

Chapman University and The 1939 Society

16th Annual Holocaust Art & Writing Contest

Through Discovery to Action: Making Meaning from Memory

Entry Due Date

Tuesday, February 3, 2015

Awards Ceremony

Friday, March 6, 2015

Sponsored by

The 1939 Society, an Organization of Holocaust
Survivors, Descendants and Friends
The Samueli Foundation
Yossie and Dana Hollander

In partnership with

Catholic Schools, Diocese of Orange
College of Educational Studies, Chapman University
Orange County Department of Education
USC Shoah Foundation – The Institute for Visual History and Education
Wilkinson College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Chapman University

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Facing History and Ourselves National Foundation, Inc.



The Rodgers Center for Holocaust Education
The Stern Chair in Holocaust Education
The Sala and Aron Samueli Holocaust Memorial Library

Through Discovery to Action: Making Meaning from Memory

Your school is invited to participate in the 16th Annual Holocaust Art and Writing Contest. Participating schools may submit a total of three entries (art, film and/or writing) from three individual students. Schools will be eligible to win a first prize award of \$500. First place students in each category, student's parent/guardian and teacher are invited to participate in an expense-paid study trip June 21–25, 2015, to visit the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and other sites in Washington, D.C.

The highlights of the event will include:

- the announcement of the winning art, film and writing entries (one middle school and one high school)
- the presentation of the first place art, film and writing entries
- a reception to honor our guests
- the opportunity to meet and talk with Holocaust survivors, many of whose video testimonies are posted on The 1939 Society and USC Shoah Foundation – The Institute for Visual History and Education's websites

Students awarded second prize in each category in the middle and high school competitions will be awarded \$250.

Prizes will be distributed at the contest event on March 6, 2015 at Chapman University. School representatives in attendance will receive certificates and a copy of *The Holocaust Chronicle: A History in Words and Pictures*, a unique one-volume history of the Holocaust.

Students must be in attendance at the awards ceremony to be eligible for these prizes.

Three student representatives from each school, their teacher and/or principal (depending on seat availability), are invited to the awards ceremony on

Friday, March 6, 2015 at 11 a.m. in Chapman Auditorium, Memorial Hall at Chapman University, One University Drive, Orange, CA 92866.



PROMPT

Select and view one full-length survivor or rescuer testimony from any of the following:

- The 1939 Society website at the1939society.org
- USC Shoah Foundation– The Institute for Visual History and Education’s website at http://sfi.usc.edu/teach_and_learn/student_opportunities/chapman
- USC Shoah Foundation - The Institute for Visual History and Education’s YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/uscshoahfoundation (“Full-Length Testimonies” playlists)

LISTEN. As you listen to the testimony, choose a moment of discovery for the survivor or rescuer. Give careful attention to the historical context in which this discovery occurs. Consider the effects of this discovery on the person and his or her actions.

INTERPRET. From your own history, recall a moment when a discovery sparked in you the decision to act, to find your voice or to approach a situation differently.

CONVEY. Drawing upon both your history and the history provided in the testimony, convey in an original work of art, film or writing the relationship between discovery and action.

The 1939 Society is an organization of Holocaust survivors, descendants, and friends. It takes its name from the year that Germany invaded Poland, changing forever the lives of those who would later join together in Los Angeles to form the Society in 1952.

The 1939 Society has available on its website nearly 100 full-length oral testimonies. Some of these oral histories were recorded in the early 1980s at the University of California, Los Angeles; others were recorded in the mid-1990s in Orange County by the Anti-Defamation League.

USC Shoah Foundation - The Institute for Visual History and Education has an archive of more than 53,000 videotaped testimonies from survivors and witnesses of the Holocaust and other genocides. The USC Shoah Foundation is part of the Dana and David Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences at the University of South California.

If an internet connection is not available, students may view these testimonies in the Sala and Aron Samuelli Holocaust Memorial Library at Chapman University from Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Please contact Jessica MyLymuk, Assistant Director, at (714) 628-7377 regarding access to video testimony and scheduling a visit.

We encourage teachers to consult

<http://www.chapman.edu/holocaust-arts-contest> for lesson plans and other information.



CRITERIA

Entries must be submitted with cover sheet (available at www.chapman.edu/holocaust-arts-contest).

Entries must reflect genuine engagement with the survivor's or rescuer's testimony in its historical context and constitute a thoughtful and creative response.

Art and Film entries must include an artist's statement:

- Title of the work
- Name of survivor or rescuer to whose testimony this work is a response
- Statement of how this work addresses the prompt
- Statement must not include student or school name and must not exceed 100 words.
- Acknowledgement of Sources – to protect copyright holders, proper documentation of all sources is required. Permissions must be obtained for information that is not public domain.
- Entries that do not follow the criteria will be disqualified.

ART

May include photography, computer-generated images, or may be in charcoal, pencil, pastel, chalk, watercolors, acrylics, or oils. Please note that all images, whether computer, artist, or photo-generated are considered property of the original artist.

- Renderings of another's work will be disqualified.
- Artwork must not be matted or framed.
- May be only two-dimensional image on medium no thicker than 3/4" and submission must not exceed 12" x 18."
- Fixative spray must be applied to charcoal, pencil, pastel, and chalk art.

FILM*

- Content viewing time may be no longer than three (3) minutes.
- Final films may be submitted using WeTransfer.com, a free file transfer website.
- Submit film without credits for blind judging (credits should be prepared in the event the film is selected for screening).
- Final file size must not exceed 600 MB.
- To ensure compatibility with MAC and PC, please use either QuickTime or MPEG format.

We are grateful to the Orange County Klezmers for making available to registered participants musical selections from their album *Echoes of Vilna*. To preview or to request tracks for use in a film entry, please consult the website <http://www.chapman.edu/holocaust-arts-contest>.

WRITING

- Must be word-processed and must not include reference to student or school name.
- May be poetry or prose (essay or newspaper article).
- May not exceed one page: Times New Roman 12, 1" margins, single spaced

* Students wishing to use music, photos, video, or other artwork in their films should be aware that these may be protected by U.S. copyright law and therefore require permission from the artists to use them. Purchasing or downloading materials from a website is generally intended for personal and home use only and does not grant the purchaser the right to reproduce, perform, or display copyrighted works publicly. For any copyrighted works appearing in the film, permission must be obtained from the copyright holders.

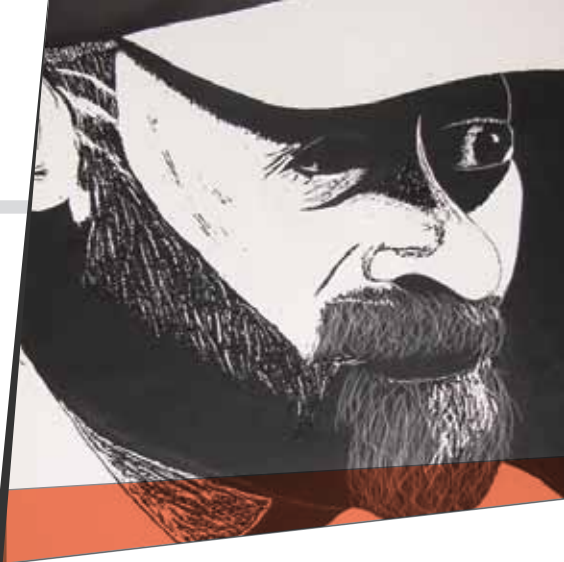
BACKGROUND

Discovery may seem like an odd word to use in relation to the Holocaust. Yet, discovery took place in many different contexts during the Holocaust. For example, some individuals discovered that friends, neighbors, and even total strangers, were in danger. They chose to act upon their discoveries and became rescuers. Many people, the majority of them Jews, targeted for persecution and often for death, discovered ways to retain their humanity in the most inhumane of circumstances. They discovered a strength and resilience they did not know they had, even though discovery and action did not always result in survival.

After the war, survivors of the Holocaust discovered that recounting their experiences by writing or giving oral testimony enabled them to keep the memory of their lost loved ones alive. They also discovered that memory could be a powerful impetus to action, educating people about the dangers of indifference and silence in the face of racism, bigotry, and hatred.

Nicky Winton was only 29 years old when he responded to a friend's impromptu request to join him in Prague where he was helping Jewish refugees from the Sudetenland, an area of Czechoslovakia that the Germans had taken over. There Winton discovered parents desperate to find a safe haven for their children. Winton had no idea how to help them, but he began anyway, discovering by doing. Ultimately, he brought 669 Jewish children to safety in England.

In Poland, a teenaged Jack Pariser had no idea how he, his parents, and sister could survive in an underground space so small that they could not even stand. He had no books to break the endless monotony since the family hiding the Parisers was illiterate. Yet, Jack discovered that he had the resource of imagination. He kept his



mind and hands active by un-knitting and re-knitting his only sweater into intricate patterns. Long after the war, when he learned of the genocide in Rwanda, Jack discovered that he could apply the same analytical inventiveness to formulating ideas to preclude genocide, a cause to which he has devoted the latter years of his life.

At the end of the war, Natalie Weinstein was a child of four living in a Catholic orphanage in Poland, when one day a stranger in beautiful, shiny boots appeared. She discovered that he was her father and that she was Jewish, not Christian. As Natalie worked through the trauma of her experiences and discovered her identity as a child survivor, she also discovered that by sharing her story she could empower other child survivors to find their voices and share their experiences. Natalie became a psychotherapist.

Discovery unites awareness and action. This year's Holocaust Art and Writing Contest asks you to locate **discovery** within a specific survivor or rescuer testimony and then create a work of art (in prose, art, or film) that expresses the link you see between discovery and action, on the part of both the survivor or rescuer and yourself.



SUBMISSIONS

Your school's three entries may be submitted beginning December 5, 2014 and **must be postmarked by February 3, 2015**. Writing entries may be mailed or **submitted electronically** to cioffi@chapman.edu. Art work must be mailed to:

**Ms. Jessica MyLymuk
Rodgers Center for
Holocaust Education
Chapman University
One University Drive
Orange, CA 92866**

Each participating school will receive:

- 5 seats (availability permitting) at the awards ceremony on Friday, March 6, 2015 at Chapman University
- a copy of *The Holocaust Chronicle: A History in Words and Pictures* for every student representative in attendance
- certificates for the three student representatives from each school
- the opportunity to meet and talk with members of The 1939 Society
- additional prizes to schools, school representatives and finalists in attendance at awards ceremony

All entries become the property of the Sala and Aron Samueli Holocaust Memorial Library at Chapman University. All artists are encouraged to retain a color copy of their work since the original may not be returned. The Sala and Aron Samueli Holocaust Memorial Library shall own all the rights to the entries, including copyrights and may display and publish the entries, in whole, or in part.



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Ms. Jessica MyLymuk
Rodgers Center for Holocaust Education
Chapman University
One University Drive
Orange, CA 92866





16th Annual Holocaust Art & Writing Contest

Please return reply card or register electronically at www.chapman.edu/holocaust-arts-contest by **October 22, 2014**

- ☐ **Yes, we plan to submit a maximum of three entries from our school for the Holocaust Art and Writing Contest by Tuesday, February 3, 2015.**

The teacher and principal listed below plan to escort our school's finalists to the Awards Ceremony on Friday, March 6, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. at Chapman University. (Please Print)

Principal's name _____

Teacher's name _____

School name _____

Street address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Teacher's school telephone _____

Teacher's email address _____

School district _____

Superintendent's name _____



CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY

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