

19<sup>th</sup> Annual Holocaust  
Art & Writing Contest

# Messenger of Memory

What Will Your  
Message Be?

Entry postmark date  
February 2, 2018  
Digital submission due date  
February 5, 2018  
Awards Ceremony  
March 9, 2018

**Sponsored by**

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

**With support from**

USC Shoah Foundation –  
The Institute for Visual  
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**In partnership with**

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Facing History and Ourselves  
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of Education  
Wilkinson College of Arts,  
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Your school is invited to participate in the 19th Annual Holocaust Art and Writing Contest. Participating schools may submit a total of three entries from three individual students in the following categories: art, film, prose, and/or poetry.



## School Participation and Prizes

Participating schools will receive 5 seats (availability permitting) at the awards ceremony on March 9, 2018 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. Local students **must** be in attendance (either in person or via webstream) 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.

## Award Eligibility

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 24-28, 2018, to visit the Los Angeles Museum of the Holocaust and other sites in Los Angeles, as well as to meet with members of The 1939 Society.

Funding permitting, this invitation will also be extended to first place students living outside of the United States.

Students awarded second prize in each category will receive \$200 and their sponsoring educator and school will receive \$100 each.

### The highlights of the awards ceremony 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, Chapman University, and USC Shoah Foundation - The Institute for Visual History and Education's websites.

## Awards Ceremony

Friday, March 9, 2018, at 11 a.m.  
Chapman Auditorium, Memorial Hall  
Chapman University  
One University Drive  
Orange, CA 92866







# Submissions

Your school's three entries may be submitted beginning December 1, 2017 and **must be postmarked by February 2, 2018, or digitally submitted by February 5, 2018.** Prose and poetry entries may be mailed or **submitted electronically** to [cioffi@chapman.edu](mailto:cioffi@chapman.edu).

#### Art work must be mailed to:

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

All entries become the property of the Sala and Aron Samueli Holocaust Memorial Library at Chapman University. Artists are encouraged to retain a color copy of their work since the original may not be returned. The Sala and Aron Samueli Holocaust Memorial Library shall own all the rights to the entries, including copyrights, and may display and publish the entries, in whole, or in part.

# Inspiration

*Memories  
make us  
who we are.*

While our memories are unique to us as individuals, we also share memories with others, including our families, friends, and communities. Through memories we share both joy and sadness, celebration and loss. Survivors and rescuers of the Holocaust had many of the same experiences. In their testimonies, they express memories shaped by these experiences and by each individual's unique identity. No two Holocaust survivors' or rescuers' testimonies are the same although they recount many of the same experiences and emotions.

We also listen and interpret memories in our own way, shaped in part by our interests, experiences, and memories. As we listen to a rescuer's or survivor's testimony, one memory may especially capture our attention and imagination. We may feel as if the survivor or rescuer is speaking directly to us. When that happens, *memory has become message*.

Elie Wiesel, Holocaust survivor, author, teacher, and Nobel Peace Prize laureate, believed that memories of the Holocaust can become messages. When that happens, the past becomes present to us and brings us into the world of the survivors and rescuers. Professor Wiesel said "when you listen to a witness, you become a witness."

We can never experience what the survivors and rescuers of the Holocaust lived through. Our memories and theirs will never be the same, but by listening to their memories, we can become witnesses to their experiences.

We can become their *messengers of memory*.



# Prompt

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

- The 1939 Society website at [the1939society.org](http://the1939society.org)
- Chapman University's Holocaust Art and Writing Contest website featuring video testimonies from the collection of the USC Shoah Foundation—The Institute for Visual History and Education at [chapman.edu/contest-testimonies](http://chapman.edu/contest-testimonies)
- USC Shoah Foundation - The Institute for Visual History and Education's YouTube channel at [youtube.com/uscshoahfoundation](http://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. After you listen to the testimony, think about a specific memory the survivor or rescuer shared which was personally meaningful or compelling for you. Then consider the message this memory conveyed to you.

## 3. Through your creativity, in art, prose, poetry or film, express this message in a way that demonstrates what it conveys about that survivor's/rescuer's experience during the Holocaust, why it became a message for you, and how you will carry it forward as a messenger of memory.

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

We encourage teachers to consult [chapman.edu/holocaust-arts-contest](http://chapman.edu/holocaust-arts-contest) for rubrics and other information.

*The 1939 Society is an organization of Holocaust survivors, descendants, and friends. It takes its name from the year that Germany invaded Poland, changing forever the lives of those who would later join together in Los Angeles to form the Society in 1952.*

*The 1939 Society has available on its website nearly 100 full-length oral testimonies. Some of these oral histories were recorded in the early 1980s at the University of California, Los Angeles; others were recorded in the mid-1990s in Orange County by the Anti-Defamation League.*

*USC Shoah Foundation – The Institute for Visual History and Education has an archive of more than 50,000 videotaped testimonies from Holocaust survivors and other witnesses. The USC Shoah Foundation is part of the Dana and David Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences at the University of Southern California.*

*Please see the resource guide or visit [chapman.edu/holocaust-arts-contest](http://chapman.edu/holocaust-arts-contest) for specific criteria, rubrics for the various categories and other supporting information.*



# Criteria

## General Criteria—All Categories

Entries must be submitted with a cover sheet (available at [chapman.edu/holocaust-arts-contest](http://chapman.edu/holocaust-arts-contest)).

Entries must reflect genuine engagement with the survivor's or rescuer's testimony in its historical context and constitute a thoughtful and creative response.

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

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

Entries that do not follow the criteria will be disqualified.

*For a list of specific criteria for each category, please refer to the enclosed Educator's Guide.*