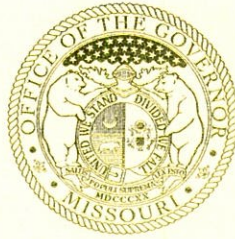


STATE CAPITOL
201 W. CAPITOL AVENUE, ROOM 216
JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI 65101



(573) 751-3222
WWW.GOVERNOR.MO.GOV

Michael L. Parson

GOVERNOR
STATE OF MISSOURI

January 21, 2020

Greetings from the Governor's office!

I deeply regret that I can't be with you today to join in this important announcement for the museum and to encourage you in the never-ending fight against anti-Semitism.

As Governor, I was recently honored to preside over a candle-lighting at the Governor's Mansion for Hanukkah. At that event I meet with the museum's leaders and Holocaust survivors. There are only 22 Holocaust museums in the whole country, and to have a world-class museum like the one envisioned today is a statement of our shared values. I understand what an important resource this museum is for the region and for Missouri. It says that we will not give in to bigotry or hatred in any form.

As you gather here today on International Holocaust Remembrance Day, please know that you are partners in this fight and education is the key to winning. Already, some 30,000 students a year tour this museum, learning its lessons of the past and how they apply today. The new museum will host even more people and will keep the lessons of the Holocaust alive for all those who visit.

The importance of this project is recognized far beyond this building. Earlier this month, the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) bestowed a \$750,000 challenge grant to the museum expansion effort. The NEH grant is one of the largest ever in Missouri and for a Holocaust-related project nationally.

Thank you and congratulations on the important work of the Holocaust Museum & Learning Center and the incredible future ahead.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Michael L. Parson".

Michael L. Parson
Governor