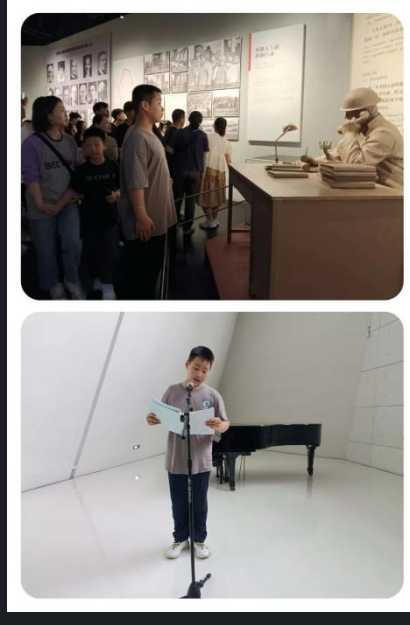




Memorial Hall Events

During the Dragon Boat Festival, a traditional Chinese holiday, many people chose to explore history at the Memorial Hall. To offer better services, the Memorial Hall extended its opening hours, provided easy access for vulnerable groups, and ensured quick responses via its hotline service. The Memorial Hall held a reading activity in which the visitors indulged themselves in reading *The Diaries of John Rabe*, revisiting the stories of their Chinese compatriots who lost their lives during the Nanjing Massacre. Guan Jingheng, an 11-year-old visitor from East China's Fujian Province, visited a statue of Rabe writing diaries in a steel helmet and participated in reciting the diaries. "I would like to thank Mr. Rabe for staying behind to save and help Chinese refugees regardless of his own safety. I will engrave this history in my heart and study hard," Guan said.



"Unyielding Zijin Grass, growing through the bitter wind and rain, raising its head towards the sky, facing the sun, and singing with tenacity..." These lyrics come from the original song *Zijin Grass Thrives Towards the Sun* performed by more than 60 children from the Children's Voice Choir of the Nanjing Zijin Grass Art Troupe on the evening of December 13, 2023. The song brings endless sorrow, yet it also carries resilience and hope, touching hearts on a frigid night. This year, the Children's Voice Choir started recruiting new members with the hope that songs could help children understand history, illuminate their minds and comfort their hearts, eventually transforming them into little ambassadors of peace.



Survivor News

On May 23, Gao Ruqin, a survivor of the Nanjing Massacre, passed away at the age of 90. Gao was born in January 1934. In 1937, Gao's mother was shot by Japanese soldiers, with the bullet piercing her leg. Later, her grandmother was shot in the chest. In great pain, she shouted and fell, letting go of Gao's hand. Gao and her father fled to a refugee shelter, where they survived on porridge distributed every day.



Historical Memory Inheritance

On June 8 local time, the WongAvery Asia Pacific Peace Museum in Toronto, Canada officially opened. The museum will exhibit historical facts about the Asian theater during World War II throughout the year. The museum includes 10 exhibitions. They are East Asia in Pre-WWII Era and the Rise of Japanese Militarism & Colonialism, Overview of WWII in Asia 1931-1945, Massacres, Japanese Military Sexual Slavery System, Biological and Chemical Warfare, Prisoners of War and Civilian Forced Labourers, Canada at War, Japan Turned Defensive, Justice, and Memory & Reflection. The third section covers a significant part on the Nanjing Massacre that took place in Asia during World War II. The museum's establishment results from 20 years of advocacy by Chinese-Canadians like Wang Yujia and Liu Meiling, who made efforts to let World War II history in Asia, including the Nanjing Massacre, widely known overseas.



Visitors' Reflections

On the afternoon of June 21, Huang Anhui, a local in Nanjing, and Milan Mosse, her schoolmate who is pursuing a doctoral degree in philosophy at the University of California, Berkeley, visited the Memorial Hall. Milan Mosse could not hold back his tears as they walked through the Nanjing Massacre Exhibit area. He was deeply moved by the story of survivor Li Xiuying, who had a miscarriage after being stabbed by Japanese soldiers and he could not find the words to describe his feelings. Milan Mosse mentioned that he had never learned about the Nanjing Massacre in school and plans to share what he saw with his family and friends when he returns to the US. During his travel to Nanjing, Huang took him to many places, and he remarked that Nanjing is a very beautiful and friendly city.

We eagerly anticipate your feedback; please share your post-reading reflections and insights with us. And please write to us and let us understand which aspects of the Memorial Hall you are most curious to explore. Drawing on your input, we will enhance our services through better content and more efficient forms, thereby building a bridge for heartfelt connections.

