

Remember

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Fall 2014

Remembrance is Continuing the Resistance

NEW JERSEY COMMISSION ON HOLOCAUST/GENOCIDE EDUCATION

COUNCIL OF HOLOCAUST EDUCATORS

At the 12th Annual Conference, participants explored many aspects of the theme “Meeting the Common Core: Teaching the Holocaust, Genocide and Human Rights”.

Drawing upon the voluminous resources of the Foundation, keynote speaker, Dr. Stephen D. Smith, Executive Director of the USC Shoah Foundation – Institute for Visual History and Education and utilized documents, photographs, and recorded interviews to lead the conference participants in analysis of the resources, their instructional value, as well as the importance of asking questions and promoting critical thinking. Dr. Smith quoted from an Open Letter to Hitler by Annie Wagner on the subject of the first boycott of Jews: “What you have done to the Jews today you did to all Germans and will bring shame on our nation forever.” Following an insightful discussion of the letter, Dr. Smith recalled survivor Gerda Weissman Klein’s comment that “the big questions about the Holocaust were still not asked”. Participants were asked to consider the following: “What do you actually consider right or wrong? What will you do in any given situation?”.

Dr. Smith also provided information and instructions to the educators on how to access the Shoah archives of 52,000 video testimonies from all over the world and create their own classroom page which would also provide access to Yad Vashem resources, the B’nai B’rith



(center) Dr. Stephen D. Smith, Executive Director of the USC Shoah Foundation - Institute for Visual History and Education

Echoes and Reflections program, as well as the currently gathered resources and testimony from the genocide in Rwanda.

Noah Rausch, Assistant Director of the School and Family Program and Jenny Pachucki, Oral Historian and Assistant Curator of the 9/11 Memorial Museum, spoke to educators about the opening of the museum in the spring of 2014. Mr. Rausch discussed the oral history collection, Story Corps videos and preview site recordings. Both he and Ms. Pachucki described the three sections of the Historical Exhibition. They also showed photos of artifacts and objects while responding to audience questions. Mr. Rausch also spoke about projected “educator evenings” with programs designed specifically for teachers.

Beverly R. Plein, Social Studies Coordinator at the New Jersey Department of Education made a presentation on “Implementing the Core”, articulating and highlighting, studying and teaching “Holocaust and

Genocide Studies” while addressing the core common standards. These included “Habits of the Minds”, “Voice of an Eyewitness”, “Integrating Visual Information”, “Support for Students” and “Designing an Articulated Program”, as well as other examples of core standards applicable to Holocaust, genocide and human rights education.

Linda H. Michalski, Theology Chairperson at the Benedictine Academy in Elizabeth, spoke about “Human Trafficking and Slavery in Our Backyard”. Mrs. Michalski and Sr. Donna Jo Repetti are co-founders of the award-winning method to teach their students “take care of their neighbor” through their campaign to raise awareness of the horrors of human trafficking today. Conference participants learned that New Jersey, California and Nevada have the most trafficking between ages 11-24, with 27 million trafficked every year. Half is in labor trafficking, with 83 % being women and girls. Warning signs and programs to alert the community were discussed. Mrs. Michalski provided educators with resource information and closed with a video made by students in the Academy’s Core Defenders program.

Dr. Paul Winkler, Executive Director of the New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education, Dale Daniels, Executive Director of Chhange at Brookdale College and Colleen Tambuscio, President of CHE welcomed and spoke with participants about topics presented and programs planned for the rest of the school year, as well as NJCHE resources available on the Commission’s website.

Holocaust News

● Brookdale Community College – Center for Holocaust: Human Rights and Genocide Education (CHHANGE)

In June and July 2013, the Center concentrated on The Generations: 11 Descendant of the Shoah. The Book Club and the Yiddish Club continue to meet each month. In addition, the group has also gone to see the play “The Lies My Father Told Me.”

In August, there was a screening of “The Last Nazi Hunter: the Fight against Holocaust Distortion and Antisemitism in Eastern Europe” – followed by a Q and A with filmmaker/historian and Simon Wiesenthal Center Coordinator of Nazi War Crimes Research, Efraim Zuroff.

In-school programming continued throughout the academic year, and the Journey through Life suitcases went out to middle and high schools across the state for a few days to a month, sometimes accompanied by a survivor/speaker. Suitcases also visited Monmouth University. The Center’s traveling exhibit, Triumph over Adversity, also got around to selected schools. Students from area schools, Monmouth University, as well as Brookdale’s Intercultural Communications, Art Journalism and Sociology classes, visited Chhange to learn about the Holocaust, see survivor artifacts and view the Center’s current art installation.

September 2013-July 2014, Chhange once again hosted the Clinical Pastoral Counseling Program. Survivors Helena Flaum and Gerald Blumenthal provided testimony, with the focus on helping the international and multid denominational clergy develop a deeper understanding of the Holocaust. A screening of Invisible Children, in October 2013 highlighted the mission of the organization of the same name to end the violence and brutality in East and Central Africa perpetrated by the Lord’s Resistance Army. Following the film, David, a Ugandan, who witnessed the effects of the LRA first-hand, shared his story. Chhange also hosted photographer Beth Burstein who honored her family and other Lithuanian victims of the Holocaust.

In October and November the program, “On the Ground with Jenny: Uganda – Chhange’s Director of Education” who had spent two weeks working in the Bush – explored the human rights and education crisis there through her eyes and experiences, as well as those of her Brookdale students. The same time period also featured the Wednesday morning film series: Rare and Remarkable Rescues. Shown were: The Optimists: Story of the Rescue of Bulgarian Jews from the Holocaust; The Righteous Enemy, a story about Italian officials who subverted Mussolini’s plan and saved the lives of 4,000 Jews in Yugoslavia, France and Germany from deportation, as well as In Our Hands, the story of the Britain’s formation of the Jewish Brigade in 1944 to fight in Italy.

In November, to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of Kristallnacht, Chhange honored the memory of survivor Erica Rosenthal, who had educated thousands of school children about

the destruction wrought by the hate on that fateful day and night, by showing her powerful video testimony and displaying some of her personal keepsakes. Other personal survivor testimonies were shared in a book of remembrance. In December, during the commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of the Kindertransport, survivor Manny Lindenbaum shared his personal experiences. His daughter and granddaughter joined him to share the generational impact of the Kindertransport.

Also in December, Sara Brown, the first comparative genocide doctoral candidate at Clark University, spoke about “Women’s Roles in the Rwandan Genocide: Rescuer, Bystander, Victim and Perpetrator” against the Tutsis. In addition, Chhange hosted the 12th Annual Council of Holocaust Educators Conference. (See detailed description of the Conference Program elsewhere in this issue of Remember on page 1.)

In January 2014, Chhange presented “100 Days of Silence”, an educator workshop which allowed teachers to partner with the Center in an exciting artistic initiative that aligns to the Common Core Standards. For the 20th anniversary of the 1994 genocide against the Tutsis in Rwanda, an installation allowed educators, students and community members from throughout New Jersey to get together to experience history with interdisciplinary teams in a cross-curricular collaboration. More than 450 middle and high school students participated in this powerful, emotional exhibit.

Once again, Chhange took part in Red Bank’s Martin Luther King Day Commemoration. Community organizations, religious institutions and schools worked together to create an outstanding event. At the end of January, at the International Holocaust Remembrance Day, a one-hour documentary, “Rescue in the Philippines” was screened for the first time to commemorate the untold story of the five Frieder brothers, Cincinnati businessmen living in Manila who helped 1,200 Jews immigrate to the Philippines with the aid the first President of the Philippines, Manuel Quezon. Dr. Jeff Roffman, a local physician and nephew of the Frieder brothers, introduced the film and child survivor Brigitte Wachs who was in the film, and she also participated in the Q and A.

In February, Chhange presented Ghetto Tango, the acclaimed musical chronology of occupied Europe’s underground musical culture created for the Ghetto cabarets. In March, Chhange proudly hosted an evening – Transforming the World through Action – with Mark Harris, grandson of four survivors who decided not to be a bystander during the Rwandan Genocide by founding Genocide Intervention Network and engaged thousands of students to end and prevent further genocide.

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Holocaust News

● Brookdale Community College

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In April, the work of Interfaith Dialogue Scholar Carol Rittner, RSM, provided the framework for the program *The Pope and the Jews* – from John XXIII to Francis I. Response was provided by Rabbi Jeff Sultar of Congregation B'nai Israel and Father Bob Schecker of Church of the Nativity, co-sponsors with Chhange.

The Annual Armenian Genocide Remembrance, “Hearing Footsteps at Dawn: Turkey and the Armenia Genocide”, featured Armenia Genocide Scholar Khatching Mouradian. Since 2010, he has been traveling around Turkey, interviewing children and grandchildren of witnesses and victims. He spoke about the “hidden Armenians” trying to discover their heritage and about the fight of some activists against denial.

Hannah Rosenthal, former Head of the Office to Monitor and Combat Antisemitism in the Obama administration, was the guest speaker at the Annual Yom Hashoah Remembrance – Never Again: Holding Everyone Accountable. She spoke about the role of the U.S. during the Holocaust and anti-Semitism today.

In May, Lt. General Romeo Dallaire, Commander of the U.N. Ground Forces during the genocide in Rwanda, was the keynote speaker at Chhange’s 32nd Colloquium – 100 Days of Silence. His experiences there resulted in his becoming a globally recognized activist. Yannick Tona, a Rwandan survivor and human rights activist shared the story of his family’s struggle to survive, the lessons he learned from seeing prejudice in the extreme and his subsequent determination to make the world a better place. The presentations were followed by 38 workshops on various topics, including the Holocaust and human rights.

The outstanding event in June was

the premiere of *Oro Macht Frei*, a riveting documentary about the Jews of Rome during World War II, produced by Joe Markel, son of a Holocaust survivor. He took this opportunity to honor his mother and millions of other victims. Dr. Deborah Dwork of Clark University provided background. She and the production team interacted with the audience following the screening.

Dr. Dwork also provided the historical context for the tragic voyage of the *St. Louis* – on the 75th anniversary of that voyage. Holocaust survivor Eva Wiener shared the story of her family’s survival, with a Q and A at the end of the presentation.

On two successive days in May, Chhange arranged Lunch and Learn sessions for 7th graders from Colts Neck. At lunch on each of the two days, groups of 8 students who sat at a table with a survivor had an extraordinary opportunity to hear their testimony, ask questions and take a pledge to serve as witnesses for the future – especially in 2045, the 100th anniversary of the liberation of the camps.

Chhange’s eventful year ended in July with an Annual Volunteer Recognition Dinner and, of course, the usual daily stream of visitors to the Chhange facility – to use the resources, visit the library and view the exhibits and archival holdings.

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey – The Herbert and Leonard Littman Families Holocaust Resource Center

Rutgers University Master Teacher Institute in Holocaust Education course offerings included:

In September 2013, Prof. Paul Hanebrink presented “Fall Semester Overview: Social Outsiders and the

Holocaust – Nazi Germany as a Racist State”

In October, Prof. Ethel Brooks of Rutgers University taught “Fall Semester Overview: Social Outsiders and the Holocaust – Roma/Sinti- Who Are the Gypsies?”

Prof. Geoffrey Giles, University of Florida presented “Fall Semester Overview: Social Outsiders and the Holocaust – Treatment of Homosexuals during the Holocaust”

In November, Dr. Martin Dean, USHMM, presented “Fall Semester Overview: Social Outsiders and the Holocaust – New Research and Findings on Nazi Persecution”

In December, Dr. Patricia Haberer-Rice, USHMM, taught “Fall Semester Overview: Social Outsiders and the Holocaust – Nazi Policy and the Disabled”

In February, Colleen Tambuscio, New Milford High School presented Spring Semester Overview: Using Media in Teaching the Holocaust: Digital Testimonies and Teaching

In March, Dr. Eddie Portnoy, Rutgers University, presented “Spring Semester – Using Media to Teach the Holocaust: From Anne Frank to Maus”

Prof. Rachel Baum, University of Wisconsin- Spring Semester – “Using Media to Teach the Holocaust: The Holocaust and the Internet

In April, Prof. Michael Levine, Rutgers University, Spring Semester – “Using Media to Teach the Holocaust: The Holocaust on Film”

In May, Prof. Carol Zemel, York University, Spring Semester, “Using Media to Teach the Holocaust: Photography and Witness Pictures from the Lodz Ghetto”

Last session, Presentation by Advanced Teachers – Spring Semester – “Using Media to Teach the Holocaust:”

Holocaust Center News

● Drew University Center for Holocaust Genocide Study

On November 2, 2013, the Center showed a documentary film, *The Night of Broken Glass*, to mark the 75th anniversary of Kristallnacht. Prior to the screening, Erwin Ganz engaged the audience in an extensive session of Q and A. He was 8 years old, living in Frankfurt, when his house was ransacked and vandalized, with hatchet marks slashed into the front door. Ganz and his family succeeded in emigrating to the United States, but the rest of his family was not as fortunate.

On November 15th, Drew held an annual conference entitled “Understanding the Long, Rippling Effect of Nazi Propaganda for the Arab World”. Its goal was to foster awareness of how propaganda not only shapes our world view, but also of how, transformed beyond its own historical circumstances, it can morph into ways of shaping public opinion.

Dr. Jeffrey Herf, Professor of History at the University of Maryland and author of *Nazi Propaganda in the Arab World* began by talking about the design and implementation of this propaganda. Dr. Christopher Taylor, Professor of Islamic Studies and Director of the Center for Religion, Culture and Conflict at Drew spoke about “The Enemy of My Enemy: Egyptian Responses to Nazi Propaganda, 1939-1943”, describing how the Germans built upon anti-British sentiment in Egypt to convince them to join Nazi Germany in defeating one of the main colonial powers in the Middle East. Dr. Jonathan Golden, Assistant Professor of Religious Studies at Drew discussed how Jews living in Arab lands between 1933 and 1945 reacted to the Nazi propaganda in their countries. Finally, Dr. Menhaz Afridi, Assistant Professor of Religious Studies at Manhattan College and Director of the Holocaust, Genocide and Interfaith Education Center discussed “The Lingering Effects of Nazi Propaganda in

the Modern Muslim World”.

On March 6th, 20th and 27th 2014, the Center had a three-part study seminar on “The Transatlantic Slave Trade and the Making of the Modern World”, demonstrating the impact of slavery on contemporary society and the fact that we only have a cursory understanding of the history leading to slavery in the U.S. The series examined how slavery defined today’s Europe, what role Africa and Africans played in its development and the subsequent development of the Americas – while simultaneously exploring slavery’s legacies.

The first study seminar led by Dr. Lillie Edwards, Drew Professor of History and African Studies, focused on “The Origin and Dynamics of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade”. Dr. Edwards also presented the second session which concentrated on “The Slave Trade and the Development of the Americas”. The final session, presented by Dr. Gialanella, Adjunct Professor of History at Seton Hall University, looked at the “Legacies of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade: Memory, Culture and Reparations”. He also, moderated the series.

The April 16, 2014 commemoration of the 20th anniversary of the Genocide in Rwanda featured the program “Twenty Years After the Genocide in Rwanda: a Survivor Reflects on the Journey Back from the Abyss” with Eugenie Mukeshimana. She was 8 months pregnant with her first child when she sought refuge from those who wanted to kill her.

Miraculously, she survived not only to tell her story, but also to found a support network designed to help other survivors of the genocide. She spoke about their challenges.

At its annual Yom Hashoah Commemoration on April 23, 2014, the Center presented the documentary film “Rene and I”, telling the story of Rene and Renata, twin brother and sister survivors who spent more than a year in Auschwitz. Separated in the camp, Renate was subjected to medical experiments by the notorious Dr. Josef Mengele. The twins, who were 8 years old at liberation in 1945, were reunited in 1950.

The screening was followed by a Q and A with Irene Hizme (formerly Renate) and Leora Kahn, the film’s executive producer. Each participating school received a copy of the film.

● Historical Society of Princeton Holocaust Genocide Resource Center

The Society’s first program as the newest of New Jersey’s Holocaust centers took place on October 3, 2013 and featured “Having a Survivor/Victim in the Classroom: a Panel of Survivors and Survivor Authors Dr. Stephen Felton – son of Survivor, born in DP camp; Maud Dahme – child survivor rescued by Dutch family; Dr. Vera Goodkin - child survivor rescued by Swedish humanitarian, Raoul Wallenberg; Dr. Charles Rojer – Belgian child survivor saved in a children’s hospital; Cantor David Wisnia – death camp survivor, rescued in a chance encounter with the 101st Airborne Division of the United States Army, shared with educators how writing helps the learning and healing processes. They also discussed techniques that make the classroom experience meaningful.

On April 3, 2014, the Society focused on a “Forensics Approach to Holocaust Education”, a professional development workshop that emphasized the importance of using primary sources to piece together a history, with special emphasis on the Holocaust. Teachers learned how to encourage their students to examine a variety of documents to uncover historic facts, using a variety of documents from a multitude of sources.

Holocaust Center News

● Holocaust Council of Greater MetroWest

The on-going activities of the Council include providing speakers for Kristallnacht and Yom Hashoah programs at schools, colleges, churches and synagogues. It also develops and facilitates presentation by twinning, their parents and survivors. The twinning initiative with survivors has spread throughout New Jersey and beyond.

The Council is also active in the Survivors Speak and the Adopt-a-Survivor program by bringing survivors and eyewitnesses into schools, colleges, churches, synagogues and civic organizations. A Holocaust Council historian often participates. In addition, teaching trunks, trunks filled with instructional materials, are lent out to schools.

The Council maintains Facebook and Twitter accounts and sends informational email blasts about Holocaust topics and issues. Then there is the Real to Reel Film Series, screening about ten films each year – followed by discussions.

Lunch-and-Learn sessions with a survivor, eyewitness, rescuer, their spouses or descendants, preserve the testimony of those who have not spoken before. Select speakers may become part of the Speakers' Bureau. Partnering with Rubell Holocaust Remembrance Journeys, Council sponsors six trips to the USHMM annually.

Barbara Wind moderated three sessions of the Generations of the Shoah International Conference, and the Council held a special exhibition of "Sanctuary in Shanghai" on loan from the Shanghai Jewish Refugee Museum. Docent training sessions were held in conjunction with the "From Memory to History" exhibit.

The Council sponsored a special program, "Building a Scale Model of the Warsaw Ghetto with Legos" by architect Stephen Schwartz and Warsaw Ghetto survivor Nessa Ben-Asher. It also held The Cecile Seiden Educators Workshop "Teacher to Teacher: Using Literature, Film and Primary Sources as Educational Tools to Meet N.J. Core Curriculum Standards, Inspire Students and Improve School Climate".

There was Council participation in several Holocaust Remembrance programs and services: the 37th Annual Interfaith Service in Maplewood and the Yom Hashoah Memorial Service at Kean University, as well as the one in Newark and another with the Jewish Federation in Whippany.

The Council also hosted the Commission's ceremony commemorating the 20th anniversary of the Holocaust Education Mandate and the Second Annual Seder. The year ended with the Annual Holocaust Rubell leadership seminar and the Annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner.

● Seton Hall University – Center for Jewish Christina Studies and Holocaust Education

On September 22, 2013, Dr. John Connelly presented a program on the subject of "From Enemy to Brother: The Revolution in Catholic Thinking about the Jews 1933-65.

The Sister Rose Thering Fund for Education in Jewish Christian Studies planned and implemented a variety of programs. A six-week film festival, open to the public at no charge included screenings of the following documentary films:

"An Open Door: Jewish Rescue in the Philippines" – with comments by Director Noel Izon of the film "God Sleeps in Rwanda", responded to by survivors Eugenie Mukeshimana and Emmanuel Ruranga

"I Am Joseph: Your Brother" – with guest producer Amy Kronish, speaking of the visit of Pope John Paul II to Israel

"Sister Rose's Passion" – with comments by director/producer Oren Jacoby who also showed a trailer of his upcoming film on the Jews of Italy

"Shanghai Ghetto" – with discussion led by Dr. Daniel Leab, Professor of History at Seton Hall

"The Test of Freedom: Muslim Americans and the Struggle Against

Prejudice" – Anisa Mehdi and producer Khaliff Watkins

The concert at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark on the anniversary of Kristallnacht marked the end of an 18-month commemoration of the work of Monsignor John M. Oesterreicher, founder of the Institute for Jewish and Christian Studies at Seton Hall. This moving concert by the Seton Hall Chorus and professional singers led by Choral Director Dr. Jason Tramm was open to the public and attracted a large audience.

These special programs were an addition to the Scholarship Recognition Awards event honoring educators in the Jewish-Christian Studies Program featuring Dr. Margaret Dames; the third Dr. Marcia Robbins-Wilf Community Lecture featuring a dialogue between Sister Mary Boys, Ph.D. of Union Theological Seminary and Blu Greenberg, author and Jewish-Feminist Movement activist and the fifth recognition program for winners of the Sister Rose Thering Essay Contest.

The crowning event of the year was the 21st Annual Evening of Roses honoring the thirty original founders of the Sister Rose Thering Board of Trustees. Twenty of the Founders attended. Each received a special gift and a few spoke on behalf of the group, including Dr. David Bossman, Executive Director, Luna Kaufman, chairman emerita, Marilyn Rosenbaum, Program Co-Chair and Dr. Marcia Robbins-Wilf, benefactor of the Fund. All funds raised were used for scholarships for New Jersey educators, enabling them to enroll in the Jewish-Christian Studies courses at Seton Hall.

On March 13, 2014, the Center featured a program entitled "Poles and Jews during World War II". It included "Lectures on the Holocaust: Destructive Past and Dangerous Future" with Rev. Dennis McManus and "Poles and Jews during the War" with Monika Rice, as well as workshops on Jan Karski, Jedwabne and Czestochowa.

On March 30th, Rabbi David Dalin presented a lecture on Pope John XXIII.

Holocaust Center News

● Ramapo College Center for Holocaust Genocide Studies

Ramapo College's Gross Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies held a variety of programs last spring on topics ranging from the consequences of Armenian Genocide to the pursuit of justice against a dictator held responsible for genocide and human rights violations in Guatemala.

In March 2013, New York University Professor Ayda Erbal launched the semester's activities with a wide-ranging lecture. She examined the ramifications of the 2007 assassination of Turkish-Armenian journalist Hrant Dink and drew attention how Turkish society used his murder by a young Turkish nationalist for its own ends. Dr. Erbal pointed out that the journalist's tragic death was used to contain and avoid discourse about Turkey's continuing denial of Armenian Genocide. Shortly after Dr. Erbal's lecture, noted film historian Dr. Eric Goldman discussed "The Culture of Antisemitism in Cinema – with clips from several relevant movies. Dr. Goldman explained that the topic in the movies mirrored American attitude toward Jews and bigotry, in general. Hollywood's Jewish moviemakers were so uncomfortable with their prominence, especially after the advent of Nazism, they were reluctant to raise the issue. What changed Hollywood's approach to anti-Semitism was the Holocaust. Two non-Jewish filmmakers, Darryl Zanuck with Gentleman's Agreement and Edward Dmytryk with Crossfire, confronted the issue head-on in 1947. Combined with the advances in civil rights that began with Brown v. Board of Education, movies continued to play a role in making manifestations of bigotry against Jews less frequent.

In April, Turkish-Dutch historian, Ugur Umit Ungor returned to the Armenian Genocide in a talk entitled "Confiscation and Destruction: The Young Turk Seizure of Armenian Property" in 1915-1921. His focus was the rise of Turkish economic nationalism and its emergence in the genocidal process. He showed how local elites became beneficiaries of state-sanctioned robbery, and how economics is inextricably intertwined with genocide.

Changing gears, still in April, was the screening of the film Dictator in the Dock, by Pamela Yates and Paco de Onis. The film brings viewers into the courtroom as former dictator General Efraim Rios Montt stands trial for genocide and crimes against humanity. This historic case marked the first time ever that a former head of state was tried for genocide in national court – in the country where the crimes were committed. Also, the first time in the history in South and North America that the genocide of indigenous people was tried in a court of law, significantly in a country of the Americas with a majority of indigenous population

A few days later, Dr. David Wildermuth, Professor of German at Shippensburg University, in a talk entitled "And from that moment, the Shoah began for us: What Survivor Testimony Tells Us about the Wehrmacht and Its Victims during the Invasion of the Soviet Union" addressed the question of the direct involvement of the Wehrmacht in the Holocaust. Using pre-invasion orders and war diaries

corroborated by witness testimony, Dr. Wildermuth made it clear that ingrained antisemitism and a carte blanche determined the individual commander's decision whether or not to kill the Jews.

The last lecture of the fall semester was a discussion of a new book published by Professor David Kertzer, The Poles and Mussolini. The book tells the dramatic story of the Church. The Pope's blessing played a key role in legitimizing fascist rule in Italy. In return, the Church received support against Communism and modernity. As Dr. Kertzer pointed out in the Q and A, even though Nazi treatment of the Jews was antithetical to the tenets of Christianity, Pope Pius XI welcomed curtailing Jewish participation in society because he saw Jews as agents of modernity and socialism who were undeserving of equality because of their refusal to accept Christianity.

Several significant issues were discussed at the Annual Gumpert Teachers' Workshop dealing with "The U.N. Convention on Genocide as a Living Text: A Case Study for the Classroom".

In his introduction, Dr. Michael Riff placed the topic in the context of contemporary events. Dr. Paul Winkler, Executive Director of the N.J. Commission on Holocaust Education, then presented an inspiring overview of how a close reading of the Convention on Genocide as evolving text can be used to satisfy the State Mandate on Holocaust Education, as well as several key core content standards.

In her keynote lecture, Totally Unofficial: The Autobiography of Raphael Lemkin, acclaimed author and scholar Dr. Donna-Lee Frieze traced the development of the original text of the Convention as a living document from the time Lemkin first drafted it in the late 1940s to the present day. She pointed out how the document was the product of diplomatic compromise in a particular moment of history, when the Holocaust loomed large in the consciousness of the international community.

Jill McCracken, a Social Studies teacher at Holmdel High School and instructor at Brookdale Community College's Chhange, (Center for Holocaust, Genocide and Human Rights), delivered a presentation on how to bring the study of the evolution of the Genocide Convention into the classroom. The title of her lessons plan? "How well does the U.N. Genocide Convention function in the 21st century?"

Concluding the program, Nancy Steinson Ehrlich reflected on her friendship with Raphael Lemkin. Having assumed the position at New York's International House in 1957, she met Raphael Lemkin in 1958. They became close friends, and she assisted him in the preparation of his autobiography.



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NEW JERSEY COMMISSION ON HOLOCAUST EDUCATION

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Holocaust Center News

● The Holocaust Resource Center of Kean University

During the fall semester of 2013 and the spring of 2014, the University has offered Teaching the Holocaust and Teaching Prejudice Reduction courses in Bloomfield, East Windsor, South Orange/Maplewood and at the Kean University campus.

In October 2013, the Center ran a trip to the USHMM for the Holocaust course, ID 1800, and the Diversity course participants.

Another Center event was the Richard Weisberg Seminar, discussing 20 years of litigation on behalf of Holocaust survivors.

Richard Weisberg also presented “Inflexible Heroes: Stalwart Resistance to Hitler’s Policies in World War II. Germany, France and British Channel Islands” in the Murray Pantirer Lecture Series.

October and November, featured the screening of two films on human trafficking and sexual assaults in the military.

In December, Dr. Suzanne Vromen delivered a Student Holocaust Lecture.

In January 2014, the Center ran four Diversity Council Workshops about identity safety, with a keynote by Becki Cohn Vargas of Not in Our Town/Schools – entitled Identity Safety: Strategies to Honor Identity and Reduce Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying.

In February, the Center hosted the Franklin Township “Shadows Anti-Bullying” program with the Tyler Clementi Foundation and National School Climate Center.

In March, the Center ran the Diversity Council High School Leadership Council Training, and the Diversity Council Elementary and Middle School Conference, as well as the Diversity Council High School Leadership Conference.

In April, the Center held a Yom Hashoah Commemoration with the Holocaust Council of Greater MetroWest.

● The Sara and Sam Schoffer Holocaust Resource Center at Richard Stockton College

The Center offers workshops, seminars and programs for students, educators and the community. Between June 30, 2013 – July 1, 2014, these programs impacted 9,967 students, 2,527 educators, 236 survivors and 9,473 community members. In that time, the Center has introduced a program to grades 6-9, held planning meetings with Holocaust survivors and held a USHMM Summer Teacher Seminar at Stockton. It has also planned and held a Raoul Wallenberg Dedication Ceremony on Jerome Avenue in Margate.

A sampling of other events and activities includes a Seashore Gardens Summer Institute for High School Students on the History of the Holocaust; an intergenerational brunch for Holocaust survivors and their families; introduction of the Center for Barnegat High School and Holy Spirit High School teachers; “lunch-and-learn” for survivors; Second Annual Genocide Awareness Week Orientation; seminar on memoir writing; freshman seminar at Stockton on “Nurses and Doctors during the Holocaust”; lecture on the “Theatre of Genocide”; luncheon with students and Holocaust survivors; introduction of the USHMM Tracing program for second generation; annual Kristallnacht lecture on “Jewish Resistance against the Nazis”; Gail Rosenthal’s presentation on “Eugenics and Euthanasia”; educational programs on Rwandan genocide; Gail Rosenthal’s presentation on “Holocaust Education for Future Generations”; program commemorating the 75th anniversary of the Kindertransport; program on rescuers; lecture and discussion on “Using Children’s Literature to Introduce the Holocaust”.

In May 2014, the Center offered a 15-day study tour of Germany, Poland and Lithuania on the “History, Legacies and Lessons of the Holocaust”. As preparation for these study tours, the students completed an undergraduate and a graduate course. The group of 44 included survivor and second generation participants whose lives journeys were traced by Stockton undergraduate and graduate students.

The 31st Annual Holocaust Awareness Program in 2014 highlighted the 75th anniversary of the Kindertransport. Holocaust survivor Ruth Kessler spoke about her experiences at Atlantic Cape Community College. She also shared her life story and Kindertransport experiences with educators in a workshop at the Sara and Sam Schoffer Holocaust Resource Center. A copy of her memoir, “The Blue Vase”, was distributed to teachers.

● William Paterson University – Center for the Study of Genocide and the Holocaust

In March 2014, Art Professor Leslie Nobler led a student workshop on art, memory and the Holocaust. Students created diaries and transferred meaningful images.

The Center also co-sponsored the College of Education Diversity Conference on Global Perspective on Social Justice Education.

In April, Dr. Dobrick presented at and participated in a Master Seminar on Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Kean University.

Holocaust Center News

● College of Saint Elizabeth Holocaust Education Resource Center

 On October 31, 2013, the Center held a screening of the film “Some Who Lived”, a USC Shoah Foundation production, as part of the College’s Film Study Festival Archival footage and Testimonies of Holocaust Survivors. Directed by Luis Puenzo, winner of the Academy Award for Best Foreign Film, the movie featured survivors who had found refuge in Argentina and other Latin American countries.

On November 11, 2013, Chantal Berthet, instructor of Spanish, led a film screening and discussion of excerpts from the documentary *Visa to Paradise* during a class session entitled *Mexico and the Holocaust*.

Another class session of screening with discussion featured the film *Requiem of Defiance: Music from Terezin*. Dr. Vincent Rufino, Adjunct Lecturer in Music History, led a discussion of the music created and performed in the Terezin concentration camp.

The Kristallnacht Commemoration “The Future of Survivor Testimony” was held on the same date, with guest speakers Stephen D. Smith, Executive Director of the Shoah Foundation and Pinchas Gutter, Holocaust survivor from Poland who shared his experiences as a child during the Holocaust. Smith showed excerpts from his documentary about Gutter, *The Void in Search of Memory Lost*, as well as examples of “New Dimensions of Testimony”, a hologram project under development that could make testimonies of and interviews with survivors available in the future. The issues and implications of such a project were also discussed.

On November 12, 2013, grades 6-12 and their teachers were given an opportunity to view and discuss the importance of various aspects of the

“Future of Survivor Testimony” with guest speakers Stephen Smith and Pinchas Gutter. After the showing of “The Void in Search of Memory Lost” and the Q and A session following it, director Smith and survivor Gutter presented the “New Dimensions of Testimony” hologram program and discussed issues related to offering testimony when the survivors are gone.

Simultaneously, Dr. Ginny Butera, Director of the Maloney Art Gallery, Professor of Art and Curator of the art exhibit *Held Against Their Will* led a discussion of particular pieces of art with Holocaust related images.

In an In-Class Faculty Session entitled *Propaganda of Nazi Germany*, Raul Villareal, Assistant Professor of Art, led a discussion on the use of advertising propaganda to promulgate the Nazi agenda

In another in-class session, Holocaust testimony, Lona Hess, survivor from Hanover, Germany, introduced by Dr. Ellen Ehrlich, Professor of Nursing, spoke about her survival in Riga, Latvia at the age of 20.

Eight additional in-class sessions dealt with:

Holocaust Remembering and the Common Good with Sr. Alice Swartz, Professor of Theology – on the importance of remembering.

Requiem of Defiance – screening and discussion with Dr. Vincent Rufino.

Holocaust Testimony by German survivor of Kristallnacht Ernest Pressburger, introduced by Dr. Chloe Bland, Professor of Psychology.

Gina Lanceter from Poland and her daughter Dina Cohen – introduced by Dr. Margaret Roman, Professor of English and Women’s Studies presented two generations of testimony.

Dr. Valerie Scott, Professor of Psychology introduced Ursula Pawel from Germany who spoke about surviving the Holocaust in Terezin and Auschwitz.

Rabbi Richard Hammerman, introduced by Dr. Erin Biviano, spoke about the importance of faith in the face

of tragedy.

Dr. Catherine Martin, Professor of Theology and Integrated Literacy, led a discussion on Holocaust Rescuers from Islamic, Christian and Jewish backgrounds.

In a session on “Analyzing Hate Crimes”, Dr. Jim Ford, Professor and Study Coordinator for the College’s Justice Studies program, led the discussion of student research and discussion on Hate/Bias Crime Trends in the United States.

On November 14th, in an Interfaith Program – Learning to See Jews as God’s Beloved: A Revolution in Catholic Understanding, speaker Dr. Philip Cunningham, Director of the Institute for Jewish-Catholic Relations and Professor of Theology at St. Joseph’s University, focused on the new relationship between Catholics and Jews between the 1960s and the present.

On November 15th, Dr. Anne Langan, Professor of Sociology, led a discussion on the Cambodian Genocide teachers and supervisors, with the goal of enabling them to utilize important strategies and resources and helping them meet the New Jersey mandate for Holocaust Education.

On April 2nd, following the screening of the “Trial of Adolf Eichmann”, Dr. Harriet Sepinwall led a discussion focused on his 1951 trial.

At the April 4th Professional Development Conference – Children of the Holocaust: Remembering the Past and Educating for the Future, keynote speaker Pinchas Gutter shared his experiences as a child in the Warsaw and Lodz ghettos as well as a prisoner in Majdanek Concentration Camp and slave labor camps. A panel of survivors also shared experiences of their childhood during the Holocaust, while a panel of master teachers focused on specific strategies of teaching about the Holocaust.

Holocaust Center News

● Raritan Valley Community College – Institute for Holocaust Genocide Studies

The Institute has been offering a variety of activities, programs and events. Between June 2013 and June 2014, there were screenings of the documentary, THE OTHER for Holocaust Remembrance. The preview of the documentary “Ripples from the Holocaust” was held at the 2013 Somerset Leadership Conference.

November 11, 2013 marked the Annual Kristallnacht Commemoration at Raritan.

High School Learning through Experience Program and Workshops were held on November 18th. Additional events included a Community Multi-Media Dance Performance: to tell the story of Producer Gabriel Chajnik’s family’s survival during the Holocaust. The performance was followed by a Make-a-Difference Reception in honor of the performers and the program given by Mr. Chajnik.

March 9, 2014 featured the Annual Yad Vashem Educator’s Conference Presentation of “Ripples from the Holocaust”.

The Middle School Learning through Experience and Workshops took place on May 21-22 – highlighting the 20th anniversary of the Rwandan Genocide, with Jacqueline Murekatete, as well as various workshops with Genocide and other Holocaust survivors.

The program also included the Middle School Art and Writing Competition.

The Survivor/Student Brunch with two middle schools from Hunterdon County took place on June 2nd. Four Holocaust survivors from the Institute: Margit Feldman, Tova Friedman, Fred Cige and Maud Dahme met with Franklin and Readington Township Middle School students from Barbara Suozzo and Janet Howard’s classes. The informal

conversations during brunch were meaningful, educational and rewarding to the students, teachers and survivors.

The Raritan Valley Community College Human Resources Leadership Program participants previewed the documentary THE OTHER on June 26th, accompanied by a discussion about reconciliation and the nature of forgiveness.

● Goodwin Holocaust Museum and Education Center of Delaware Valley

As usual, the Center has had a broad spectrum of activities in 2013-2014. September, October, November and December 2013 featured Adult Interfaith Discussions on “Trip to Minsk and Belarus”, “New Jersey Legislated Week of Respect” and “Update on the Separation of Church and State and Forgiveness”, respectively. In October, there was also a presentation by Jeannie Smith, daughter of Polish rescuer Irene Opdyke, a Café Europa luncheon with students and a presentation by Frank Meenik, Reformed Neo-Nazi Skinhead.

November marked a Veterans Day Program, as well as a Kristallnacht Community Remembrance. There was also a puppet show, The Town That Fought Hate, showing what can be done if you stand up to hate. The Teacher Workshop – Echoes and Generations to get them more actively involved in their mission.

The January 2014 Video Conferences highlighted three facets of Holocaust history: “Meet a Survivor, a Concentration Camp Liberator and the Child of a Survivor”. February was an especially active month, with an Adult Interfaith Discussion dealing with social justice; two sessions on “Confronting Antisemitism”; performance of the play Dear Esther, the true story of a Holocaust survivor, teach the history and lessons of the Holocaust. In addition, the Center ran a one-day trip for

educators to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, ran a panel discussion by survivors and presented a multi-media performance, teaching the history of the Holocaust through a student’s perspective – entitled “Through the Eyes of a Friend”.

March started with the Butterfly Project, followed by three video conferences: Genocide in Today’s World with Dr. Jerry Ehrlich; Princeton Pediatrician working with child Survivors of the Rwandan genocide; St. Louis and the Voyage of the Damned and Sonja’s Legacy. The concluding program was the Living Voices Teacher Workshop.

In April, Yom Hashoah Commemorations were held at the Center, at local schools and synagogues, as well as at government agencies. An educational display was created for Rowan University Student Center. Another Adult-Interfaith Discussion explored “Religious Bias”.

In May, there were 8 performances of Number the Stars, with the Haddonfield Plays and Players. In June, the Center ran a virtual tour of the Goodwin Holocaust Museum for the Adult Interfaith Discussion Group, as well as a one-day trip to the Museum of Jewish Heritage – A Living Memorial to the Holocaust in NYC. In addition, the Center awarded \$ 5,000 in scholarships to students for humanitarian efforts – in memory of Josiah DuBois.

The Center’s on-going activities have included: docent training sessions to educate new volunteers to give Museum tours and help survivors as they meet students; conducting the Tolerance Guest Reader Program by sending staff members to 116 classrooms in 12 schools to read selected picture books and discuss issues of tolerance and compassion; receiving visitors to the Museum; designing intervention strategies with students involved in bullying incidents; orchestrating student meetings with Holocaust survivors and concentration camp liberators at the Center and in schools, as well as presentations at Community Groups: Rotary Clubs, Church Groups, Diversity Day Programs, Library Programs, Book Clubs, Scout Groups, etc.

Holocaust Center News

● **Rider University – The Julius and Dorothy Koppelman Holocaust/Genocide Resource Center**

In November, the Center conducted its Annual Kristallnacht Commemoration while connecting with a commemorative program in the German town of Lautertal.

In December, the Center ran a K-8 Teacher Workshop on using children's story books.

In March 2014, Rider Center held a screening of HBO film "Conspiracy" during high school teacher workshop on the Wannsee Conference.

In May, the Center partnered with Adath Israel Congregation in a Yom Hashoah Commemoration and screening of the video "Only a Number", the life story and Holocaust experiences of producer Stephen Besserman's mother.

The Center's last event for the year was its annual Holocaust lecture, "The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict Today".

● **Mercer County Holocaust and Genocide Resource Center – Mercer County College**

In September 2013, the Center conducted a Panel Discussion of the 150th Anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation. The Panel examined the impact of the Proclamation, from its historical significance to social and racial impact. Present and future effects, as well as problems remaining, were also discussed.

In October, there was a screening and discussion of the movie "Bent", a 1997 British film is based on a play of the same name and revolves around the persecution of

homosexuals in Nazi Germany. A Human Trafficking panel presentation, "A Violation of Human Freedom" was also part of the program. Assistant Attorney General Thompson told the audience that human trafficking was, in essence, bullying.

Anti-bullying took center stage at the end of October, with Bullying Awareness Day in collaboration with Future Teachers Club and a presentation on bullying by the staff of the Kidsbridge Museum. "Bully", a character-driven documentary, followed students from public schools in Georgia, Iowa, Texas, Mississippi and Oklahoma during the 2009-2010 school year. The film particularly focused in on the deaths of two students, victims of bullying, who committed suicide. It also explained in great detail, that the average student cannot defend him/herself against ridicule. The problem transcends geographic, racial, ethnic and economic borders. It documents the reactions of teachers and administrators to aggressive behavior that defy "kids will be kids" clichés and captures a growing movement to change how bullying is handled in schools, in communities and in the Society as a whole. Participants also had an opportunity to learn anti-bullying strategies.

On the 75th anniversary of Kristallnacht, the Commemorative Program in November featured a violinist, performing Bach, as well as the theme from Schindler's List. Dr. Winkler discussed the events of Kristallnacht and addressed questions from the audience.

He held a workshop on "Using Books to Teach Anti-Bullying". He showed how children's literature fosters empathy and teaches tolerance.

In February 2014, the Center featured Womenspace speakers on "Violence towards Women", screening a film and showing an exhibit of student art work and posters on Violence, Genocide and the Holocaust. The film "Scream Bloody Murder" examined atrocities in Cambodia, Iraq, Bosnia, Rwanda and Darfur. It also focused on those who spoke out.

In March, the Center screened Steven Besserman's instructional video "Only A Number", the story of his mother, a Holocaust survivor of Auschwitz. Using his mother's diary as a guide, Besserman journeyed through ghettos, concentration camps and slave labor factories, reflecting her experiences and how they impacted him as a second generation survivor. The Center also showed the film

"Sarah's Key" that deals with a journalist's research investigating the roundup of Jews in Nazi-occupied Paris, illustrating participation by the French bureaucracy and contrasting that betrayal with the deeds of Sarah's rescue by French citizens. "Auschwitz – Inside the Nazi State, the third in this film series, was a six-part documentary that examines the establishment and development of the concentration camp, within the historical context of the Nazi's changing strategies and goals during World War II. Using photographs, filmed re-enactments, interviews with survivors and perpetrators and blueprints, the film traces the evolution of Auschwitz from a facility for Polish detainees to a forced labor camp and ultimately, to the horrifying factory for mass murder.

The highlight of the month was the launching of Jerry Casciano's gripping photo exhibit of the concentration camps. The artist's father was a World War II camp liberator whose life remained permeated with the haunting memories of that experience, and Jerry grew up with a psychological need to explore that part of his father's past. Upon his return from Europe with the depictions of grim winter scenes from the abandoned camps, he took portraits of survivors, each holding an object that had special significance for them during the Holocaust. Dr. Vera Goodkin, child survivor of the Holocaust, spoke at the remembrance, and Dr. Paul Winkler moderated the program.

In May, the Center featured Auschwitz survivor, Cantor David Wisnia in a program of discussion and music. In the last year of the war, Cantor Wisnia escaped from a Nazi transport and was rescued by the 101st Airborne Division of the U.S. Army. During his presentation, he performed songs from his youth, two of which he composed while in Auschwitz.

In May, the year culminated in the Annual Educators Conference, "Making Connections", dedicated to recently deceased Professor Saul Goldwasser, Founding Director of the Center. Panelists presented information on how to design lesson plans for various grade levels. The Saul Goldwasser Writing Award, presented by Dena, Professor Goldwasser's widow to Giovanni Charles, a MCCC Honors Student who read his winning entry to the audience. The 2014 Youth Holocaust and Genocide Awareness Award was also presented at the conference.

Holocaust Center News

● Center for Study of Genocide and Human Rights (CGHR)

In October 2013, the Center sponsored the lecture “Without Refuge: Voices from a Syrian Camp for Internally Displaced Persons”. In addition, The Voice of Free Syria – Rutgers and Merkin Hall gave a concert and presentation on the condition of Syrian children.

In November, the program featured was “Expert Meeting: Sexual Rights and Privacy Common Concerns”. This was a “by invitation only think tank/policy/education meeting to discuss educational tools and common concerns.

In September-December, the Center held The Global Justice Speaker Series: a Semester-Long Speaker Series for students and community to explore issues of global justice.

Fall 2013 activities encompassed three lectures of the Human Rights in a Global World Speaker Series, six lectures of the Global Justice Speaker Series, seven lectures of the Justice in Cambodia Speaker Series and three screenings of the Framing Bigotry Film Series.

January – May 2014, the Center featured the Community Teach-In Series for Newark Alternative High School Program – YouthBuild Newark partnership lectures: workshops on issues connected to English and Social Studies Standards: Human Rights, Genocide and Social Justice.

A January 2014 Professional Development Workshop dealt with the Armenian Genocide Initiative – cosponsored with Bergen College Center for Peace, Justice and Reconciliation.

Another January event was the Interfaith Lecture – with Q and A – An Insider’s Perspective: Faith, This was accompanied by a video, discussion and Q and A between Muslims and Jews.

February’s activity involved a meeting for Building Up Tolerance: Educational Policy for Human Rights

Activists in Russia and Ukraine – and Educational Toolkit Development.

March featured The Voice of Arbitrary Detention – Meeting and Lecture at the UN to discuss justice challenges in Syria.

Another program, Cambodian Education: Passages and Pathways – Global meeting on Global Education/Expert Meeting to discuss strategic planning for the development of curricular changes and professional development in Cambodia.

Discussions in April revolved around Art and Culture in the Face of Violence: Syria Today, Cambodia and the Future Workshop and Genocide: Pathways and Passages Conference.

May focused in on Night of the Pencils: Activism and Accountability in Argentina: High School Lesson – Pilot for Argentine Genocide – High School.

Curriculum development in the area of Teaching Genocide and Holocaust from a Global Perspective – High School Teacher Professional Development Workshop – UNESCO and Critical Genocide Studies; four lectures of the Community Teach-In Series; Genocide Pathways and Passages Conference.

● Bergen County Community College – Center for Peace, Justice and Reconciliation

October 2013, featured Reading of a play about domestic violence: Freedom to Protect, as well as the Wola Suchozebrska Seminar: Writing Personal and Political Bravery under the Nazis. as well as a Faculty Lecture, Slide Show and Discussion on Without Refuge: Voices from a Camp for Internally Displaced Persons.

In November, the Center featured a debate among professional advocates and opponents entitled “Gun Control Civil Debate on Loaded Topic.

Film screening of and discussion centered around about “Kristallnacht and the Birth of Israel”.

December dealt with the subjects of artistic portrayal of military issues – turning uniforms into creative expression - and female infanticide: Screening and discussion of “It’s a girl!”

In January 2014, the Center presented its Annual Professional Development Workshop for Teachers: on Armenian Genocide.

February was the time of art exhibit: Inside/Out: A Global Participatory Art Project.

March featured Facing History Workshop for faculty and students devoted to teaching and learning about Genocide.

In April, the Center displayed poster exhibition about People Make Choices; Choices Make History.

The screening of “Destiny’s Bridge: a Documentary about Homelessness” included a discussion with the director.

The remaining programs in April included a student panel on The Armenia Genocide and Other Genocides, a performance and discussion of The Mitzvah Project: A One-Man Play – to commemorate the Holocaust, lecture, slide show and presentation by Khaching Mouradian – Unhiding the Past: Turkey and the Armenian Genocide Centennial.

● Cumberland County College – Coalition for Holocaust and Genocide Education

In February 2013, the Center conducted a bus tour to USHMM for educators.

In June, the Center partnered with the College Performing Arts Center and the Vineland School District in putting on a production of Dear Esther – depicting the life of survivor Esther Raab.

Holocaust Center News

● Ocean County College – The Center for Peace, Genocide and Holocaust Studies

In October 2013, Director Dr. Ali Botein- Furrevig made a presentation of “Heart of a Stranger”, based on her book of the same name to foster tolerance and understanding of the Orthodox culture and belief system.

In November, Humanities Professor, Dr. Martin Novelli, lectured and screened a film on the Cambodian Genocide.

In December, Dr. Maysa Abou-Youssef Hayward and Dr. Ali Botein made a presentation on “Intersections of Culture in Courtship and Marriage among Muslim and Orthodox Women in the Middle East.

In February 2014, Dr. Ali Botein presented “Last Waltz on the Danube”, based on her book of the same name, highlighting a history and a survivor story of Tito’s 1944-46 genocide of ethnic Germans living in the Baltic region whose ancestor emigrated from Swabia over 400 years ago.

In March, Holocaust survivor and “Hidden Child”, Maud Dahme, spoke about her experiences as a young child rescued by a Dutch Christian family. As part of the same program, the film “Hidden Child”, based on Maud’s experiences of living with a Christian family was viewed and discussed.

In April, the Center sponsored a prayer service and candle lighting ceremony on campus to commemorate the Holocaust. In addition, the following Holocaust Commemorative programs were held in April: a student presentation on the “Children of Auschwitz”, highlighting the medical experiments conducted at the camp, as well as viewing and discussion of the film “Into the Arms of Strangers” about the Kindertransport operation. and survivor Gerda Lowenstein’s testimony about her experiences in that transport.

The year culminated in May with the production of a one-man play, “The Mitzvah”, written and performed by actor/director Roger Grunwald.

● Museum of Human Rights, Freedom and Tolerance

In September 2013, the Center offered a Community Seminar: From Herero Genocide, to Rwanda and Darfur – Origins and Struggle against Genocide in Africa.

In December 2013, the Center undertook a unique seminar with The Russian Holocaust Center in Moscow – via Skype.

In January 2014, the Center conducted a discussion – 20th Century: The Era of Discovery or the Era of Genocide?

The February activity involved a Rockville, MD Education Center lecture “Shalom”.

In March, the Center had a second seminar with the Russian Holocaust Center via Skype.

May marked the continuation of the Rockville Education Center lecture.

In June, the Center held a discussion : Ethnic Discrimination – the Roots of Genocide.

● The Sam Azeez Museum of Woodbine Heritage

In July 2013, the Museum Center was visited by Professor Wendell White from the ‘Artist Teacher Institute’, Mike Bolicki’s Sociology Class for “Opportunity Starts Here” exhibit - studying the end of 19th century wave of immigrant settlements and USHMM educator visit provided an opportunity to showcase Russian immigrant settlement at Woodbine.

Events in September included Egalitarian Rosh Hashanah Service attracting participants from a 60 mile area; Professor Marsh Fiedler and Stockton Hillel students experienced a celebration of the New Year; visit by Woodbine Chamber of Commerce with special guest Lt. Governor Kim

Guadagno; Kol Nidre and Yom Kippur Services; Ocean View ORT; and Philadelphia Hadassah.

The October exhibit attendees experienced a presentation by Holocaust survivor Fred Spiegel with students from Dennis Township Middle School; The Sara and Sam Schoffer and the Holocaust Resource Center Executive Committee.

In November, the Center welcomed Rabbi Eliezer Horowitz’s study group.

In May 2014, the Museum hosted The Vernacular Architectural Forum; the Annual Holocaust Survivor Luncheon; Survivor Rosalie Simon, presented to students of Margaret Mason Middle School

In June, Fred Spiegel presented to Millville High School; Suburban and Ocean View Senior and Senior Citizen Disability group.

● Burlington County Community College – Center for Social Justice and Holocaust Studies

In February 2014, the Center conducted a tour to USHMM.

During the spring semester, the College offered the “Holocaust in Literature’ course.

In April, the Center hosted a lecture by survivor Fred Spiegel.

● Camden County College – Center for Civic Leadership and Responsibility

Mid-June to Mid-July, the Center offered a 5 session mini-course, Understanding Genocide: A Study in Human Behavior that examines the common threads that allow genocide to persist into the 21st century, and the failure of humanity to put an end to it.

Holocaust Center News



- Student/Survivor Get Togethers
- Teacher Training Programs
- Student Activities
- Survivors and State Leadership Personnel

