

**Chapman University
and The 1939 Society**

17th Annual Holocaust Art & Writing Contest

Entry postmark date:

February 3, 2016

Digital submission due date:

February 5, 2016

Awards Ceremony:

Friday, March 4, 2016

Sponsored by

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

With support from

USC Shoah Foundation –
The Institute for Visual
History and Education

In partnership with

Anti-Defamation League
Catholic Schools, Diocese
of Orange
College of Educational Studies,
Chapman University
Echoes and Reflections
Facing History and Ourselves
National Foundation, Inc.
Orange County Department
of Education
Wilkinson College of Arts,
Humanities and Social Sciences,
Chapman University

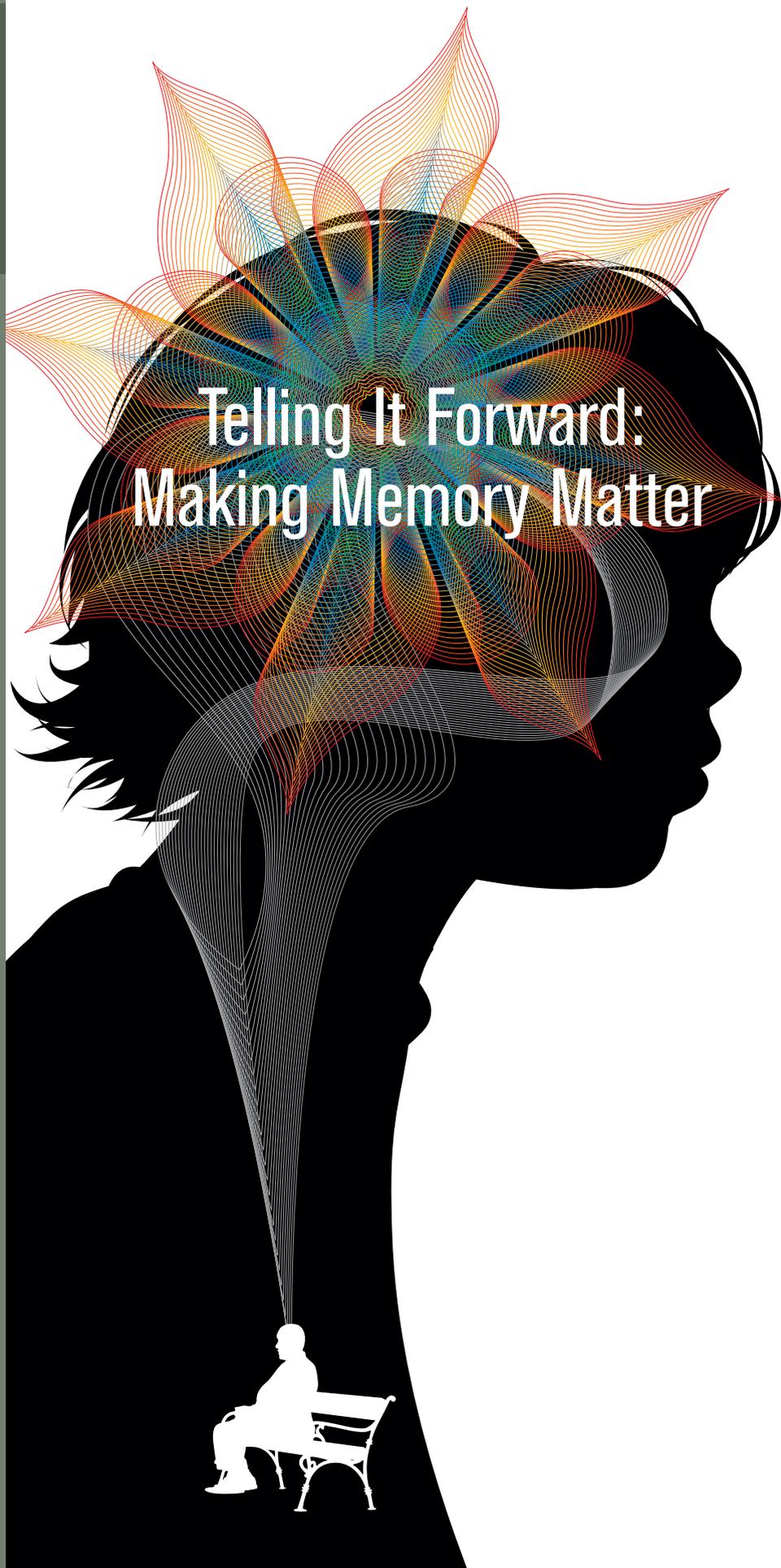
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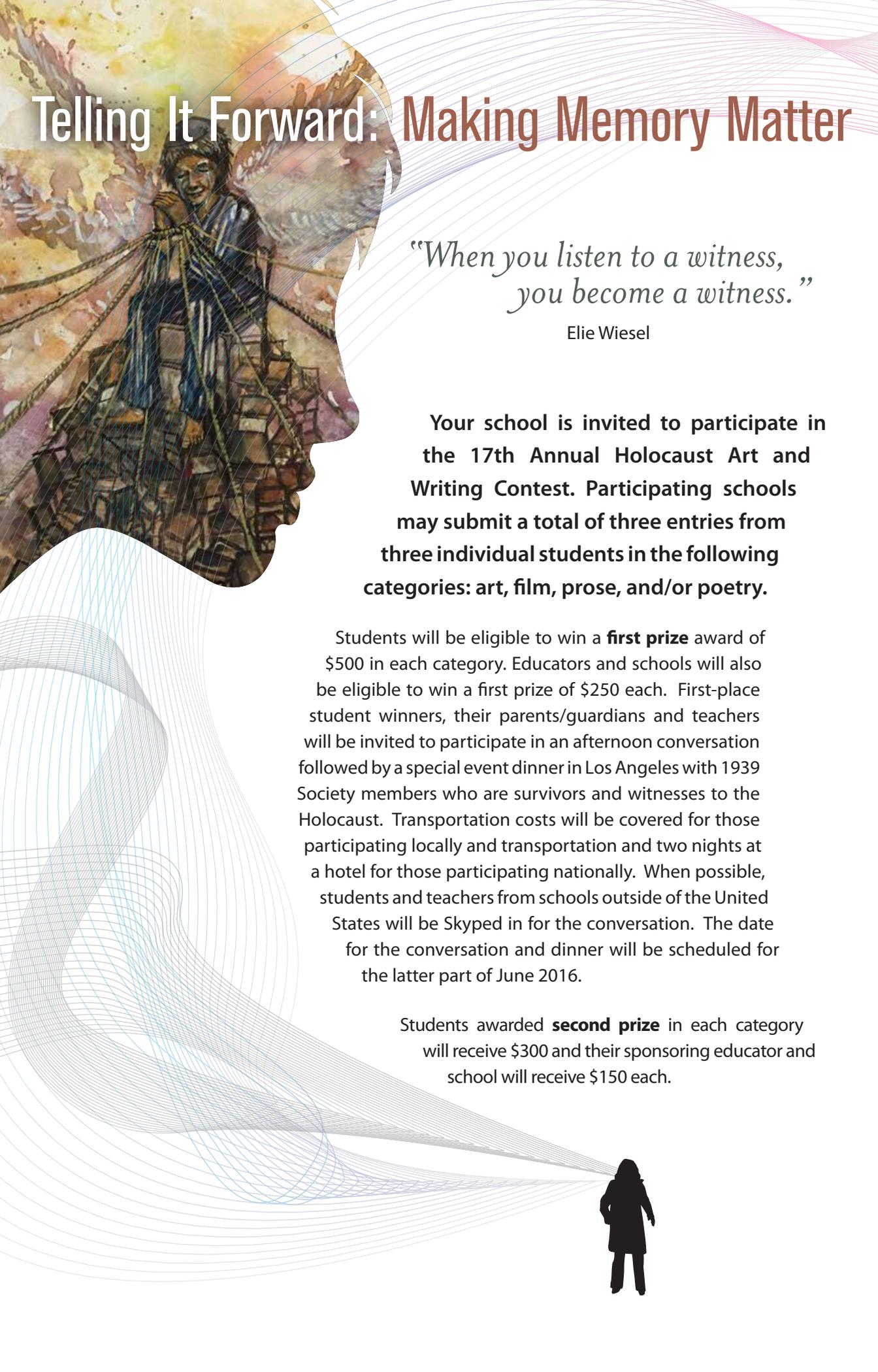


**CHAPMAN
UNIVERSITY**

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



**Telling It Forward:
Making Memory Matter**



Telling It Forward: Making Memory Matter

*“When you listen to a witness,
you become a witness.”*

Elie Wiesel

Your school is invited to participate in the 17th Annual Holocaust Art and Writing Contest. Participating schools may submit a total of three entries from three individual students in the following categories: art, film, prose, and/or poetry.

Students will be eligible to win a **first prize** award of \$500 in each category. Educators and schools will also be eligible to win a first prize of \$250 each. First-place student winners, their parents/guardians and teachers will be invited to participate in an afternoon conversation followed by a special event dinner in Los Angeles with 1939 Society members who are survivors and witnesses to the Holocaust. Transportation costs will be covered for those participating locally and transportation and two nights at a hotel for those participating nationally. When possible, students and teachers from schools outside of the United States will be Skyped in for the conversation. The date for the conversation and dinner will be scheduled for the latter part of June 2016.

Students awarded **second prize** in each category will receive \$300 and their sponsoring educator and school will receive \$150 each.



School Participation

Each participating school will receive:

- 5 seats (availability permitting) at the awards ceremony on Friday, March 4, 2016 at Chapman University
- a copy of *The Holocaust Chronicle: A History in Words and Pictures* for every student representative in attendance

Prizes will be distributed at the awards ceremony on March 4, 2016 at Chapman University. Students must be in attendance (either in person or via Skype) to be eligible for first and second place prizes. Exceptions must be approved in advance.

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

**Friday, March 4, 2016 at 11 a.m. in
Chapman Auditorium, Memorial Hall
Chapman University, One University Drive,
Orange, CA 92866.**

The highlights of the event will include:

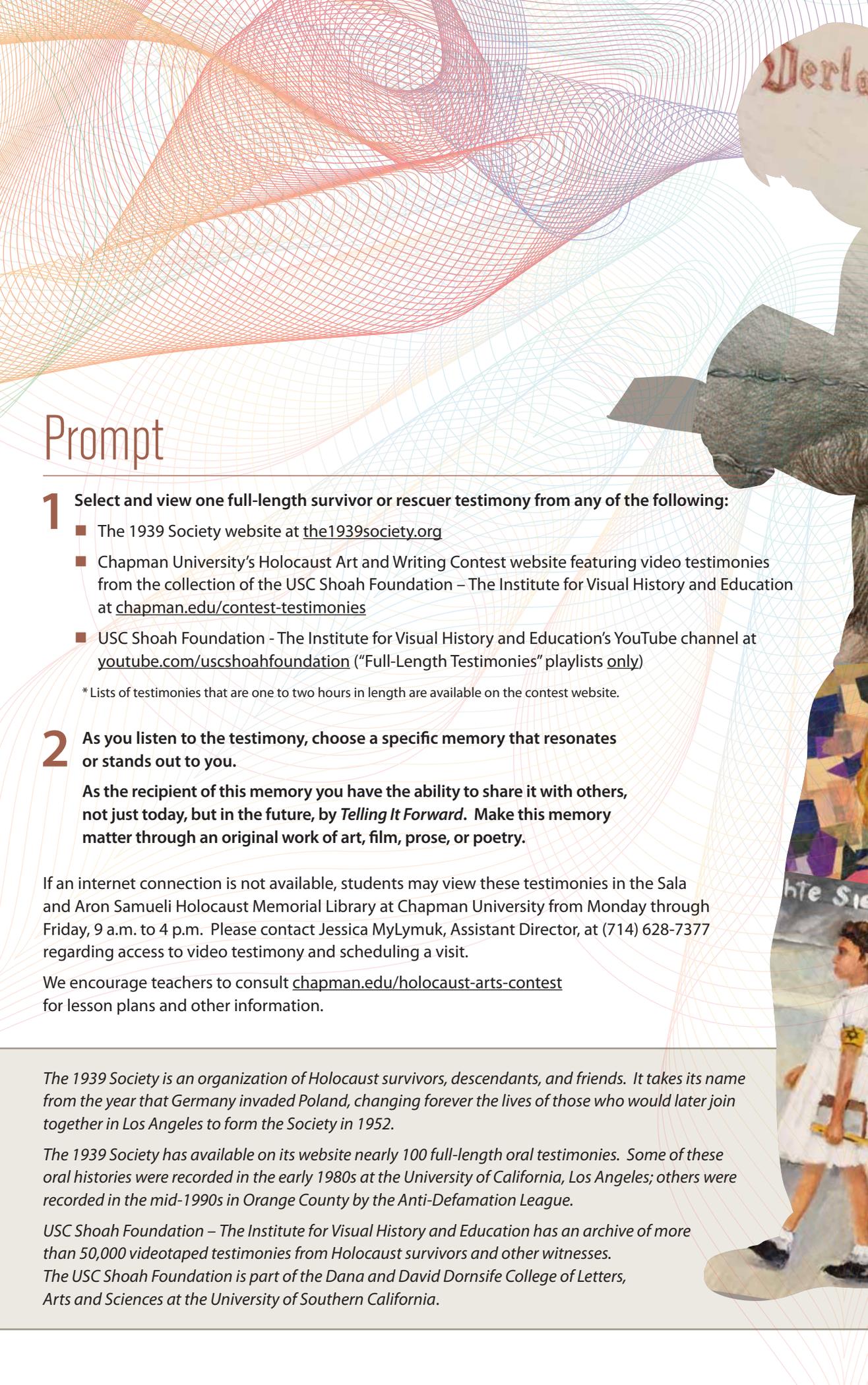
- the announcement of the winning art, film, prose, and poetry entries (middle school and high school categories)
- the presentation of the first place art, film, prose, and poetry entries
- a reception to honor our guests
- the opportunity to meet and talk with Holocaust survivors, many of whose video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





CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY

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



Prompt

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

- The 1939 Society website at the1939society.org
- Chapman University's Holocaust Art and Writing Contest website featuring video testimonies from the collection of the USC Shoah Foundation – The Institute for Visual History and Education at chapman.edu/contest-testimonies
- USC Shoah Foundation - The Institute for Visual History and Education's YouTube channel at youtube.com/uscshoahfoundation ("Full-Length Testimonies" playlists only)

* Lists of testimonies that are one to two hours in length are available on the contest website.

2 As you listen to the testimony, choose a specific memory that resonates or stands out to you.

As the recipient of this memory you have the ability to share it with others, not just today, but in the future, by *Telling It Forward*. Make this memory matter through an original work of art, film, prose, or poetry.

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 chapman.edu/holocaust-arts-contest for lesson plans and other information.

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 50,000 videotaped testimonies from Holocaust survivors and other witnesses. The USC Shoah Foundation is part of the Dana and David Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences at the University of Southern California.

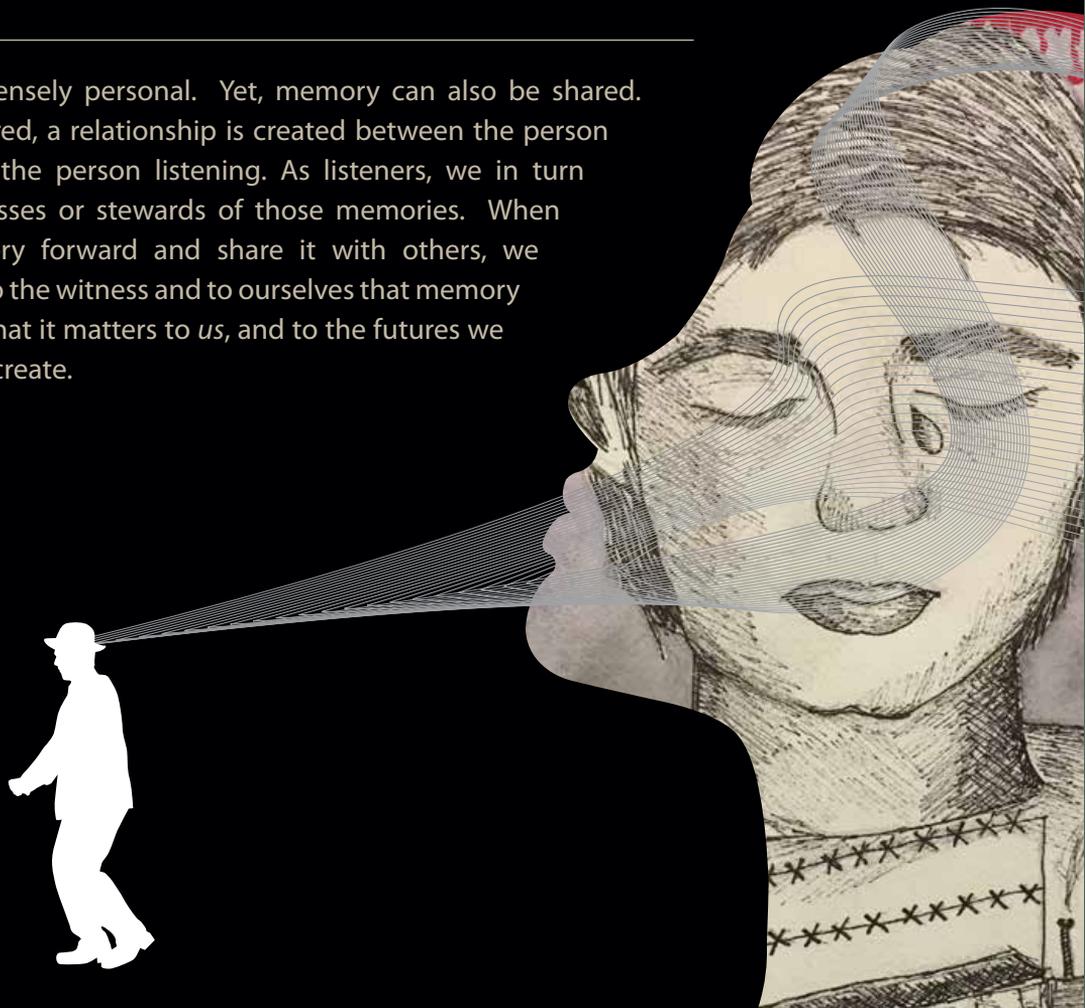
Background

As you listen to the oral testimony of a Holocaust survivor or rescuer, you may sense a change in tone that makes you stop and listen again. Something about the way the person speaks tells you that this memory matters in a special way. For the survivor or rescuer, this memory *needs* telling forward.

Irene Gut Opdyke was a young nurse when Germany and the Soviet Union invaded Poland in September 1939. After months in Soviet captivity, she returned to her home in Radom, which was under German control. Irene was assigned to forced labor, first in a munitions factory and then as the housekeeper to a German army officer. A devout Catholic, one day Irene witnessed SS men murdering Jews in the nearby ghetto. She could not erase the memory from her mind. She thought about it every day; at night it haunted her dreams. The memory became a summons to action as a rescuer. Irene shares this memory in her testimony and book, *In My Hands: Memories of a Holocaust Rescuer*.

Gerda Weissmann Klein was liberated in Volary, in what is now the Czech Republic, in April 1945, one day before her 21st birthday. Gerda was one of only 120 from 4,000 girls to survive a brutal, months-long death march. She vividly remembers the first American soldier who approached her and his simple act of courtesy in opening a door for her and allowing her to precede him into the room. For Gerda, this memory is not only of liberation but of regaining her humanity, of being treated for the first time in years as a person deserving of respect. She shares this memory in her testimony and book, *All But My Life: A Memoir*.

Memory is intensely personal. Yet, memory can also be shared. When it is shared, a relationship is created between the person speaking and the person listening. As listeners, we in turn become witnesses or stewards of those memories. When we tell memory forward and share it with others, we demonstrate to the witness and to ourselves that memory matters—and that it matters to *us*, and to the futures we will choose to create.



Submissions

Your school's three entries may be submitted beginning December 4, 2015, and **must be postmarked by February 3, 2016, or digitally submitted by February 5, 2016.** Prose and poetry 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

All entries become the property of the Sala and Aron Samueli Holocaust Memorial Library at Chapman University. 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.

Criteria

General Criteria – All Categories

Entries must be submitted with a cover sheet (available at 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.

Entries must be based on the survivor's or rescuer's testimony available from one of the following sources:

- The 1939 Society website at the1939society.org
- Chapman University's Holocaust Art and Writing Contest website featuring video testimonies from the collection of the USC Shoah Foundation – The Institute for Visual History and Education at chapman.edu/contest-testimonies
- USC Shoah Foundation - The Institute for Visual History and Education's YouTube channel at youtube.com/uscshoahfoundation ("Full-Length Testimonies" playlists only)

Entries that do not follow the criteria will be disqualified.

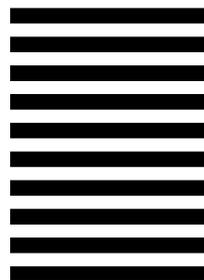
Please see the resource guide or visit chapman.edu/holocaust-arts-contest for specific criteria, rubrics for the various categories and other supporting information.



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Rodgers Center for Holocaust Education
Chapman University
One University Drive
Orange, CA 92866





17th Annual Holocaust Art & Writing Contest

Please return reply card or register electronically at chapman.edu/holocaust-arts-contest

- Yes, we plan to submit a maximum of three entries from our school for the Holocaust Art and Writing Contest to be postmarked by February 3, 2016 or submitted digitally by February 5, 2016.**

The teacher and principal listed below plan to escort our school's representatives to the Awards Ceremony or to participate via Skype on March 4, 2016 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 _____