2022
SPOKANE COMMUNITY OBSERVANCE OF THE HOLOCAUST
7th Annual Art Contest

Why Holocaust Education?

Spokane residents, Carla Peperzak (left) and the late Eva Lassman (right), share their Holocaust stories with local students

CONTEXT:
The Holocaust was the most extensive planned and executed genocide in recorded history. In 1933 Adolf Hitler and the Nazi Party came to power in Germany. They cultivated long-standing fear and hatred for “non-Aryans” to rally the German people to wage war against the rest of Europe. A central objective of the Nazis was to rid the world of people they deemed either inferior or a threat -- Roma, Jehovah’s Witnesses, Communists, homosexuals, people with disabilities, and particularly Jews. When World War II ended in 1945, the Nazis and their collaborators had exterminated 11 million people, of whom 6 million were Jews. Two-thirds of the entire Jewish population of Europe (1/3 of the world’s Jewish population) was eradicated.

Study of the Holocaust provides a unique opportunity to learn how hatred and intolerance can progress to genocide. But the subject receives little attention in most Inland NW schools.

PROMPT:
Why is it important for students to learn about the Holocaust?

Instructions
(1) Find out as much as you can about the Holocaust by reading and viewing videos, including survivors’ testimonies, provided in the REFERENCES and/or by your teacher.
(2) Create a piece of art that demonstrates the most significant lesson that you have learned by studying the Holocaust and the survivors’ testimonies.
(3) Submit a brief statement (about 100 words) that describes your piece and what lessons inspired you to create it. This will help us understand your submission.
REFERENCES:
An easy-to-read overview of the Holocaust (link) -- 15-20 minutes
Videos about the Holocaust:
   “I’m Still Here” (2013) (link) – the Holocaust told through the diaries of Jewish teens 48 minutes.
   “Survivor Voices: Bearing Witness from the Holocaust to Today” (2021) (link) by Seattle’s Holocaust Center for Humanity – 26 minutes.
Testimonies of Washington State Holocaust Survivors, including Spokane’s Carla Peperzak (link)
Narratives and videos of various lengths.

AWARDS:
(1) All winners of the high school and middle school divisions will be announced to their schools.
   The 1st place submissions will be published in The Spokesman-Review and be displayed at a public venue.

(2) The winners will receive the following scholarship awards:
   1st Place High School Division: $400  1st Place Middle School Division: $250
   2nd Place High School Division: $250  2nd Place Middle School Division: $150
   3rd Place High School Division: $100  3rd Place Middle School Division: $75

RULES:
(1) The contest is open to all high school and middle school students in the Inland Northwest.
(2) All general media accepted (painting, sculpture, drawings, etc.). Fixatives should be used on charcoal, graphite, and pastels. Please frame or mount your piece to make it ready for display. Include mounting hardware. Sorry, we cannot accept electronic presentations.
(3) Any use of swastikas must be limited to a very minor part of your submission.
(4) DO NOT PUT YOUR NAME ON THE FRONT OF YOUR ARTWORK.
(5) The brief statement about your piece should be double-spaced, in either Microsoft Word, Google Docs (include permission to view!), or body of an email. At the top of your statement, include the title of your piece.
   On a separate cover page, include your name, phone number, email address, school name, grade level, teacher, and title of your piece.
   Email both documents to neveragain-spokane@comcast.net BEFORE Friday, March 25.
(6) Deliver your art on Sunday, March 27, 2022 to Temple Beth Shalom between 1 – 4 pm, along with a signed release (available from your teacher, the Never Again Spokane Facebook page, or website).
   Questions? Please text Mary at 509-220-5896.
(7) Submissions will be judged by the Spokane Community Observance of the Holocaust Planning Committee based on responsiveness to the prompt, originality, evidence that you have used the references, and accuracy of information. The Committee reserves the right to disqualify any submission with inappropriate or plagiarized content.
(8) Winners will be selected and notified by Monday, April 11, 2022.