

Room 28 Projekt 2026-2029



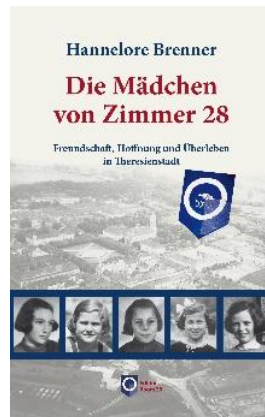
The Power of Humanity. A Legacy from Theresienstadt.

The Girls of Room 28.

Room 28 International Digital Platform for Remembrance and Education

Exhibition · Education · Exploring a unique Media Archive

The first phase (2027–2028) will lay the foundation for the platform by focusing on Helga Pollak and her Theresienstadt Diary, on the opera *Brundibár* through the prism of the story of “The Girls of Room 28” and drawing on the Media Archive to identify and integrate relevant audio and film footage. The second phase (2028-2029) will expand the platform to further topics.



The goal is set, the vision clear: We aim to transform 30 years of remembrance work and a unique literary legacy from the Theresienstadt ghetto into something that will endure and continue to grow and become internationally accessible.

We want to create a digital **Room 28 Platform for Remembrance and Education** that takes visitors on a journey into the multifaceted world of the little community of Jewish girls who once together in “Room 28” in the Girls’ Home L410 in the middle of the Theresienstadt ghetto.

This journey is made possible by what the survivors passed down to us: a diary, a scrapbook, drawings, poems, letters and other original documents; thanks to their story, shared through the book, exhibition, and play *The Girls of Room 28* since 2004, and thanks to the publications by **Edition Room 28**. And it will be possible through the extensive Media Archive of the author Hannelore Brenner who has been collecting audio and video recordings of eyewitness accounts from survivors since 1996.

Room 28 Project of Remembrance and Education

...roots in the desire of a special group of Holocaust survivors to remember their friends who once lived with them in the Theresienstadt ghetto in Room 28 in the Girls' Home L 410 in the Theresienstadt ghetto. They wanted to share their memories with young people in the hope that their story and their childhood friends will never be forgotten.

Starting in 1996, they allied with the author Hannelore Brenner, who eventually, in 2004, published the play, the book, and the exhibition **The Girls of Room 28**.



Anna Hanusová, Handa Drori, Ela Weissberger, Helga Kinsky

In 2007, a group of friends founded the **Room 28 association** to support the multimedia and international Room 28 Remembrance and to preserve the legacy of these girls, keep it alive, and pass it on to present and future generations.

In 2014, Hannelore Brenner started **Edition Room 28** with the publication of the authentic **Theresienstadt diary by Helga Pollak**. It is the most important original document that made it possible to tell the story of the “Girls of Room 28.” Further publications, all elements of the **Room 28 Project of Remembrance and Education** followed.

Basic elements of our Project of Remembrance and Education

- **Book: The Girls of Room 28** (German, English, Czech, Polish, Brazilian editions)
www.edition-room28.de/maedchen-von-zimmer-28
- **Exhibition: The Girls of Room 28** (German, Czech, English and Brazilian exhibitions)
www.room28.net/exhibition/
- **Helga Pollak-Kinsky: Mein Theresienstädter Tagebuch 1943-1944**
(German and Czech editions)
www.edition-room28.de/theresienstaedter-tagebuch
- **Compendia to the Room 28 Educational Project** (German, English, Czech)
Introduction, educational value and educational material
www.edition-room28.de/compendium-English
- **Module: Childhood Biographies in the Historical Context**
The brochure recounts historical events and the experiences of the “Girls of Room 28” before they were deported to the Theresienstadt ghetto. Special focus is on the events between 1938 and 1942 in the Czech Republic and what became the Protectorate Bohemia and Moravia. www.edition-room28.de/historischer-kontext

Room 28 Media Archive

An extensive **Media Archive** is waiting to be preserved, cataloged, and made available for our **Room 28 Project of Remembrance and Education**. At the same time, the archive is intended to be made internationally accessible as a resource for research and historical education on topics such as the Nazi regime, the persecution of Jews, the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia, the Theresienstadt ghetto, Auschwitz-Birkenau and the Holocaust — and, beyond historical knowledge, for exploring ethical questions and the role of art and culture in preserving our humanity.

The **Room 28 Media Archive** by the author Hannelore Brenner encompasses audio recordings of interviews with survivors of Room 28 as well as with other survivors of Theresienstadt and Auschwitz. It started with her work for the radio documentary *Brundibár und die Kinder von Theresienstadt* and continued until the publication of the book in April 2004. Interviews were conducted in German and English.

Film footage shot in 2003 in London and Spindlermühle, in 2006 in Spindlermühle and Terezin, and in 2010 in Marienbad is also part of this media archive, as are recordings of events featuring the “Girls of Room 28” starting from 2004. In addition, there are produced radio features and short films such as the film *Memory Drops*, produced in Israel, or the film *I wander through Terezin: In the footsteps of the Girls of Room 28*, which was produced as part of a German-Czech cooperation project. Some interviews were conducted in German, while others — such as those recorded in London and Spindlermühle in 2003 and 2006 — in English.

Excerpts from the audio and film recordings will be incorporated into the *Room 28 Project of Remembrance and Education* and connected also with the exhibition.

www.room28.net/exhibition/

Some Basics

- The story of these girls is a powerful example of the importance of art, culture, and humanity in an inhumane time. Therefore, we strive to embed our project in school curricula, also as a means to combat Anti-Semitism and oblivion of history.
- The project’s **target audience** are schools and educational institutions, teachers and actors in the fields of education, art, and culture. **Partnership or cooperation projects** with schools and educational institutions are the cornerstones of our project. www.room28.net/kooperationen/
- Some members of our association are teachers who have already successfully used the Room 28 teaching materials, carried out exemplary collaborative projects, and came together to form an **educational team**.
- **One goal of the project** is to build an international network with allies, advocates, and supporters who want to help to fulfill our mission.

The Diary of Helga Pollak

Helga Pollak from Vienna was 12 years old when she was deported with her father, Otto Pollak, to the Theresienstadt ghetto in January 1943. From then on, until she was deported further to Auschwitz-Birkenau in October 1944, she lived in Room 28 in the Girls' Home L 410. There, she would often retreat to confide in her diary — her closest companion, after her father. Today, it remains a precious document, essential to telling the story of the girls.



A voice from our Educational Team:

The Room 28 Project of Remembrance and Education, based on the authentic Theresienstadt Diary by Helga Pollak and the story of “The Girls of Room 28”, offers an extraordinary and unique opportunity for historical political education in the fight against oblivion and in the face of the growing danger of Anti-Semitism and the threat to democracy. It would be an immeasurable loss if the project with all its publications and materials, with its exhibition and the media archive were to be lost, and if all this would not made available in an appropriate manner.

Brundibár and the Girls of Room 28

The story of the “Girls of Room 28” is also the story of the performances of the children’s opera *Brundibár* in the Theresienstadt ghetto. Some of the girls performed in the opera; all of them witnessed it. The *Room 28 Media Archive* includes many audio cassettes and film recordings in which, beginning in 1996, eyewitnesses’ memories of the opera’s performances were captured both in German and English.

www.edition-room28.de/brundibar

Would you like to learn more about the project?

Then ask for the brochure **The Creation of a Lasting Memory**. It offers an insight into the vision that has inspired the project from its very beginning to the present day — and shows what has grown from it over the last 30 years.

Would you like to support our mission?

We would be delighted to send you the brochure or meet with you personally to introduce you to the project.



Contact

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[|www.room28.net](http://www.room28.net)