

# The Holocaust: One Year at a Time

# 1944-1945



CENTER  
OF  
JEWISH  
HISTORY

## The Last Musician of Auschwitz: Teaching About Music During the Holocaust

Thursday, May 7, 2026 | 3 PM - 5 PM ET

Virtual | CTLE credit eligible

Join the Museum of Jewish Heritage and Center for Jewish History as we explore the story of Anita Lasker-Wallfisch, a Holocaust survivor who played in the Auschwitz orchestra. Through primary sources, testimony, and lesson plans, we will explore pedagogy for bringing this into your classroom.

**Anita Lasker-Wallfisch** was born in Breslau into a cultured, assimilated Jewish family where music, literature, and languages shaped daily life. Forced into factory labor, Anita joined a small resistance effort and was eventually arrested for forgery and attempted escape. After more than a year in prison she was sent to Auschwitz-Birkenau, where she survived nearly a year because she played in the women's orchestra. In 1945 she was evacuated to Bergen-Belsen. She was liberated by British forces on April 15, 1945. Anita came to England in 1946, built a career as a professional cellist. She is the last living member of the Auschwitz orchestra.

Register here!



Image Credit: The Last Musician of Auschwitz. Directed by Toby Trackman, Two Rivers Media, 2025.

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