

# CONTRIBUTORS



**Lauren Embrey** is president and philanthropic visionary of the Embrey Family Foundation, which in 2006 funded the ground-breaking Embrey Human Rights Program at Southern Methodist University in Dallas. // Passionate about social change, activism, education and creative expression, the Dallas native has produced documentaries on subjects ranging from the child sex trade in the U.S. to the Apollo Theater—and is currently writing her first fiction novel. // While serving on the boards of local, national and international human rights, women's health, philanthropic and creative arts groups, she and her family foundation have received numerous awards for their efforts, which recently included the "Dallas Faces Race" Initiative. // The SMU alumna earned a bachelor of arts in business administration in 1990 and master of liberal studies (with concentration in humanities and fine arts) in 2006.



**Rick Halperin**, co-author of *No Resting Place: Holocaust Poland*, directs the Embrey Human Rights Program at SMU, where he has taught history since 1985 and human rights since 1990. // Since 2006 he has overseen the EHRP's innovative mix of curricula, public events, community-outreach efforts and domestic and international human rights trips that began with the "Holocaust Poland" pilgrimage, now in its second decade. // The respected human rights educator and activist—a leading expert on the death penalty, genocide and torture—serves on the advisory boards of many humanitarian organizations and has won numerous awards for teaching and advocacy. // During his 46-year affiliation with Amnesty International USA, for which he has been board chair three times, he has traveled to inspect war-torn countries for the United Nations and others. // With roots in Alabama, he holds a B.A. in U.S. history from George Washington University (1971); M.A. in Southern U.S. History from SMU (1974); and Ph.D. in Southern U.S. History from Auburn University (1978).



**Sherry Aikman**, program coordinator for the Embrey Human Rights Program, served as chief photographer for *No Resting Place: Holocaust Poland*, which reflects the work she's produced during her 10 visits to Poland. // A professional artist with 40-plus years of experience, she joined SMU in 1987 and worked with the Women's Center for 17 years. // After pursuing a creative project in Fredericksburg, Texas, with her sisters in 2004, she returned to SMU in 2005 to work with the Office of Leadership and Community. // In 2010 she joined the EHRP, and since then has coordinated hundreds of its academic programs and engaged learning experiences. // Wife of 52 years, mother of three and grandmother of three, she has been "den mother" to countless SMU students, whom she's accompanied on more than two dozen trips. // The Victoria, Texas, native earned a bachelor of fine arts from SMU in 1996. // Her love of visual and digital arts was recently expressed in *Kaleidoscapes*, a collaboration with her computer-savvy husband, David.



**Denise Gee**, co-author and project coordinator for *No Resting Place: Holocaust Poland*, works with SMU Public Affairs/News & Communications. // Since joining the University in 2010, she has focused on promoting the Embrey Human Rights Program, Dedman School of Law, Tower Center for Political Studies and inspiring "world changer" students, faculty and initiatives. // After taking the "Holocaust Poland" trip in 2012, she has dedicated herself to learning more about the Holocaust and other crimes against humanity through extensive research, which has included trips to France and Germany. // The Natchez, Miss., native, who holds a B.A. in journalism from Louisiana State University (1987), has worked as a senior editor for such magazines as *Southern Living* and *Better Homes and Gardens*, and as a reporter for several major newspapers. // This is her seventh book.