



# Jewish Museum Berlin

2013

## **Press Information**

### **: More Space for Research and Education**

#### **The Jewish Museum Berlin Academy will Unite Library, Archive, and Education Under One Roof**

The Jewish Museum Berlin sees itself as a forum for research, discussion, and exchange of ideas. With its library, its archive, its historico-cultural, photographic, and art collections, and its close cooperation with the New Yorker Leo Baeck Institute and the Londoner Wiener Library, the museum has a lot to offer scholars, school classes, and interested visitors. Educational programs on the work of the archive and the museum convey the content of the museum to children, young people, and adults of all ages. Soon the academy – designed by Daniel Libeskind – will unite library, archive, and education under one roof.

#### **More Space for Successful Educational Work**

The JMB sees educational work as one of its key objectives. Over 100,000 visitors with a rising trend attend educational events per year. In the 10 years since it opened, the museum's educational program has more than doubled. In addition to the roughly 7,000 guided tours each year, the museum holds around 350 educational events, ranging from workshops for students to training courses for museum and science professionals. The future academy will provide space for this wide range of activities and the increasing demand, particularly for whole-day activities. Large educational events will be held in the auditorium there, while seminar and work rooms and multimedia features are further highlights of the new increased capacity.



### **Growing Archives and Intensification of Scientific Research**

The archival holdings of the Jewish Museum Berlin have more than doubled since its opening. Further growth is expected in the near and mid-term future, since the last generation of Holocaust survivors is passing away. Furthermore, the archive would like to expand its holdings on postwar history of Jews in Germany. The dependencies of the New Yorker Leo Baeck Institute and the Londoner Wiener Library are also housed at the JMB. The move to the academy not only creates improved conditions for the growing number of users from all over the world, but also more space for cooperation with universities and other scholarly institutions. The educational program surrounding the archive – workshops with witnesses, talks with donors, information events – will be expanded to allow more school students and adults access to the archival holdings.

### **Library Expansion and Improved Conditions for Users**

The library at the Jewish Museum Berlin will also move into the extension. Initially planned as a reference library for employees, it houses around 70,000 media and has been used as a specialist reference library since 2001. In 2005, the library began to collect audiovisual materials and thus became a media center. In the past 10 years, the holdings have trebled. The current library is hidden away at the back of the Libeskind Building. With the move to the academy, the library rooms will be freely accessible with user-friendly opening times, making use of the library easier and more attractive.



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