

**Steven D. Reece**

---

**From:** The Matzevah Foundatoin <sdreece@matzevah.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 15, 2019 15:14  
**To:** sdreece@matzevah.org  
**Subject:** The Presence of Their Absence Nashville Film Showing 🎬

[View this email in your browser](#)



## **Nashville Film Screening Event**

The Matzevah Foundation, in partnership with [The Nashville Jewish Film Festival](#), is pleased to invite you to the Nashville premier of The Presence of Their Absence, a documentary by Donna Kanter.

**Wednesday, November 13, 2019**

**6:30 p.m.**

**Brentwood Library**

8109 Concord Rd., Brentwood, TN 37027



## THE PRESENCE OF THEIR ABSENCE

**A short panel discussion with film director Donna Kanter,  
Mr. Fred Zaidman, and TMF President Steven Reece  
will close out the evening.**

This is a free event and open to the public.

You are invited to let us know of your attendance by registering [here](#)  
(registration not required for event)

About the film:

***"A film for the ages." - William Bernstein, The American Society for Yad Vashem***

A greatest source of the Holocaust comes from testimonies of survivors through memory reconstruction in documentary films.

Filmmaker Donna Kanter always wondered what happened after they rebuilt their lives with post-war children who inherited their trauma. Did the children fill in the blanks if their parents could not speak about their experiences? Or were they inundated with harrowing images?

In Los Angeles, California, Fred Zaidman's mother Renate spoke often of her pain but without full facts. His father Wolf virtually shut down. From the

contradictions of too much emotional information and only scant clues, Fred lost a sense of belonging that disassociated him from his present.

Now, in his early sixties, Fred embarks on a journey to discover what had happened to his family in Poland during the Shoah. His primary goal is to find a single photo of his grandparents. With only the will to push his limits, Fred constructs his family tree.

Then, he is dropped into an unknown that will reconnect him to his past. With helpers abroad, he begins to unshackle his own pain and construct his future. Finally, from Atlanta, a Baptist minister leads Fred to a graveyard in Poland where he will rescue from oblivion a single family's fate.

And in his quest for details that endow his identity, Fred draws us into an experience that transcends the larger catastrophe – the will to love.



Learn more about Fred's story, visit the film's [website](#).

*We hope you will join us in Nashville on November 13!*



The Matzevah Foundation met for our Fall Board Meeting the first weekend of October. We gathered in Lookout Mountain, Georgia where we were wishing for fall temperatures but were still greeted with lingering summer heat! Despite the warmth, we were greeted with beautiful views from the mountain top.

Our time was spent recapping our work this summer in Poland and beginning plans for 2020 projects. It's exciting to see how our calendar for next year is already shaping up. We're looking forward to returning to some familiar areas while going to new cities to work in as well.

We look forward to sharing with you more in the months to come!

In between the work, there was time for catching up with each other, walks, games, and lots of great food. We're especially thankful for Przemek Panasiuk who traveled from Poland to attend our meeting! He certainly got the prize for traveling the furthest to the meeting.

## Give to The Matzevah Foundation today!

Every financial gift goes straight to helping us restore Jewish cemeteries in Poland, to commemorate forgotten mass graves, and to provide education on the Shoah.

Visit our [website](#) to learn how you can give today

Thank you!



---

*Copyright © 2019 The Matzevah Foundation, All rights reserved.*

You are receiving this email because you opted in on our website or via facebook.

**Our mailing address is:**

The Matzevah Foundation  
2020 Fieldstone Pkwy, Suite 900-246  
Franklin, TN 37069

[Add us to your address book](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

