A DAY OF COMMEMORATION

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA HOLOCAUST OBSERVANCE
SUNDAY, MARCH 5, 2017
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA ___ MEREDITH COLLEGE

2:00-3:00 PM
JONES AUDITORIUM

YOUTH IN THE HOLOCAUST
A PERFORMANCE COLLAGE

Live theater, vocal, dance, and music performances presented by elementary, middle, and high school students of the Triangle area.

3:30-5:00 PM
JONES AUDITORIUM

HOLOCAUST COMMEMORATION

Featured Speaker: Abe Piasek, Holocaust Survivor

"I created this piece with the main focus of a desert tree in expression of the ancient history one's culture has in connection with the Earth. The piece eventually became surrealistic in my mind while trying to reproduce the emotions I held in connection to the Holocaust. The colors are dark, expressing the sadness of lost loved ones. The objects are the belongings brought: one's most valued possessions and what one held near and dear to their heart. In the end, the golden light emanating from the tree symbolizes a thriving culture that continues today, but not without the memory of the past."

McKenzie Byrnes
Senior, North Lenoir High School
La Grange, NC

McKenzie Byrnes, In Memory, oil [on display in the lobby]
YOUTH IN THE HOLOCAUST
__A PERFORMANCE COLLAGE__

_Martin Magnet Middle School, Raleigh__

Martin Strings Groups; Anita Hynus, Orchestra Director

In the 2015-2016 school year, I decided to venture into the reasons we play music. I accidentally came across the documentary _Violins of Hope: Strings of the Holocaust_, which featured the Israeli violinmaker Amnon Weinstein and his efforts to restore violins from the Holocaust. I decided that this would be a great topic for my students to explore through their music. We played many pieces this year that had direct relations to the Holocaust, each with its own intriguing story and meaning.

- Kohler, “Listen to the Lambs” Diya Rau, Violin • Kate Lennon, Violin
- “Sonatina No. 1” Angela Lee, Harp
- “Work Song” Henry Dare, Double Bass
- Gebaur, “Field and Stream” Diya Rau, Violin • Kate Lennon, Violin
- “Theme and Deviations” Angela Lee, Harp
- “Forward, You Witnesses” (Jehovah’s Witness hymn) The entire ensemble

__Lacy Elementary School, Raleigh__

Dawn Matier Wade, Visual Arts; Anne Otersen, AIG

Visual Arts/Multi-Media:
Mini Video Documentary: Maggie Hansen, Alexa Rabin Jenika Cool (dance/vocal performance)
3-D Diorama: Leah Bason, Helen Kelley, Kate Ragsdale Addison Sherlin (dramatic piece)
Graphic Novel/Comic Strip: Angus Millican Essay: Davis Bull
Visual Arts: Zamanethzie Granados
Video/Dramatic Piece: Avery Corderman, Charlotte Ford, Sophia Krimpapori

__Holly Grove Middle School, Holly Springs__

Meghan Retseck, Dance Director; Chair, Fine Arts Department; Meredith Class of 2002

Matthew Bishop, Director of Vocal Music
YOUTH IN THE HOLOCAUST
__A PERFORMANCE COLLAGE__

Today’s presentation, Youth in the Holocaust: A Performance Collage, interweaves a variety of artistic disciplines, many of which are original works created by students of the Wake County Public School System. From dream sequences and dynamic dance interpretation to powerful recreations of events from Holocaust survivors, this collage will evoke a variety of emotions and, more importantly, allow us all to stop—and think—to remember, to reflect, and to realize that we each play a critical role as the memory keepers and as ambassadors for tolerance.

__Virginia Perry Smith

And Then They Came For Me: Remembering the World of Anne Frank

James Still, 1999

Carroll Magnet Middle School • Carroll Theatre Company

Virginia Perry Smith, Director; Meredith Class of 2016

Part oral history, part action, part direct address, part remembrance, the scene selections from And Then They Came for Me: Remembering the World of Anne Frank weave taped interviews of Holocaust survivors Eva Schloss and Ed Silverberg with live actors, recreating scenes from World War II.

Young Eva......Sydney Grooters
Mutti..............Amy Zal
Pappy..............Sarah Beth Peachey
Heinz..............Jonathan Mahl
Hitler Youth #1/Young Boy......... Anders Ottesen
Hitler Youth #2/Border Guard #1 .. Joan Wagner
Hitler Youth #3/Border Guard #3 .. Nathan Lund
Hitler Youth #4.......................Dolan Weaver
Hitler Youth #5/Border Guard #2 . Eddie Axberg

Current Day Students: Shahadah Brown, Chrisoula Theodorou, Cassidy DeFrancis, Samantha Kanai

Ensemble (Additional Hitler Youth, Schoolchildren, Townspeople, Prisoners): Cassidy DeFrancis, Emily Jackson, Samantha Kanai, Kylie Karner, Jasmine Parker, Aliah Suitte, Kayla Teague, Sydney Winstead.

Production Managers: Aristosé Glass, Shahada Brown
Lights: Gabe Douglass (Crew Chief), Juliana Robertson
Sound/Video: Mallory Jennette (Crew Chief)
Costumes & Makeup: Chloë Tellefsen (Crew Chief), Faith Smith, Sydney Turner, Reagan Seeley, Emma Poyer
Stage Manager: Bridget Stees (Crew Chief)   Asst. Stage Managers: Caitlyn Tyson, Nathan Tolbert

Victory Song from Brundibár

Vocal Students of The Singer’s Art

Taylor Gantt, Sophie Strach • Alison Lawrence, Director • Harrison Fisher, Piano

Brundibár (“Bumblebee”), the children’s opera composed by Hans Krása (libretto by Adolf Hoffmeister), was performed fifty-five times by the children of Theresienstadt concentration camp in Czechoslovakia. After the final performance in 1944 (filmed for the Nazi propaganda film The Fuhrer Gives the Jews a City), all the members of the production staff—including the children, director, composer, and musicians—were transported to Auschwitz, where most met immediate death.

We won a victory
Over the tyrant mean,
Sound trumpets, beat your drums,
And show us your esteem!
We won a victory,

Since we were not fearful,
Since we were not tearful,
Because we marched along
Singing our happy song,
Bright, joyful, and cheerful.
**COMMEMORATION**

Gathering Music

The Martin Strings Groups, Martin Magnet Middle School
Anita Hynus, Orchestra Director

Greetings

Steven Landau • Chair, Commemoration Committee

“The Star-Spangled Banner”

Francis Scott Key, 1814

Audience • Cardinal Gibbons High School Chorus, Raleigh
Martha Zaldivar, Director

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Madeline Baker</th>
<th>Kaitlin Dowling</th>
<th>Oishi Ghosh</th>
<th>Richard Kwiatek</th>
<th>Meredith McElroy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hailey Camper</td>
<td>Emma Ewing</td>
<td>Catherine Greene</td>
<td>Madison Leonards</td>
<td>Mihir Nagaraj</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niamh Cannon</td>
<td>Angel Anne Gallego</td>
<td>Sophia Hackett</td>
<td>Adam Malik</td>
<td>Sarah Riegel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marianna D’Andrea</td>
<td>James Gbruoski</td>
<td>Sumeetha Jagadeesan</td>
<td>Francis McCleneghen</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

O say can you see, by the dawn’s early light,
What so proudly we hail’d at the twilight’s last gleaming,
Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight
O’er the ramparts we watch’d were so gallantly streaming?
And the rocket’s red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.
O say does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O’er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

Welcome

Michael Abramson • Chair, N.C. Council on the Holocaust

Remarks of Elie Wiesel

Holocaust Survivor, Nobel Peace Prize, 1986

Bishop Craig Campbell
Gethsemane Ministries, Raleigh

*United Nations General Assembly Special Session, January 24, 2005, in honor of the 60th anniversary of the Allied liberation of Nazi concentration and death camps*

Mr. President of the General Assembly, Mr. Secretary-General my friend, excellencies: . . .

And now, sixty years later, you who represent the entire world community, listen to the words of the witness. Like Jeremiah and Job, we could have cried and cursed the days dominated by injustice and violence. We could have chosen vengeance. We did not. We could have chosen hate. We did not. Hatred is degrading and vengeance demeaning. They are diseases. Their history is dominated by death.

The Jewish witness speaks of his people’s suffering as a warning. He sounds the alarm so as to prevent these things being done. He knows that for the dead it is too late; for them, abandoned by God and betrayed by humanity, victory came much too late.

But it is not too late for today’s children, ours and yours. It is for their sake alone that we bear witness. It is for their sake that we are duty-bound to denounce anti-Semitism, racism, and religious or ethnic hatred. Those who today preach and practice the cult of death, those who use suicide terrorism, the scourge of this new century, must be tried and condemned for crimes against humanity. Suffering confers no privileges; it is what one does with suffering that matters. Yes, the past is in the present, but the future is still in our hands.
Those who survived Auschwitz advocate hope, not despair; generosity, not rancor or bitterness; gratitude, not violence. We must be engaged, we must reject indifference as an option. Indifference always helps the aggressor, never his victims. And what is memory if not a noble and necessary response to and against indifference?

But . . . will the world ever learn?

Remarks

William Cobey
Chairman, N.C. State Board of Education

Lighting of the Memorial Candles

Dr. Cynthia A. Edwards
Professor of Psychology; Chair, Dept. of Psychology and Social Work, Meredith College

1. Abe Piasek, born in Poland, survived Auschwitz and the labor camps of Radom, Vaihingen, and Hessental. He was liberated while on a death train to Dachau. He came to the U.S. in 1947 and resides in Raleigh.

2. Barbara Fields, born in Uzbekistan in the Soviet Union, survived for six years traveling at night with other orphans until reaching Poland. She arrived in the U.S. in 1951 and resides in Raleigh.

3. Charlotte Wertheim, born in Germany, was hidden in orphanages in the German and French countryside. Selected by the French underground to be smuggled into Switzerland, she crossed the Alps at night by foot. She emigrated to the U.S. in 1948 and resides in Morrisville.

4. Barbara Rodbell, born in Germany, moved to the Netherlands in 1933 with her family. During the war she used false identification papers to work with the resistance protecting Jews. She arrived in the U.S. in 1947 and lives in Chapel Hill.

5. Esther Lederman, born in Poland, was hidden with her future husband by a Polish farming family for almost two years. She immigrated to the U.S. in 1949 and resides in Chapel Hill.

6. Dr. Zev Harel, born in Transylvania, survived Auschwitz and Ebensee and was liberated by the U.S. Third Cavalry. He came to the U.S. in 1965 from Israel and resides in Greensboro.

7. Loridana Polena-Kajana, born in Albania, lights the candle in honor of the Righteous Among the Nations. Many in the predominantly Muslim nation of Albania defied the Nazis and sheltered Jews who had escaped to Albania during the Holocaust.

8. Antoine Nkezabera, born in Rwanda, is a social worker working with foster children in Durham County. He returns the shamos candle to its holder to commemorate all victims of genocide and hate crimes.

We invite all survivors in the audience to join the candle lighters on the stage, and all second-, third-, and fourth-generation descendents to gather in front of the stage.

“Ani Ma’amín”

Myriah Luke, Cello
Meredith Class of 2017

performed during the Candle-Lighting Ceremony

I believe. I believe, I believe, with a perfect faith, in the coming of the Messiah.

And even if he will tarry, despite this, I will wait for him each day to come. I believe.

Written by an unknown composer, “Ani Ma’amín” is based on the thirteen articles of faith by the rabbi and Torah scholar Maimonides (1135-1204 C.E.). Many Jews sang “Ani Ma’amín” as they faced imminent death in the gas chambers.

___SILENT MEDITATION___

“El Mo’lay Rachamim”

Rabbi Dr. Jennifer Solomon
Beth Meyer Synagogue, Raleigh

Prayer for the Departed

Exalted, compassionate God, grant perfect peace in Your sheltering Presence, among the holy and the pure who shine with the splendor of the firmament, to the souls of the holy martyrs who have gone to their eternal home. Master of mercy, shelter them beneath your wings eternally, and may their souls be bound up in the bond of life. You are their portion. May they rest in peace. And let us say: Amen.
Mourners’ Kaddish
Aramaic prayer recited in mourning for the deceased

Rabbi Ariel Edery
Beth Shalom, Raleigh

Let the Glory of God be extolled, let the great Name be hallowed, in the world whose creation God willed.
May God’s reign soon prevail, in our own day, our own lives, and the life of all Israel, and let us say, Amen. Let God’s great name be blessed forever and ever.

Let the name of the Blessed Holy One be glorified, exalted, and honored, though God is beyond all the praises, songs, and adorations that we can utter, and let us say, Amen.

For us and all Israel, may the blessing of peace and the promise of life come true, and let us say, Amen.

May the One who causes peace to reign in the high heavens, let peace descend on us, and on all Israel, and on all the world, and let us say, Amen.

(transliteration of the Aramaic)

Yitgadal v’yitkdash shmei raba.
b’alma div’ra chirutei,
v’yamlich malchutei,
b’cha-yeichon uv’yomeichon
uv’cha-yei d’chol beit Yisra-el,
ba-agala uvizman kariv. V’im’ru Amen.
Y’hei sh’mei Rabbi m’varach
l’alam ul’almei almaya.
Yitbarach v’yishtabach v’yitpa-ar
v’yitromam v’yitnaseh,
v’yit-hadar v’yitaleh v’yit’halal

sh’mei d’Kudsha B’rich Hu,
l’eila min kol birchata v’shirata,
tushb’chata v’ne’che’ mata,
da-amiran b’alma, v’imru: Amen.
Ye-hei shlama raba min sh’maya,
v’cha-yim aleinu v’al kol Yisra-el.
V’imru: Amein.
Oseh shalom bimromav
Hu ya-aseh shalom aleinu,
v’al kol Yisra-el, V’imru: Amein.

Introduction of Speaker

The Honorable Josh Stein
Attorney General of the State of North Carolina

FEATURED SPEAKER —— ABRAM PIASEK

Abe Piasek was 11 when Nazi Germany invaded Poland in 1939. Soon the Jewish residents of his town were killed or deported; he never saw his sister or parents again. After two years at forced labor in the Radom camp, Mr. Piasek was sent to Auschwitz and then to labor camps in Germany. In spring 1945 as Allied troops approached, prisoners were put on trains to be sent deeper into Germany. His train never made it: its locomotive was bombed and the prisoners liberated by U.S. troops. After two years in DP camps, Mr. Piasek emigrated to the United States in 1947, began a long career as a baker, and raised a family.

“Song of the Partisans”

Cardinal Gibbons High School Chorus

Hirsch Glick; Music by Daniel & Dmitri Pokrass.

A Lithuanian poet, Hirsch Glick worked with the underground while in the Vilna ghetto. In July 1944 he escaped from a concentration camp and disappeared; it is presumed that he was captured and executed by the Nazis. His “Song of the Partisans” became the anthem of Jewish partisans in eastern Europe and a song of hope and courage in the concentration camps.
Zog nit keyn mol az du geyst dem letstn veg,
Khotsh himlen blayene farshteln bloye teg.
Kumen vet nokh undzer oysgebenkte sho—
Es vet a poyk ton undzer trot mir zaynen do.
Never say this is the final road for you,
Though leaden skies may cover over days of blue.
As the hour we longed for is so near,
Our step beats out the message—we are here!

“America the Beautiful”

Lyrics by Katherine Lee Bates, Music by Samuel A. Ward.

O beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties Above the fruited plain!
America! America!
God shed his grace on thee
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!

PLEASE STAND

Cardinal Gibbons High School Chorus

Audience

O beautiful for heroes proved
In liberating strife.
Who more than self their country loved
And mercy more than life!
America! America!
God shed his grace on thee
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!

HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY is an internationally recognized day set aside for remembering the victims of the Holocaust and for reminding us how civilized people can act when bigotry, hatred, and indifference reign. The internationally recognized date for Holocaust Remembrance Day corresponds to the 27th day of Nisan on the Hebrew calendar. It marks the anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising. In 2017 Holocaust Remembrance Day is Monday, April 24.

Each year the Governor of North Carolina issues a State Proclamation affirming these days as a time for remembrance and reflection. The 2017 Proclamation by Governor Roy Cooper appears on the last page of this program.

The North Carolina Council on the Holocaust gratefully acknowledges the following individuals and organizations for their valued contributions to the 2017 State of North Carolina Holocaust Commemoration:

- Meredith College has graciously hosted the commemoration for many years. Special thanks are due to Bill Brown, Director of Events, and the staff of Meredith Events.
- Temple Beth Or has generously provided its facilities for commemoration committee meetings for many years.
- The Jewish Federation of Raleigh-Cary annually prints and mails the postcard announcement of the commemoration to its members.
- Fine Arts, Social Studies, and Language Arts curriculum coordinators for the Wake County Public School System advised the committee and coordinated the distribution of information to teachers: Edna Graham, Freddie Lee Heath, Shanta Lightfoot, Sara Overby, and Abby Stotsenberg.

If you would like to volunteer with the commemoration committee or contribute to the North Carolina Holocaust Foundation, which supports the Council’s teacher workshops and other programs across the state, please contact Council Chairman Michael Abramson at mabramson@nc.rr.com. Also contact Mr. Abramson if you would like to view the Foundation’s Form 990.

____COMMEMORATION COMMITTEE: CHAIR, STEVEN LANDAU____

Michael Abramson • Shelly Bleiweiss • Maxine Ershler Carr • Sherry Emanuel
Robert Gelblum • Aaron Gerstman • Morris Glass • Cathy Herman • Steven Landau
Bruce Newman • Susan Newman • Judith Sands • Marianne Wason

Rev. 3/7/2017
State of North Carolina

Roy Cooper
Governor

HOLOCAUST COMMEMORATION DAY AND DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

2017

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Holocaust was the state-sponsored, systematic persecution and annihilation of the Jewish people of Europe by Nazi Germany and its collaborators between 1933 and 1945, resulting in the murder of six million Jews; and

WHEREAS, Gypsies, the handicapped, and peoples of Slavic descent were also targeted for destruction for racial and ethnic reasons, and millions more people, including homosexuals, Jehovah's Witnesses, Soviet prisoners of war, and political dissidents, also suffered oppression and death under Nazi tyranny; and

WHEREAS, the United States and North Carolina became the homeland to Holocaust survivors who, having deep appreciation for the freedom and opportunities afforded by this Nation and State, greatly contributed to the culture and strength of their adopted homeland; and

WHEREAS, we the people of North Carolina should always remember the terrible events of the Holocaust and should remain vigilant against bigotry and tyranny; and

WHEREAS, we the people of North Carolina should continually rededicate ourselves to the principles of equality and justice; and

WHEREAS, the Days of Remembrance have been set aside for the citizens of North Carolina to remember the inhumanity of those who perpetrated the Holocaust, as well as to reflect upon the need for respect of all people; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to an Act of Congress (Public Law 96-388, October 7, 1980), the United States Holocaust Memorial Council designates the Days of Remembrance of the Victims of the Holocaust to be Sunday, April 23, 2017, through Sunday, April 30, 2017, including the International Day of Remembrance known as Yom HaShoah, on Monday, April 24, 2017;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Roy Cooper, Governor of the State of North Carolina, hereby proclaim Sunday, March 5, 2017, as the official state Holocaust Commemoration Day and the official Day of Remembrance of the victims of the Holocaust in North Carolina. Further, I, Roy Cooper, Governor of the State of North Carolina, hereby proclaim Sunday, March 5, 2017, will be the day of the official state commemoration in memory of the victims, the survivors, and their liberators, and I further proclaim that we, as citizens of the State of North Carolina, should strive to overcome intolerance and indifference through learning and remembrance.

I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh, this twenty-third day of January in the year of our Lord two thousand and seventeen, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-first.