
- Evening before and first two days of Passover (Jewish)
- Eid al Fitr (Muslim)
- Eid al Adha (Muslim)
- The third day of Diwali (Hindu)



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## Days of Remembrance 2013

Days of Remembrance posters and photos displayed at Edina City Hall.

Channel 16 featured five Holocaust videos throughout May 2013:

- “I Was Given Life Twice” - The story of Hinda Danzinger Kibort. An Edina resident recounts her mother’s tragedies, sacrifice, courage and survival during the Holocaust in Lithuania.
- “In the Shadow of the Acropolis” -The story of life in Greece before, during and after the Holocaust told through the eyes of one Minnesota family that survived.
- “But Some Survive: Esther’s Story” -This documentary follows Holocaust survivor Esther Horowicz Latarus’s life within Poland’s Lodz Ghetto to her imprisonment at Auschwitz and her return trip with family to Poland.
- “Stolen Youth” – The story of David Fishel, a survivor of Holocaust Slave Labor Camps. David was subjected to forced labor, often pointless and humiliating, and imposed without proper equipment, clothing nourishment or rest.
- A presentation video from Minnesota resident **Fred Baron**, who described his imprisonment in Auschwitz, numerous forced labor camps, and survival from Bergen Belsen.



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Invited guests at  
Edina’s 2011 Days  
of Remembrance.





## Days of Remembrance 2014

The City of Edina will host a series of programs honoring victims and survivors of the Holocaust.

**Tuesday, April 8: 7 – 8:30pm at Edina Senior Center, Vernon Ave.**

- A play called “Upstander ‘s – Ten Who Dared”: describing the importance of not being a bystander.
- A performance of resistance music during the time of the Holocaust.
- A story of Sophie Scholl – the story of a youth resistance movement.

**Sunday, April 13: 2-4pm at Edina City Hall**

- Holocaust survivor Fred Amram will speak about his experiences in Hanover, Germany during the Holocaust.
- Channel 16 video added: The Story of Sam Rafowitz – Remaking a life. Sam recounts his story of surviving five concentration camps, finding family and remaking his life in St. Paul, Minnesota.
- Photos and displays and participation in an art project.



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Fred Amram



# Edina Takes a Stand Against Genocide

*Location:* Edina City Hall

*Day:* Thursday, April 10, 2014

*Time of Event:* 7:00 – 8:30pm

- **This past spring, Minnesota signed into law a bill designating April to be Genocide Awareness and Prevention Month.**
- Edina Human Rights and Relations Commission in partnership with **“World Without Genocide”** will be hosting programs this April to commemorate the 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the signing of the Genocide convention and the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Rwanda Genocide.
  - **Dr. Ellen Kennedy, executive director of World Without Genocide, will speak about the Congo and Rwanda Genocides.**
  - **Congolese representatives will participate in the event**



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## Student Member Initiative: **Edina Takes a Stand for Conflict-Free Materials**

- Support for purchase of products containing only conflict free materials.
- STAND



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# Coming in 2014.....

- Special Needs Awareness Campaign

*Suggestions from Edina residents are welcome!*



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