



Chapman University and The 1939 Society

21st Annual Holocaust
Art & Writing Contest

Memory Matters

Whose Story Will You Tell?

Entry postmark date

February 3, 2020

Digital submission due date

February 5, 2020

Awards Ceremony

March 13, 2020

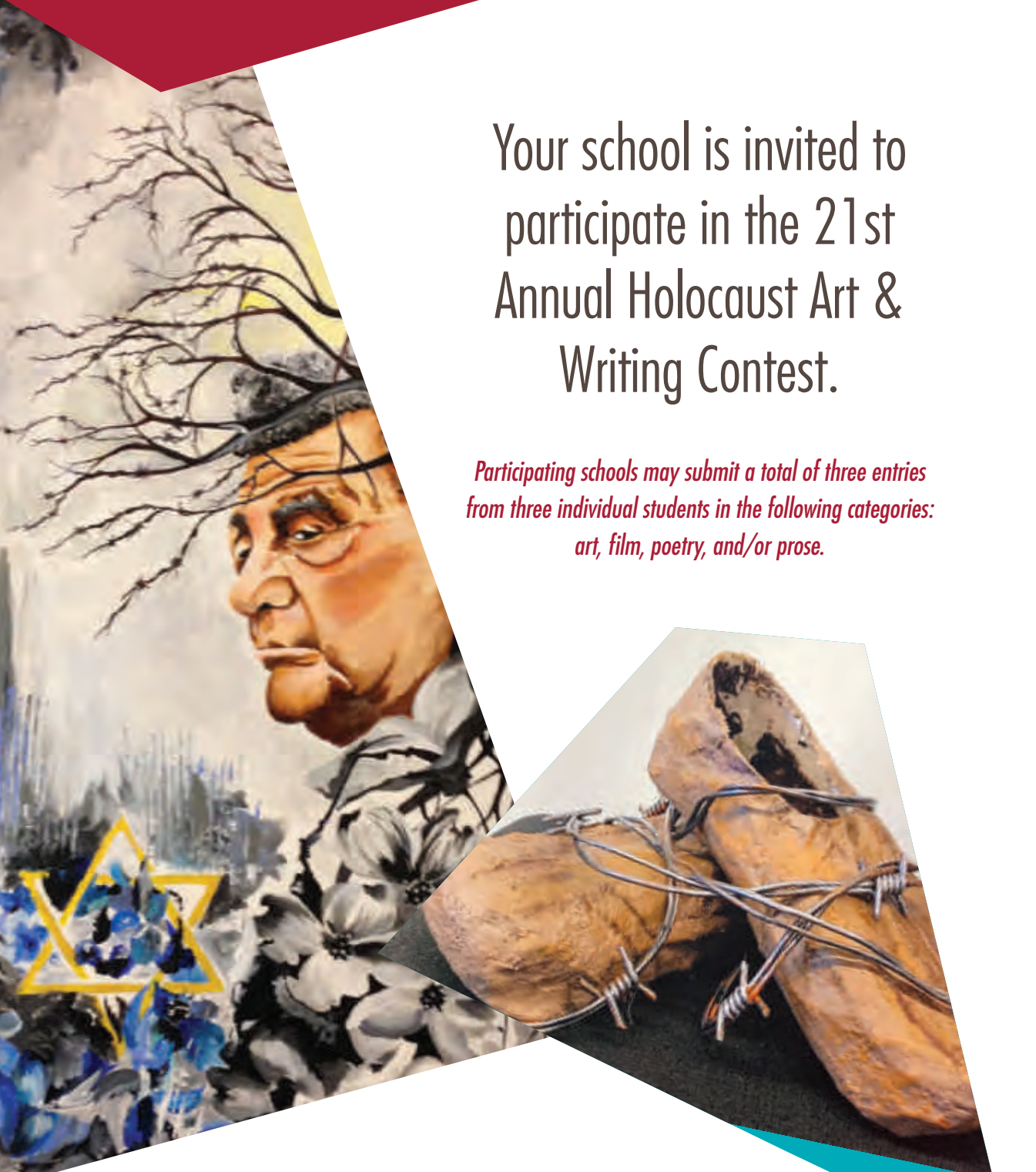
...her person experience the Holocaust... Krakow... she was... them... the danger... Leon and...

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



CHAPMAN
UNIVERSITY

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



Your school is invited to participate in the 21st Annual Holocaust Art & Writing Contest.

Participating schools may submit a total of three entries from three individual students in the following categories: art, film, poetry, and/or prose.

Students will be eligible to win a **first prize** award of \$400 in each category. Educators and schools will also be eligible to win a first prize of \$200 each. First-place student winners in the United States, their parents/guardians, and teachers will be invited to participate in an expense-paid study trip June 21–25, 2020, to visit the Los Angeles Museum of the Holocaust, the Museum of Tolerance, the Japanese American National Museum, and other sites in Los Angeles, as well as to meet with members of The 1939

Society, a community of Holocaust survivors, descendants, and friends. Funding permitting, this invitation will also be extended to first-place students living outside of the United States. In addition, first-place student entries will be posted on Chapman University's contest website.

Students awarded **second prize** in each category will receive \$200 and their sponsoring educator and school will receive \$100 each. Second-place student entries will also be posted on Chapman University's contest website.

Inspiration

Sometimes, when we are reading a book or listening to someone speak, a word, phrase, or sentence grabs our attention almost as if we had never read or heard it before. Perhaps we sense there is special emotion or meaning connected to it or it offers us a new insight, one we had not considered previously. It makes us stop and think.

Throughout the Holocaust years, those targeted by the Nazis and their collaborators worried that no one would survive to speak of what they had experienced. They promised each other that if they lived, they would tell the story, no matter how difficult it would be and no matter how much others refused to listen. They would never allow the dead to be forgotten or the evil that had happened to be denied or trivialized.

When survivors and rescuers recounted their memories, they struggled with the inadequacy of ordinary words to convey their experiences. How could words that are part of our daily vocabulary—bread, shower, train—bridge the distance between their experiences and ours? Would we make the effort to learn what those words meant to them and how they could help us connect to their stories? Would we come to understand enough that we could carry their

memories forward? Would we care enough to even try?

Today some of the survivors' worst fears seem to be coming true. People know less and less about what occurred in the Holocaust and sometimes are not even interested. Meanwhile, antisemitism and bigotry are on the rise. Even the swastika, the symbol of hatred that brought about so much death and suffering, is sometimes treated as a joke.

Many survivors and rescuers kept their promise to remember and to share their stories with the world through oral and written testimony. By listening and actively engaging with their memories, we cannot change the past—but as their messengers, we can shape the future. We can prove that their memories matter to us today.



Prompt

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

- Chapman University's Holocaust Art & 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
- The 1939 Society website at the1939society.org
- 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 survivor's or rescuer's testimony, and as you reflect on the stories the person shares, think about and write down a specific word, phrase, or sentence that resonates with you as crucial to that individual's memory of the Holocaust.

3. As the person now entrusted with this individual's memory, through your creativity in art, poetry, prose, or film, explore the meaning and significance of this word, phrase, or sentence in the survivor's or rescuer's story and in your understanding of the Holocaust.

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

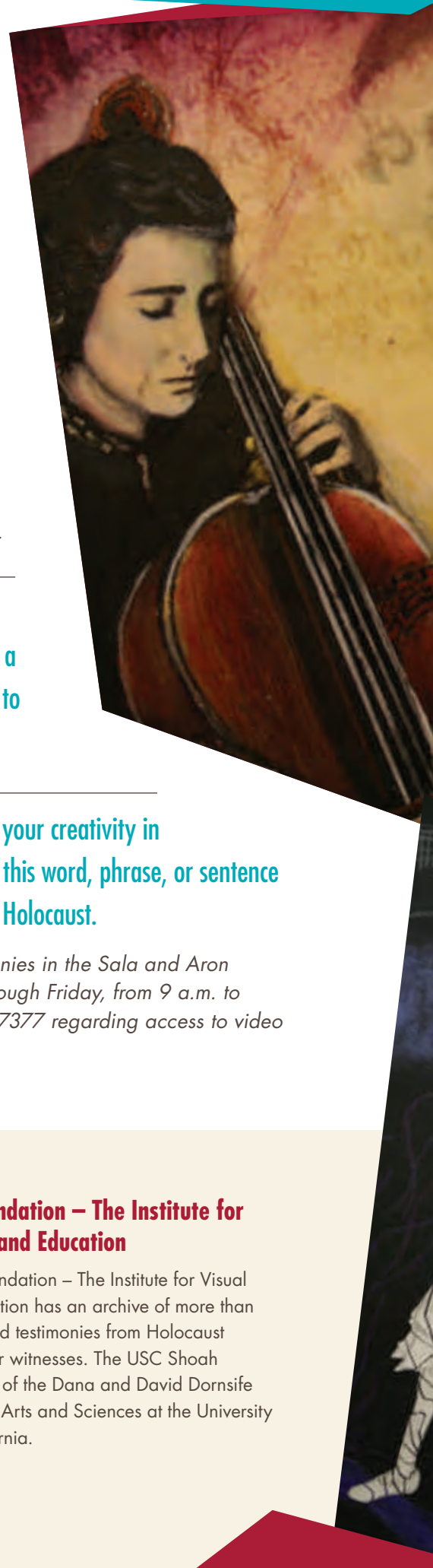
The 1939 Society

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 join together in Los Angeles in 1952 to form the Society.

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

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.



Criteria

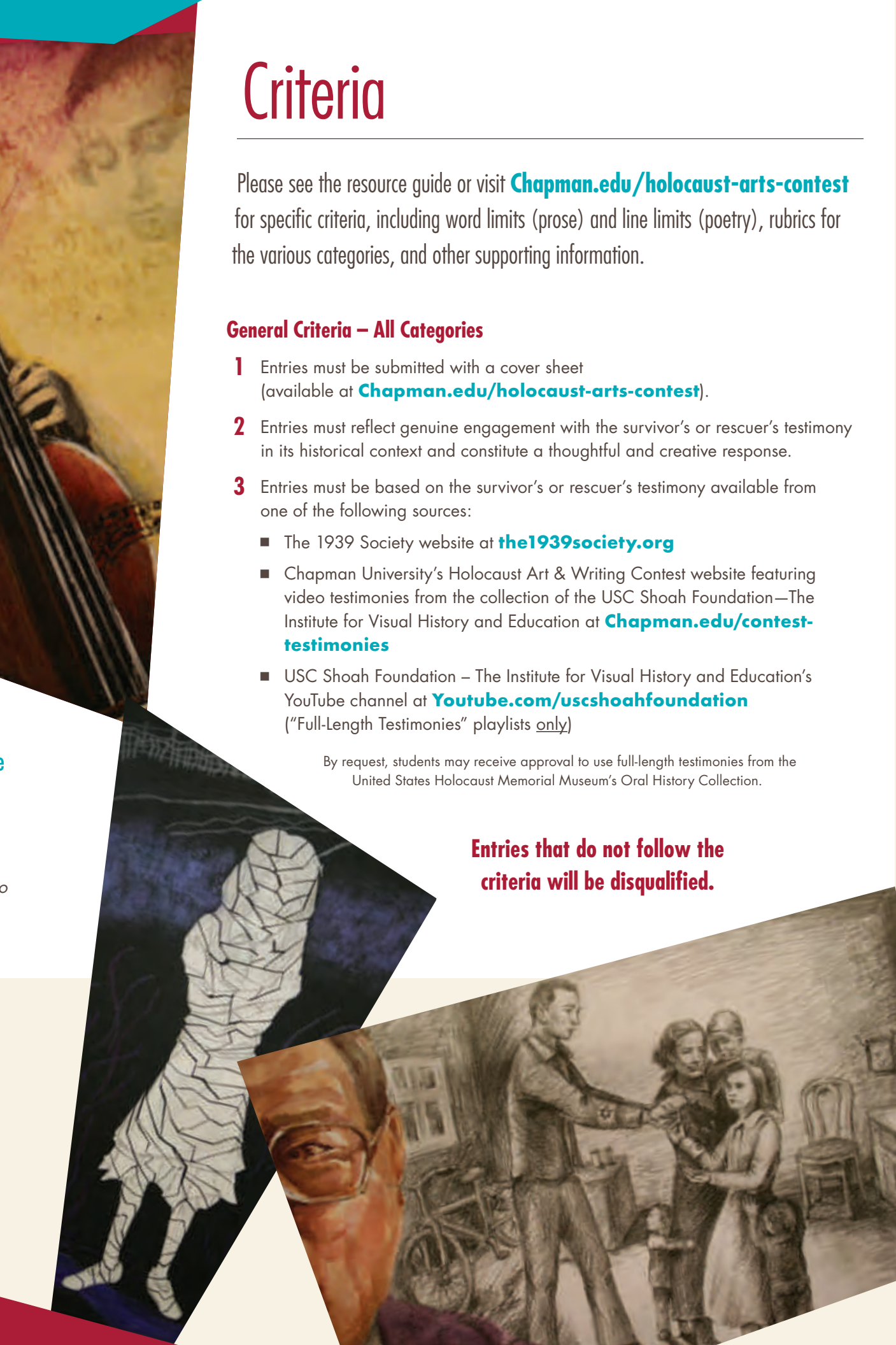
Please see the resource guide or visit Chapman.edu/holocaust-arts-contest for specific criteria, including word limits (prose) and line limits (poetry), rubrics for the various categories, and other supporting information.

General Criteria – All Categories

- 1 Entries must be submitted with a cover sheet (available at Chapman.edu/holocaust-arts-contest).
- 2 Entries must reflect genuine engagement with the survivor's or rescuer's testimony in its historical context and constitute a thoughtful and creative response.
- 3 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 & 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)

By request, students may receive approval to use full-length testimonies from the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum's Oral History Collection.

Entries that do not follow the criteria will be disqualified.



Submissions

Your school's three entries may be submitted beginning December 2, 2019 and **must be postmarked by February 3, 2020, or digitally submitted by February 5, 2020**. Prose and poetry entries may be mailed or submitted electronically to cioffi@chapman.edu.

Artwork 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 Rodgers Center for Holocaust Education at Chapman University.

Artists are encouraged to retain a color copy of their work since the original may not be returned. The Rodgers Center for Holocaust Education shall own all the rights to the entries, including copyrights, and may display and publish the entries, in whole, or in part.

We encourage educators to consult Chapman.edu/holocaust-arts-contest for rubrics and other information.



One University Drive
Orange, California 92866

3740-37400



NO POSTAGE
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IF MAILED
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UNITED STATES



BUSINESS REPLY MAIL

FIRST-CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO. 140 ORANGE CA

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

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



School Participation and Prizes

Participating schools will receive five seats (availability permitting) at the awards ceremony on March 13, 2020, at Chapman University.

Every student representative in attendance will receive a copy of *The Holocaust Chronicle: A History in Words and Pictures*.

Prizes will be distributed at the awards ceremony. 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.

The highlights of the event will include:

- The announcement of the winning art, film, prose, and poetry entries (one middle school and one high school);
- 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 and USC Shoah Foundation—The Institute for Visual History and Education’s websites.

Awards Ceremony:

March 13, 2020 at 11 a.m.
Chapman Auditorium, Memorial Hall,
Chapman University,
One University Drive, Orange, CA 92866



21st Annual Holocaust Art & Writing Contest

Please return reply card or register electronically at Chapman.edu/holocaust-arts-contest by November 15, 2019.

- Yes, we plan to submit a maximum of three entries from our school for the Holocaust Art & Writing Contest to be postmarked by February 3, 2020 or submitted digitally by February 5, 2020.**

The teacher and principal listed below plan to escort our school’s representatives to the awards ceremony or to participate via Skype on March 13, 2020 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 _____

Sponsored by

Chapman University
The 1939 Society
The Samueli Foundation
Yossie and Dana Hollander

With support from

USC Shoah Foundation – The Institute for Visual History and Education
The Isidore and Penny Myers Foundation
The Jerry and Sally Schwartz Endowment for Holocaust Education

In partnership with

Catholic Schools, Diocese of Orange
David Labkovski Project
Echoes & Reflections
Facing History and Ourselves
Los Angeles Museum of the Holocaust
Orange County Department of Education

In collaboration with

Attallah College of Educational Studies, Chapman University
Museum of Tolerance
United States Holocaust Memorial Museum
Wilkinson College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, Chapman University

International partners

Forum for Dialogue, Poland
Johannesburg Holocaust and Genocide Centre, South Africa
Memoria Viva Fundación, Chile
Museo del Holocausto, Guatemala
Sarah and Chaim Neuberger Holocaust Centre, Canada

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